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## Kostunica: Stability of Balkans depends on the U.S.

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Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica said that "the stability and peace of the entire region depends on the U.S. decision whether to implement the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1244," which guaranteed Serbia's sovereignty over Kosovo, or would "opt for the most severe violation of that resolution and the U.N. Charter."

"If the U.S. announced they implemented the U.N. Security Council 1244 and its key provisions guaranteeing Serbia's sovereignty and territorial integrity and securing essential autonomy for the ethnic Albanian minority in the province, a compromise solution would most certainly be found that would satisfy the mutual essential interests of Serbia and the Kosovo Albanians," Kostunica said.

However, in such a case, a puppet state in Kosovo, which would satisfy the military and security interests of the U.S., could not be created, the Prime minister added.

"One cannot build peace and stability in the Balkans with a policy of force, legal violence and unlawfulness," Kostunica said.

According to him, for its part Serbia will do everything to find a mutually acceptable solution and preserve regional stability and peace through the U.N. Security Council and in line with the U.N. Charter and Serbian Constitution.

"This certainly means there can be no talk of an EU mission replacing UNMIK contrary to Resolution 1244," Kostunica said.

Certain media have reported that the U.S. and EU are looking for a way to sidestep resolution 1244 and bring an EU mission to Kosovo instead of the current U.N. mission, UNMIK.