



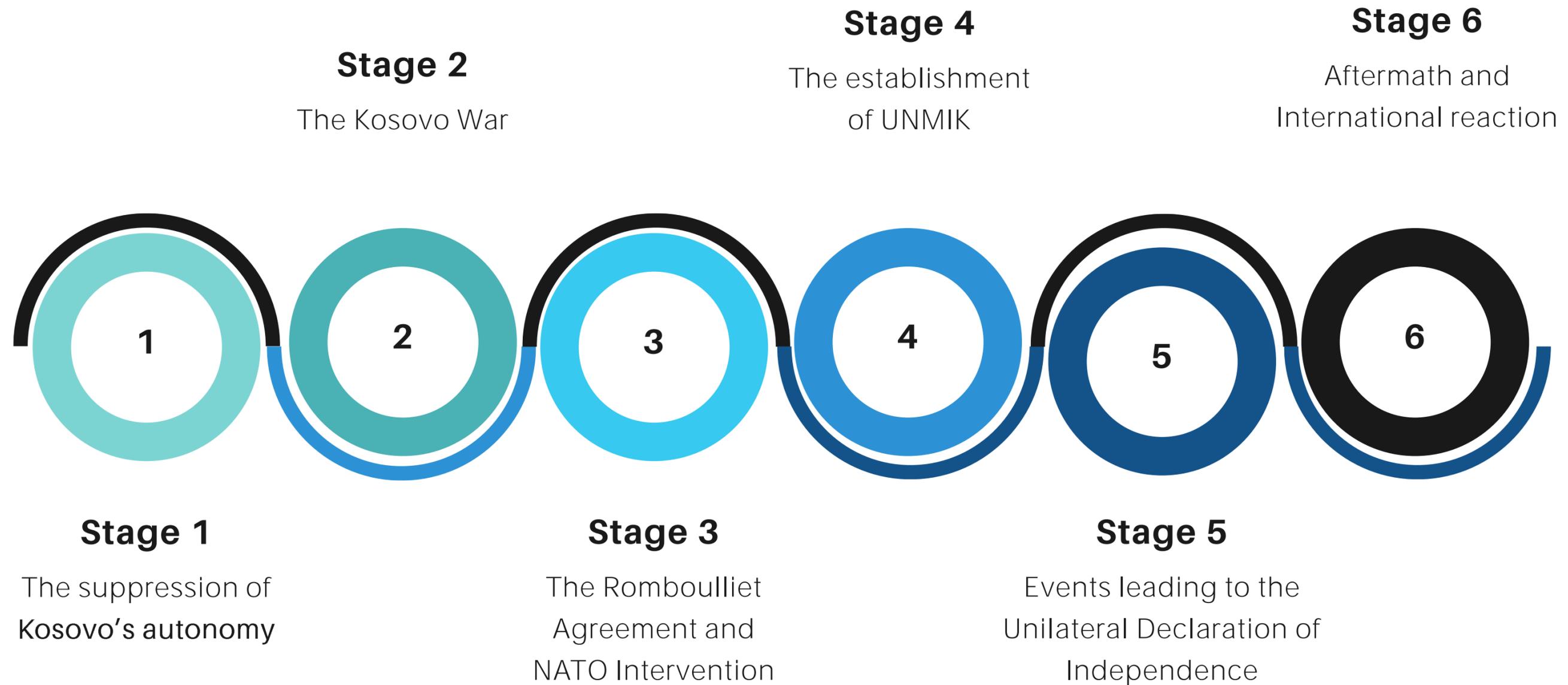
*United  
Nations  
Mission in  
Kosovo*

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# *The stages of the Kosovo Crisis*

1989-2008





## **The status of Kosovo in Yugoslavia (1974-1989)**

The 1974 Constitution of SFRY granted Kosovo the status of an autonomous province within the Republic of Serbia, de facto elevating it to an equal position to that of the other Yugoslav republics in terms of governance and institutional autonomy.



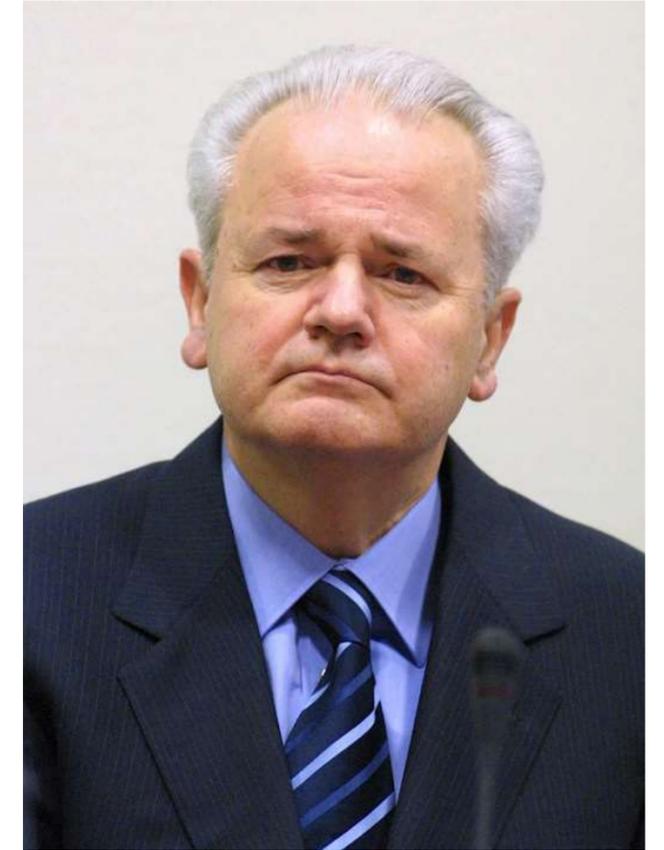
## **The rise of Slobodan Milosevic**

Unhappy with the growing Albanian influence, in 1987 Milošević began rallying Serbs through an anti-Albanian and Serbo-centrist campaign. He became President of Serbia in 1989, and Kosovo's autonomy was suppressed that same year. Over 120k Albanians were dismissed from public administration. Schools, books, and media in the Albanian language were banned. Thus, causing economic and social turmoil.



## **Formation of parallel institutions (1989-1999)**

In 1990, Serbia banned the assembly entirely. Members of the assembly drafted a constitution in 1991, and an unofficial referendum was organized, with 1m voters participating, declaring Kosovo independent. The 1992 elections that followed saw Ibrahim Rugova elected as president."



## Kosovo under Ibrahim Rugova (1992-1997)

Kosovar Albanians headed by Rugova refused to engage in a war despite invitations from Izetbegovic and Tudjman, instead, the parallel government focused on providing services, employing thousands of doctors, teachers, and bureaucrats.

## The formation of KLA (1997-1999)

After the Dayton Agreement, Kosovar Albanians lost trust in the peaceful stance of Rugova. They took advantage of the unrest in Albania and created small armed units. Initially, they were no more than a couple hundred soldiers, but after Serb forces killed Adem Jashari and his family in their home in Prekaz, thousands of volunteers joined in the KLA, and under the leadership of its Director of the Political Bureau, Hashim **Thaçi**, it became the main political movement representing Kosovar Albanians.

## Reçak Massacre (15 Jan 1999)

In 1999, during the period of intense fighting, the Serb army was involved in the killing of 45 Albanian civilians at what came to be known as the **Reçak** Massacre. The OSCE VMK led by William Walker condemned the act, and from this point forward the Kosovo Crisis received widespread international attention.





## The Rambouillet Meeting (23 Feb 1999)

The UN Contact Group led by Chris Hill entered in negotiations with both parties to find an agreement for **Kosovo's** autonomy. The UN calls a meeting in Rambouillet, where the Albanians accepted autonomy for Kosovo, guaranteed by a NATO led force. The agreement was signed on 18 March from Albanian representatives, but Milosevic refused to do the same.



## NATO Intervention (24 Mar - 10 Jun 1999)

Due to the intense fightings and failed negotiations, NATO launched an air campaign, Operation Allied Forces, to prevent the humanitarian catastrophe unfolding in Kosovo. It aimed to prevent the so called Operation Horseshoe of reaching its aim, by destroying Yugoslav military infrastructure and capabilities.



## The Kumanovo Agreement (9 Jun 1999)

The Military Technical Agreement, a.k.a the Kumanovo Agreement put an end to the Kosovo War. Its provisions included the cessation of hostilities between NATO and the Yugoslav Army, and the 11 day gradual withdrawal of all Yugoslav Forces from the territory of Kosovo.

*Casualties  
during the  
Kosovo War*

**90% of pop displaced**

**>850.000 externally displaced**

**>14.500 people killed (9.000 Albanians)**

**1.600 missing persons**

**20.000 victims of rape**

## UN Resolution 1244

The resolution that followed the Kumanovo Agreement the next day in 10 Feb 1999, condemned all acts of violence, reaffirmed the rights of refugees to return, recognized Yugoslav territorial sovereignty and the right for substantial autonomy for Albanians. It authorized the establishment of a peacekeeping mission and a provisional civil administration.

## The Formation of Kosovo Force (KFOR)

The NATO led peacekeeping force entered Kosovo in 12 Feb. Its mission is to create a secure environment and guarantee the freedom of movement through all Kosovo territory. At its height, KFOR troops consisted of 50,000 troops coming from 39 Countries, currently there are 4686 active personnel.

## The Establishment of UNMIK

Res1244 prevented Serbia from exercising governmental authority in Kosovo, substituting it with UN authority. Its goal was to establish provisional institutions of self-government, conduct a political process that would culminate in the definitive resolution of Kosovo's political status, and progressively transfer governing responsibilities to the new authorities created after the settlement of dispute.







UNITED NATIONS  
United Nations Interim  
Administration Mission  
in Kosovo



NATIONS UNIES  
Mission d'Administration  
Intérimaire des Nations Unies  
au Kosovo

UNMIK

Birth Certificate  
Çertifikatë e Lindjes / Izvod Rođenih

FORM: CB

Municipality Komuna Opština	Prishtinë	Ordinal number Numri rendor Tekuči broj	1508
Place and date of registration Vendi dhe data e regjistrimit Datum i mesto upisa	Prishtinë 2002	Certificate number Numri i çertifikatës Broj izvoda	L-15 F-55
First name and surname Emri dhe mbiemri Ime i prezime	Taulant Ferati		
Date of birth Data e lindjes Datum rođenja	19-Jul-98	Sex Gjinia Pol	Male
Place of birth Vendi i lindjes Mesto rođenja	Prishtinë		
UNMIK-ID number Numri i letërnjoftimit të UNMIK-ut	////////////////////		

## The Civil Unrest of 2004

Albanian representatives agreed to dismantle the parallel institutions and integrate within the UNMIK framework. However, local Serbs guided by Belgrade refused. In March 2004, anti-Serb riots started in Kosovo that resulted in several deaths, destruction of property, and the flight of many Serbs, underscoring the fragility of the existing political situation.

## Ahtisaari Plan

After this unrest, the SC appointed Marti Ahtisaari as a Special Envoy to mediate the status negotiations. Negotiations lasted from Jan 2006 to Feb 2007. They failed to offer a solution, and Ahtisaari concluded: **“Upon** careful consideration of Kosovo's recent history, the realities of Kosovo today and taking into account the negotiations with the parties, I have concluded that the only viable option for Kosovo is **independence”**.

## The Declaration of Independence

Kosovo's elected leaders gathered on 17 Feb 2008 and declared independence. The declaration expressed "the will of the people" and declared Kosovo "to be an independent and sovereign state." Kosovo expressly undertook to implement in full the obligations contained in the Ahtisaari Plan.



# The ICJ decision for the Kosovo's UDI

The Court recalls its conclusions reached earlier, namely, “that the adoption of the declaration of independence of 17 February 2008 did not violate general international law, Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) or the Constitutional Framework”. Finally, it concludes that “[c]onsequently the adoption of that declaration did not violate any applicable rule of international law.”



## The Serbian-Russian Interpretation

Serbia, backed by Russia, rejected the decision of ICJ and claim that the UDI has created a dangerous precedent, incentivising other separatist movements. However, in Aug 2008, Russia itself has entered a war in Georgia and recognized the independence of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, contradicting its stance of not recognizing Kosovo, despite following the same arguments.

## The US-Western backed interpretation

In response to this claims, the West has provided the Sui Generis explanation, which is based in the following factors: a) the status of Kosovo within Yugoslavia, b) the consequences of human rights abuses, and c) the period under UN administration. On top of this, all attempts to find a bilateral agreement failed, leaving Independence as the only possible solution forward.

## Countries currently recognizing Kosovo

As of today, 104 out of 193 (53.9%) [UN](#) member states, 22 out of 27 (81.5%) [European Union](#) member states, 28 out of 32 (87.5%) [NATO](#) member states, 4 out of 10 (40%) [ASEAN](#) member states, and 34 out of 57 (59.6%) [Organisation of Islamic Cooperation](#) member states have recognized [Kosovo](#) as Intependend.



# *My conclusions*

Given the political and humanitarian outcomes following the Unilateral Declaration of Independence from Kosovo, I conclude that the International intervention has been highly successful in preserving peace, stability, and providing prosperity for the people of Kosovo.

-a) Since Feb 2008, in contrast to the legacy of the previous regime, not a single Serb civilian has lost his life from Kosovar authorities despite ethnic tensions, and under the Ahtisaari Plan, Kosovo grants extensive political representation and human rights protection.

b) Kosovo has a path towards EU, being recognized as a potential candidate, has the highest average gdp growth percentage in WB6 and has demonstrated a clear commitment to strengthen its democratic institutions and becoming part of the Euroatlantic institutions.



*Thank you  
for your  
Attention*