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Serbia insists neutral status for Kosovo is not possible

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Serbian State Secretary for Kosovo Dusan Prorokovic reiterated Belgrade's stance that a neutral status option was not possible for Kosovo, adding that any kind of neutrality and independence of the territory was out of the question.

"All international norms and principles being applied in cases of autonomous provinces worldwide must also apply to Kosovo and Metohia," Prorokovic said.

According to media reports from Washington, the EU envoy in the Contact Group's mediating troika Wolfgang Ischinger on Wednesday hinted at a neutral status solution for the province, with a simultaneous push for more constructive ties between Belgrade and Pristina.

Both Belgrade and Pristina immediately rejected the idea.

Prorokovic declined to reveal the Serbian side's agenda for the next round of Kosovo talks, scheduled for November 20 in Brussels, highlighting that the Belgrade negotiating team had a clear mandate defined by the Serbian Parliament, and that no one had the right to step out of that framework.

The official also said that the negotiations must continue after the November 17 elections in Kosovo, because "without an agreement there can be no future status solution and stability in the Balkans."