
EULEX'S MANDATE WILL CONTINUE, KOSOVO'S PM SAYS

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Authorities in Kosovo demand for the European mission for the rule of law, EULEX to continue its presence, at a time when its mandate expires on June 12.

Prime Minister Isa Mustafa says that Kosovo still needs the support offered by this mission.

EULEX in Kosovo will continue because there are still pending issues which this mission must finalize. This has been the request of the European Union and the United States of America. It is in the interest of Kosovo for the powers of this mission to be transferred to domestic authorities, however, EULEX will continue its mandate for a while, PM Mustafa said.

The largest parliamentary party in Kosovo, PDK, is also in favor of EULEX's mandate in Kosovo to continue.

PDK's secretary, Basri Musmurati said that this mission is still needed in Kosovo.

We believe that EULEX must continue to be here. This mission has not entirely failed. There have been cases when it has not been completely successful, but in some cases we needed it here, he says.

On the other hand, the head of the parliamentary group of the largest opposition party, Self Determination, Glauk Konjufca says that the mandate of this mission must end in June of this year.

Meanwhile, legal experts told IBNA that Kosovo needs international support in the domain of the rule of law.

Legal expert, Kujtim Kerveshi says that Kosovos institutions still need to be monitored and need advice from a foreign professional mission.

Law enforcement agencies in our country are not prepared to face important and complicated issues. I'd like to remind you that some of the most notorious judiciary cases have been prepared by EULEX mission. I don't think such cases would be taken to court without EULEX's involvement, he says.

Law professor, Fatos Rushiti says that the mission must continue to work in order to fight corruption and organized crime.

Without this mission, there cannot be fight against corruption, organized crime and the mandate

must be extended. I think that EULEX will offer its help in decriminalizing politics in Kosovo, he says.

Since 2009, EULEX mission in Kosovo has an executive mandate in the domain of serious crimes. The mission has launched criminal proceedings against several senior officials in Kosovo and the most notorious ones are those relating to former minister Fatmir Limaj and recently, the former MP Azem Syla on charges of being the head of a criminal group. /balkaneu.com/

By Elton Tota

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