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Contact Group committed to Kosovo solution in the UN Security Council

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The Foreign Affairs ministers of the Contact Group on Kosovo have stated during a meeting in New York their commitment for a negotiated solution of the status of Kosovo, which should be confirmed by the UN Security Council.

“The ministers have confirmed their commitment for finding a negotiated solution which should be adopted by the UN Security Council”, said a joint statement by foreign ministers of the US, Russia, Germany, the UK, France and Italy.

They have also endorsed the statement by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who opened the meeting and argued that the “status quo is not sustainable.”

"It has damaging consequences for Kosovo's political, social and economic development and for the underlying stability of the region. A solution therefore has to be found without delay," the statement said, adding that the troika negotiations process will end on December 10.

The ministers have expressed their full support to the troika process, which is based on the UN Security Council resolution 1244.

They recalled that this process was set up after a previous proposal by UN envoy Martti Ahtisaari was accepted by Pristina and rejected by Belgrade.

UK Foreign Secretary David Milliband said after the meeting that the two sides, which are meeting in New York on Friday, "need to engage with the troika with a constructive spirit".

EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana, EU Enlargement commissioner Olli Rehn and NATO Secretary-General Jap de Hoop Scheffer also attended the meeting.