



## *Priština wants to “consolidate power in Kosovo”*

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WASHINGTON -- The action of the Priština authorities near Gnjilane will impede the future dialogue with Belgrade, Cato Institute Vice President Ted Carpenter told Tanjug.

He qualified the operation as a proof of Priština's intention to consolidate its power in the entire territory of Kosovo.

Kosovo police special units (ROSU) [arrested four Serbian police \(MUP\) officers](#) near Gnjilane on Saturday.

“The Kosovo authorities view the agreement reached in Brussels on Friday as a concession and proof of Belgrade's weakness, and therefore they believe that the time has come to start spreading powers in the entire territory of Kosovo,” Carpenter said.

“Such actions will make it difficult for Belgrade to continue the dialogue, as home pressure already exists, and they can only hearten those who promote a more rigid stance in relations to Priština,” the U.S. analyst believes.

When asked what kind of decision he expected in terms of Serbia's EU candidate status, Carpenter responded that Serbia should get the EU candidate status as there should be no objections from the EU after the Brussels agreement.