



Division of Public Information

## **MEDIA MONITORING Headlines**

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### **Main Stories**

**3 February 2010**

- Turkey pledges to continue support for Kosovo (*dailies*)
- Zvecan rejects strategy for the north (*Koha Ditore*)
- Gracanica mayor with improvised HQ (*Koha Ditore*)
- The deadline (*Express*)
- LDK: Lipjan elections heavily manipulated (*Zëri*)
- Gjakova case goes to Constitutional Court (*dailies*)
- Krasniqi: Kosovo's goal is UN membership (*dailies*)
- Gallucci anticipates new negotiations (*Kosova Sot, InfoPress*)
- Stojan: Kosovo borders are untouchable (*InfoPress*)

### **Kosovo Media Highlights**

#### **Turkey pledges to continue support for Kosovo (*dailies*)**

During an official visit to Turkey, Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu was met with high state honours and assured of the country's continuing support for Kosovo. Sejdiu thanked Turkey and said that he hoped Turkey would continue to support further recognitions of Kosovo and its membership in EU and NATO.

Turkish President Abdullah Gul said that Turkey supports the efforts of Kosovo authorities to reestablish law and order in the north, and called on the countries of the Balkans region to build good neighbourly relations. "Turkey sees Kosovo as its sister because we have a strong Turkish community there, and this plays a bridging role between the two countries," said Gul.

#### **Zvecan rejects strategy for the north (*Koha Ditore*)**

The daily quotes reports from *Radio Kontakt Plus* that Zvecan's Municipal Assembly members unanimously rejected the strategy for the north of Kosovo. Zvecan mayor Dobrosav Dobric told the radio station that the members made it very clear that the

International Civilian Office's presence in the north can only worsen the already fragile situation. He also noted that the local administration bodies in the north of Kosovo are not parallel institutions, and that they have been elected legally.

### **Gracanica mayor with improvised HQ (*Koha Ditore*)**

*Koha Ditore* reports that Minister of Administration and Local Government Administration (MLGA) Sadri Ferati was confused when he entered a building in Gracanica, and no one was waiting to meet with him. It was even suggested to him that he leave the building. Ferati, together with Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alfredo Mantica and Italian Ambassador to Kosovo Michael Giffoni, visited Gracanica and the recently elected municipal structures that recognize the state of Kosovo. However, they encountered difficulties in finding the headquarters. Instead of the official building, which had an UNMIK sign, their host was waiting for them in a building in the suburb of Gracanica, where the first floor is used to serve coffees, and where there is a waiting room on the second floor. *Koha Ditore* reports that the building does not give the impression of hosting the municipality's most important institution, as there was no sign to indicate this.

"We did not mark success today. We have marked progress, and some other day, when we come here again we will find it [the municipal building] as well. It is important that now we know where the municipality is. Next time we will find more progress," said Ferati.

### **The deadline (*Express*)**

According to Government sources, *Express* reports that changes in the Government are expected to begin at the end of February and the beginning of March. The sources added that four to six Ministers would lose their positions, and that there will also be movement of Ministers from one Ministry to another; however, changes will not begin until a final decision on the Gjilan municipality mayor is reached.

Another reason for which the changes are not being rushed is reportedly the upcoming celebration of Independence Day. "Decisions on the restructuring will take place from 20 February to 5 March," said a senior Government official who preferred to remain anonymous.

### **LDK: Lipjan elections heavily manipulated (*Zëri*)**

The LDK mayoral candidate for Lipjan Imri Ahmeti has said he will not recognize the result of the municipality's re-vote until investigation into manipulations in the election process there are not carried out, adding that many irregularities were noted during the voting. "The validity of this process is being tested in Lipjan. Democracy is being challenged, and this is why we consider that there is not yet a winner in Lipjan," Ahmeti said in a press conference.

### **Gjakova case goes to Constitutional Court (*dailies*)**

Dailies report CEC chief Nesrin Lushta has announced that members of the Central Elections Commission (CEC) and the Elections Complaints and Appeals Commission

(ECAC) are to present their positions on the Gjakova elections before the Constitutional Court on 9 February. The AKR mayoral candidate for Gjakova Mimoza Kusari-Lila challenged the results of the vote in the municipality according to which the AAK's Pal Lekaj won the elections.

### **Krasniqi: Kosovo's goal is UN membership (dailies)**

During a visit to London, Kosovo Assembly President Jakup Krasniqi urged the United Kingdom to continue to support Kosovo in its aspirations to join the United Nations and other international institutions. Addressing the situation in the north of Kosovo, Krasniqi also called on the UK's support for the joint Kosovo-ICO strategy. Krasniqi made these statements in a meeting with UK Speaker of the House of Commons John Bercow.

### **Gallucci anticipates new negotiations (Kosova Sot, InfoPress)**

The former UNMIK regional representative for Mitrovica Gerard Gallucci has said that 2010 could be the year of resolution of Kosovo's status and its northern part, but added that this can be achieved only through new negotiations. "Final status and the issue of the north cannot be resolved through an International Court of Justice decision. The solution will be possible only through a new round of negotiations," said Gallucci in an opinion piece for Serbian web site *TransConflict*.

### **Stojan: Kosovo borders are untouchable (InfoPress)**

*InfoPress* reports that the Austrian Ambassador to Kosovo Waler Maria Stojan told *Radio Kosova* that Austria continues to work towards increasing Kosovo's presence at the European Union. Stojan also said that Austria would make increased efforts in the future to engage Serbs in the north and other parts of Kosovo.

"The time has come to build trust with the Serbs that live in Kosovo, especially those in the north, but always without violating Kosovo's territorial integrity. It has to be made clear that as far as Kosovo's integrity is concerned, there is a red line and Kosovo's borders are untouchable," Stojan is reported as saying.

## ***Kosovo Press Headlines***

### ***Koha Ditore***

#### **Front page**

- **Turkey against change of borders in the Balkans**
- **Police demands promised pay raise**
- **Gracanica mayor with improvised HQ**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Gjakova case goes to Constitutional Court (2)**

- Kosovo awaits invitation to regional conference (4)
- Zvecan rejects strategy for the north (4)
- LDK again disputes elections result (8)
- Matoshi: Stop the Kafka process against Kurti! (10)
- Bajrami: Serbian mouse (11)

## **Zëri**

### Front page

- Isa for Prime Minister
- Turkey is with us

### Other headlines

- Hearing session Gjakova on 9 February (2)
- Istog pays tribute to Fadil Ferati (2)
- LDK: Lipjan elections heavily manipulated (3)
- Road tenders investigated (4)
- Questions on the highway (7)
- New country with old license plates (8)

## **Kosova Sot**

### Front page

- No rush for election reform
- Highway boosts Kosovo economy
- Turkey supports Kosovo
- Russia and Serbs against strategy for the north
- Editorial: Two words

### Other headlines

- No reply on Gjilan (2)
- Five ballot boxes from Prizren and Lipjan quarantined (2)
- CEC to speak on Gjakova at Constitutional Court (3)
- Krasniqi requests support for the north in London (4)
- KFOR demonstrates capacity after downsizing (4)
- Italy supports Kosovo integrations (4)

## **Epoka e Re**

### Front page

- Supreme Court, Qemajl Mustafa the winner
- Constitutional Court addresses Gjakova elections

#### Other headlines

- Gul: Turkey to continue support for Kosovo (2)
- Krasniqi: Kosovo's goal is UN membership (3)
- Buja: I am the winner (3)
- 12 persons arrested in three operations (4)

### ***Express***

#### Front page

- The deadline
- Measure against evil
- Ankara honoured
- Face the Court

#### Other headlines

- Limani: The tenders' era (2)
- Çollaku: Letters of opposition schools (3)
- Italy supports Kosovo's integration into EU (4)
- They oppose the strategy (4)
- Krasniqi requests support for UN membership (5)
- Three priorities (5)
- LDK: Lipjan votes were manipulated (6)

### ***Lajm***

#### Front page

- Turkey lobbies for Kosovo
- Gjakova also disputed
- Return of pensions stagnates
- Handcuffs for officials
- Nothing on restructuring

#### Other headlines

- Government welcomes NATO position on the north (2)
- KFOR reduction does not add to KSF responsibilities (2)
- Awaiting new recognitions (3)
- Mantica congratulates Gracanica mayor (4)
- Albanian political activists go into exile (4)
- Assistance from Israel awaited (5)
- More transparent about the motorway (7)

## ***Bota Sot***

### **Front page**

- **Dignified reception for Kosovo President**
- **Rexhepi: Stop non-transparency**
- **Procurement system is alarming**
- **Constitutional Court to decide on Gjakova case**

### **Other headlines**

- **Court decisions cannot be discussed (2)**
- **Editorial: To say ... and not to do! (2)**
- **500 Kosovo students employed in U.S. (2)**
- **Ferati meets Giffoni (2)**
- **No names for working groups, No funds either (5)**
- **Ahmeti: Third round even more manipulated than previous ones (7)**

## ***InfoPress***

### **Front page**

- **Permanent allies**
- **Borders are untouchable**
- **Arrests for corruption**
- **CEC at the court**

### **Other headlines**

- **Yes to the law for claim of wealth (2)**
- **KSF acceptable also for minorities (2)**
- **Galluci: After ICJ, another flux of recognitions (2)**
- **Employment in U.S. for 500 students (2)**
- **International support for the strategy (3)**
- **Mantica visits Gracanica (3)**
- **The right time for the strategy (4)**
- **Pashku: A CEC for LDK, please (5)**

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