



Division of Public Information

## **MEDIA MONITORING Headlines**

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**1 February 2010**

- **PDK keeps Prizren and Lipjan (*dailies*)**
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- **KEK waiting for the permission of internationals for the north (*Zëri*)**
- **Integration through dialogue (*Express*)**
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- **Russia rejects strategy (*Express*)**
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- **Highway can force the government to take loan from IMF (*Koha Ditore*)**
- **Kosovo Police officers in the north attack their colleagues (*Koha Ditore*)**

### **Kosovo Media Highlights**

#### **PDK keeps Prizren and Lipjan (*dailies*)**

*Koha Ditore* reports that PDK has won the third round of elections for municipal mayors in Prizren and Lipjan. Ramadan Muja and Shukri Buja remain as the heads of their respective municipalities. According to the Central Elections Commission preliminary results, in the early evening hours of Monday, Ramadan Muja won 53.2% of the votes in Prizren, while Shukri Buja 53.7% in Lipjan. PDK deputy leader Hajredin Kuçi, in a statement from Prizren, called on LDK to accept results of this round. On the other hand, deputy leader of LDK Lutfi Haziri said the results were not encouraging for his party, but added that LDK will accept the results and will congratulate the winners.

#### **Kosovo asks for membership at WHO (*Zëri*)**

Kosovo institution leaders have asked the World Health Organisation to admit Kosovo as its full-fledged member, the paper reports. President Fatmir Sejdiu and Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi sent an official letter to WHO saying that membership of Kosovo could have a contribution for all sides. "We strongly believe that membership

in WHO would open doors for interaction with member states of the organization, exchange of experiences on the public health challenges,” said the letter which the paper says to be in possession of.

### **KEK waiting for the permission of internationals for the north (Zëri)**

*Zëri* reports that Kosovo Energy Corporation (KEK) is ready with the plan to take over the control on the energy situation in the north but that it is waiting for the permission from the internationals before it does so. KEK spokesman Viktor Buzhala, said KEK has the strategy to act in the north Mitrovica, but as he said, they are waiting for the permission from the international community. “We are in coordination with all international and local institutions and we are waiting for the time to act,” said Buzhala.

Government Spokesman Memli Krasniqi said that he cannot comment on the issue as he is not informed from the respective ministry and KEK while when asked if this problem is included in the strategy for the north, Krasniqi said that the strategy is still being drafted and he is not sure if it will also address this aspect.

### **Integration through dialogue (Express)**

*Express* reports that the European rule of law mission in Kosovo, EULEX, has excluded any possibility for use of force in an attempt to integrate the northern part and dissolve parallel structures. “EULEX strongly believes that prosperity in the northern Kosovo could be reached only through dialogue that would involve all interested parties, step by step,” said EULEX spokesperson Nicholas Hawton. *Express* reports that through this statement, EULEX rebutted Italian agency ANSA reports which quoted EULEX spokesperson Karin Limndal as saying that a part of this mission would soon deploy to the north of Kosovo.

Serbian media reported that EULEX said that Kimndal’s alleged announcements are completely untrue. This mission also reiterated that the Strategy for the North, is not a European Union strategy or an EULEX document, says *Express*.

### **Rocen: Exchange of ambassadors will take time (Epoka e Re)**

Montenegrin Foreign Minister Milan Rocen said exchange of ambassadors between Montenegro and Kosovo is a lengthy process. “First there needs to be a decision for opening of embassies on a residential or non-residential basis, then comes the process of selecting candidates and then the compatibility procedure takes several months,” said Rocen in an interview for a local TV channel.

### **Russia rejects strategy (Express)**

*Express* reports that Russian Federation through its ambassador in Belgrade announced that it rejects the strategy for the north of Kosovo. Moscow considers that this plan is illegal, while it is not based on the resolution 1244. Russian Ambassador in Belgrade Alexander Konuzin has rejected the strategy for integration of the north of Kosovo. In a statement for news agency *FoNet*, Konuzin said that the plan of Pristina is illegal because it is not drafted on the basis of the UN Security Council resolution

1244. “All the problems in Kosovo should be solved on the basis of resolution 1244. For us the strategy is unacceptable because it has not been drafted on the basis of this resolution”, said Konuzin.

### **Finally on sale (*Lajm*)**

According to *Lajm*, the Brezovica ski resort is expected to be put for privatization in the coming round. Officials from the Privatisation Agency of Kosovo (PAK) said they are convinced Brezovica will be privatized this time around. PAK Spokesperson Ylli Kaloshi said this is expected to happen in the first round of privatization for 2010.

### **Highway can force the government to take loan from IMF (*Koha Ditore*)**

Negotiations between officials of the Ministry of Economy and Finance and International Monetary Fund (IMF) which have started at the end of 2009 and are still continuing, provide that Kosovo can ask for loans from the IMF in an amount of up to 300 million euros. Even though it is not confirmed where and for what purpose the loan will be taken, the possibility that those funds will be used for the highway is not denied.

### **Kosovo Police officers in the north attack their colleagues (*Koha Ditore*)**

*Koha Ditore* reports that two members of Kosovo Police Station in the north have been arrested Sunday for attacking one of their colleagues in Bosnjacka Mahalla in Mitrovica, during a fight that resulted with additional five arrests. This disturbance started with shootings that came from one of the yards of the houses in this neighborhood. Police officers from the Station North intervened, raided the house and found shells of AK-47 in the yard. Owners of the house attacked police officers, but the situation was soon under control and Police arrested five individuals.

However, the case did not end here, because two members of Kosovo Police, Zvonimir and Mira Savic arrived at the scene with their son and physically attacked the investigating police officer Nebojsa Milic. Two police officers are arrested in Mitrovica, while their son is being kept in Leposavic.

## ***Kosovo Press Headlines***

### ***Koha Ditore***

#### **Front page**

- **PDK keeps Prizren and Lipjan**
- **Sejdiu invites structures to continue Ferati's work**
- **Highway can force Government to take loans at IMF**
- **Do EU states also have 'two hats' for Kosovo**

#### **Other headlines**

- **PDK celebrates in Prizren (2)**

- Buja declares victory in Lipjan, two hours after the closing of polls (3)
- Police in the north attack their colleagues in Bosniac Mahalla (4)
- KFOR continues adjusting with a narrowed-down structure (4)

## **Zëri**

### Front page

- Bitter end for LDK
- ICO remains because of USA-EU partnership

### Other headlines

- Ferati to be buried on Wednesday (2)
- LDK in mourning for Ferati (2)
- Serbia's awareness begins (2)
- New elections in Istog (2)
- KFOR remains strong with 10,000 troops (3)
- Kosovo asks for membership in WHO (5)
- KEK expects special permission of internationals for the north (7)

## **Kosova Sot**

### Front page

- Muja wins in Prizren, Buja in Lipjan
- Four laws keep judicial reforms pending
- Consular offices start work in Germany and Switzerland
- Attack of police officers in Mitrovica
- Editorial: Urgent election reform

### Other headlines

- Rocen: Exchange of ambassadors takes time (2)
- Konuzin against strategy for the north (2)
- KFOR begins downsizing, 4,000 less troops (3)
- Sejdiu: Fadil had relentless energy for Kosovo (4)
- Fadil Ferati's burial on 3 February (4)
- Isufi: Non-implementation of strategy would bring destabilisation (4)

## **Epoka e Re**

### Front page

- What did the people says
- Without a doubt

### **Other headlines**

- **Rocen: Exchange of Ambassadors will take time (2)**
- **Konuzin: Plan for integration of the north, unacceptable (2)**
- **No motion in six months (4)**
- **PDK won another referendum (4)**
- **Democracy in Action: PDK leads in Prizren and Lipjan (5)**
- **Fadil Ferati's contribution, highly appreciated (7)**

## ***Express***

### **Front page**

- **Integration through dialogue**
- **Merhaba PDK**
- **Maliqi: LDK between two fires**

### **Other headlines**

- **Shala: Compromised and shamed (2)**
- **They start reduction (4)**
- **Qemajl Mustafa's accusations (5)**
- **Constitutional Court announces decision on Gjakova on 9 February (2)**
- **Russia opposes strategy (6)**
- **Professional towns (8)**

## ***Lajm***

### **Front page**

- **PDK declares victory**

### **Other headlines**

- **Advancement, with dialogue (2)**
- **KFOR with new structure (5)**
- **Effective patrols stop smuggling (10)**

## ***Bota Sot***

### **Front page**

- **Almhofer: We are not the only one neutral towards the status**

### **Other headlines**

- **KFOR reduced to 10,000 troops (3)**
- **Lushta: Elections in Istog in between 45 days (3)**
- **LDK mourns for Ferati (4)**
- **PDK wins in Prizren and Lipjan (5)**

## **Infopress**

### **Front page**

- **Double win of PDK**

### **Other headlines**

- **Deputies without privileges (4)**
- **Initiative of dialogue for visa liberalization (4)**
- **Moore: Dialogue of Mr. Tadic (5)**
- **Corruption obstacle for investments (6)**

#### **Disclaimer**

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