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EU Presidency Statement on the Kosovo status proposals to be presented today by Martti Ahtisaari in Belgrade and Pristina

Martti Ahtisaari, the UN Special Envoy for the Future Status Process for Kosovo, is in Belgrade and Pristina today to present his comprehensive proposal on Kosovo status settlement. His proposals build on almost twelve months of direct talks between Belgrade and Pristina.

The Presidency of the European Union firmly supports Martti Ahtisaari's intention of holding intensive talks with and between the two sides on the basis of these proposals in the weeks immediately following their presentation. The Presidency strongly urges Belgrade and Pristina to approach these talks in a serious manner and without reservations. Both sides must demonstrate responsibility, flexibility and a recognition of the need for realistic compromise-based solutions.

The Presidency of the European Union believes that resolving the status of Kosovo will make a crucial contribution to securing regional stability. It is furthermore an important step on the road towards European and Euro-Atlantic structures for Serbia, Kosovo and the entire region.