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## EXPANSIONIST SERBIAN NATIONALISM ESCALATES TENSIONS IN THE BALKANS

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Behind the Kosovo-Serbia tension are the expansionist Serbian nationalism and Russia's policy of provocation against the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia in order to disrupt the political stability in the Western Balkans(\*).

Like every sovereign state, the Republic of Kosovo has made legal arrangements that require the use of national identity cards and national license plates in vehicles of its citizens living within its borders. Serbian President Aleksander Vucic harshly criticized the decision adopted by the Kosovo government at the national level and described this situation as Pristina's declaration of war on the Serbs.

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**(\*) AVİM considers the term "Western Balkans" to be a politically motivated separatist terminology and insists on the use of the geographical and historical identification "Balkans" regarding the region.**

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