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Serbian president on Kosovo diplomatic offensive on East River

KosovoCompromise Staff

Serbian president Boris Tadic has started a four-day diplomatic offensive at the United Nations aimed at securing support for Serbia's policy towards Kosovo, during which he will meet over 20 key international dignitaries and officials.

Tadic and the country's foreign minister Vuk Jeremic will take part in the works of the UN General Assembly which opens on Monday.

The Serbian president will tell the General Assembly in his speech on September 27 that Serbia was defending its territorial integrity and sovereignty by peaceful and legal means and arguments, and was sincerely committed to finding a compromise solution for the status of Kosovo.

Tadic is due to meet the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, EU's High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana, the EU enlargement commissioner Olli Rehn, Russian and Chinese foreign ministers Sergei Lavrov and Yang Jiechi and Italian Prime minister Romano Prodi.

He will also meet presidents and foreign ministers of Slovakia, Belgium, South Africa, Congo, Peru and Panama -- all members of the UN Security Council,

On September 28, the Serbian president be joined by the Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica at the head of delegation of Serbia's state negotiating team for direct negotiations of Belgrade and Pristina on the future status of Kosovo.