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RUSSIAN AGGRESSION: CONTINUED IMPACT ON EUROPEAN SECURITY

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Abstract

This speech examines the profound impact of Russia's continued aggression, particularly the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, on the security landscape of Europe, with a specific focus on Kosovo. As the war in Ukraine reshapes global power dynamics, Kosovo finds itself at the crossroads of regional tensions, aligning its security and policy-making with Western and European Union (EU) strategies. The speech will address how Kosovo's history of conflict, pursuit of sovereignty, and quest for EU integration influence its strong support for Ukraine and condemnation of Russian aggression. It will explore Kosovo's engagement in sanctions against Russia, the challenges of navigating its relationship with Serbia amidst Serbia's alignment with Russia, and Kosovo's aspirations for NATO membership in an increasingly volatile region. Furthermore, it will highlight how the conflict has shaped Kosovo's domestic policies, from energy security to countering hybrid warfare tactics. Drawing parallels with Ireland's peace process and geopolitical navigation, the speech will argue for the critical role Kosovo plays in strengthening European security and stability. Through this exploration, the speech underscores the importance of multilateral efforts and collective defense in countering Russian influence and safeguarding European values.

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