



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government

Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal
Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave
Ministry of Local Government Administration

Ferati: 6-points doesn't influence on decentralization



Sadri Ferati
01.12.2008

[Arton Konushevc](#)

“This doesn't attack the process of decentralization, neither help or delay, but we have secure ambient and the implementation of law is in interest of all citizens” says for radio “Free Europe”, minister of Local Government, Sadri Ferati.

RADIO FREE EUROPE

Mr. Ferati, how much influence will have in the process of decentralization and in fact what impact will have the last report of the Organization of United Nations for Kosovo?

SADRI FERATI

First, in the report of the Secretary-General, Ban Ki Moon, and the settlement of EULEX we understand as a report that regulates this issue with a temporary mandate, whereas decentralization is in longer term and is foreseen that will be developed as a process during three years. The first products are expected to be taken with the organization of local elections that should be done in the end of 2009.

This means, we have time to work onward; we have time after transition as well, after reconfiguration of UNMIK and the implementation of Kosovo' laws, to go on further with decentralization – in general also both with the reform of local government and decentralization.

I think that this is a good chance that with the settlement of EULEX, with the domination of law, to profit in that direction also to regulate life and to normalize life in that part of Kosovo, so in the north part, but, meanwhile, creating a secure ambient, so people express their ideas freely, their political organization, because till now that part of Kosovo has been the most insecure part, where people haven't felt free to declare what they wanted.

From the other side, there has been a lack of a possibility of creation of contact with those people that have expressed the desire to contact, but continuously have been afraid. Thus, with domination of law, the ambient will become more secure, that the institutions of Kosovo will have access in those parts as well and will start gradually to extend their authority also in that part of Kosovo.

RADIO FREE EUROPE

How can be implemented the plan of decentralization now with 6 points, when to Serbian municipalities are offered additional competencies in education, health, police, customs?

SADRI FERATI

With the comprehensive document on the status of Kosovo is foreseen a reformation of local government of the asymmetric type, where some municipalities profits more rights, as it is Mitrovica in the education and health sphere, then Gračanica and Shtërpce as well in the health sphere and all municipalities with Serbian majority have additional competencies in nomination of the commandant of police and in the legacy.

This 6 points doesn't offer, neither takes or gives competencies, but is foreseen to be profit in a transitory phase, to be profit from the incomes that will be established in the customs point 1 and 31. Thus, this doesn't attack the process of decentralization, neither help nor delay, but we have a secure ambient and the implementation of law is in interest of all citizens of Kosovo and we will profit in that direction.

We will cooperate with EULEX to extend the authority in that part as well, and to cooperate with citizens in that part, to ensure a wider participation of citizens and leaders in all Kosovo, so also in that part, on purpose so that reform to be developed there as well.

We are working with all citizens of Kosovo, thus with those of Serbian community as well, and we have a pleasingly cooperation into enclaves, what I wouldn't say for the north part too, that is our desire.

And, in a way, that can be also that part that will determinate the success of decentralization, because the installation of the citizens' rights also in the aspect of rights, exercising of local government in the South Mitrovica, North Mitrovica and other municipalities as well that is foreseen should be provided, because the Ahtisaari package, that then has been outspread into the comprehensive document for the status of Kosovo, should be fully implemented as such.

Whomsoever pretences that from the package of president Ahtisaari to take in selective way that what he likes are not preferred and to dangerous, because there is a part that likes only the part of the right for self-determination and pronouncement of independence and the other part that will take only the benefits of extension of competencies of local government, respectively decentralization.

If we get out of the package of president Ahtisaari, that I think is a compromise and is an excellent analysis for the Kosovo reality, than we will enter in a vicious circle and then no one are sure that how much time we will lose and with which result will come out.

RADIO FREE EUROPE

Is the 6-points plan a possibility to convince Serbian of Kosovo to accept the offer of decentralization?

SADRI FERATI

The 6-points plan makes possible the installation of EULEX and results in the aspect of the observance of law, but in general, each normalization of life is a bigger possibility for Serbian citizens, that accepting their rights that are foreseen with Constitution and Kosovo laws, will have the possibility to accept those rights and to govern in local level and to co-govern with the central level, as is foreseen by laws.

This is a possibility, an offer that has been opened yet, but now and on we think that we will intensify our contacts that we will explain to citizens further that which will be their profit in this direction.

RADIO EVROPA E LIRË

The implementation of decentralization according to 6 points, does it present danger for separation, cantonization of Kosovo?

SADRI FERATI

Belgrade pretences to create tensions, to create separations, are not present, they are earlier and that idea would be too dangerous.

I think that it is against the interests of all citizens of Kosovo, including Serbians as well, because the keeping of this situation in a not such good life won't be at all easy, that in general citizens of Kosovo now have, and will all the commitment of all institutions, both local and international, we can't achieve to do enough to improve the quality of citizens' life.

And, each such pretense that results in separation de facto holds in this not good situation. We continuously have reactions from Belgrade, and from the citizens of Serbian community as well that they are living in bad conditions. From the other hand, Belgrade acts continuously don't let the situation to develop further, both through threats and through the use of contributions that they do to the Serbians of Kosovo, that they can use this situation for the needs of daily policy.

I think that it's a very dangerous option and I am with full conviction that it is an over passed option, because also during the negotiations phase, the Serbian part, much or less, has touched in each direction that how can make Kosovo non-functional, that how to delay the development of conversations itself, how to set in indirect way the separation, although that the separation hasn't been on table at all.

They, each time, have declared that separation is not an option in Serbian interests. Let's not forget that in that part of Kosovo lives only 40 percent of Serbian, whereas 60 percent of Serbians live with majority in central Kosovo and Anamorava, but also in other areas of Kosovo and it would be a very big consequence.

Albanians have understanding for these ideas, because they are considered as too harmful. I think that the best solution and with a clear perspective will be the integration of Serbians in Kosovo society, which has approved a very modern constitution, which has voted very modern laws, that guarantee equal right to all other citizens of Kosovo.

Rights with a clear and European perspective, but also with a clear perspective of a society, which provides a quality of a better life and a possibility of a their total factorization in the aspect of taking those right, governance in local level and their participation in the governance of central level, whether in Assembly, in Government, etc.