



KOSOVO

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Kosovo's Independence Is Way for West to Buy Time, Says Historian

Czech historian Jan Pelikan has said that Kosovo's independence was not an epilogue, but only an episode in a long-term crisis, and that in Kosovo the West was "only trying to buy time so as to blunt the blade of Albanian nationalism".

Pelikan said that the current policy of major Western powers amounts to complying to Albanian separatist demands, sidelining the UN and setting up a dangerous precedent international law.

"In Kosovo's case, the West is not violating international law on a whim or due to its aversion toward Serbia. It is pragmatically giving in to the Albanians, because it is unable to stand up to their vital combative nationalism," the Czech historian said.

Pelikan warned that it was not a matter of whether, but when the crisis would spread in the form of civil war into Macedonia, which also has a large Albanian minority.