



At first, Kosovo must be recognized in the united nation, which will be hard to achieve because of the really high standards. So far, Kosovo haven't reached them... But hard work will get us there. We have a future, a good future, but when? That is the question! Sometimes you don't see the good things here, you just see the physical part of Kosovo, but when you talk to people you realize how great this country could be. Often, we don't want to see the problems we have, but we will have to deal with them sooner or later... **We still have so many wounds to heal**, people are not forgetting it and want to make sure all those deaths did not happen for nothing. We see the reality now, so we will take action to make it better. Around 65% of the population is under 27, so the future is in our hand! However, it is sad to see that, even if we resolve all our problems, people might still judge us on our religion. The fact is that we are as European as the Europeans themselves, even if we are a Muslim country; **we drink and have fun**. A major part of the youth speaks English, most of us speak Serbian too, or other languages like German. We just don't have the salary of the European union. People think what they see on TV so they think Kosovo is still in war. Media is the biggest Weapon a state can use.

Vigan Jashari, 26
Employee in a bank



It's been ten years now since the end of the war and nothing has changed; I think it will take another 20 years before something changes. Everything is because of the politicians... They are so much into money and power; they don't give a damn about us, the people. They promise so much, but when they get elected they don't give a shit anymore! 40% of the population is still uneducated; they don't go to school at all, they live in villages and are **isolated from the rest of the world**. There are often 10 kids per family and most of the time the dad doesn't make such a good salary. The whole family often lives with only 20 cents a day. The cheaper books are like 20 Euros. There are used books at like 3 Euros, but every year, the schools change the list of book to have so they can't take the previous version... This is why they should provide **free education** and build better roads so the people from the village can go to these schools. There are scholarships to help kids who want to learn and study out of the country but can't afford it... But it's all the kids of the politicians who get them. And they are dumb: most of them don't learn anything, they are just **fucked up on drugs**. So it's not the ones who really want to study and who might be able to change things that get these opportunities. It sucks... People are really depressed!

Nora Jashari, 21
Student





Old structure in Peja





The biggest problem might be that the UN doesn't recognize us so far... So it's very difficult to get outside of the country: we need a visa for every country we want to visit, and they are hard to obtain. It would help most of us to be more cultivated, **more open-minded**. On the other hand, there is a lot of creativity in the country, especially the young people who gain more and more place. So I think there is a bright future... but how and when? I don't know. It would help to be considered as a real country and not just a territory **under the authority of the UN.**

Bardh Shkreli, 25
Radio host at UrbanRadio FM



An area of Prishtina near the KFOR base



There are some things that slow down the changes in Kosovo, and one of them is clearly corruption. It destroys a lot here. If you want a good job, **you need to have connections**, and those who generally get these places aren't the smartest. So, all the "brains" of the country try to get hired out of here. There is also the fact that these older people in high position are in a way **afraid of our generation**. We got better qualifications and knowledge than them, especially with computer technology... So they do as much as they can to prevent us from taking their jobs.

Kutjime Presheva, 29
Community worker



Prishtina from martyr hill



Well, I don't know... Sometimes there are little things that give you some hope but soon you realize it won't be that easy. Did you see how many cars there are here?

People are obsessed with cars! They prefer to have a car and then live in small shitty places.

Noar Sahiti, 19
Student







I think a great future can be reached through education. For example, at the moment I'm lucky enough to go study in London. So I'll go there, live a good life, do my best to get good grades... and then I'll come back **with my wife**, who is also from Kosovo. We'll try to improve things here, at first for ourselves and then for the community. Maybe by **starting a business** and offering jobs at a good salary. I think that could help.

Albulen Ajgeri, 25
Student

The old Serbian sector destroyed during the war - Prizren





To be honest, I don't really have an opinion... I don't think it will get worst, but it won't be a lot better before a long time. Maybe I'm a little bit pessimistic right now, but I don't know... I don't think it will change a lot in a short period of time, it will go **slowly, slowly and slowly**. I didn't see anything changing in ten years, so... When you know what happened here, it is clear that the future won't be like: « we are the best country in the world! ». Also, other countries that have declared independence had a better recognition... **Why is that possible?** Do you have low, medium or high level of independence...?

Gent Muhaxheri , 19
Student



A German force watch ground in the ruins of a 13th century castle [center] inside a valley near Prizren.



We actually **avoid those subjects** because we know that nothing will change, but we have to talk about it so it might change a little bit. One of the problems is that lots of companies create universities for the money. So, after finishing your degree, you often can't find a job because your diploma is not recognized... all these years are spent for nothing.

They open universities like shops! At the end, some just buy their diploma from big universities without going. For example, when I'm sick I don't really want to go see a doctor because some of them are not well trained and give you medicines for which he receives money. Another problem is that so many kids are sent in the street by their parents, who don't work, to sell stuff... that's really sad...

Nikki Murseli, 20
Architecture student

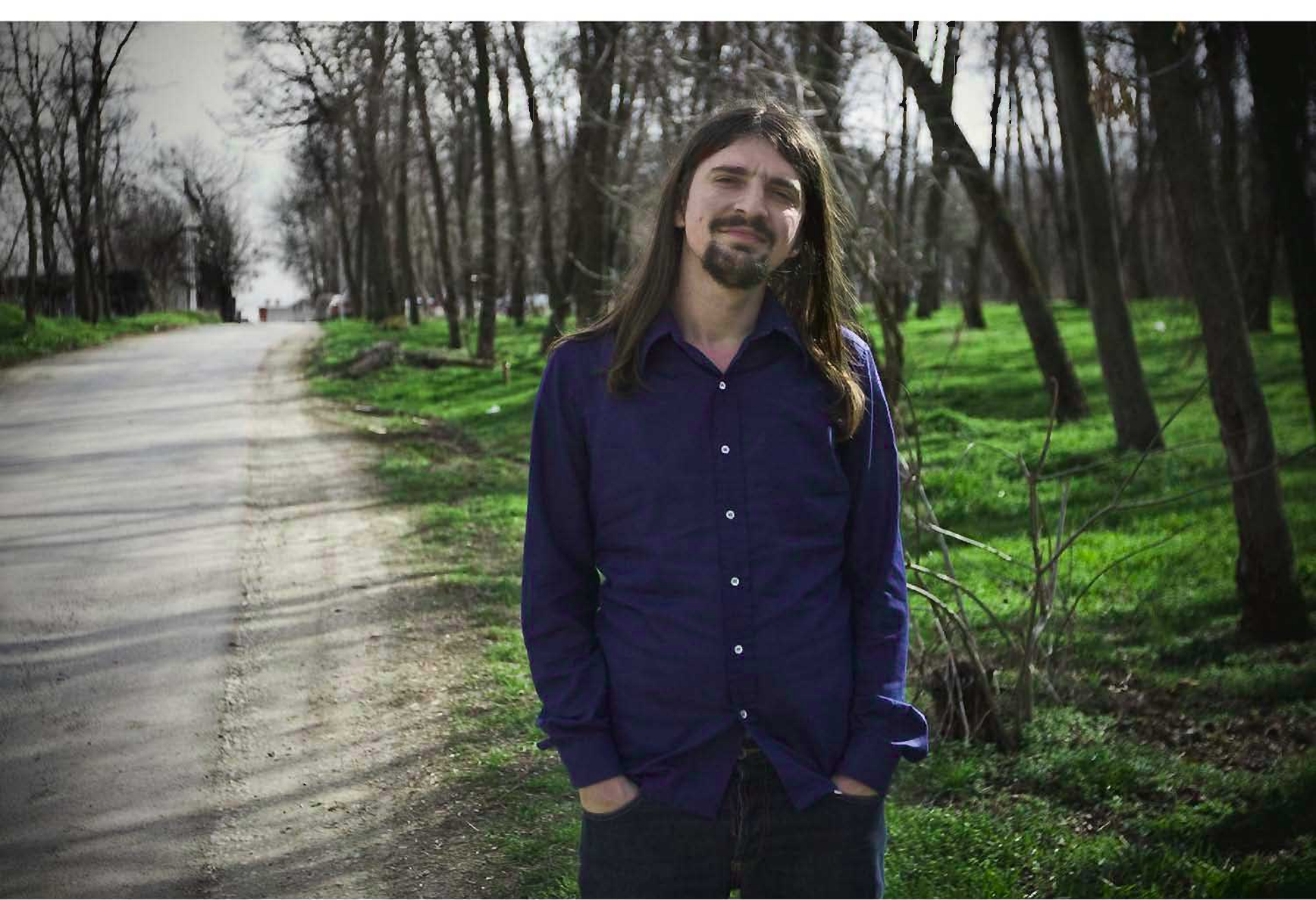
View of the Serbian territory on the other side of the Mitrovica bridge.



KFOR

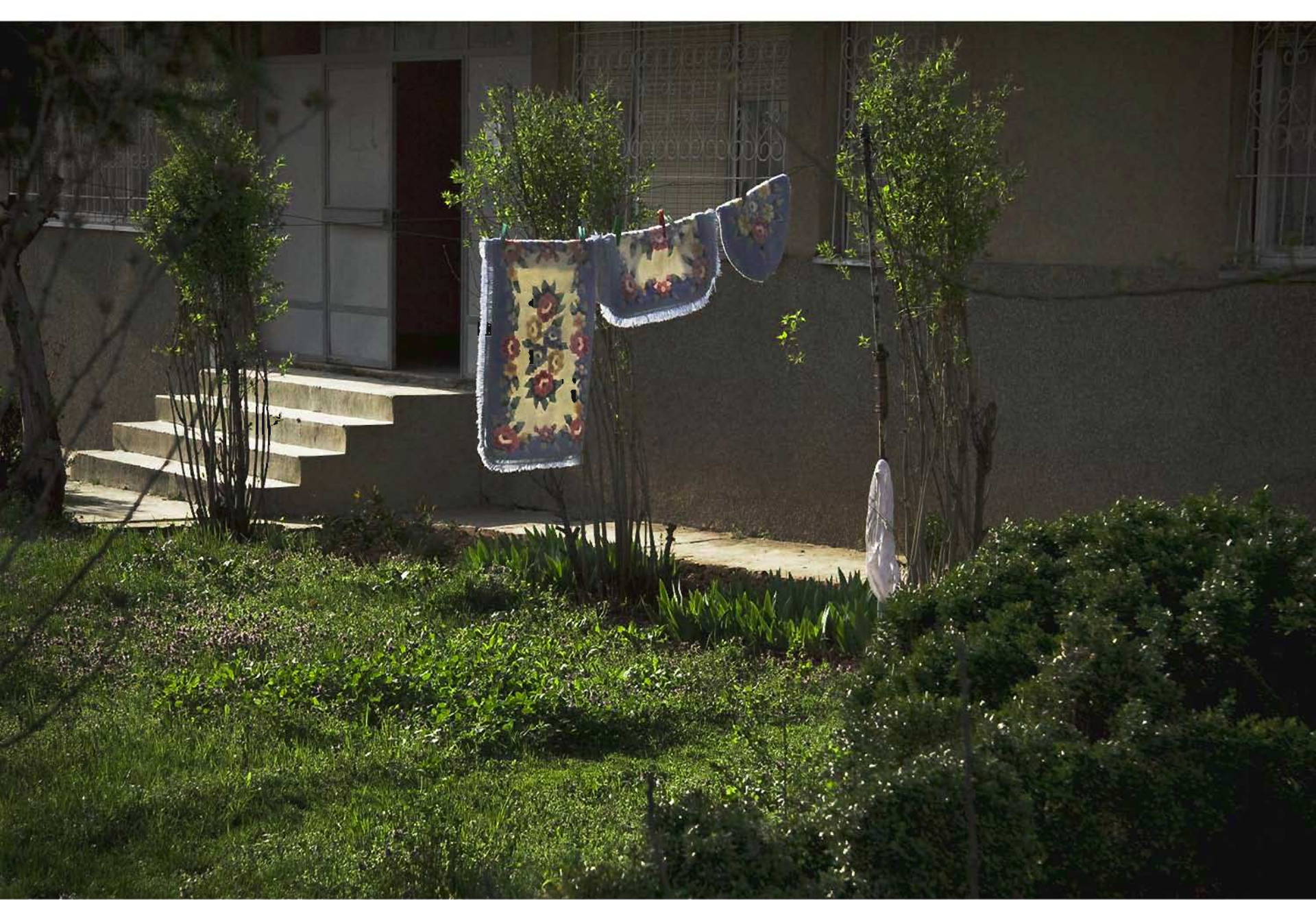
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Well, as an artist, I think that future is caring about the truth itself, the inner beauty that is reflected into it... It's all about projecting deep value into the world. But as a government, they aren't interested much about people at a deep level; all they are interested in, at the moment, is to run businesses. So, Kosovo for me **it's a business issue**, not a human issue. International organizations here in Kosovo are there to run their system. But as an artist it's really hard because no one wants to hear deep sounds, deep signal and deep emotions about myself and **how I feel** about people in Kosovo. They don't want to hear about our pain. So, at the moment my artist friends and me don't have any institutional support because all they want is to commercialize our art and use it for their own purposes. They want us to act fake and pretend that: "Hey! We are beautiful! Hey! There is no problem here, we have a great future and **thank you foreigners, and bla bla bla**". But I think there will be improvements because there had some already since the end of the war. I think humans all around the world, we want to feel good, we want to feel connected. But at the moment it is not a priority for our leaders. Even if internationals have their role here, I think Kosovo depends on Kosovars and I want to be part of this process.

Agom xharra, 26
Accordeonist







You want to know how I think the future of Kosovo will be? All right [laugh]... How to say? The most important thing is that our leaders should be clever, fair and respectable. I think strangers will be here for a long time because **we need to find solutions**. The economy has to be improved, but we don't really know how. I think we are on the good way. So far it is not so bad. We are now a state, but aren't considered as one yet... I think we need to be part of the European Union. It will be better, but I think people still need to work in that way. We need to find investors that would come to **open factories** or something, to increase employment. We also have a very good land so we should maximize its use. In brief, we need to be **strong economically**. We would be able to achieve this, but the government doesn't help; we hear a lot on the news and in the papers about corruption...

Berat Brestovci, 24
Law student

NEWBORN sculpture was installed the day of the declaration of independence. Since then, everybody go mark their name on it. - Prishtina





A man is looking for metal to recycle. - Prishtina





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