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Kosovo Peace Accord Supported by Publics

The few polls published in Europe and Russia since the end of the conflict in Yugoslavia generally show support for the peace agreement and for multilateral participation in KFOR. In Serbia, favorable opinion of Milosevic appears to have declined, but he remains more trusted than potential challengers.

Germans Support Troop Participation

Germans supported the participation of their military in the international peacekeeping force in Kosovo (KFOR), but were wary of carrying too much of the financial burden of reconstruction. Seven in ten (72%) thought participation in KFOR was right, while a fourth (23%) thought it was wrong according to a Infratest/Dimap poll. In an earlier poll, a majority of Germans said they were against a "particularly big contribution" to the reconstruction of Kosovo. Both polls were reported in *Bild Zeitung*.

Czech Public Remains Closely Divided on Key Issues

According to a June 15th STEM poll, as many in the Czech Republic thought the air strikes were successful (49%) as thought they were not (51%). In terms of their government's role in the Kosovo conflict, somewhat more felt the government had not acted correctly (56%) than thought it had (44%). Still, more agreed the participation of Czech troops in the KFOR mission would raise the prestige of the Czech Republic (54%) than thought it would not (46%). Younger Czechs were more likely than their elders to believe the air strikes had been successful and that Czech prestige would be boosted by participation in KFOR.

Nine in Ten Hungarians Support Peace Agreement

A June 10th Gallup Hungary poll showed most Hungarians (88%) supported the Kosovo peace accord without reservation, though six in ten anticipated problems because Milosevic could breach the agreement. Overall support for NATO's intervention in the region remained largely unchanged at half (53%). Looking to the future, nearly all (93%) favor rebuilding Kosovo and nearly as many (82%) support rebuilding Serbia as well. A slim majority agreed that if the Albanians in Kosovo are granted political autonomy, then the Hungarian province of Vojvodina should be given similar status (57%, down from 70% a year ago).

Three-quarters in Russia Support Agreement Ending Airstrikes

A recent poll by the All-Russian Center for Public Opinion Studies conducted June 12-14 in Moscow shows three-fourths in favor of the agreement and the deployment of an international military force in Kosovo. Only very small minorities are "bewildered" (4%), "distressed" (2%) or "appalled" (2%) by the agreement. Still, half (49%) believe the participation of Russian forces in the Kosovo peacekeeping operation will be detrimental to Russia, while fewer (37%) think it will be beneficial.

Serbs Blame Milosevic for Situation in FRY

An Institute for Political Studies poll (June 9-14), reported by the Belgrade BETA news agency, found that seven in ten Serbs said President Milosevic was mainly responsible for the situation in the FRY while only 21 percent said he bore little or no responsibility. These views likely contribute to a corresponding decline in favorable opinion of Milosevic. Asked which Serb politician they trust the most, only 16 percent name Milosevic, down from 30 percent in past surveys. In addition, asked which politician they do not trust, more (21%) named Milosevic than any other.

Serb Opposition Politicians Still Lag Behind Milosevic

One in ten named SPO Leader Vuk Draskovic (10%) as the most-trusted political leader in Serbia, followed by SRS leader Vojislav Seselj (8%) and Milo Djukanovic (5%). Leaders named when asked who was not trusted included Djukanovic (11%), Djindjic (8%), Draskovic (7%) and Seselj (7%).

The Institute for Political Studies poll also found only 22 percent supported Milosevic's Socialist Party of Serbia, a 9 percent drop since May. Support for the ultra-nationalist Serbian Radical Party had also slipped while support for the Serbian Renewal Movement had increased to 15 percent. Opposition parties still garner limited support.

Serbs Accept Agreement -- Deny Atrocities in Kosovo

According to a telephone poll in Serbia conducted June 12th by the *Nin* weekly among a sample of only 200, just under half (46%) believed Serbia was victorious in its conflict with NATO. While opinion was divided over whether Serbia had gained less (41%) or more (39%) in the current settlement than it would have gained three months earlier at Rambouillet, nearly two-thirds (63%) supported the peace plan. In the Institute for Political Studies poll, eight in ten said they supported the Kosovo accord, but seven in ten said they opposed the deployment of armed NATO troops.

Half believed Greece (52%) and Russia (49%) had behaved as "true friends" to Serbia according to the *Nin* poll. A plurality (39%) thought no country would help Serbia after the war, and a majority (65%) said that they did not believe that the Serbs in Kosovo committed war crimes. A phone poll, combined with the very small sample size, make these results only suggestive of broad trends at best.

Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS)	22%
Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO)	15
Serbian Radical Party (SRS)	11
Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS)	5
Democratic Party (DS)	3
Social Democratic Party	3
Civic Alliance (GSS)	2