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Troika calls for fresh ideas, plans to intensify talks after New York

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The Contact Group troika called on Belgrade and Pristina to present fresh ideas and announced its plans to intensify talks after the meeting in New York on September 28.

In its statement following the two-day meetings in London, the EU-Russia-US troika said the parties were “constructive”.

The troika reminded both sides of their respective commitments made in Vienna in late August to engage seriously as well as to abstain from any acts or statements that might be regarded as provocative.

The London meetings prepared the first round of direct negotiations to be held in New York.

The New York round will be “very important” as the two sides will have the opportunity to present their proposals and discuss them, EU representative Wolfgang Ischinger said.

“After that session, we have proposed separate meetings of the troika with the two sides in order to discuss the steps to follow”, he added.

The EU representative announced an intensive schedule of meetings for October and November, adding there will be plenty of opportunities for the two sides to continue with direct talks.

The Russian representative Aleksandar Bocan-Harchenko said the two sides remained “in line with their earlier positions” during the London meetings.