

Agreement on the path to normalization between Kosovo and Serbia

The Contracting Parties,
Conscious of their responsibility for the preservation of peace,

Committed to contribute to fruitful regional co-operation and security in Europe
and to overcome the legacy of the past,

Aware that the inviolability of frontiers and respect for territorial integrity and
sovereignty and the protection of national minorities are a basic condition for
peace,

Proceeding from the historical facts and without prejudice to the different view of
the Parties on fundamental questions, including on status questions,

Desirous to create the conditions for cooperation between the Parties for the
benefit of the people,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall develop normal, good-neighbourly relations with each other on
the basis of equal rights.

Both Parties shall mutually recognize their respective documents and national
symbols, including passports, diplomas, licence plates, and customs stamps.

Article 2

Both Parties will be guided by the aims and principles laid down in the United
Nations Charter, especially those of the sovereign equality of all States, respect

for their independence, autonomy and territorial integrity, the right of self-determination, the protection of human rights, and non-discrimination.

Article 3

In conformity with the United Nations Charter, the Parties shall settle any disputes between them exclusively by peaceful means and refrain from the threat or use of force.

Article 4

The Parties proceed on the assumption that neither of the two can represent the other in the international sphere or act on its behalf.

Serbia will not object to Kosovo's membership in any international organization.

Article 5

Neither Party will block, nor encourage other to block, the other Party's progress in their respective EU path based on their own merits. Both Parties shall respect the values referred to in Article 2 and 21 of the Treaty of the European Union.

Article 6

While the present Agreement constitutes an important step of normalization, both Parties will continue with new impetus the EU-led Dialogue process which should lead to a legally binding agreement of comprehensive normalization of their relations.

The Parties agree to deepen future cooperation in the fields of economy, science and technology, transport and connectivity, judicial and law enforcement relations, posts and telecommunications, health, culture, religion, sport, environmental protection, missing persons, displaced persons and other similar areas through the conclusions of specific agreements.

The details will be agreed in additional agreements facilitated by the EU-led Dialogue.

Article 7

Both Parties commit to establish specific arrangements and guarantees, in accordance with relevant Council of Europe instruments and by drawing on existing European experiences, to ensure an appropriate level of self-management for the Serbian community in Kosovo and ability for service provision in specific areas, including the possibility for financial support by Serbia and a direct communication channel for the Serbian community to the Government of Kosovo.

The Parties Shall formalize the status of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Kosovo and afford strong protection to the Serbian religious and cultural heritage sites, in line with existing European models.

Article 8

The Parties shall exchange Permanent Missions. They shall be established at the respective Government's seat.

Practical questions relating to the establishment of the Missions shall be dealt with separately.

Article 9

Both Parties take note of the EU's and other donor's commitment to establish a special investment and financial support package for joint projects of the Parties in the economic development, connectivity, green transition and other key areas.

Article 10

The Parties Shall establish a joint Committee, chaired by the EU, for monitoring the implementation of this Agreement.

Both Parties confirm their obligation to implement all past Dialogue agreements, which remain valid and binding.

Article 11

Both Parties commit to respect the Implementation Roadmap annexed to this Agreement.

Annex to the Agreement on the path to normalization between Kosovo and Serbia Implementation Roadmap

1. This Annex constitutes an integral part of the Agreement.
2. This Annex describes the sequence of events to implement the Agreement. These events stem from the obligations of the Parties referred to in Articles 1,4,7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Agreement. All other Articles will enter into force upon signature of the Agreement.
3. No later than within 15 days after the signature of the Basic Agreement, the Management Team shall convene to present a first draft of the Statue to ensure an appropriate level of self management for the Serbian community in Kosovo to the EU-facilitated Dialogue, after which the Parties will immediately start negotiations on the Statue under EU facilitation.
4. Upon presentation of the first draft of the Statue and launching of negotiations on it, the Parties shall formally enable the following to enter into force immediately:
 - a) Mutual recognition of their respective documents and national symbols (Article 1 (2) of the Agreement)); and
 - b) Exchange of permanent missions on the basis of a prior agreement on practical arrangements (Article 8 of the Agreement)
5. The Parties commit to finalise the negotiations and agree on the statue in an expedited timeframe, but no later than the deadline referred to in Article 8 of this Annex. Kosovo commits to ensure the legal sustainability of the Agreed Statue, and endorse it by adopting a decree.
6. Within 30 days after the signature of the Agreement, the Parties shall set up a Joint Committee to monitor the implementation of the Agreement, chaired by the EU (Article 10 (1) of the Agreement), and agree on the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

7. Within 30 days after the setting up of the Joint Committee, Kosovo shall formalize the status of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Kosovo and start internal procedures on the protection of Serbian religious and cultural heritage sites under the EU-facilitated Dialogue (Article 7 (2) of the Agreement).

8. Within 150 days after the signature of the Agreement, the Eu, together with other donors. Shall organize a high-level conference to adopt a special investment and financial support package Article 9 of the Agreement). No disbursements from the package will take place before the EU Facilitator concludes that all provisions of this Annex and Article 4 of the Basic Agreement have been fully implemented.

DUKAGJIN