Question for written answer E-004852/2020/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 138

Julie Lechanteux (ID)

Subject: Kosovo and Serbia Economic Normalisation Agreement — US decisionism and EU

accession process

In Washington at the invitation of the President of the United States Donald Trump, on 4 September 2020 the Serbian President, Aleksandar Vučić, and the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Avdullah Hoti, signed an Economic Normalisation Agreement.

Mutual recognition of Israel and the self-proclaimed Republic of Kosovo, and the removal of the Serbian Embassy to Jerusalem formed the second part of the meeting.

In Donald Trump's words, after a violent and tragic history, and years of failed negotiations, his administration had proposed a new way of bridging the divide. By concentrating on job creation and economic growth, the two countries had been able to reach a major breakthrough, something nobody had thought possible ¹.

A significant diplomatic achievement by the US that contrasts with the EU's incompetence in foreign policy, in particular as regards the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue between a candidate country, Serbia, and the entity known as Kosovo, a potential future one.

This clearly show that the EU accession process has become dependent on the goodwill of US policy: the decision-making centre has moved from Brussels to Washington.

In the opinion of the Commission, what consequences could US decisionism have on the accession process in the Western Balkans?

^{&#}x27;After a violent and tragic history, and years of failed negotiations, my administration proposed a new way of bridging the divide. By focusing on job creation and economic growth, the two countries were able to reach a major breakthrough — something that nobody thought was going to be possible.'; https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-president-vucic-serbia-primeminister-hoti-kosovo-trilateral-meeting/