

Majority of Kosovo Albanians expect conditional independence

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PRISTINA, 2 Oct (HINA) - Almost 60 per cent of citizens in Kosovo believe that the results of negotiations on the status of this province will be its conditional independence under the interim administration of the European Union.

According to results of a poll which the KosovaLive news agency conducted in Pristina from 27 to 29 September, 26 per cent of respondents believe that Kosovo will acquire the status of a sovereign and independent country.

Only four per cent out of a total of 100 respondents expect a negative report which UN Special Envoy to Kosovo, Norwegian Kai Eide, will soon present on the situation in Kosovo and its progress in meeting standards.

The start of the negotiations is made conditional on findings from that report.

Thirty seven (37) per cent of respondents expect a positive report to be submitted by Eide to the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Fifty nine (59) per cent believe that the report will be positive with certain objections to the implementation of some standards which the international community has set as requirements which Kosovo must meet before beginning the negotiations.

Over one third of the respondents fear that maintaining the status quo in Kosovo would badly affect the economic development of the province.

Three per cent of the respondents believe that the only solution for Kosovo would be the uniting of all Albanian-populated areas of the Balkans.