

UNMIK PRESS RELEASE



United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

UNMIK/PR/539

23 March 2001

Kosovo Leaders Call on Extremists to Lay Down Arms

Pristina – The leaders of the three main political parties in Kosovo called on extremist groups in Macedonia today to end the fighting and return to their homes.

A declaration signed by Ibrahim Rugova of the LDK, Hashim Thaci, PDK and Ramush Haradinaj, AAK said:

“We, the leaders of political parties in Kosovo, call on the extremist groups which have taken up arms on the territory of Macedonia to lay them down immediately, and to return to their homes peacefully. We urge the Macedonian Government to show restraint and to address and resolve the grievances through peaceful and democratic means.”

The declaration by the Kosovo politicians came after an hour-long meeting with the SRSB Hans Haekkerup and followed discussions Thursday with a visiting delegation from the European Union.