

# Republika e Kosovës

# Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo

Qeveria-Vlada-Government

## MINISTRY FOR DIALOGUE

# BRUSSELS AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTATION STATE OF PLAY

A brief report on progress and challenges

# REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE EUROPEAN UNION / EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVA

Prishtina, 25 November 2015

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a brief report on progress and challenges in implementation of Brussels Agreements during this year, including the package of agreements of 25 August 2015. It looks at the overall process of implementation of all agreements in light of obligations of each party in the Brussels Dialogue.

Measurement of the performance of both states, Kosovo and Serbia, in fulfilling their obligations of implementation, aims to provide readers with a focused picture on how they delivered on what they agreed to and signed, in the dialogue facilitated by the EU/EEAS.

In general the agreements reached in the Brussels Dialogue can be clustered in three main groups:

- 1. Agreements on bilateral cooperation between the two states such as IBM agreement and technical protocol, Regional Cooperation and Participation, Freedom of Movement, Free Trade/Custom Stamps, Energy, Telecom, Customs SEED (Systematic Exchange of Electronic Data), Mutual Recognition of University Diplomas, Mutual Recognition of Vehicle Insurance, Mutual Recognition of CPP (Certificates of Medical Products), Mutual Legal Assistance, Liaison Offices and Arrangement on Official Visits.
- 2. Agreements on normalization of situation in northern Kosovo such as on Legal Municipal Functioning in four northern municipalities, Police, Justice, Closure of Civil Protection, Law on Amnesty, Development Fund, Licensing of the companies in the north, Removal of the barricade from Mitrovica Bridge. These agreements aim at consolidation of Kosovo's system in northern part of the country, integration of Kosovo Serbs of in the Kosovo system and removal of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo.
- 3. Agreements on war reparations such as the agreements on return of Kosovo Civil Registry and Cadastral Records from Serbia to Kosovo, which have been taken by Serbia during the time of war in Kosovo.

The findings show that agreements of group one and three has been marking much better progress than the ones of second group.

The second group of agreements has been typical in not marking real progress, because of Serbia's failure to implement, delay or violate them. All of these agreements required consolidation of Kosovo's system in northern part of Kosovo and integration of Kosovo Serbs, and removal of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo. However, except on police where implementation has been accomplished in accordance with the Brussels Agreement, other areas have been facing either ambiguous implementation or

enormous delays in implementation to date. In order to better understand the ambiguity, the exemplifying one is the agreement on 2013 Kosovo local elections which called for participation four northern municipalities (Mitrovica North, Zvecan, Zubin Potok and Leposavic). The agreement aimed at establishing a legal functioning of those municipal bodies in accordance with Kosovo Law. However, in reality it ended up in paradoxical situation where legal municipal structures are being hindered by Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo, because Serbia supports, instead of abolishing them in accordance with the Brussels agreement. Similar examples can be tracked down in other areas, highlighted in this report.

Implementation of Brussels agreements and continuation of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo do not correspond with the Brussels Agreements goals. The question is whether this can be considered implementation we wanted, aimed, and agreed. The fear is whether the implementation of agreements in other areas such as justice, dismantlement of Civil Protection will follow similar ambiguous pattern. Undoubtedly, if there shall not be full and verifiable dismantlement of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo, it is likely that goals of this dialogue would be undermined. For all those who observe the implementation process the focus should be on examining effective removal of those parallel structures. Unimaginable but true, the 2011 mutual recognition of custom stamp agreement required removal of Serbia's parallel stamps and custom offices in Kosovo; still today such illegal stamps and structures revisit.

This dualism, of implementing Brussels agreement requirements while at the same time maintaining parallel structures, allows for Serbia to report in EU about progress in implementation, while maintaining the interference in Kosovo intact. In some way, the implementation part becomes a cover for interference and parallelism by Serbia. On the surface looks like the agreements are being implemented, but in the substance situation remains contradictory and far from what was agreed in Brussels. The fact that the Kosovo Government ministers are being prevented to pay visits to northern municipalities speaks for itself.

Kosovo has conditioned the establishment of Association with full removal of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo. The agreement in principle is reached in Brussels that in parallel with the Association statute drafting process, a tri-partite working group will work on the plan for removal of parallel structures. Kosovo maintains that once a verifiable removal of those structures will happen, the establishment of Association will commence.

In order for implementation to progress substantially, Serbia should remove Kosovo from her constitution and abolish all parallel structures, in order to demonstrate the consistency in its commitment for the Brussels dialogue and normalization of relations with Kosovo, as provided in Chapter 35 of the accession negotiations with EU.

Serbia's way of campaigning to prevent Kosovo's membership in UNESCO showed not only a substantial violation of the spirit of Brussels dialogue on normalization of relations but also revealed how far Serbia is from the European values.

Republic of Kosovo remains committed to the Brussels Dialogue and implementation of the agreements. The Stabilization Association Agreement signed between Kosovo and the European Union has been a historic moment in Kosovo's official path to the European integration. It helped Kosovo refresh motivations to push forward European reforms and continue its responsible approach in the Brussels Dialogue. The EU decision on visa liberalization for Kosovo citizens presents another important step forward that Kosovo deservedly anticipates.

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo highly appreciates cooperation and support by the EU as facilitator of this dialogue and as an organization where Kosovo aspire full membership. We greatly appreciate support of the United States, Germany and all other countries on the Brussels Dialogue and in Kosovo's Euro-Atlantic perspective in general.

#### STATE OF PLAY IN IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

# 1. Elections / fragile functioning of four legal northern municipalities in accordance with Kosovo Law

- Functioning of four northern municipalities elected in 2013 Kosovo local elections continues to be fragile, due to Serbia's interferences with its parallel structures in Kosovo.
- These municipalities yet do not perform their duties in full accordance with the Kosovo Law, as required by the Brussels First agreement on normalization of relations. Here are some of the major concerns:
  - 1. Symbols, stamps, insignia are not yet adopted by the municipalities and, occasionally they use some illegal stamps
  - 2. Budgets and procurement are not performed in accordance with Kosovo law
  - 3. Administrative staff is not yet integrated, except for Mitrovica North
  - 4. Local public services are mostly delivered by parallel structures, supported politically and financially by Serbia.
- Serbia failed to abolish its parallel structures in Kosovo. It continues to fund and support parallel structures (i.e. interim municipal councils, municipal staff), instead of respecting the Brussels Agreement. As reported, Serbia continues to allocate around 500 million euro per year for its parallel structures in Kosovo.
- Serbia is preventing the population census in Kosovo's four northern municipalities planned to take place in 2016. It can be seen from the reluctance of mayors to support the census, although it was agreed between them and the Government of Kosovo in 2014, in exchange of their request to increase the number of seats in the municipal assemblies of Zveçan and Zubin Potok (four additional seats per each). Mayors rejected to meet with the head of EUROSTAT who recently visited Kosovo for the purpose of helping preparation of the census.

#### 2. Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo - not yet abolished

- Serbia continued with meddling in Kosovo by not supporting its parallel structures that operate throughout Kosovo, both at local and central levels, contrary to the Brussels Agreement on normalization of neighborly relations between the two states.
- Serbia has to abolish its parallel structures in Kosovo as they are the main obstacle in the full and effective implementation process of the Brussels agreements and the objective for normalization of situation in northern part of Kosovo. Implementation of the Brussels agreements cannot be considered accomplished if paradoxes of legal and illegal structures operation continue in Kosovo
- As reported, these structures operate illegally throughout Kosovo, though more
  aggressively in northern part of Kosovo. According to our evidences, illegal
  mayors are the ones who garner political support and funding by Serbia and
  with their informal power largely undermine the work of democratically elected
  mayors/municipal bodies to perform their functions in accordance with Kosovo
  law.
- Only a few parallel structures are removed (i.e. on police), most of them still
  operate despite the Brussels agreements. In some cases they have been removed
  and revisited such as the parallel custom offices and stamps.
- Kosovo has conditioned the establishment of Association with full removal of Serbia's parallel structures in Kosovo. The agreement in principle is reached in Brussels that in parallel with the Association statute drafting process, a tri-partite working group will work on the plan for removal of parallel structures. Once a verifiable removal of those structures will happen, the establishment of association will resume.

## 3. Association of Serb majority municipalities in Kosovo

- The implementation has not yet commenced anticipating the verdict of Kosovo Constitutional Court on constitutionality of the Brussels agreement on this matter (reached on 25 August 2015)
- Kosovo has undertaken initial measures on implementation, it has drafted a
  decree as per point 2 of the agreement, subject of review by the Constitutional
  Court of Kosovo.
- In accordance with the verdict of Constitutional Court the implementation will resume.
- Management Team is being completed with two new members that replace
  previous once which cannot serve in this team for very objective reasons. Kosovo
  has required for more representative character of this team, given that initial
  composition was reflecting only four northern municipalities.

#### 4. Police

- In general, implementation of the agreement on police has been satisfactory. Police parallel structures are dissolved. 287 Kosovo/Serbs police officers are integrated into Kosovo Police on 31 December 2013, and the Regional Directorate has been established on 22 July 2013. The Regional Director is Kosovo Serb, whereas the Deputy Director is Kosovo Albanian, appointed on 25 June 2013.
- Integration of administrative staff and dismantlement of the parallel ones is still pending issue. Serbia has not shown readiness regarding the integration of Serb administrative staff into the Ministry of Interior of Kosovo/ Civil Registry Agency. The reasoning behind is of political nature to prevent issuance of Kosovo civil registry documents/citizenship documents in four northern municipalities in Kosovo. Lately there has been some indications by the EU facilitator on this issue, remains to be seen. Kosovo has the plan of integration for 72 persons as per agreement.
- Serbia continues to insist for additional number of Serb police to be integrated in Kosovo police, beyond the numbers agreed and implemented.

## 5. Justice

- The implementation of Justice Agreement is in the process of finalization. The pending issue regarding premises and support staff are resolved, whereas abolishment of Serbia's judicial parallel structures in Kosovo is still pending. It took more than two years to come to this stage.
- Kosovo has fulfilled all its obligations regarding the implementation of this agreement.
- Serbia has not yet abolished its judicial parallel structures in Kosovo. The abolishment requires legal adjustments to Serbian Law No. 116/2008 on Seats and Territorial jurisdictions of Courts and Prosecutors offices. The deadline was 31 December 2013.
- Serbia has not yet ended the tenure for the judicial personnel engaged in parallel judicial structures, as well as did not cease their salaries.
- These structures *de-facto* they stop operating since 2013 as per agreement.

### The progress in implementation is as follows:

- The unitary justice system of Kosovo will be consolidated in the northern part of Kosovo, were one basic court for seven municipalities and one prosecutorial office will soon commence their operations, in accordance with the Kosovo Law, as stipulated in the Brussels agreement.
- As agreed, Kosovo has duly opened vacancies for 48 Serb judges and 15 Serb prosecutors for entire territory of Kosovo. The selection process resulted in selection of 34 judges and 9 prosecutors. Kosovo will publish additional vacancies in order to complete the integration process, in a due course.
- The issue of support staff is settled. Serbia was delaying six months in agreeing to the numbers of staff proposed by Kosovo side. On 13 November 2015, EU informed about the agreement of Serbian side.
- The issue of premises is settled. Basic Court –two buildings, existing basic court building in north and another building of former Yugobanka (south Mitrovica); a

rented building will be used for prosecution office (north Mitrovica). The premises for two branches of basic court in Leposavic are ready for use, although, currently this building is occupied by the Serbian judges to be integrated. The building in the Zubin Potok requires some renovations. KJC will open the re-tendering process .The plans are underway.

#### 6. "Civil protection" dismantlement

- The implementation of the "Civil Protection CP" Agreement is in the process of finalization. The pending issue is the abolishment of this structure by Serbia. It took almost two years to come to this stage.
- Kosovo has fulfilled 97% of its obligation for integration of former members of CP in the Kosovo institutions. The remained 3% will be integrated next week. The selection process has taken place in accordance with Kosovo Law. The foreseen 483 persons in accordance with Kosovo Government Integration Plan will be employed in the wide range of Kosovo Institutions (see annex 1). The first 105 persons are already working and receiving the salaries from the Kosovo budget since September 2015. Whereas, 328 persons will sign the contracts by the end of this year and will start working and getting salaries starting from 1January 2016. Whereas, the remaining 50 persons will be paid by the Kosovo contingency fund, in meantime will be employed next year.
- Serbia has not yet abolished "Civil protection" which operated illegally in Kosovo. Serbia has to adopt required legal adjustments in order to cease these structure and the payments for its members, in accordance with the agreement. The deadline is 1 January 2016, though we have not been informed about any substantial progress in this issue.
- Serbia has to adopt the legislation changes in order to cease paying salaries for CP members and to stop providing financial support to CP.
- Serbia has to amend the Law on Defense in order to legally cease the operation of CP in Kosovo. In addition, it has to remove the CP from the organizational structure of the Ministry of Interior. (Strangely, CP was legally accommodated in the Law on Defense, whereas, the CP structure in the organization chart of Ministry of Interior).

 Serbia delays in handing over the premises of former CP to the Kosovo Government.

## The progress in implementation is as follows:

- Serbia, although with five months delays, completed the removal of observation points, the last one nearby Mitrovica Bridge.
- With two months delays, Serbia handed over the CP equipments to Kosovo Government.
- It has duly confirmed to EU that the CP staff will no longer wear the uniforms/jackets with Serbian CP insignia, particularly, discontinuation of official use of them.
- Regarding premises, Serbia delays in handing over the premises of former CP to
  the Kosovo Government. In total 15 premises had to be handed over not later
  than 20 July 2015. Ungrounded justifications claimed by Serbia were founded in
  the excuses that these premises belonged to municipalities. In the request of
  Kosovo to obtain a certificate which proves that premises belong to
  municipalities, Serbia failed to provide such a document.
- Kosovo Government, after site visit to those premises and their technical assessment, have decided, that following the handover, to use some of them and the rest to be transferred to the municipality for use. Given the insufficiency of premises for the large number of institution that will operate at local level in north, the Government of Kosovo developed a accommodation plan which shall be finalized by the end of this year.

#### 7. Liaison Offices

- In general, good progress has been made in implementation of the agreement on Liaison Offices (LO)
- The pending issues are: symbols and stamps of LO, and better cooperation between Kosovo LO and Serbian officials which has usually avoided such meetings. Serbia avoids discussions on reaching the agreement on issues such as

stamps, symbols and letterheads, for more than two years now, although Kosovo insist regularly.

- Serbia did not show readiness to establish cooperation with the Kosovo Liaison
  officer in Belgrade. We note with concern that the Kosovo Liaison Officer has not
  been hosted by the government official of Serbia for more than two years now. It
  required additional negotiation this September, so finally a first official meeting
  took place with Serbia's minister of education. On the other hand Kosovo
  Government hosted Serbia Liaison Officer immediately after the agreement was
  reached.
- Serbia violates the agreement occasionally, as the Serbian officials in their visits
  to Kosovo (mostly focused in north) do not engage in the spirit of the Brussels
  agreement on normalization of relations but rather on nationalistic agenda.
  Likewise, Serbia's officials violate the agreement by entering Kosovo without
  permission.

#### 8. Energy

- Serbia failed to register two new companies (trade and, supply and distribution services) in Kosovo, as foreseen in the agreement on energy of 25 August 2015.
- The reasons for delays in registering new companies are of political nature: (1) to avoid respecting Kosovo Law on business registration process and (2) to pose obstacles to Kosovo Transmission Operator (KOSTT) to start operating as an independent system within the European transmission system, based on the reached agreement between KOSTT and ENTSO-E on 1 October 2015. The implementation of this agreement is foreseen for 30 November 2015, conditioned with the Kosovo issuing a supply license to a new company, however Kosovo is unable to issue such license because the new company is not yet registered.
- Serbia still refuses the access to north for the Kosovo energy operators (KOSTT and KEDS), in violation of Energy agreement. Access in northern part of the county has to start immediately after KOSTT starts operating as an independent regulatory zone.

# More detailed state of play:

- The breakthrough deal on energy / agreed conclusions reached on 25 August 2015 helped start making progress again in implementation process. As the result, the Kosovo/KOSTT signed connection agreement with ENTSO-E and its members. Given this Connection Agreement, Serbia withdrew its filed complaint against Kosovo in line with the 2013 energy agreement.
- According to the KOSTT- ENTSO-E connection agreement commencement of independent operation of KOSTT as regulatory block has to start on 30 November 2015. KOSTT has undertaken all necessary measures and conducted all necessary tests as set by PG TSO KOSTT. The agreement is conditioned with the progress made in licensing of the New supply Company by Kosovo authorities, however the New Company has not yet being registered because, even to date they didn't submitted the revised application documents. The initial application documents were founded to not be in line with the Kosovo Law as requested by the energy agreement. Hence, Kosovo considers that KOSTT should not be hold back from commencement of operation as an independent regulatory block on the foreseen date because of delays of New Co. to follow the procedures of registering and obtaining the supply license.
- Two new companies, one for trade and the other for supply and distribution services has not yet been registered at the Kosovo Ministry of Trade and Industry/Kosovo Business Registration Agency because they have not yet submitted the revised application documents in accordance with Kosovo Law. Kosovo authorities have sent duly the instructions for revisions through the EU facilitator, however the delays in resubmitting continue.
- After the business registration has been issued, Kosovo authorities will issue
  duly the licensing for two new companies in accordance with the agreement.
  After the companies start operating, they should enter in discussion regarding
  achievement of the commercial arrangements with the existing distribution
  company, KEDS as well as required cooperation with KOSTT.
- Access of KOSTT and KEDS to northern part of Kosovo is still pending. Access in northern part of the county has to start immediately after KOSTT starts operating as independent regulatory zone.

Regarding illegal operators, by signing the Agreement, Serbia reconfirmed its
commitment to dissolve all its energy operators which illegally operates in north
of Kosovo, an obligation that was delayed since September 2014, respectively
upon signing the implementation action plan on energy

#### 9. Telecom - country code for Kosovo

• Serbia already caused a delay in Kosovo obtaining the country code, because it has delayed for two months the registration of a new company in Kosovo. A new company is registered, however fears of new delays by Serbia persist.

# More detailed state of play:

- The implementation of the Action Plan reached on 25 August 2015 has started with delays because of delays caused by a New Company in terms of submitting application for business registration and irregularities found in the application. It took two months for a New Company to revise the application documents in line with Kosovo law and once submitted, the Kosovo authorities issued the business registration within one working day (on 13 October 2015)
- The delay of the other side in business registration of NewCo has caused almost two months delays in Kosovo obtaining country code from ITU. The Action Plan has foreseen the date 15 January 2016 for granting of country code, this deadline has been postponed to 1 March 2016. We urge EU to monitor the process and to not allow further delays for Kosovo to be granted with a country code, considering that we had a delay for more the two years since the agreement was reached in 2013.
- Regarding the Country Code, Austria has to apply on 1 of January 2016. Serbia
  has to present duly a letter of commitment of not opposing granting of the
  country code by ITU.
- Kosovo and ITU should start cooperation regarding the granting of the code, as required by Action Plan. However despite of Kosovo's efforts to meet with ITU officials, there has not been positive response by them. We urge EU to contribute for such cooperation to commence.

- Kosovo authorities shall provide a temporary authorizations of a limited scope on mobile telephony and full license on fixed telephone to a NewCo as provide by the agreement. The temporary authorizations will expire once the third mobile operator becomes operational following the announcement of a international tender in Kosovo.
- Data exchange between two parties through the EU facilitator is in the process of realization. The delays are due to above mention reasons, even second deadline of first November 2015, has not been met as foreseen by the Action Plan.

## 10. Customs

- Implementation the agreement is rather satisfactory. Obstacles are still present due to Serbia's parallel structures.
- Serbia has not yet abolished its parallel custom structures in Kosovo. Serbia has
  to remove the parallel structures in Kosovo from the Serbian Customs
  Administration chart still. (Please see the chart, which shows Prishtina custom is
  still part of it: <a href="www.carina.rs/lat/ONama/organizacija/Stranice/Osnovna.aspx">www.carina.rs/lat/ONama/organizacija/Stranice/Osnovna.aspx</a>)
- Use of parallel customs stamps continues to happen in violation of the
  agreement on custom stamp. There is evidence on such violations. Recently, on
  15 November 2015 at Border Crossing Point Merdare it was found five Single
  Administrative Documents sealed with Serbia's parallel institutions stamps with
  inscriptions of so-called "Carinaranica Pristina & Kosovska Mitrovica" (Prishtina
  and Kosovo Mitrovica Customs) and three others at BCP Dheu i Bardhë on 16 of
  November 2015

#### 11. IBM - permanent facilities

- Serbia has not yet started the implementation of the agreement on the IBM permanent facilities. (signed last September and funded by EU)
- It has not yet approved the expropriation of the land required for permanent facilities/building the permanent BCP's

• Kosovo has approved all necessary decisions on expropriation issue and submitted to Implementing Agency (UNOPS) the action plan with all the measures to be taken in order to start with construction early next year.

#### MLA and SEED

- Implementation of Mutual Legal Assistance since January 2013 most of the time failed by Serbian side, it was completely cut in October 2014. After a year of non-implementation Serbia promised to resume the implementation of MLA but until today still Serbia failed to reply in all of Kosovo's request, at least not yet.
- This month Serbian side started to implement on the full scope the agreement on SEED (Systematic Exchange of Electronic Data's on Customs) after a year of delays.

#### 12. Freedom of Movement

- Serbia is not allowing third country nationals entry into Serbia from Kosovo
- Serbia has not implemented the license plates' agreement the illegal license plates are still in use in northern part of Kosovo. Serbia continues to issue the illegal plates (KM, GL, PR etc.)
- Serbia applies discriminatory measures on RKS registration plates (by altering them with probation plates) while refuses reciprocity by Kosovo side, foreseen by the agreement. Kosovo has tolerated this asymmetry for the sake of free movement of people, however is determined to apply reciprocity if Serbia will not cease discriminatory measures that lasts for more than four years.
- Serbia should remove the application of Entry Exit Documents, the document does not constitute any security measure, and it continues to burden the freedom of movement through the un-necessary time consuming.
- Serbia is blocking time-after-time the freedom of movement for political purposes (case of BCP Mutivoda in the local Election Day in Medvegja on 13 September 2015).

- Kosovo has taken several steps to facilitate a smooth transition to legal (KS or RKS) plates by providing flexibility in the due process; flexibility such as time, free transition to legal plates, acceptance of one customs payment (which was presumed to already be done in Serbia) etc. Most of Serbs of other parts of Kosovo have replaced the illegal plates with valid license plates, but Serbs of four northern municipalities have refused to do so, instructed by Serbia
- Kosovo is undertaking technical preparations on three issues:
  - 1. Establishing reciprocity on license plates issue with Serbia, in accordance with 2011 Brussels Freedom of Movement agreement (FoM) and action plan. This implies that if Serbia will not be ready to remove "proba" plates applied to RKS license plates entering Serbia, Kosovo will implement reciprocal measures based on the agreement
  - 2. Kosovo will also fully implement the FoM agreement for removing from the traffic the still used illegal license plates KM, GL, PR, etc) by some citizens, though large part of them are already removed since citizens have replaced them with valid ones. The period of transition from illegal into valid plates will offer optimal time for transition, given that next year expires the agreed period for such transition
  - 3. Not related to the FoM agreement, in line with Kosovo government efforts to establish law and order in the traffic, Kosovo will address the issue of unregistered vehicles, by taking measures to ensure that all vehicles that participate in traffic must be registered. There shall be a timeline decided for implementing such measures

# 13. Barricade removal from Mitrovica Bridge / Freedom of Movement

 Revitalization of the Mitrovica Bridge has started on 17 October 2015 (two days delay). EU is in charge of the revitalization process. It has to be finalized by June 2016 when the bridge will be open for all traffic. Serbia has been cooperative so far. • A positive move has happened by the Albanian residents on 20 October 2015 who removed the monument at the square in village of Suhadoll built as a reaction to reestablished barricade ("peace park") in the Mitrovica bridge.

#### 14. Serbia's illegal constructions in north Mitrovica

- Serbia has to stop illegal constructions of collective housing in North Mitrovica aiming at changing ethnic structure. Albanians are prevented to return home and build their houses.
- Serbia should stop preventing the implementation of the agreement of 25 August 2015 which calls for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on establishing legal municipal urban development plans in Mitrovica north. The mayor of Mitrovica North G. Rakic refuses to sign this MoU with Ministry of Spatial Planning, under the pretext of not recognizing the Ahtisari Maps on administrative boundary between Mitrovica North and Mitrovica South. The MoU has to be also signed by Mitrovica South mayor A. Bahtiri who has confirmed his willingness. The MoU will also define the maps of administrative boundaries of cadastral areas in Suvi Do/Suhadoli and Kroi i Vitakut/Brdjani, as required by the agreement.
- In accordance with the Agreement, on 10 October 2015, Kosovo authorities presented the Ahtisaari maps on administrative boundaries between Mitrovica north and south.

#### 15. Cadastre

- Kosovo Assembly anticipated to adopt the draft law on Kosovo Property
  Comparison and Verification Agency (KPCV). Kosovo has developed the draft
  organizational chart of KPCV and is planning further steps.
- Serbia side to accelerate the process of scanning the cadastral documents they hold on.

## 16. Development Fund

• The Development Fund has been growing continually, currently this Fund amounts about 8 million Euro, collected from the taxes of companies operating in

four northern municipalities and goods designated to citizens of these municipalities.

• Board has approved in principle the four projects (concept notes) for North Mitrovica Municipality, other project proposals of other municipalities will be reviewed in next Board meetings. The total amount of funds allocated so far for three first projects is €1,407,900.

## 17. Regional Cooperation

- Some important progress has been made in Kosovo's participation as well as membership in the regional organizations and initiatives.
- Serbia continues to violate this agreement by posing obstacles to Kosovo's commitment for its membership. Serbia should also18 support the Kosovo's representatives in the management and administrative structures in regional organizations.

# 18. Diplomas

- Serbia failed to implement the agreement on mutual recognition of university diplomas, for more than four years since the agreement was reached.
- Around 400 applications waiting for recognitions at SPARK offices that were certified by European Association of Universities (EAU), as required by the Agreement.
- The breakthrough agreement on mutual recognition of university diplomas reached on 29 September 2015 has been immediately disputed in some parts by Serbia, hence the process of negotiations on this issue continues.
- Kosovo considers that Serbia's refusal to recognize the Kosovo university diplomas coincides with its discriminatory policies against the Albanian community of the Presheva Valley. It is known that most of the Albanian students from this region are graduates from the universities of Kosovo.

• Serbia blocked the Kosovo text books donated to the Albanians of Preshevo Valley, since 9 September 2015.

#### 19. Vehicle insurance

• The implementation of the agreement has been satisfactory. It commenced on 12 August 2015, after more than three years of negotiations

#### 20. Certificates of Pharmaceutical Products - CPP

• After 6 months of delays, the implementation of this agreement resumed, Kosovo authorities, on 5 November 2015, received an application form of CPP which contains elements agreed in the Brussels Dialogue meetings.

Sincerely,

**Edita Tahiri** 

Minister for Dialogue

Chief negotiator at the Brussels Dialogue

For more information on this process, agreements and state of play reports, please refer to the official website of the Kosovo Government: <a href="http://www.kryeministriks.net/?page=2,252">http://www.kryeministriks.net/?page=2,252</a>