

Kosovo independence imminent

Hoping for quick recognition from the U.S. and the EU, Kosovo's ethnic Albanian leaders are expected to declare independence from Serbia on Sunday despite fierce opposition from Belgrade and Moscow



U.S. and most EU countries – except

Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Slovakia and Spain – likely to recognize Kosovo's independence



EU: Veteran Dutch diplomat *Pieter Feith* will head 1,800-strong police and judicial mission that replaces UN administration



NATO: 16,000-strong force to remain

NATO sectors
Lead nation

-  **1. NORTH**
France
-  **2. CENTRE**
Sweden
-  **3. EAST**
U.S.
-  **4. WEST**
Italy
-  **5. SOUTH**
Turkey



Hashim Thaci:
Kosovo's Prime Minister says independence is set to be recognised by around 100 countries



Serb secession: Kosovo's minority Serbs planning to establish "assembly" in Serb-dominated region



Boris Tadic:
Serb president says Serbia will ignore move and retaliate against nations supporting Kosovo statehood



KOSOVO Population: **1.9 million**
Ethnic groups: 2003



Pictures: AP, Getty Images

Sources: NATO, UNMIK © GRAPHIC NEWS