



Division of Public Information

## **MEDIA MONITORING Headlines**

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**8 February 2010**

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- **Serbia announces resistance on North Mitrovica (*Epoka e Re*)**
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- **Russia may recognize Kosovo (*Kosova Sot*)**
- **Russian army base along Serb-Kosovo border? (*Zëri*)**
- **Member of CEC, Xhelil Pajaziti, passes away (*dailies*)**

### **Kosovo Media Highlights**

#### **Together in Vienna (*dailies*)**

*Dailies* report that Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi and chief of the International Civilian Office in Kosovo Pieter Feith, will appear today before the International Steering Group in Vienna. Thaçi will speak about the progress in Kosovo as well as challenges that await it during this year, reports *Express*. Part of his appearance will be about the commitment of the Kosovo institutions for deeper democratic reforms so that the 2010 Progress Report is more positive opens perspective for the visa liberalization as well as for the opening of the dialogue for Stabilization–Association.

ICO chief Feith that will also participate at this meeting said a few days ago that Kosovo's most important priorities are achievement of a better progress report, increased EU presence in the north as well as doubling of the efforts to strengthen the rule of law.

#### **ICO requests international support for the strategy (*Koha Ditore*)**

***Koha Ditore*** reports that member states of the International Steering Group will meet today in Vienna, to give political support to the International Civilian Office and Kosovo Government strategy for return of law and order in the north.

Directors for Balkans from the states that have recognized Kosovo will discuss in detail the strategy for the north and except for the political support, financial support is expected as well. A European official accredited in Pristina told this daily that the character of the board will not allow this mechanism to make any statements on the financial support but that this issue will be addressed by the working groups.

“ISG, as a strategic forum, cannot deal with budget implications, budget lines or some other specific initiative. The working groups deal with this. Therefore no announcement for financial support should be expected after this meeting, however it is natural that political support would enable further work,” said the international official.

#### **Correction officers today in protest (*Koha Ditore*)**

***Koha Ditore*** reports that over 300 correctional officers and civil servants will protest on Monday from 08.00-10.00 hrs before the Directorate of Prisons in Dubrava, demanding better work conditions. The head of the union of Kosovo Correctional Service, Zenun Sadikaj said on Sunday that their demands are achievable and that because of that they are not going to give up until the demands are fulfilled. “Our demands are increase of our salaries, payment for our nightshifts, adoption of the law on correctional service,” said Sadikaj.

***Koha Ditore*** reports similar actions are announced for March similar by other sectors including firefighters, courts and prosecutions staff, public administration, tax administration and other organizations.

#### **Serbs, more willing to cooperate (*Zëri*)**

The paper reports that local and international officials are pleased with the level of interest on the part of local Serbs to take part in the preparatory team for the creation of North Mitrovica municipality. ICO Spokesperson Andy McGuffie said they are hopeful on the cooperation with local Serbs but also Belgrade to implement projects regarding Mitrovica and the north in general. “We are optimistic. The people have started to believe in the goods that come from decentralization process,” said McGuffie. At the same time, Local Government Minister Sadri Ferati also said there is an increase of interest of the Serb community members to take part in Kosovo institutions.

#### **Serbia announces resistance on North Mitrovica (*Epoka e Re*)**

The newly-appointed preparatory team for the creation of North Mitrovica municipality is likely to encounter resistance from Belgrade, writes the paper. State Secretary in the Serbian Ministry for Kosovo Oliver Ivanovic said Serbs are not interested in this municipality as they already have one. “First, the municipality in the north was *de facto* established in 1999 while *de jure* it was formalized in 2002 through

the Steiner-Covic agreement. That agreement between UNMIK and Serbian Government at the time is still in force and no one can invalidate it,” Ivanovic said.

### **Visa liberalization, in a year (Infopress)**

German member of European Parliament Doris Pack is quoted as saying that Kosovo will be later than other countries in the region to benefit from visa liberalization but added that she hoped this goal would be achieved in a year or year and a half. In an interview for *RTK*, Pack said a number of technical criteria should be met before getting visa-free regime and noted that Kosovo has started this process later than other countries.

### **Russia may recognize Kosovo (Kosova Sot)**

Russian Permanent representative in NATO, Dmitry Rogozin, said days ago that if Serbia wishes to join NATO then Russia will also reconsider its stance over Kosovo. *Kosova Sot* writes that the announcements of official Moscow over the possibility of Kosovo’s recognition if Serbia joins NATO are considered by the military analysts as not extraordinary setting from the fact that this country never had a particular interest in Kosovo.

### **Russian army base along Serb-Kosovo border? (Zëri)**

Russian media reported that there are rumours Russia may build a military base along the border between Serbia and Kosovo. This, according to reports, may be Russia’s counteraction to NATO’s plans to expand to the east. The speculations started after the visit of the Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to Belgrade late last year.

### **Member of CEC, Xhelil Pajaziti, passes away (dailies)**

The member of the Central Elections Commission from PDK, Xhelil Pajaziti, passed away at the age of 69, papers report. Kosovo institution leaders, including PM Hashim Thaçi and President Fatmir Sejdiu, sent their condolences to Pajaziti family. *Epoka e Re* writes that the late Xhelil Pajaziti was father to the Interior Minister, Zenun Pajaziti.

## **Kosovo Press Headlines**

### **Koha Ditore**

#### **Front page**

- **ICO asks for international support for the strategy**
- **Xhelil Pajaziti, member of CEC, passes away**
- **Serbia doesn’t give up on the “Kosovafilm” movies**

#### **Other headlines**

- **First minus of the week: Retroactive salaries (2)**
- **Second minus of the week: New theft in the police (2)**

- **Third minus of the week: Greed of being Serbian citizen (2)**
- **Fourth minus of the week: Accreditation with telephone (2)**
- **Guardians to protest today (3)**
- **Accreditation to speak on the phone to President's spokesman (4)**
- **Health unionists to decide today on the strike (5)**
- **Bosniacs submit request for creation of Reçan municipality (6)**
- **Palokaj: Kosovo from elections to elections (10)**
- **RFE: Feith's status under review (11)**
- **VOA: Jeremic: Serbia has no intention of joining NATO (11)**

## **Zëri**

### **Front page**

- **Presidential excursion**
- **Jacobs: Investigation results, late in spring**
- **PDK with only one directorate in Prizren**
- **ISG hails ICO's work**

### **Other headlines**

- **Editorial: Close to Asia (2)**
- **Kacin: Serbia in EU, after Kosovo (2)**
- **Kastrati: Return of displaced, fundamental right (2)**
- **Warlick: Kosovo status is closed to the US (2)**
- **Russian military base along Serb-Kosovo border? (3)**
- **KFOR's reduction in accordance to security increase (3)**
- **Serbs, more willing to cooperate (4)**
- **Xhelil Pajaziti passes away (4)**
- **Salaries, subject to possibilities (4)**
- **To protest in prisons (8)**

## **Kosova Sot**

### **Front page**

- **7 millions for pay increase in the administration**
- **Russia may recognise Kosovo**
- **Tribute to Xhelil Pajaziti**
- **Editorial: Serbia's backtrack**

### **Other headlines**

- **This is not the way to fight corruption (3)**
- **ICO, optimistic about the north (4)**
- **Today, Thaçi to speak in Vienna before ISG (4)**

- Kosovo deported 248 foreign citizens last year (9)

## ***Epoka e Re***

### Front page

- **Thaçi: I have a lot to present for Kosovo in Vienna**
- **Kosovo still needed Xhelil Pajaziti**
- **There is no international law, there is an international right**

### Other headlines

- **Degert: Kosovo has its own way for European integrations (2)**
- **Serbs increase interest for Kosovo institutions (4)**
- **Serbia warns with resistance on creation of Mitrovica north (5)**
- **Motorway will develop Kosovo's economy (8)**

## ***Express***

### Front page

- **The second round of protests**
- **Gjilan, legally not politically**
- **Scenario of the holiday**
- **Shala: The letter of regret**

### Other headlines

- **Maliqi: Are there eyes or ears? (2)**
- **Hoven visits Kosovo (4)**
- **Kosovo, a problem for Serbia's integration (5)**
- **Together in Vienna (5)**
- **Ready for Mitrovica north (6)**
- **Additional protests (7)**
- **Return, an elementary right (8)**
- **Now prisons in protest (8)**

## ***Lajm***

### Front page

- **Semester, 100 euros**
- **Opposition wants elections**

### Other headlines

- **Reduction, good news (2)**
- **Serbia in EU, after Kosovo (3)**

- **Expected protests (3)**
- **Protest united (4)**
- **Still without fiscal cash registers (7)**
- **Last call for justice (8)**
- **Mustafa vs. Rexhepi (9)**

## ***Bota Sot***

### **Front page**

- **Reduction of KFOR makes KSF an army**

### **Other headlines**

- **Krasniqi: Raise of salaries issue of possibilities (3)**
- **ISG discusses about Kosovo (4)**
- **Experts, CEC to respect ECAC decision (4)**
- **Police evaluates that there is enough security for returnees in all areas (7)**
- **The member of CEC Xhelil Pajaziti passes away (9)**

## ***Infopress***

### **Front page**

- **They report the two years success**

### **Other headlines**

- **KFOR reduction, close also few more camps (3)**
- **Serbs, more willing for cooperation (4)**
- **Xhelil Pajaziti passes away (4)**
- **Visa liberalization, after one year (4)**

#### **Disclaimer**

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