

Has the UN system become IRRELEVANT?

December 28, 2022

PREVENTING a WAR in the BALKANS: 27th December 2022: Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic declared that its army was on the **highest combat alert** to prevent Kosovo from using force to remove barricades erected by Serbs in the Serb-dominated areas of the city of Mitrovica in northern Kosovo.

Kosovo asked NATO peacekeeping force (KFor) to help remove the barricades.

EU officials became active to diffuse the situation. (Both Kosovo and Serbia want to join EU. EU has asked that before the membership is granted, the two should resolve their differences.)

BACKGROUND: In 1999, a NATO bombing campaign forced Serbia to withdraw from the areas, with Muslim majority. After a decade of guerrilla war against Serbian forces, in 2008, Kosovo declared itself to be an independent country, with Pristina as its capital. But Serbia refuses to recognize it and it considers the areas under Kosovo government to be a part of Serbia. Belgrade accuses Pristina of trampling on the rights of Serbs, who are a minority in Kosovo and is threatening to send its armies into Kosovo to save the Serbs.

Recently, in Kosovo, over the issue of the use of car name plates, Mayors of northern municipalities, local judges and 600 police officers have resigned. These are persons of Serb ethnicity.

Serbia wants the municipalities in Serb-majority areas in Kosovo to form an association and to have greater autonomy. Kosovo government is not ready to concede the demand.

If the demand is accepted, whether EU will be able to persuade Serbia to recognize Kosovo and to establish good neighborly relations between Serbia and Kosovo is not known. But UNO is not relevant in the area is quite clear.

For more on Kosovo, please read "Avoiding Extension of Ukraine war to Kosovo" of Dec 25, 2022 at <https://diginews360.com/avoiding-extension-of-ukraine-war-to-kosovo/>

UN Security Council woke up, on December 21, 2022, and demanded release of Aung San Suu Kyi, the elected leader of Myanmar. The military had grabbed power in a violent coup in February 2021 and arrested civilian leaders and thousands of protesting citizens. China's full support of the military leaders has made it difficult for ASEAN leaders to influence the events. The Veto of China has not permitted the UNSC to pass a resolution, which can bring an effective change.

UKRAINE WAR: The Ukraine has been raging since 24th February, 2022. The UN or the Security Council are not able to call for an end to hostilities so that the people of Ukraine can restart their lives and increasing inflation will not make the survival of the poor difficult.

AVOIDING WAR between NATO and RUSSIA: When a missile attack on a village of Poland was thought of as an attack by Russia on Poland, a NATO member, the Ukraine war would have become a full-fledged NATO-Russia war. President Biden summoned a G-7 meeting at Bali, Indonesia in the morning of 16 November 2022. The analysis by officials showed that it was a missile, fired by Ukraine and due to an error in targeting, it landed in Poland. So, the leaders of G-7 decided that it did not merit a response by NATO.

(Please read about the G-7 meeting in the last paragraph about Rishi Sunak and Xi Jinping at <https://diginews360.com/17th-g20-heads-of-state-and-government-summit-2/> of 17 Nov 2022.)

RESPONSE to CHINA'S THREAT to USE FORCE for ANNEXING TAIWAN: When China sends its jet fighters over the air-space of Taiwan and openly threatens to use force to annex it, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taipei on August 2, 2022 was a signal to China that USA might be committed to defend Taiwan. A group of Canadian MPs were welcomed in Taiwan by Taiwan's Speaker You Si-Kun and Chair Ting-Fei Chen on Oct 13, 2022. A delegation of the European Parliament concluded its visit to Taipei on 5th November 2022. This was the first official visit of the European Parliament to Taiwan. The seven members of the Special Committee on Foreign Interference and Disinformation (INGE) met President of Taiwan Tsai Ing-wen, other representatives of the Taiwanese authorities and civil society organizations to discuss Taiwan's innovative system to combat disinformation campaigns and other types of hybrid attacks. Again USA, Canada and European Union came forward to respond to the crisis, while UNO was absent.

*(Please read about China's posture of military threat towards both **Taiwan** and **India** at <https://diginews360.com/chinas-differentiated-approach-with-usa-and-its-allies/> of Dec 14, 2022.)*

(Please read "Avoiding Extension of Ukraine war to Kosovo" of December 25, 2022 at <https://diginews360.com/avoiding-extension-of-ukraine-war-to-kosovo/>)