

Crunch time nears on Kosovo independence

As a December 10 deadline to reach a negotiated compromise looms with no deal in sight, there are fears that the UN-administered province may declare independence unilaterally, triggering a chain reaction of potentially violent secessions across the Balkans



Hashim Thaci: Kosovo's likely next prime minister wants full independence but pledges to coordinate any move with U.S. and EU



Boris Tadic: President of Serbia offers only broad autonomy



U.S: Committed to recognizing Kosovo's independence



EU: Countries with separatist movements – including Spain, Greece and Cyprus – fear independence could set dangerous precedent



Russia: Blocking UN Security Council from granting independence



NATO: 16,000 troops

POSSIBLE CONFLICT HOTSPOTS

Ethnic Serb-dominated areas of Kosovo and Bosnia, and ethnic Albanian-dominated areas of Macedonia and Serbia

