

## Student Worksheet

### DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

### STORY

**Kosovo on the Cusp of Independence**, 01/22/08

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/world/jan-june08/kosovo\\_1-22.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/world/jan-june08/kosovo_1-22.html)

### READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is Kosovo planning to do in the near future?

2. How have other countries responded to Kosovo's plans? Which countries are supportive and which are not?

3. What happened in Kosovo in 1999?

4. Who is Slobodan Milosevic and what was his role in the conflict?

5. Who has been in control of Kosovo temporarily since 2000?

6. What is the significance of the upcoming Serbian election?

## **7. Why is Russia concerned about Kosovo becoming independent?**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

**1. What role does ethnic division between Albanians and Serbs play in Kosovo's bid for independence?**

**2. Research the issue of sovereignty. How do you think sovereignty should be determined? Whose opinions should be considered in the decision?**

**3. Why do you think the different members of the international community have chosen to support or oppose Kosovo's independence?**

### **Extension Activity**

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra ([extra@newshour.org](mailto:extra@newshour.org)). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.