

Figure 17.1 ► February 2008: Kosovo Status at an Impasse

In **Serbia**, nationalist Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica has railed against Kosovo's independence and rebuked the West, especially the United States and European Union, while President Boris Tadic has tread more carefully to protect Serbia's EU aspirations.

United Nations Security Council members **Russia** and **China** have questioned the precedent that Kosovo's independence would set a precedent for other nations with similar separatist conflicts. Russia has threatened to veto any UN plan that does not have the support of both Kosovo and Serbia.



Shortly before reading **Kosovo's** declaration of independence, Kosovo's Prime Minister, Hashim Thaci, told the parliament that Kosovo was a unique case that should not set a precedent.

The **United States** and many **European Union** members have recognized Kosovo's independence and have rejected the notion that Kosovo's action sets a precedent for other conflicts.