



# KOSOVO

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November 21

## **Russia: Unilateral independence of Kosovo is inadmissible**

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Any signals allowing the prospect of Kosovo's unilateral independence in the ongoing status resolution process should be ruled out, because self-proclaimed independence would provoke a new spiral of violence in the Balkans, the Russian Foreign Ministry warned on Tuesday.

The status process should continue under the U.N. auspices until a mutually acceptable outcome in line with international law is found, the ministry said, ahead of Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic's visit on Thursday November 22.

According to the ministry, the main point of the talks Jeremic will have in Moscow will be comparing Moscow's and Belgrade's approach to resolving the Kosovo issue and exchanging opinions on the prospect of the process in its final stage. The ministry stresses that the efficiency of efforts in the status process "will primarily depend on the balance of international mediation."

"Moscow sees Serbia as one of the priority partners in the Balkans, where Russia has a traditionally active part in the international efforts to strengthen peace and stability," the ministry underscored.