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## **Norway recognises Kosovo as an independent state**

**It was decided by the King in Council today to recognise the Republic of Kosovo as an independent state.**

The Norwegian Government underscores that the guarantees provided regarding minority rights, religious and cultural heritage, the protection of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Kosovo and the principles of the rule of law are considered to be binding under international law in accordance with the declaration of independence of 17 February 2008.

Diplomatic relations will be established.