Mladen Bosić

Pozdrav, Slovenija, predsjedavanje,
Bezbjednost,
Organizovani kriminal
Nove autokratije i populizam
Mlada i digitalna Evropa

Proširenje EU

Honourable President of National Parliament of Slovenija, speakers of National Parliaments of SEEC countries, Excellencies, MPs of SCEEP countries, distinguished guests,

I want to thank to President of National Parliament of Slovenia Mr. Milan Berglez for giving us this wonderful opportunity to exchange views on the most important challenges standing in front of our countries and our societies.

I had a privilege to represent BiH in Slovenia as a diplomat some 15 years ago, and I am very pleased to notice how much progress has Slovenia made in all aspects since then. So Slovenia may be some kind of a role model for my and some other countries in our region. I sincerely congratulate you on your successes.

Of course, every country in our region has different problems and specific internal situations. But we also have some same problems. Security is of course one of the most important. We are witnesses of new threat for global peace in Syria, and it is dangerously polarising today's world. It shows us how thin is the line between war and peace, and that we need cooperation between our countries more than ever. Even though if we are not directly involved in Syria crises, it concern us very much.

Of course, in the history of our region we had many times situations that big powers were playing their games on our soil. And we know, whenever that happened, our peoples and our societies were the main victims. That is why we need more talks and understanding between us, and why is SEEC so important. We need to solve our problems in peaceful manner between ourselves in order to obtain long standing peace in this region which was a troublesome region in the past.
One of the most important challenges our countries has to face is fight against crime and corruption. And there are no borders for crime. It is widespread problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina as it is in many other countries, and this problem is eating our society. It takes away future for our children and it obstruct development of our countries. Very often dirty money is being loundred in our region, and corrupted politicians and criminals are becoming respected investors. We could see that happening many times in the past, and that is why we need to enhance cooperation in that field.

Nowadays politics is not the same as it was five or ten years ago. Populist policy is gathering more and more support every day, and new autocracies are appearing. That is producing a demand for so-called "strong leaders", what is undermining pluralism in our societies. Our parliaments very often become pure tools for executing the will of "strong leaders", instead being places were we make decisions after crisscrossing our arguments. That is a new and serious threat to democracy, and a threat that is very hard to challenge. In that cases "strong leader" is tending to become above the laws and institutions, and democratic principles are endangered. And so called "strong leader" has to show constantly that he is strong and not ready to compromise. That could make a lot of trouble in future and might be a threat to our peace. That is why we need to strengthen the role of our Parliaments and promote the parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy in the region.

Slovenian presidency of the SEECP has underlined the issue of young and digital Europe. That is question number one for the future of our societies. How to face brain-drain and make our place in the new digital world? It is a challenge for our governments, and the issue of survival. Economic inequality is also threat to the world peace, and wealthy countries have bigger responsibilities in proposing solutions for that problem. Poorer societies can not solve that problem by themselves.

And finally a few words on the issue of the EU perspectives. In the times when GB is leaving EU and some other countries are also testing their future in that manner, for BiH accession to EU is much more than the membership. For us it is the matter of political stability and distancing ourselves from the troublesome past. We see it as a possibility of diminishing the importance of strong state borders and a possibility for mining full future. That is why I want to express our thanks to Slovenia and all SEECP countries for support that they are giving to us on the path to EU.