
SERBIA-KOSOVO 'NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS' PLAN: WILL BELGRADE GIVE IN TO WESTERN DEMANDS AND SHIFT TOWARD 'MUTUAL RECOGNITION'?

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By Boris Malagurski

For the West, the only final solution to the Kosovo issue would be Serbia recognizing it as an independent state – other normalization aspects talked about are merely stepping stones.

When Serbias President Aleksandar Vucic met with Donald Trump last month to sign a deal aimed at normalizing relations between Serbia and its breakaway province of Kosovo, many analysts saw this as a shift in Serbias foreign policy, which is traditionally close with Russia.

Indeed, Trumps special envoy for talks between Serbia and Kosovo, Richard Grenell, stated that the deal was distancing Serbia from Russia by the diversification of energy sources that is defined in the deal.

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