



**COUNCIL OF
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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
met Hashim THACI,
Prime Minister of Kosovo**

Javier SOLANA, European Union High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), met today with Hashim THACI, Prime Minister of Kosovo.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the latest developments in Kosovo, EU-Kosovo relations and issues of common interest. The overall assessment was that Kosovo is making good progress but that a lot of challenges remain and Kosovo will need to redouble its efforts. 2009 will be an important year in a number of areas.

Both Mr Solana and Mr Thaci agreed that the economy was one of the big challenges ahead and that this makes it even more imperative that Kosovo can proceed with the necessary reforms. Mr Solana also underlined the need to improve the rule of law and that in this context the efforts of the EULEX mission were fundamental for Kosovo's future development and for the benefit of all communities. The EULEX mission is now fully up and running throughout Kosovo and Mr Solana expressed his satisfaction with the first concrete results.

The High Representative encouraged Kosovo to continue working closely with the EUSR and his team as well as the other EU presences on the ground in order to better prepare for its European future within the framework of the whole of the Western Balkans.

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