



# KOSOVO

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### **Serbia issues a démarche to Austria over Kosovo**

KosovoCompromise Staff

Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic on Tuesday handed to the Austrian ambassador to Belgrade a letter of protest, following a statement by Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer that his country would be among the first to recognize Kosovo's independence.

"Serbia fiercely opposes such statements, in the belief that negotiations on the future status of Kosovo and Metohija should resume under the auspices of the U.N. Security Council," a statement from the Serbian Foreign ministry said.

In the démarche, the minister underscored the importance of preserving the country's territorial integrity, adding that such statements caused serious damage to the bilateral relations between Austria and Serbia.

Jeremic is visiting New York starting on Thursday, where he will talk with the ambassadors of the U.N. Security Council member states about the necessity of resuming the Kosovo talks.

His visit is part of the diplomatic activities in the face of the next Security Council session, due on January 9, which will be devoted to Kosovo.