

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 13 December 2013 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Pursuant to Security Council resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#), I have the honour to transmit the attached letter, dated 6 December 2013, from the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, transmitting the report on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2013 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon



Annex

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#), I attach a report on the operations of the Kosovo Force covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2013 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making this report available to the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anders Fogh **Rasmussen**

Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on Kosovo Force Operations

Introduction

1. This report on the Kosovo Force (KFOR) is provided in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers the period from 1 July to 30 September 2013.
2. As of 30 September, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remains approximately 5,000. Major General Salvatore Farina (Italy) took over as KFOR Commander on 6 September. He is expected to remain in command for 12 months.
3. The agreement on normalization of relations between Belgrade and Pristina reached on 19 April 2013 and the subsequent agreement on its implementation in late May have dominated the operating environment of KFOR.

Security situation and operations

4. During the reporting period, the security situation in theatre remained calm in the south and reasonably stable in the northern part of Kosovo. The mission of KFOR to contribute to a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement has continued as part of the comprehensive international effort. Preparations for the 3 November municipal elections were a focus.
5. Over the reporting period, there have been nine reported explosions Kosovo-wide. These isolated incidents have been assessed as having been motivated by various low-level criminal, political and personal issues. The killing of the police officer of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) on 19 September was the first attack against EULEX since 11 July 2012 and the Mission's first fatality since the beginning of its mandate. While the incident did not impact the overall security situation in Kosovo, it does bring into focus the ability for these attacks to occur at random and without warning. An investigation is ongoing.
6. The reporting period has mostly seen peaceful demonstrations in response to either the implementation of the Brussels agreement or dissatisfaction with socioeconomic conditions. Some disruption to the general freedom of movement has continued, but no permanent roadblocks have been established.
7. KFOR in its role as third responder has continued to execute its mandate by responding effectively to disruptions to both a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement. Key leader engagement has focused on leaders and potential disrupters with the objective of influencing them not to incite or encourage instability.
8. EULEX movements towards the crossing points at gates 1 and 31 were successful, averaging five convoys daily. Throughout the reporting period, the Kosovo Police and Customs officials were transported to gate 31 by helicopter. The establishment of EULEX mentors at the Zubin Potok Kosovo Police station on 30 August did not provoke any adverse reaction. This is an indication of an increasing acceptance of the EULEX presence in the north.

9. The Peć Patriarchate in Pejë/Peć became the eighth property of designated special status to be unfixed. The Kosovo Police took full responsibility for security from KFOR on 9 September.

Summary

10. During the reporting period, KFOR has contributed to maintaining both a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in close coordination with EULEX and the Kosovo Police. The situation in the northern part of Kosovo has remained tense but the ongoing implementation of the Brussels agreement between Belgrade and Pristina has contributed to security trends that are broadly positive. The close coordination on the ground between KFOR (in its capacity as third responder), EULEX and the Kosovo Police has been effective for the security conditions in the reporting period. Together they have shown an ability to monitor the security situation closely, maintaining an appropriate deterrent posture capable of reacting effectively to disruptions in the safe and secure environment and freedom of movement.
