



KOSOVO

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Russia: Imposed solution for Kosovo will open Pandora's Box

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Russian president's deputy spokesman Dmitri Peskov warned that a Pandora box would be opened in the case of an imposed independence of Kosovo.

According to him, the danger of separatism will then loom over many European countries.

Asked how Russia would react if Kosovo declared independence and that independence was unilaterally recognized, he said that Russia maintained a consistent position and would continue to patiently look for a solution acceptable to both Belgrade and Pristina.

He also said that there was danger of independence being recognized, but warned it would not "bring anything good."

The Russian Foreign Ministry also on Wednesday dismissed speculation of Moscow's possible concessions regarding the resolution of Kosovo's status, in exchange for Washington's concessions concerning the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, as reported by the International Herald Tribune.

"Russia's position on Kosovo is absolutely unchanged," Russian Foreign Ministry officials said.

The newspaper, citing diplomatic sources, had reported that the U.S. was ready to offer Russia concessions regarding the Convention on Conventional Weapons, so as to get Moscow to soften its positions on Kosovo and Iran.