



Republika e Kosovës

Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo

Qeveria - Vlada - Government

Implementation Plan of the Washington Agreements

Economic Normalisation Between Kosovo and Serbia

The Agreements on economic normalisation (Washington Agreements), reached on 4th of September 2020, by Kosovo and Serbia includes obligations which in terms of institutional responsibility fall under several institutions.

Based on the instructions of the Prime Minister of the Government of Kosovo, the Strategic Planning Office, in cooperation with the line ministries, has identified and listed the main actions and institutions responsible for the implementation of all points of the Agreement.

Given that for most of the points (terms) of Agreement there have been previous developments either as a part of the Dialogue facilitated by the European Union or even some infrastructure projects are part of the plans of the Government of Kosovo, too, for each point a brief summary of the current state of play has been provided. This approach will be used for both to inform the partners about the progress achieved and to coordinate the efforts of the institutions for the implementation of the agreement. The brief summary of all terms of agreement is followed by concrete actions planned for the implementation of the Agreement where for each action the responsible institutions are listed.

Now, the ministries under your responsibility are expected to take all necessary measures to implement these activities or actions set out in this document. There are some activities where the responsibility falls under more than one institution and, in order to facilitate the coordination and implementation of these activities, the commitment and focused attention from the political level is required. Coordination of implementation for all activities listed in this document related to the Washington Agreement should be done in close cooperation with the Strategic Planning Office.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF THE WASHINGTON AGREEMENT

No.	POINTS (TERMS) OF AGREEMENT	CURRENT STATE OF PLAY	FOLLOWING ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION
1	<i>Both parties will implement the Belgrade-Pristina highway agreement previously signed on February 14, 2020.</i>	<p>The Durrës-Morinë-Prishtina-Merdare-Nish Highway is part of the Core Network within the Trans-European Transport Network. The segment from Morina to Prishtina was completed in 2012. The cost is 230 million Euro and it has commitments for funding from the EIB, EBRD and also U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). We have applied in WBIF in round 5 of investment grants for the section Besi-Merdare in the amount of 38 million Euro. The grant application has been adopted in principle, whereas the final approval is expected to be confirmed. This project has been included also in the EU Investment Plan for the Western Balkans.</p> <p>For the remaining segment of the Besi-Merdare Highway, in length of 28 km and projected speed of 120 km/h, in cooperation with WBIF the following actions have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing the Feasibility Study and Social and Environmental Impact. • Preliminary Design for Besi-Merdare 	Preparation and approval of necessary financial agreements for the implementation of this project, in cooperation with International Financial Institutions which is in line with Trans-European Motorway (TEM) Standards.	Ministry of Infrastructure
2	<i>Both parties will implement the Belgrade-Pristina rail agreement previously signed on February 14, 2020.</i>	The railway line between Prishtina and Merdare is out of operation due to damages.	<p>Implementation of the Agreement of 14th February 2020 falls under the discussions for financing the projects that are part of the Washington Agreement and the following actions are expected to take place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing the technical working group. 2. Drafting a feasibility study for the rehabilitation of the existing route and the new route of the railway line Fushë Kosovë - Merdare 	Ministry of Infrastructure

			within the European Technical specifications for interoperability (TSI)	
3	<p><i>Kosovo [Pristina] and Serbia [Belgrade] will work with the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation and EXIM on memorandums of understanding to operationalize the following:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Peace Highway</i> 2. <i>The rail link between Pristina and Merdare</i> 3. <i>The rail between Nis and Pristina</i> 4. <i>Providing financing to support loans required for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's)</i> 5. <i>Additional bilateral projects</i> 6. <i>An international, U.U. International Development Finance Corporation full-time presence in Belgrade, Serbia.</i> 	<p>The Peace Highway from point 2 of the agreement. The railway line between Prishtina and Merdare is out of operation due to damages.</p> <p>The government of Kosovo will provide funds to KCGF to be used to support loan guarantees to strengthen access to finance for small and medium enterprises, which is foreseen by the Government Decision 01/23 of 13.08.2020.</p>	<p>In the meetings with the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation in the (DFC), USAID and EXIM, the projects that were presented in separate meetings for funding are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Besi - Merdare Highway • Prishtina - Merdare Railway • The Pristina - Deep Port of Adriatic Railway <p>All of these projects will be channelled further during next meetings that are expected to take place in the coming months.</p>	<p>Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy and Environment, Ministry of Trade and Industry</p>
4	<p><i>Both parties will open and operationalize the Merdare common Crossing Point facility.</i></p>	<p>The construction works for the Cross-Border Point in Merdare are about 90% completed. Due to the lack of cooperation from the Serbian side, more specifically, because of their the refusal to relocate the border staff to the new administration building, the cover (roof)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate sufficient budget resources for Merdare maintenance. • Relocate the staff of the border authorities to the new administration building 	<p>Ministry of Internal Affairs</p>

		and the road where the Serbian side is located now, could not be completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To start holding regular meetings at local, regional and central level of the Integrated Border Management authorities, as provided by the Brussels Agreements. 	
5	<i>Both parties will join the “mini-Schengen zone”, announced by Serbia, Albania and North Macedonia in October 2019, and fully utilize its benefits.</i>	Albania, Serbia and North Macedonia, in October 2019 have initiated the Mini-Schengen agreement, which enshrines the four freedoms of the European Union: Freedom of Movement of People, Goods, Services and Capital. Due to political and diplomatic circumstances, Kosovo was not included in the mini-Schengen agreement.	The Prime Minister expresses the commitment that Kosovo will participate in the activities of the process, including the next Meeting of Leaders as an equal member.	Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora
6	<i>Both parties will recognize diplomas and professional certificates</i>	Until now, two agreements have been reached: 1) The first agreement for diplomas, reached in 2011; 2) The second agreement for diplomas, reached in 2016. With EU funding, the Dutch NGO SPARK was contracted to manage the technical aspects of the diploma recognition process, while the European Universities Association (EUA) serves as a diploma certification authority (the diploma of those who have an EUA certificate is considered valid.) PhD degrees are not included in this phase, although the agreement does not exclude them. The 2016 Agreement has not yet been implemented, although the parties have made some preparatory actions in this regard. In the list of HE accredited institutions, which has caused the first problem in implementation phase, the Serbian side has included the University of North Mitrovica with the name “University of Prishtina with temporary headquarters in Mitrovica, Kosovo”, insisting that this is institution accredited by the authorities of the Republic of Serbia; whereas the Kosovar side has refused to recognize the diplomas of this institution through this agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First step is to discuss and agree with the Minister of Education of Serbia on arrangements of implementation of the agreement. Second step, the Kosovo NARIC Centre and NARIC Serbia will meet, where they would agree on administrative issues related to recognition/equivalence procedures. 	Ministry of Education and Science

7	<p><i>Both parties will agree to work with the U.S. Department of Energy, and other appropriate U.S. Government entities, on feasibility study for the purposes of sharing Gazivoda/Ujmani Lake, as a reliable water and energy supply.</i></p>	<p>Since the post-war this enterprise has been transformed by UNMIK into Public Enterprise N.H. "Iber-Lepenc"</p> <p>After setting the Enterprise into the Corporation on 01/01/2008, the Enterprise was transformed into a Hydro-Economic Enterprise "Ibër-Lepenc" j.s.c.. The Enterprise is a Joint Stock Company with 100% owned by the Government of Kosovo.</p> <p>The Irrigation Sector uses the water from the Iber-Lepenc system to irrigate about 8500 ha of land during the irrigation season, or with an amount of water (Q= 3730 l/s). TPP Kosova A is supplied with raw water from the Llap River, and as necessary also from the Iber-Lepenc Hydro-system and Lake Batllava, while TPP Kosova B is supplied with raw water from the Iber-Lepenc Hydro-system.</p> <p>According to KEK data, in 2013 during the process of energy production this corporation has used about 21 million m³. NewCo Feronikeli is supplied with water for the technological process from Bivolaku (Iber-Lepenc hydro system), which is located 17 km away from the factory. According to NewCo Feronikeli data, during 2013 about 1.2 million m³ of water were used. RWC "Mitrovica" uses water to provide water-supply to the population in the region of Mitrovica with quantity Q=500 l/s. Currently, energy of about 35 MW is being produced by the Ujman Hydropower Plant.</p>	<p>The OPM and the Ministry of Economy and Environment ensure the necessary cooperation for the US Department of Energy and other US government units by establishing a Working Group for the feasibility Study focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineating the existing technical allocation of the lake's water resources. • Exploring what, if any, opportunities exist to enhance the lake infrastructure to optimize water supply, to allow for additional uses (e.g. irrigation, drinking water). • Making sure that any recommendations or proposals in the study should not jeopardize current water usages. 	<p>Office of the Prime Minister Ministry of Economy and Environment</p>
8	<p><i>Both parties will diversify their energy supplies</i></p>	<p>The sources for energy supply in Kosovo are quite limited. Currently, electricity generation is based on the use of coal as an energy source (about 95%). Electricity generating units are power plants: TPP Kosova A - installed capacity about 800 MW (5 units), while the current generating capacity is about 400 MW (operating with three units), and TPP Kosova B - installed capacity about 680 MW (2 units with 339</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalizing the feasibility study of the gas pipeline Kosovo- North Macedonia, EBRD, is under implementation; • Preparation of the feasibility study for the development of the gas sector in Kosovo, according to the recommendation of the pre-feasibility study supported by 	<p>Ministry of Economy and Environment in coordination with other relevant actors according to institutional responsibilities such as the Government of Kosovo and the</p>

		<p>MW), whereas the current generating capacity is around 520-550 MW.</p> <p>Renewable energy sources are treated as energy sources in Kosovo and contribute with about 5% of total electricity output. Hydro/water sources with a total installed capacity of about 71 MW; Solar Sources - with a total installed capacity of about 6.5 MW and Wind Sources with a total installed capacity of about 34 MW.</p> <p>Energy sources intended for the production of thermal energy, are based on: Biomass - Wood - about 1.2 million m³ currently is used mainly for heating. Central heating in operation are: Prishtina Heating Termokos -140 MW and Gjakova Heating 15 MW (still not in operation), as well as the District Heating of Zvecan and Mitrovica (outdated capacities - not in operation).</p> <p>For the further development of the energy sector, the following activities have recently been carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pre-feasibility study for gas pipe-line Kosovo - Albania - ALKOGAP - supported by the EBRD; Gas pre-feasibility study in Kosovo - supported by MCC; Feasibility study for the Kosovo - North Macedonia gas pipeline, supported by the EBRD - in the process of implementation; and feasibility study for the development of district heating systems in major cities of Kosovo. • USAID is carrying out a country-wide assessment to identify business readiness and legal limitations to expand renewables. • USAID and MCC are working with banks, regulators, and businesses to break this financing roadblock between small businesses and local banks for small-scale PV systems, and to develop a more robust pipeline of bankable renewable projects. 	<p>MCC; which is expected to be launched soon as per demand;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalizing the master plan for Gas - which will have to be supported by the EBRD and has already been sent to the WBIF; • Finalizing the feasibility study for the development of district heating systems in the major cities of Kosovo - which will have to be supported by the EBRD and has already been sent to the WBIF; • Facilitating discussions with DFC by hosting private sector round tables to advance potential investments in infrastructure and energy. • Improve the outreach between Kosovo and U.S. industry and investment communities to highlight opportunities • MEE and ERO to propose a legislative amendment that would allow for dramatic expansion of private sector self-generators in renewables. • MEE and ERO need to improve their public outreach and communications with customers to promote a more direct and participatory role for the general public in energy sector policy making. • MEE (in the absence of a gas TSO in Kosovo) should engage in regional natural gas network modelling and analysis of regional 	<p>Parliament of Kosovo, Energy Regulatory Office (ERO), Kosovo Energetic Corporation (KEK), Transmission System Operator (KOSTT), as well as Donors and IFIs and other stakeholders as well.</p>
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9	<p><i>Both parties will prohibit the use of 5G equipment supplied by untrusted vendors in their communications networks. Where such equipment is already present, both parties commit to removal</i></p>	<p>The Kosovo market does not use the equipment that comes from untrusted and suspicious suppliers.</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Environment in coordination with the OPM prepares the decision on preventive measures for the use of 5G devices by suspicious providers. Government of Kosovo and the United States sign a Memorandum of Understanding on prohibition of the use of 5G equipment supplied by</p>	<p>Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Economy and Environment</p>

	<i>and other mediation efforts in a timely fashion</i>		untrusted vendors in Kosovo's communications network.	
10	<i>Both parties will increase airline passenger screening, information-sharing between each other, and within the framework of broader U.S. cooperation in the Balkans, and commit to technology upgrades to combat illicit activities by implementing and operationalizing U.S.-provided screening and information systems, including PISCES, APIS, ATS-G, and STRP.</i>	<p>Ministry of Internal Affairs together with the US have considered the possibility of obtaining PISCES (or any other technological solution) to meet international standards for the fight against terrorism, more specifically, to improve the screening as provided by UN Resolutions 2178 and 2396.</p> <p>On 28.05.2020 the Interconnection Security Agreement was signed between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo and the U.S. Department of National Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which provides the technical details of the operation of ATS-G respectively APIS.</p> <p>On 27.07.2020 the Minister of Internal Affairs signed the Administrative Instruction (MIA) No.02/2020 on Measures and Procedures for API and PNR Data Reception and Use. In the third week of February 2020, the US Embassy, together with ICITAP and a US team, began bringing ATSG equipment, which has been installed, configured and ready for testing.</p>	Testing communication with the data provider for the API.	Ministry of Internal Affairs
11	<i>Both parties pledge to protect and promote freedom of religion, including renewed interfaith communication, protection of religious sites and implementation of judicial decisions pertaining to the Serbian Orthodox Church, and continued restitution of Holocaust-era heirless and unclaimed Jewish property.</i>	The current Law on Freedom of Religion of 2007 has significant shortcomings while the new Law has passed all stages of drafting and is expected to be approved by the Government, then it will be proceeded to the Assembly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the new Law on Freedom of Religion by the Government and the Assembly. • Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Group to analyse the current situation regarding the heirless and unclaimed Jewish property since the Holocaust. 	Ministry of Culture Youth and Sports,
12	<i>Both parties pledge to expedite efforts to locate</i>	Missing persons	1. Resolving the cases of missing persons	Prime Minister Office,

	<p><i>and identify the remains of missing persons. Both parties commit to identifying and implementing long-term, durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons. Both parties commit to identify a point of contact to lead these efforts within their respective government ministries and coordinate between Belgrade and Pristina and will provide an annual update on the number of cases resolved and pending.</i></p>	<p>There are currently 1640 missing persons, where more than 6000 cases of missing persons who were registered in the international organizations involved in this process and in the Government Commission on Missing Persons. In recent years, the process of resolving the fate of the missing persons (the process in Kosovo and beyond) faces two challenges: the lack of reliable information and the issue of unidentified mortal remains. The lack of information is related to the lack of sufficient cooperation from the Serbian side, despite the ongoing meetings (either at the bilateral level, within the Working Group on Missing Persons, and now the meetings in Brussels, or even at the regional level in implementation of “Regional Framework Plan to address the issue of missing persons in the former Yugoslavia”).</p> <p>Return of Displaced Persons</p> <p>At the end of 2014, the Ministry of Communities and Returns, in cooperation with the OSCE and the UNHCR Mission in Kosovo, launched a regional and inter-institutional initiative known as the “Skopje Process” in order to find sustainable solutions for displaced persons from Kosovo.</p> <p>Official government delegations of Pristina (Kosovo), Belgrade (Serbia), Skopje (North Macedonia) and Podgorica (Montenegro) agreed on the establishment of technical working groups (1. personal documents, 2. security, 3. dialogue and reintegration, 4. Data management 5. sustainable solutions and 6. property rights) and the initiation of so-called high-level forums to enable political cooperation and support for the return and integration process of displaced persons from Kosovo. As a result of numerous meetings of experts and members of technical working groups, the Concept Paper was adopted, which included a package of action measures to be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until the end of the year, the work will continue to evaluate the excavation in some locations already marked within the territory of the Republic of Kosovo (somewhere up to 5 locations, such as Mitrovica, Peja, Bishtazhin, Podujeva, Rahovec; however the plan of locations may vary depending on developments in certain cases). • Processing requests of the Serbian side for some locations within the territory of the Republic of Kosovo, which were addressed few years ago by international organizations/missions. • Studying the locations according to information provided by international archives through the International Committee of the Red Cross. • Request for the Serbian side to initiate excavations for a number of locations, mainly in the Raska region, as well as locations which were opened in the first years after the war. • Request for access to information in the archives of Serbia, in particular in the archives of the former Yugoslav Army • Support the public launch of the ICMP-facilitated Database of Active Missing Persons Cases from the Armed Conflicts on the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia 	<p>Ministry of Communities and Returns,</p>
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		<p>taken in regard to the effective return and integration of displaced persons.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions to resolve NN (nomen nescio / unidentified) cases in the Pristina mortuary • Provide adequate resources to continue the data entry process (Ante Mortem/Post Mortem database). The lack of progress on this issue prevents the government from assuming its responsibility to establish, maintain and manage the list of missing persons, in compliance with the Law on Missing Persons. • Full participation of the Kosovo commission in the Missing Persons Group, which consists of national authorities responsible for missing persons from Croatia, BIH, Montenegro, Kosovo and Serbia. • Assign a dedicated specialized KP investigator/researcher to every case initiated by the Institute of Forensic Medicine. • Build DNA Analysis capability within the Kosovo Forensics Agency through the acquisition of technical equipment and additional training and provide greater multi-agency access to the DNA database. <p>2. Return of displaced Persons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing with the Skopje Initiative (re-analysis and assessment of integration needs and local return in Kosovo, Serbia, 	
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			<p>Montenegro and North Macedonia);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of proposals and a plan of sustainable solutions with a timeline, as well as a common approach to fundraising (donor conference) • Maintaining the forum at a high political level. 	
13	<i>Both parties will work with the 69 countries that criminalize homosexuality to push for decriminalization.</i>	<p>In order to raise awareness within institutions and the general public about the rights of LGBT community, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has taken continuous measures to promote and protect the rights of the LGBT community.</p> <p>As a result, a tradition has already been established in the country to mark the 17th of May, the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT). The opening ceremony of the Pride Week/Pride Parade is celebrated every year.</p>	Lobbying through Kosovo Embassies in 69 countries that have recognised Kosovo that have criminalized homosexuality, to push for decriminalization.	Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora
14	<i>Both parties pledge to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization, and fully implement measures to restrict Hizballah's operations and financial activities in their jurisdictions.</i>	The Decision where the Global Terrorist Organization Hezbollah its political and military wing were declared a Terrorist Organization, was taken by the Government on 23.6.2020, Decision No.03/08.	Analyse and develop legislative framework to designate Hizballah as terrorist organisation in its entirety, including legal measures to restrict operations and financial activities within Kosovo.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora. Ms. Meliza Haradinaj – Stublla Minister of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora
15	<i>Kosovo (Pristina) will agree to implement a one-year moratorium seeking new membership into International Organizations. Serbia (Belgrade) will agree to a one-year moratorium of its</i>	<p>Initiatives in relation to membership in international organisations include culture (EUROIMAGES), Trade (EFTA), health and other sectors.</p> <p>It should be defined what does this exactly mean, including clarification on regional initiatives and those related to the EU accession process.</p>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora to issue a circular letter to all institutions, where it is required to withdraw all applications and where it is emphasized that for a period of 1 year, Kosovo will not apply for membership into international organizations.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora

	<i>de-recognition campaign and will refrain from formally or informally requesting any nation or International Organization not to recognize Kosovo (Pristina) as an independent state. Both agreements to desist will take effect immediately.</i>		
16	<i>Kosovo (Pristina) and Israel agree to mutually recognize each other.</i>		Undertake necessary legal steps to establish bilateral relations with Israel. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora