

### 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)

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## Newsletter from the Movement for SELF-DETERMINATION!

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### Seven years and still no electricity

Since the publication only a couple of weeks ago, of a report about the negative impact the departure of UNMIK will have upon the economy of Kosova, most of the country has been experiencing drastic electricity shortages. In some areas, homes, shops, and businesses have been almost all day without power. This is the daily reality of UNMIK's mismanagement of the economy. Seven years, and still even the basic provision of electricity has not been mastered.

The Consumer's Protection Society in the town of Gjiilan said on Thursday it will call for public demonstrations. "The autumn and winter are coming, thus increasing our desperation. This is more than KEK's [Kosovar power corporation] failure. **This is a failure of society.** It's a crime. This situation might easily escape control and destabilize the entire country", they warned in an open letter to UNMIK and the provisional government.

KEK is a government controlled company that enjoys a monopoly in Kosova. It provides the lousiest service for the highest price in Balkans, being probably the only power company in Europe which publishes a daily prognosis of powerless hours (!) per day.

In May, the Early Warning Report for Kosovo (USAID/KIPRED), stated that social issues consistently outflank ethnic issues as the most serious threat to law and order here. In a previous demonstration organized by CPS, police used force to disperse angry citizens.

It is hardly surprising that people are protesting. They have waited 7 years in vain for UNMIK to reform and rebuild the electricity infrastructure. And they are still waiting. There is talk of the World Bank building new generators by 2012 – so that's just another 6 years to wait if you're one of the over 50% of the population who are unemployed.

### Negotiations on June 7th and 8th in Vienna

On June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, the negotiation teams will meet again in Vienna to discuss the 'technical issue' of decentralization.

The Kosovar team has been asked to be more flexible, which is

a polite way of encouraging compromise. And further compromise on decentralization means offering more Serbian majority municipalities.

Of Kosova's 30 municipalities, 5 currently have a Serbian majority: Zubin Potok, Zvečan, Novo Brdo, Leposaviç, and Shterpcë. Serbia has requested 18 extra municipalities. The Kosovar team has offered 5 (Mitrovica, Klokot, Partesh, Graçanica and Ranillug) plus the expansion of Novo Brdo (Artana). This week, there have been suggestions that an additional municipality of Prelluzhë, near Vushtrri will be created.

These municipalities will become contiguous ethnic enclaves in which parallel structures are legalized and linked both horizontally and vertically, in which control of policing and law is decentralized and in which financing is sourced from Serbia. Albanian minorities will find themselves once more under the control of institutions directed by Serbia.

This is not a multi-ethnic solution. It is an ethnic solution, which will result in the Bosniaisation of Kosova.

### A 'limited' army

A state that does not have the monopoly on the use of violence within its borders is neither sovereign nor independent. The two go hand in hand. And so, in the latest of attempts to use 'words' that signify independence, but are empty of real meaning, the International Crisis Group has proposed that Kosova should have an army. However this army should be limited both in size and competences, so that it is not seen as a threat by other states in the region. This means that it cannot function as a means of defense. What then is the point in having an army you might ask?

It is ironic that Serbia, which was responsible for attacking Croatia, then Bosnia and then Kosova, has not been forced to reform or reduce its army, and yet, Kosova, its victim, has been and according to these suggestions, will be in the future.

This is just another in a series of smoke-screens being put up by the international community to keep

the people of Kosova quiet. Give them something that looks like an army, and they will believe they have one. Give them something that sounds like 'sovereignty' and they will think they have it. Give them something that sounds like 'independence', and they will not care about the conditions attached.

### Why do we oppose the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government?

- They are the extended hand of UNMIK
- They agreed to negotiate our right to self-determination, ignoring the will of a whole people
- They are corrupt and unrepresentative

### Prime Minister under fire

The Prime-Minister of Kosova, Agim Çeku, is under increasing pressure from his coalition allies within the Democratic League of Kosova (LDK), who are challenging his authority and casting doubt upon his political future.

In a spectacular series of articles this week, the Kosova daily newspaper "Express" revealed a secret letter from the LDK leadership to the office of the Prime Minister, warning him from acting against LDK ministers. The letter authorizes Lutfi Haziri (LDK), Çeku's deputy, to judge the performance of the LDK ministers, and states that future ministries must be run exclusively by the LDK. Even his own party, Alliance for the Future of Kosova (AAK) has warned Çeku against sacking any AAK ministers.

Agim Çeku was an officer in the Croatian army during the war with the breakaway Republic of Serbian Krajina. He then fought with the Kosovo Liberation Army during the 1999 Kosovo War, and commanded the Kosova Protection Corps KPC after the war. But since taking office in March 2006, he has been a passive witness to both the negotiations process and media revelations of corruption within his government. The latest attack by the LDK against Çeku confirms fears that he was appointed only to legitimize unpopular concessions in negotiations with Belgrade.