



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 14 December 2007**

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**BRUSSELS EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
14 DECEMBER 2007**

**PRESIDENCY CONCLUSIONS**

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1. On **Kosovo**, the European Council noted the conclusion of the Troika process on 10 December and the final report submitted by the Contact Group to the United Nations Secretary-General. It expressed its gratitude to the Troika for having tirelessly explored all options to secure a negotiated settlement of the Status of Kosovo. In particular, it thanked Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, the EU's Representative to the Troika, for his efforts.
2. The European Council underlined that the negotiating process facilitated by the Troika between the parties on Kosovo's future Status has been exhausted. In this context, it deeply regretted that the two parties were unable to reach a mutually acceptable agreement despite the Troika's comprehensive and good faith efforts, fully supported by EU Member States.
3. The European Council welcomed the fact that both parties have committed repeatedly during the Troika process to refrain from any activities or statements which might endanger the security situation and to avoid violence. This commitment to peace, which is also important for regional stability, must continue.

4. The European Council agreed with the UN Secretary-General that the status quo in Kosovo is unsustainable and, thus, stressed the need to move forward towards a Kosovo settlement, which is essential for regional stability. Such a settlement should ensure a democratic, multi-ethnic Kosovo committed to the rule of law, and to the protection of minorities and of cultural and religious heritage.
5. The European Council underlined its conviction that resolving the pending status of Kosovo constitutes a sui generis case that does not set any precedent.
6. The European Council noted that the United Nations Security Council will address this issue in December. The European Council underlined that the EU stands ready to play a leading role in strengthening stability in the region and in implementing a settlement defining Kosovo's future status. It stated the EU's readiness to assist Kosovo in the path towards sustainable stability, including by an ESDP mission and a contribution to an international civilian office as part of the international presences. The General Affairs and External Relations Council is invited to determine the modalities for the mission and when to launch it. The Secretary-General/High Representative is requested to prepare the mission in discussion with the responsible authorities in Kosovo and the United Nations. The EU will also be ready to assist economic and political development through a clear European perspective, in line with the European perspective of the region.
7. The European Council reaffirmed that the future of the Western Balkans lies within the European Union. It considered that a stable and prosperous Serbia fully integrated into the family of European nations is important for the stability of the region. In this regard, it encouraged Serbia to meet the necessary conditions to allow its Stabilisation and Association Agreement rapidly to be signed and, in the light of Serbia's considerable institutional capacity, and recalling its conclusions of December 2006, it reiterated its confidence that progress on the road towards the EU, including candidate status, can be accelerated.