

Why Self-determination?

Self-determination is the right of all colonized peoples. The absence of preparation in the fields of politics, economics, society or education cannot be used as a pretext to delay independence. (UN SC Resolution 1514, 1960)

VETËVENDOSJE!
<http://www.vetevendosje.org>

Newsletter from the Movement for SELF-DETERMINATION!

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DEMONSTRATION Against the Start of Negotiations 12.00 Monday 24th July:

On Monday 24th, the Kosova negotiation team is going to Vienna to start direct talks with Serbia for 'status'. They say they are going merely to 'represent' their arguments for independence, but the very title of their team betrays their intention.

We will be demonstrating outside the Kosova Provisional Institutions of Self-Government in cooperation with the Associations that came out from the War, two organizations of the families of the missing, 'Call of the Mothers' and '26 March 1999', and two political parties, the LPK and LKÇK.

UNMIK Justifies its Colonial Occupation

A report published by UNMIK this week claimed that its departure would cost Kosova between 75 – 120 million euros a year and would raise the unemployment rate by 1%

Visar Ymeri, in an article responding to this report, argued that in fact UNMIK has been responsible for the decline and stagnation of the Kosova economy. In the last 4 years, the rate of growth has been at -1% to -2%. The report talks only of the financial injections by UNMIK and not the damage it has caused.

For example, because Kosova is not a state, it has paid 30 million euros to Serbia for the telephone code +381, and 50 million to Monaco for the code +377. UNMIK has insisted on paying a foreign company 6 million a year to run KEK, even though they still cannot provide a reliable electricity supply. KTA is blocking the release of 240 million euros from privatization. Because UNMIK has not secured the northern border with Serbia, in the last 4 years, Kosova has lost 406 million euros through smuggling.

This report is a classic attempt by a colonial regime to justify the oppression for which it is responsible argues Visar.

Cernica says 'NO' to Ethnic Municipalities

On Saturday 8th July, VETËVENDOSJE! held a public meeting in Cernica, a village in the municipality of Gjilan. Peace in this village is

threatened by plans for "decentralization" negotiated in Vienna this week, and next month.

In December, 1294 residents of Cernica (the majority of those of voting age) signed a petition in which they refused to become part of the new municipality of Partesh, designated to become a Serb-ruled municipality. Of the 3285 residents in Cernica, 2685 are Albanian. Decentralization will place them under a municipal administration based on the legalized parallel structures of Serbia, thus bringing them closer to Belgrade, and further from Prishtina.

This week in Vienna, the Kosova negotiation team offered to create two extra Serbian majority municipalities. This brings the total to 5 + 1 new Serb controlled municipalities across Anamorava, which will isolate Gjilan and the Albanian dominated valley of Presheva in Serbia. Since the new municipalities are thought to be linked both horizontally and vertically, funded directly by Belgrade, and have the power to control policing and justice, they will be autonomous in all but name. The experiment of decentralization is just an euphemism for partition, and Cernica one of its many victims.

What does a sovereign Kosova mean?

- 1) A seat in the UN
- 2) Armed forces
- 3) A foreign ministry
- 4) No ethnically based autonomous territorial entity within its borders

Party for Boycott Campaign

On Wednesday 11th July, the movement organized a party in a nightclub just outside Prishtina to raise awareness amongst young people about the boycott of Serbian products (barcode 860). About 800 people came, and they bought in total 225 T-shirts and 100 badges. At the beginning of the evening, the DJ clicked his fingers 10 times to symbolize that in that 10 seconds alone, Kosova had given 70 euros to Serbian producers.

Due to UNMIK's customs policies and fiscal support of Serbian industries, between 1999 and 2006, Kosovars have been forced to spend 856 million euros on products made in Serbia, mostly

construction materials, food, hygiene and pharmaceuticals. Yet only 7 years ago, Serbia was responsible for killing 14,000 people in Kosova, kidnapping 3,000, many of whom remain missing today, raping 20,000 women, and damaging 120,000 houses. ([More](#))

"Institutions that Are Not", Kurti Says

Kosovar institutions without sovereignty are, in fact, neither Kosovar nor real institutions, wrote Albin Kurti in an article published this week. Kosova is being ethnically divided due to a lack of sovereignty. Kosova's culture and history are being alienated, put behind barbed-wire, and 'ex-territorialized', due to the lack of sovereignty.

Through 'ex-territoriality' our past is changed, in order to attack our future. Through the ethnic division of so-called decentralization, illegal enclaves are empowered and bound together into an entity under Belgrade's control. All of this because Kosova hasn't any sovereignty, and all of this until Kosova gets its sovereignty. Thus, Kosova without sovereignty is no coincidence.

The presence of UNMIK in Kosova is force and not justice. UNMIK is an absolute ruler who approves laws, controls their implementation, and can suspend them. But UNMIK's goal is to make its power invisible and its exercise unnecessary. Here rests the *raison d'être* of the local institutions. They operate as a one-sided filter: they allow UNMIK access to the citizens, but prohibit citizens from accessing the corridors of power, wrote Kurti.

([More](#))

POLL:

UNDP/USAID Early Warning Report, on support for LËVIZJA VETË-VENDOSJE!
16% of Albanians, & 4% of other communities support the movement and would join if invited;
12% of Albanians, 4% of others and 1% of Serbs support, but are not ready to join
28% Albanians, 13% of others and 0.5% Serbs support to some extent.