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**Ban Ki-moon: Situation in northern Kosovo poses threat to all Balkans (*dailies*)**

Several dailies report that in his latest report on Kosovo, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon expressed concern that the current situation in the northern part of Kosovo can destabilize all of the Balkans. In his quarterly report, which will be discussed at the Security Council session on November 29th, Ban Ki-moon noted that developments in northern Kosovo clearly show that unresolved issues pose a threat to peace and stability in the region. “I am concerned not only with the deteriorating security situation on the ground but also with deteriorating interethnic relations all over Kosovo, the polarization of political positions and the growing gap between communities north and south of the River Ibar,” Ban Ki-moon added.

**Pristina: Ban Ki-moon’s report on Kosovo is realistic (*Koha*)**

***Koha Ditore*** reports on the front page that the Government of Kosovo has described as realistic the report by United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon where he said that developments in northern Kosovo can destabilize the whole Balkans. “Ban Ki-moon is right,” said Kosovo’s Deputy Prime Minister Hajredin Kuçi on Sunday. “This is a realistic assessment, because Serbia’s tendencies to provoke violence against local and international institutions and the objective to divide Kosovo could trigger a reaction that goes beyond Kosovo’s borders and would impact the claims of others in the region. Such a policy by Serbia can produce crisis and encourage extremism throughout the region.”

**Cooper opens up his cards (*Zëri*)**

***Zëri*** reports on the front page that the EU facilitator of talks between Pristina and Belgrade, Robert Cooper, has presented a “confidential” letter to Belgrade and Pristina which notes that Kosovo’s borders must be managed in the same way throughout its territory. An official, who preferred to remain anonymous, told the paper that Cooper’s letter specifically notes that there is no difference between regions of Kosovo in terms of border management. “The document makes it clear that there must be a unique management system for all border points,” added the source. Kosovo’s chief negotiator Edita Tahiri agreed with Cooper’s document, while the Serbian side is yet to express its opinion. Meanwhile, Serbs in northern Kosovo have found out about the document and have declared Serbia’s chief negotiator Borislav Stefanovic a traitor and a violator of the Serbian Constitution.

**Thaçi: Justice awaits criminal structures and barricaders (*dailies*)**

During a visit to Vushtrri on Sunday, Kosovo Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi said that
“for 12 years in the northern part of Kosovo there have been events in opposition to the law, the Constitution, the Ahtisaari Plan and Resolution 1244, and on July 25th the Government of Kosovo made the necessary, sovereign and righteous decision to establish control over its territory and to deploy customs and police officers at Gates 1 and 31.”

“In the north there will be law and order, democracy, free elections, legitimate leaderships and social and economic investments. All criminals of parallel and illegal structures who killed Enver Zymeri and burned the two customs points will face justice,” Thaçi was quoted as saying.

**Kragovic: The barricades remain (*Koha*)**

Serbian news agency ***FoNet*** quotes the chairman of the Council for Kosovo at the Serbian Parliament as saying that barricades at the border crossing points of Bërnjak and Jarinje will not be removed because they are the only way for Serbs to remain in Kosovo. “There will be no concessions, because barricades are the only way for Serbs to defend their presence in Kosovo. They can eliminate us physically, but they cannot expel us,” Kragovic told Serbian media.

**Tadic turns down Jovanovic, does not give up on Kosovo (*dailies*)**

Dailies report that Serbian President Boris Tadic said yesterday in Belgrade that he cannot sign the document put forward by Cedo Jovanovic’s Liberal Democratic Party and Vuk Draskovic’s Serbian Revival Movement for changing the policy vis-à-vis Kosovo, because he [Tadic] cannot give up on legitimate state and national interests. “Politics in Kosovo cannot be a stone hanging by our neck, but we also cannot solve that problem by amputating one part of our body,” Tadic told Serbian media.

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