



MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
H.E. ABDULLAH GÜL  
FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> EURASIAN  
ECONOMIC SUMMIT

I thank you for the kind invitation to the opening of the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit organized by the Marmara Group Foundation.

With great pleasure I observe that the Summit has successfully proved its merits with high level participation realized every consecutive year. With this opportunity, I sincerely salute all the Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers and the distinguished representatives of business, academic and civil society circles.

I have learned that at this year's Summit is addressing a large scope of subjects and disciplines varying from economy and energy to information technologies and international relations. The global challenges that we face and the distinguished participants of the Summit will address requires a wide scoped and free debate.

With this regard, I wish that the ideas and suggestions that will appear as a result of efficient debate environment provided by the Summit and through the realization of common rationality to be serve as a guidance for the prosperity and peace of all the nations of Eurasia and whole humanity. I wish you all the success in your efforts.



Hon. Şamil Ayırım conveying  
H.E. President Abdullah Gül's message



H.E. Prof. Ali Hasanov conveying  
H.E. President Ilham Aliyev's message.



MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
AZERBAIJAN  
H.E. ILHAM ALIYEV  
FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> EURASIAN  
ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Esteemed Participants of 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit!

I kindly welcome you heartily and appreciate for the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit.

17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit is an organization that is held by Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation traditionally. I think that with esteemed participants such as State Officials, Socio-Political Personalities, Representatives of NGO's and Businessmen, this Summit will contribute to economic, political and social development of Eurasia region and cause cooperation, increasing the accumulation of capital, proceeding of information-communication technologies in the region. For this reason, our representatives participates and remark their opinions in every respect in this great Summit every year.

For sustainable peace; cooperation is an important issue in this globalizing World. As a respond of needs of contemporary age, Republic of Azerbaijan is working on making cooperation and collaboration with the six region countries. Our country's convenient geopolitical position, rich natural sources and possibilities of transnational communication is also important and beneficial for other country's people. In the region, for taking out of carbon hydrogen, Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan Petroleum Pipeline and Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum Gas Pipeline for usage of World market is available. To prevent from jam, signing new contracts regarding Trans-Anatolia and Trans-Adriatic Pipelines, "Sahdeniz-2" Project which named project of 21<sup>th</sup> century and accelerating construction of Baku-Tbilisi-Kars Railway Line is very important for global and regional cooperation, peace and development of historical Silk Road, and also Azerbaijan has very important role for this issue. We have decided that we will continue to support innovative ideas and enterprises and great transnational memorandum.

I hope that the discussions and decisions which has made in 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit will increase cooperation between all countries in Eurasia Region.

I wish Marmara Group, organizer of 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, great success in that way.



MESSAGE OF THE MINISTER  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF  
TURKEY  
H.E. AHMET DAVUTOĞLU  
FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> EURASIAN  
ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Unfortunately due to prior commitments I am unable to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit organized by the Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation.

Eurasian Economic Summits have become a tradition that enables the addressing the global and regional matters with their political, economic and cultural aspects by bringing together numerous statesmen and individuals competent in their fields from our region and beyond.

With great pleasure, I observe that this year's Summit is addressing topics that very important for our country, our region and our world. I find it very useful that the topics of debate such as "The Future of Economy on the Silk Road", "Change in the Local Government", "The Importance of Dialogue in Peace", "Technology and Design", "ICT for Development", "Human Trafficking" are chosen among the subjects that are closely relevant to the international community's common agenda.

In the Eurasian Economic Summit's success, which now experiences its 17<sup>th</sup> year, the integrated approach to address the contemporary opportunities and challenges the world faces is undoubtedly acted as a significant contributing factor.

I believe that Turkey's further hosting of the Summit in the coming years will serve the purpose of strengthening of country's role as a rising power in the center of Eurasia and as a stakeholder in the evolution of the international system. I present my respectful regards to all of the participants along with my hopes of a successful Summit.



*H.E. Ambassador  
Kenan İpek  
read the message  
of H.E. Minister of  
Foreign Affairs  
Ahmet Davutoğlu*



MESSAGE OF DIRECTOR  
GENERAL OF UNESCO  
H.E. IRINA BOKOVA FOR  
THE 17<sup>TH</sup> EURASIA ECONOMIC  
SUMMIT

Excellencies, Presidents, Honourable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to congratulate the Marmara Foundation for this 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, held under the theme of "Glocalization – Thinking Globally, Acting Locally." This Summit occurs at a time when States across the world are mobilising to meet the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and when the international community is shaping a new global sustainable development agenda to follow. UNESCO has a clear message in this context of change.

In moving forward, we must remain true to the shared values of human rights and dignity, and we must keep our eyes locked on our common goals – to eradicate poverty, to reduce inequalities and to promote justice. The new global sustainable development agenda must respond to the needs of all societies -- by advancing quality education for all, by fostering social inclusion, by harnessing the power of the sciences, by safeguarding cultural heritage and the diversity of cultural expressions. Most fundamentally, the new agenda must strengthen the foundations of peace, through dialogue and mutual understanding.

The empowerment of girls and women must have a central place as a breakthrough strategy for peace and sustainable development – starting with access to quality education, to promote human dignity and prevent violence, including from human trafficking.

UNESCO is taking this agenda forward across the world, and I welcome the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit as an opportunity to explore these questions and mobilise greater joint efforts.

In this spirit, I wish to thank all participants for their commitment to reaching these goals, and I look forward to the Summit's conclusions.



## Welcome speech by **Dr. Akkan Suver** President of the Marmara Foundation

Welcome to 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit.

It is an honor to welcome you under roof of Marmara Group Foundation and with Eurasian Philosophy. Once again I salute you on behalf of myself and my friends.

In this meeting, which we can feel presence of political and economical actors of Caucasus, Balkans and Central Asia, we will witness groundbreaking ideas.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, we will discuss dilemmas of economy and commerce within the context of Silkroad Philosophy. We believe, all of us will benefit from talking about developments in the field of economy and energy within the context of Silkroad Philosophy. Silk Road, as a philosophy and prosperity sharing project, will bring together Pacific and Baltic Sea. If we accept the fact that permanent monetary expansion policies will not be able to continue perpetually and if we assume that rising energy values without economic recovery will cause new crisis, then the importance of Silk Road will be understood. Therefore we will talk about global competition.

The world grew up 2,9 percent in 2013. Approximately 3,6 percent growth is foreseen in 2014. EU countries decreased 0,4 percent in 2013. It is expected that this region, by recovering, will catch 1,0 percent growth rate. Under light of these information, it is possible to say developed economies will enter a new growth cycle. We will bring commerce

and economy in Silkroad into question under light of these predictions. A line from China to London! We will discuss developing countries, growing economies and their potentials throughout the line. As Marmara Group Foundation, we evaluate Silkroad as a philosophy

One of the indispensable main subjects of Eurasia Economic Summits is Energy. We will discuss the future of Eurasia energies, new balance of powers in new western and multiaxial world order in roadmap of The Trans-Anatolian Gas Pipeline (TANAP) and Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP).

As Marmara Group Foundation we attach great importance to Shahdeniz 2 project as well.

We know that with Shahdeniz project, South Caucasus Pipeline will be extended and with TANAP and TAP projects Turkey and Caucasus will be energy centers due to natural gas transportation from Greece, through Albania, to Italy. Therefore political stability and economic welfare will reach new potentials. Global environment where problems are being intensified regionally however with the progress that has been achieved by Azerbaijan and Turkey will draw a framework enabling self confident actions in our periphery.

European countries including Turkey, which gives current account deficit, strives with energy import. Energy import hampers potential growths and prevents necessary investments.

Therefore we will include TANAP and TAP Projects and Shahdeniz 2 agreement.

Each new development will be a new step for more development. Our dreams will be technological realities of our grandchildren.

We are aware that informatics is a sustainable bridge of life.

We attach importance to women's participation to all areas of life as equal individuals.

And we know that without women, who consists half of the society, it is not possible to provide sustainability in economy and democracy.

21<sup>st</sup> century, as century of humanity, enables all universal dimensions of science. Therefore it is the time for turning new ideas to output. Second step is turning new and creative ideas to value added products, methods and services.

Instead of living in mistakes of past, we should change our point of view and should be abstracted from familiar concepts and shape Eurasian geography from this perspective.

We are aware of multi-crisis of globalization and we believe it is necessary to realistic analysis on emerging market economies. We know that common trait of emerging economies are proportional with value that are given to cooperation.

One of the issues we should address, most likely the most important issue we should address, is high market economies' inability to get through political problems.

Poverty and inequality in our region, hinders democracy. We know that enrichment is not enough for welfare and democracy.

Of course crisis of developing economies causes problems in my country as well.

Like all economies, Turkey's economy is face to face with certain problems. Exogenous factors are blameworthy for this just like internal factors. WE have technical problems. Even if we cannot develop an strategic attitude towards external factors, we know that our internal factors are sociologic. As a policy indicative factor; I believe it is better to overcome these problems with our civil society identity.

As Marmara Group Foundation, with our civil society identity, we would like to stress that our European friends do not take enough interest in Turkey-EU relations.

Turkey is a country with EU values, which is loyal to EU norms and criterias. Of course Turkey's relation with Eurasia is important. Turkey's common benefits with Africa and America is increasing day by day.

However, Turkey is determined to maintain these relations under European Union Philosophy.

Meantime, I want to repeat one thing once again. We gave great importance to Turkey's future with European Union. Turkey is a part of Europe and will celebrate Republic day of Turkey in 2023 as a member of EU. I believe in it.

Honorable guests,

With our efficiency wishes, I salute your high delegation and welcome you on behalf of myself and my friends.



## Hon. İbrahim Çağlar

Chairman of Istanbul Chamber of Commerce

Distinguished Representatives of Business and Civil Societies,

I salute you all on behalf of myself, Istanbul business world, the Executive Board of Istanbul Chamber of Commerce.

Since 1998 Eurasian Economic Summit witnessed major changes both in Turkey and in the world.

Together we are contributing the direction of the global economy and leave important notes to history with this Summit.

I thank all Marmara Group Foundation for gifting this esteemed organization to our country on behalf of President Akkan Suer and Secretary General Fatih Saraçoğlu and congratulate them.

Dear Guests,

Before coming here I take a look at what has been talked at the prior Summits.

Frankly, while reading aims and wishes I saw how great accomplishments we have achieved and how rapidly we continue on our path.

During those years, everyone was emphasizing the importance of this region will have in the future which connects Europe and Asia together.

The common wish of the speakers was that Turkey to reach a stability soon.

Today, in this point have come, we witness the realization of that common wish.

Dear guests,

In the last 30 years, three fundamental concept are shaping the world economy.

“Globalization, Change and Speed”

With the globalization of which technology and commercial relations serves as foundation both geographical and commercial boundaries have melted.

Today a Turkish company is curiously awaits the decision of FED from thousands of kilometers away.

Or a decision by the Turkish Central Bank can instantly effect the currency of South Africa.

Economies come to live in eachother's shadows like domino pieces.

Politicians no longer form their decisions based on local

dynamics. They take the global impacts into consideration as well. We call this global.

As we all know this situation has been explained as a "Butterfly Effect" metaphor by Edward Lorenz in the beginning of 1970s in a meeting just like this one.

We all have to look to the wings of the butterflies all around the world.

Our kids are growing as the world citizens of the global order.

There are two aspects to keep up with this order: Change and pace.

The systems and organizations that can adept to rapidly changing conditions survive.

Thinking globally, adaptation to change and swift decision making and execution will be increasingly important in the future of economy.

Distinguished guests,

Globalization, change and pace present numerous opportunities in front of us. Also carry risks. The occurrences of the last years are the biggest proof to this. We have saying in Turkey; "There is good in every evil".

Global crisis reminded us that one more time.

Developing countries became the pioneers of global movement.

The economic balances of the world are being re-established. The sun is rising from the east once again.

We watch the realization of projects that will revive the historical Silk Road with great pleasure.

World politics, world economy and global relations are witnessing the awakening of Eurasia.

Happily for us Turkey is stationed in the heart of this dynamism, this force. And we see Istanbul as the shining star of not just Turkey, but all of Eurasia as well.

Because Istanbul which has been the capital of 21 countries in 8500 years of history is a capitol of world where old and new and tradition and modern mix.

This city is a rare city where with 3-4 hours flight you can reach to the %40 of world's population and %60 of its income.

In other words, Istanbul possesses the potential to serve all of the geographies with total of 2 billion population around its periphery.

And as Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, we open this city's colorful environment and its festive mood to whole world with Shopping Fest Istanbul organization moving from this potential.

Our aim is to spread the energy of Istanbul to all our guests.

I especially invite all of the guests to our city between June 7-29 2014 to experience the privilege of Istanbul in all aspects.

Dear Guests,

In the beginning of this week I had the chance to have a meeting

with Prime Minister of Bosnia Herzegovina Vjekoslav Bevanda who is with us today.

In this meeting, I once again understood that the countries of Eurasia are ready to act.

All that is required is to create the commercial bridges, to extend the friendly hand.

Organizations like Eurasian Economic Summit are important steps to extent that friendly hand.

With reference to the Summit's theme I want to make a calling to the countries of Eurasia.

While we turn our face to global horizons, let us not forget that the force behind us comes from our colors, traditions, culture but most importantly our bonds of friendship and brotherhood which the history kindly gifted to us.

For better or worse, we come to these days together.

After today, let us use our differences to enrich, to our union of strenght.

Let us not forget that these differences are what bring change and ensure proggress.

My dear friends,

We need new perspectives on the production and consumption of energy.

Our resources are not unlimited.

We need to remember to turn to the nature in energy, to use the energy efficiently.

Dear friends,

Chekhov has a saying,

"One mind is good, but two is better."

I am very happy to see that distinguished participants from all parts of the world are together with us here to share their experiences and valuable ideas.

I believe the ideas that are going to be shared in this Summit will help us send strong messages to the world from the Eurasia we live in.

I welcome everybody once again, and salute you all with respect on behalf of Istanbul business world.



Hon. İbrahim Çağlar received his gift from Hon. Şamil Ayrım



## Hon. Ekrem Demirtaş

### Chairman of Izmir Chamber of Commerce

I came from a city that has opened the doors of the outward looking people of Anatolia to the world. I thank my dear friend Dr. Akkan Suver who gave an opportunity to address you in the meeting very much. The seventeenth of the Eurasian Economic Summits if being realized successfully. It directs us to think the union of Europe and Asia every year.

Are Europe and Asia continents lands apart from each other? Or as formulated in the name of the meeting, these old and eternal continents are integral? Culturally and civilization wise surely they might have differences. But the concept of Eurasia once again reminds us that these two continents complete each other.

Dear guests,

The world before the geographical explorations was thought to be two continents and two seas. Sahara and the vast African lands below, and Europe and Asia as a one continent, America wasn't explored by then. Mediterranean, Aegean and Black Sea considered as one sea. Mediterranean was the center of this world. Izmir in the point where Mediterranean and the Aegean merge shined like a lighthouse on the way to the Black Sea, and with its 8500 years of history it was the center of civilization.

The most important roads that connected two continents were historical silk road and spice road. These road that come from Asia and pass through Anatolia were come to an end or start in Ephesus and Izmir. The commodities transported to the port cities delivered to Europe with ships. These roads maintained their existence as the connection of two continents and two seas of the world for hundreds of years.

During the Roman, Eastern Roman and Ottoman

Empires these activities has continued all the time. When we look to the past we clearly see the existence of Eurasia.

These two continents divided by great chaos, world wars and completely different regimes in the last century have once again come closer after the collapse of the walls and curtains. Now in addition to silk road, oil and gas routes, railways, highways became the foundations of this reunion.

To multiply similar connections and to rebuild Eurasia is now inevitable. The global crisis that has impacted the world deeply reminds us the necessity of this concept. Developed Europe and America still trying to shake off the effects of the crisis, the stars in the world economy started to rise from the East. Eastern economies are no longer rising with only cheap labor but with innovation and technological production as well. While Asia and Europe's integration is being prepared under the roof of Eurasia, Izmir

might have a very important role in this process. Because for centuries it has served as an important center and a port city to this connection. In the past it has been called as the little Paris. Izmir became the city where people from many languages, many ethnicities have lived in peace for centuries.

In the 100th anniversary of our Republic, in 2023, the aim is being the one of the ten largest economies of the world. Our slogan is "year is 2023, Turkey is a global power". Our country aims to make 500 billion dollars worth of export. We have the potential for it. And in Izmir, there is a strong industry and commerce spread through many sectors. Two years ago we made a Summit in Izmir, it was really great. I hope we will make another one in Izmir.

I would like to state that we have thirteen organized industry regions, two free trade zones, nine universities, three hundred sunny days climate, qualified work force and that with all of these we are an investment paradise.

Eurasia needs peace and stability. Twenty years ago commerce with our close neighbor Greece was 200 million dollars. Today it is 25 billion dollars. Turkey is Greece's primary trade partner, before our doors were closed to one another.



*Hon. Lale Aytanç Nalbant, Hon. Engin Köklüçınar, Hon. Sevim Kulak and Hon. Munise Kaya*



## Hon. Ali Rıza Arslan

### Vice Chairman of Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (MÜSİAD)

Honorable Chairmen made great speeches about Izmir and Istanbul. They told the contributions that the unity and solidarity of Eurasia make to the world peace and economy. I would like to briefly tell you about MÜSİAD.

MÜSİAD is a businessmen association established on May 5, 1990, started its journey with a dream for a more reputable Turkey that is economically and politically influential in its region where justice, equality, peace, security, prosperity and happiness provided for all and local and global values are being regarded.

With over seven thousand members, around 35 thousand businesses and around 1,5 million employment MÜSİAD is powerful civil society organization with 73 domestic liaison offices, 4 active abroad representatives specific areas and in 146 offices in more than 55 countries and which conveys the problems, comments and suggestions of its members to government institutions immediately.

As an independent and non-aligned national and international businessmen association, the mission of

MÜSİAD is to increase its memberships with businessmen who share the predetermined principles and values, to enhance and improve the solidarity and cooperation among its members and with this solidarity to contribute to the commercial and spiritual progress of our country.

With this mission, we sincerely believe in the unity of Eurasia and that Eurasia is very important for economy and peace. I want to thank Marmara Group Foundation who helps in achieving that goal.

MÜSİAD is serving with its ideal and strong structure, it is consisted of units such as; general assembly, executive board, arbitration board, inspection board, consultation delegation, general management board, general secretariat, business boards, publications and research, corporate communication, corporate relations, budget and financial affairs, economic research, education and culture, abroad organization, membership acceptance, member relations, youth organization, external and technologic affairs.

The primary activities that MÜSİAD performs with respect to its founding principles are as follows:

Overseas business tours, country reports, domestic and foreign fairs and conventions, international business forum, MÜSİAD International Fair, commission works, industry boards works, training and education efforts, project works, entrepreneurship works, Thursday meetings, economic press merit awards, website and portal efforts, broadcasting activities, Turkey Economy Report, Framework Magazine, Foreign Policy Report and Research Reports.

I would like to state before you that we will be happy to cooperate with all the businessmen associations in Eurasia and to contribute to world peace and economy.

Furthermore, I see all the Eurasia from Mongolia to Kazakhstan here today. We are very well acquainted with them all, I hope our cooperation will continue and will develop the economy of Eurasia together. I salute you all with respect on behalf of myself and MÜSİAD.



Opening Ceremony



**Hon. Hikmet Tanrıverdi**  
Chairman of IHKIB

We are so happy and appreciate that Eurasian Economic Summits has been running for 17 years.

This event, which Marmara Group Foundation sustains it with a great seriousness and responsibility, reached not only to Eurasia but also to the world.

We host Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers, Princesses, Princes and many senior representatives of approximately fifty countries from Europe to Asia and from Latin America to Africa.

In 17th Eurasian Economic Summit, we will discuss the new route of economy and energy as well as human trafficking which is the most dramatic and shameful problems in the world.

We, as The General Secretariat of Istanbul Textile and Apparel Exporters' Associations, support 17th Eurasian Economic Summit today as well.

We watched the Fashion Parade of famous Fashion Designer Ozlem Kaya in the Premiere Night yesterday. In 25 years, Turkish fashion industry has reached and beared witness to innovations, great successes and increasing commercial numbers.

The reason of this success is creative opinions, productivity and vision of textile sector. We see ready-made clothing sector in many projects and innovations which add value to Istanbul.

Although there are many problems we face in global world, we have exported for 7.5 billion dollars to 193 countries in 2013. As textile sector we performed well in exporting.

World trade is changing, growing and developing rapidly. We are trying to keep up with these developments.

Our sector is the third sector of Turkey in terms of providing added value in 24 sectors after jewelry and defense industry.

The magic word is "design". The importance of design will be discussed by our friends in the next session.

In summary, our sector increased its share in international market and provided the biggest contribution to Turkish economy. It focused value added products and created fashion and trademark. It also explored its organization power. With education and projects, the sector increased export and competitiveness. Turkey developed and we developed.

Hoping to see you again in the next Eurasian Economic Summits.



**A GLIMPSE OF TURKISH FASHION  
AT THE GREAT EVENT OF IHKIB**





## Hon. Hüseyin Avni Mutlu Governor of Istanbul

Today we are together in our beautiful and strong city of Istanbul for the seventeenth of the Eurasian Economic Summits. We have very important and valuable guests who strengthens this togetherness even more.

Distinguished presidents, prime ministers, ministers, businessmen, ngo executives of many beautiful and strong countries of Eurasia are gathered here to realize this important summit. With this opportunity I sincerely congratulate the esteemed president and distinguished executives of Marmara Group Foundation for their efforts and I salute all the guests and participants with most heartfelt and respectful feelings.

Istanbul is one of the strongest, most important and most precious cities of humanity. It represents the dynamism, history and strength and culture of Turkey.

I want to share a brief information about this city's history. Why 8500 years and what is the base of this history? Three months ago we have realized the opening of a very important transportation project in Istanbul. The opening of the 15 kilometers part of the subway system that connects Asia and Europe took place. The realization of the subway system which today carries one hundred thousand passengers daily and will carry two million passengers daily following the completion of 76 kilometers in two years has become an important source of pride for Istanbul.

With this project, we didn't just realized a transportation project but also a journey to history. During the excavation for this project we have stumble upon very important traces that take us back to 8500 years. These traces are the common traces of us all. The unspoiled footprints of women, children and men showed us that the history of Istanbul goes back as 8500 years. While we were talking about a 3500 years of history of Istanbul we have suddenly started to talk about a history that is 8500 years old.

Today we are realizing a very strong summit in a city such as this. Industry, commerce, finance, tourism, culture and history are our most significant source of strength that improves Istanbul's brand value but just as strong

values of Istanbul, we also live the strong values of Eurasia together. Eurasia represents a powerful and important region in the world just as Istanbul is strong in the heart of Eurasia.

Our guests today are here in Istanbul as the representatives of such an important center of the world. It is important that this geography which has been very close with commercial and cultural activities throughout the Silk Road to be closer than ever today. Surely world is in a globalization process, we attach importance to globalization just as we do to localization. Because now capital, information, technology are being intertwined heavily we do need to uphold common and global values that will bring us closer. To me, this value is peace. I think the project of peace is the initiative that will serve the benefit of prosperity, common justice, flow of capital, and to peace itself. I reckon that these summits are the way to reach to peace projects. And I once again congratulate Marmara Group Foundation for their successful realization

of the seventeenth of the Eurasian Economic Summits that helps to establish the peace that the world needs.

While I state my pleasure of having you as our guests in this beautiful city, I wish great success to the distinguished participants on their efforts throughout the Summit. I salute you all with respect and bid you welcome to our city, to our country.



*Hon. Hüseyin Avni Mutlu received his gift from Hon. Şamil Ayrım*



**H.E. Nassir Abdulaziz AL-Nasser**  
 UN High Representative to the Alliance of  
 Civilizations

I am both honored and privileged as the High Representative of the Alliance of Civilizations, to have the opportunity to address this distinguished audience today, in the great city of Istanbul, Turkey.

Istanbul is a great cultural center of Europe, and recognized as a crucial link between east and west. Istanbul has been home to empires instrumental in the spread of both Christianity and Islam, which have shaped much of the World. Over the last decade, this story has allowed Istanbul to become a symbol of the future, a truly global city in which modernity and tradition live side by side. The city flourishes with an eclectic mix of cultures and populations, which provide the foundation of its influence and dynamic growth. For centuries, this great city of Istanbul has played an important role in shaping this region and by gathering here today; we are a part of that long tradition.

I wish to thank Dr. Akkan Suver, President of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation for organizing and hosting this event and for your kind invitation to participate in the 17th session of the Eurasian Economic Summit.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Eurasian Economic Summit was created with the intention of enhancing relations between Europe, Central Asia, the Caucasus region, and the Middle East. Founded by the Marmara Group Foundation, this annual event is held in Turkey because of its strategic location and economic importance.

During the global economic crisis, Turkey was able to maintain a stable economy thanks to its diversified financial and economic program created in 2002. Since then, the Turkish economy has enjoyed strong growth. In the AOC perspective, stable economy leads to social stability, prosperity and co-existence. Turkey also plays a lead role in several international bodies, such as the World Trade Organization, OECD, and Black Sea Economic Cooperation. Turkey has embraced its role and responsibility by promoting peace, stability, democracy and economic welfare in this region and beyond.

This country enjoys responsible leadership that

could achieve the place it occupies in the World right now.

As the effects of globalization are increasingly visible, the significance of regional cooperation on international economic and commercial relations is embodied by Turkey's role in the region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Perhaps the World has always been characterized by contradiction and paradox, but today it is more so than ever. We live in a World divided by great wealth and great poverty; between the tallest skyscrapers in the richest cities of the World and humble shacks in the world's worst slums; between lightening fast electronic technology that reduces human labor and multitudes of the unemployed; between the highly educated and millions who cannot read.

We have an economic system not capable enough to deliver goods and services, which leaves many behind and creates escalating demands on our environment and scarce natural resources. We

have countries living with all of the wealth of the modern World, while others are just emerging into development and finding their way in turbulent economic and social conditions.

This is a matter of concern sine co-existence cannot take place in this kind of environment between nations. That's why religions instructed us to think of the others in need and to help through social solidarity and charity. But in the modern World and at the UN we call it ODA.

The struggle over water, energy and other natural resources challenges our abilities to allocate economic outcomes that are fair and equitable across the globe. Let us hope that Voltaire was wrong when he said, "The comfort of the rich depends upon an abundant supply of the poor," because it must be our task to use our great collective wealth to alleviate the misery of the poor.

This landscape of paradox, while presenting enormous challenges, at the same time, provides us with the tools and capabilities required to address our problems. We know what needs to be done. We have the tools to do it. What we need is political unity and will, a true political, economic and cultural alliance, to confront the conflicts and contradictions that face our World regardless of our color, race or religions. This is how we can support the path for real Alliance between Civilizations.

The conflict and çivil unrest plaguing many parts of the World, including this region, have often been blamed on cultural or religious differences. But the imbalance of political and economic power, within and between countries, may also play a significant part in escalating tensions and provoking acts of violence. Often times those who have something to gain, themselves, stoke the fires of civic unrest for personal advantage. Existing sentiments of inequality, alienation, marginalization, discrimination, fear, injustice, oppression, ignorance, and stereotyping can easily be exploited.

It takes a concerted and concentrated effort to counter these kinds of tensions through building çivil societies focused on education, tolerance, respect, cross-cultural understanding, context, media, press, positive rhetoric, aiding groups vulnerable to extremism, social and



FROM PRESS



### Eurasian meet starts with theme of 'think globally and act locally'

The Marmara Group's 17th Eurasian Economic Summit starts with the main theme of thinking globally, acting locally. The summit will address many issues, including human trafficking and the future of energy on the globe.



İçerisinde Maliye Bakanı Mehmet Şimşek'e şifli verildi. Marmara Grubu Vakfı Genel Başkanı Akkan Suver de "Türkiye, 2023 yılı Cumhuriyet Bayramı'nı AB üyesi olarak kutlayacaktır" dedi.

### Şimşek 17 Aralık'ı savundu

17. Avrasya Ekonomi Zirvesi'nde iktidar ile Gülen Cemaati arasındaki çatışmayı değerlendiren Maliye Bakanı Şimşek, bu sürecin Türkiye'nin reformlar yapmasına vesile olduğunu ileri sürdü. Şimşek, "17 Aralık Süreci" olarak tanımladığı çatışmanın "Türkiye'nin reformlar yapmasına vesile olduğunu" söyledi. Bir süreden beri "Türkiye'de siyasi istikrar tehlike altında mı" sorusuyla karşı karşıya olduklarını belirterek "Bu sürecin kendisini de tahrifatlarını da daha çok reform yaparak aşabileceğini" savundu.

### Union of socio-economic cooperation, peace

The Union of socio-economic cooperation, peace and equality is a key theme of the summit. It aims to foster dialogue and understanding between different cultures and nations.

Hürriyet Daily News

Yeni Şafak

economic inclusion, and equality. Governments, NGO's and international organizations have important roles to play in this regard.

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
As the High Representative of the Alliance of Civilizations I wish to draw attention to Turkey's active role in the international arena, especially in terms of launching many organizations and initiatives that are aimed at intercultural dialogue and conflict resolution. As a response to the shameful acts of terrorism of 9/11 in America, and the following events in London, Madrid, and Casablanca, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan alongside Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero of Spain, launched the Alliance of Civilizations, with the objective of countering the rising intolerance and misunderstanding between Western and Islamic countries.

Once adopted by the United Nations, the Alliance became a UN political initiative and tool of preventive diplomacy to apply towards global tensions rooted in culture, identity, religion and related disparities. With a focus on work in the areas of education, youth, media, and migration, the Alliance has quickly become the foremost initiative in the area of cross-cultural dialogue. New strategy using sports, music, Art and Entertainment, what we call the SMARte Alliance is now in place to promote dialogue and understanding among people and cultures.

The establishment and achievements of the Alliance

thus far could not have happened without the support and active participation of Prime Minister Erdoğan, and his government, which has also led Turkey through a decade of economic growth, prosperity, and stability. Like Turkey, the potential of the diverse nations that are represented here today is immense.

This year's 17th Eurasian Economic Summit features discussion topics that reflect issues plaguing our region that have been compounded by the globalized era in which we live.

Human Trafficking, Sustainable Development and Change in the Local Government, Dialogue from Local to Global, Development and Design, the Future of Economy and Energy from Local to Global, and ICT for Development are all topics that are on our agenda today.

These are issues that transcend national boundaries and cultures thus we must use international cooperation and intercultural dialogue in order to address them.

Moreover, let us focus on civil society initiatives that work towards the Post 2015 Development Agenda through the means of thinking globally and acting locally. We must take advantage of this great opportunity and use this international platform as a tool in order to utilize the power, insight, and influence of such esteemed and prestigious attendees in order to engage in fruitful discussions, share ideas, and create a plan of action in achieving peace through the means of dialogue.



**H.E. Vjekoslav Bevanda**  
**Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Honourable Presidents, Honourable Prime Ministers, Distinguished representatives of national executive and legislative authorities from five continents of the world, dear hosts and representatives of the Marmara Group, Ladies and Gentlemen!

“Mankind is a single body and each nation is a part of that body. We must not ever say ‘what’s that to me if any part of the world is unwell?’ If there is such a condition anywhere, we ought to treat it the same way as if it happens to us”.

These are the very words of great man of the human kind, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Today, I pronounce these with a good reason, for to see representatives of over 30 countries of the world, gathered at this Summit, really proves his words alive.

Cooperation, exchange of views and ideas, support and partnership are the foundations underlying the Marmara Group’s commitments, efforts, life and achievements for three decades now.

Dialogue, communication and compromise are merely unique solutions for progress, prosperity and development of an individual, society, nation, and finally – the human race.

In line with that, as the first man of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s executive authority, I am particularly pleased to present here the potentials of my state and all that which makes it worth visiting our part of the Balkans.

As a transition country, we are trying to learn from the best, to keep a dialogue open towards all and to appreciate all. We are in search for allies and partners both in East and in West, as in North and in South, because a missing cooperation renders a state in this globalised world an isolated island.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a potential candidate for membership in the European Union. It is a basic guideline, for me personally, as for the Council of Ministers and all other instances of the executive and legislative authorities. This is a zero priority of ours, and in years to come we will require knowledge, commitment and diligent work in order to achieve this goal.

With the major trade and political partners that we have in the EU countries, we also build and foster our relationship

with other allies and partners, like the United States of America, Russia, PR China and Turkey.

Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina have centuries old connection through peoples, customs, culture, language, economy, and many other linking features, and I hold Turkey among the major allies, and I am free to say, also major friends of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The basic advantage to potential investors to BIH is that BIH is a CEFTA member, which secures the customs free export to over 21 million strong market. It should be also noted that Convertible Mark (local BH currency) is tagged to EUR, which ensures its additional stability, and that 95% of BH products are released from all charges for import to the EU.

The potentials of business and economic cooperation do exist in the sectors like infrastructure. Namely, the major project currently in the process of implementation in BIH is the Corridor V c Road and Railway Transport, worth

total EUR 4 billion, and it is the axis of development and high quality connection of country’s North and South, i.e. flow of goods and people from Hungary and Croatia and from Bosnia and Herzegovina towards the Ploče Port. Besides this extremely vital project, there is another major undertaking, and that is the construction of Adriatic-Ionian motorway in country’s South, as a link of a road corridor running from Italy to Greece. Along with this project, there is a series of other projects, relevant to the communication sector, such as construction of a number of local and connecting roads, improvement of airports, and rehabilitation of the River Sava fairway.

Another area of business and economic cooperation is the energy sector. The potentials of Bosnia and Herzegovina are reflected mostly in investment opportunities in coal and lignite mines. Other than this, a free water potential is over 4,000 MW. Also, there are significant potentials of wind energy and sun energy, and potentials of biomass power generation from over 1.5 million m3 of forest residues and residues in wood industry. Prospective investments would include oil and natural gas fields at a number of sites, with preliminary analyses estimating it about 50 million tonnes of oil.

In addition to the above, I will mention valuable potentials in textile, wood, agricultural and tourism sectors.

As you may be aware, due to the tragic war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20 years ago, many capacities are unused, technologically inadequate and neglected. These “dormant” capacities is rightly what I intend to point at as our major asset, which, with hard working people, Bosnia and Herzegovina has to offer.

Since no new value is achievable without work, and no prosperity is achievable without new value, thus no peace and harmony is achievable without prosperity.

I would like to close my address today by citing once again great man of mankind Mustafa Kemal Atatürk that: “Peace in home means peace in the world”. And it is right from the bottom of my heart that I wish to you everything that is good and prosperous, so that we all together might enjoy well-being and peace.



## H.E. Dr. Mehmet Müezzinoğlu Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey

First of all I would like to present my delight of being here today with you in an international and economic event organized by the Marmara Group Foundation.

Of course one of the biggest problems of a politician is to have an health issue regarding his voice. Due to extensive schedule in the past 4 - 5 days a problem in my vocal cords has occurred, I apologize for this.

I want to start my remarks by saying that I believe that the seventeenth of the Eurasian Economic Summits organized consistently by the Marmara Group Foundation will create valuable solutions to global problems and I present my sincere respects to you all.

Understandably the primary subjects to be addressed during two days of the summit will be economy, energy, prosperity and communication but the subject that makes me the happiest is the humanitarian subject of human trafficking. It is one of the most important subjects of our time.

No one would take journey off from their homeland unless they have to. Only survival and the promise of a more secure life pushes people to these kind of actions.

Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands people find themselves entrapped by criminal organizations, human merchants in search of a safe haven due to reasons like war. In terms of preventing human trafficking, both our country and the world looking for solutions through different action plans, and they will continue to do so.

6,5 billion on earth are living in a platform where there is no social justice and in a very unbalanced conditions in terms of life standards. When we look one side of the world we see millions of people dying because of wars, conflicts, poverty and hunger. They are being forced to migrate to prevent death from hunger.

When we look to another side of the world, we see people dying because of disease that are result of over consumption.

I believe it is survey from 2010. According to this survey published by a reputable magazine Lancet, more than 3 million people in the world died because of diseases caused by over-weight. I would like to state that this number is three times larger than those who died because of hunger.

Accordingly, I do believe that we need to address the issue of fair distribution of wealth as much as economy itself. I believe that efficient precautions are required to prevent humanity from similar tragedies in a world setting such as this. On one side, war, blood, injustice, migration, exploitation, and consumption frenzy on the other.

If it keeps going like this, the world will face more darkness, more uneasiness, more problems with each passing day.

No conscious or no human being should stay silent against this course.

Migrations happening for a variety of reasons is a social phenomena that has existed throughout history. The people of this land who has wellcomed around 600 thousand jews around 600 years ago, has numerously embraced refugees from many different ethnic, religious origins throughout history.

I am too someone who knows the problems and sufferings that an unvolunteered migration story might have consist.

During the Gulf War, we have embraced more than 500 thousand Kurdish, Turcoman and Arab people. Today around 1 million refugee choosed Turkey as a safe haven.

Another reason that triggers the migration is the concern for life. Turkey is also a country that migrations with this reason takes place and seen as a transition route to west.

These illegal migrations also cause big humanitarian problems.

Tens of thousands of people are being victims of human merchants and crime organizations. According to international data, human trafficking is the third most profitable crime field following drugs and arms trafficking.

Turkey is adjusting legal migration management and applications in accordance with EU acquis on one hand and taking deterrent precautions on the other. Turkey has also put the UN Cross Border Organized Crime Contention Agreement signed in year 2000 into effect on 2003 in this regard.

Turkey is effectively supporting the activities initiated by international organizations such as UN and EU in the area of confronting human trafficking.

Due to the cross border effects of human trafficking and migration, it can be clearly seen that these problems cannot be solved solely by internal efforts and measures.

As the government of the Republic of Turkey, we will continue to take all the necessary measures aiming securing the lives and honor and the safe return of the victims of human trafficking within the framework of international action plans and altering circumstances.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank to the Marmara Group Foundation for addressing such an important and humane international problem during the Eurasian Economic Summit.

I hope that the meeting will contribute to our cause of protecting human dignity and present my respectful regards to you all.

# EURASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT MEDAL OF HONOR CEREMONY



*Hon. İsmail Hakkı Demirci*

## 4 Fellows of the Eurasian Economic Summits were awarded by the Marmara Group Foundation for their great contribution through long years.

Marmara Group Foundation awarded the Eurasian Economic Summit Medal of Honor to those who have been attending the Summit for the last 10 years with their continuous support. Minister of Information and Communication Technologies of Azerbaijan H.E. Prof. Ali Abbasov presented the Medal to Hon. İsmail Hakkı Demirci. H.E. Prof. Ali Hasanov presented the Medal to Hon. İbrahim Arıkan. The Governor of Istanbul Hon. Hüseyin Avni Mutlu presented the Medal to H.E. Ertuğrul Kumcuoğlu. Chairman of IHKIB Hon. Hikmet Tanrıverdi presented the Medal to Hon. Mustafa Karagül.



*H.E. Ertuğrul Kumcuoğlu*



*Hon. İbrahim Arıkan*



*Hon. Mustafa Karagül*

## PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS



*At the end of the Opening Session of the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, Marmara Group Foundation signed partnership agreements with; Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development chaired by H.E. Vuk Jeremic and Hungarian Initiative Foundation chaired by H.E. Tamas Fellegi. The speech delivered by Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia H.E. Vuk Jeremic for this occasion is presented below:*



**H.E. Vuk Jeremic**  
Former Minister of Foreign  
Affairs of Serbia

his years of hard work and strong dedication to fulfilling the Foundation's mission.

I sincerely hope that the Marmara Foundation and the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development—the Belgrade-based thinktank that I established late last year with a group of distinguished world individuals—will soon begin to engage in fruitful cooperation: on projects of common interest in the nearest future, as envisioned by the Agreement that was just signed.

It is my great honor to address the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, organized by the Marmara Group Foundation.

At the onset of my remarks, allow me to express my deep appreciation to Dr. Akkan Suver, and to thank him for

As an international public-policy institute, CIRSD is dedicated, first, to strengthening peaceful cooperation between States and increasing responsiveness to changing global and regional circumstances; second, advocating a more open, inclusive, prosperous and safe international system; and third, promoting sustainable development as the foundation of UN post-2015 agenda.

It is to this last issue that I would like to devote the remainder of my remarks.

I firmly believe that in the time to come, we will have to make a decision of lasting consequence—a choice about whether to make profound changes to how we conceive and conduct our economic, social and environmental affairs at the national, regional, and global levels.

Scientists have begun calling the present historical period the Anthropocene: the human-made epoch. Literally for the first time since its inception, the human race is the primary cause of the rapid physical changes taking place on Earth.

Allow me to give you one example. We know that for the past 800,000 years, the level of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> has



*Parties during the Signing Ceremony*

fluctuated—going up and down at predictable intervals. This variability has been due to the natural variations of the Earth’s orbital movements. But for the last 100 years, the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration has been increasing exponentially—to the highest level since before the dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

The evidence is overwhelming: we are the reason the planet is warming and climates changing all around the world; it’s because of what we do that the oceans are rising and acidifying, freshwater reserves quickly depleting, and an extinction of many plant and animal species being underway.

We are the source of this crisis, which, if left unchecked, will undoubtedly have an increasing impact on our political, economic and social relations with every passing year.

I believe it is the imperative of our generation to wholeheartedly embrace—not only in theory but also in practice—the concept of sustainable development.

This concept is both a way of understanding what’s happening to our planet, and a way to help save it. As a method of understanding the globe, sustainable development involves an all-inclusive approach to studying the interactions of the economy, the physical world, politics and culture, and how they influence prosperity, social inclusion, and environmental viability.

As a method to help save the planet, applying sustainable development as the overriding principle of policymaking is about a holistic approach to human well-being—one that integrates economic progress, social justice, and environmental sustainability.

At Rio de Janeiro in June 2012, world leaders set the foundation for the global transition to sustainable development, agreeing to place this concept at the center of the UN’s post-2015 agenda.

In less than two years time, a set of ambitious and universal Sustainable Development Goals needs to be adopted; options for financing them put in place; and an enforceable mechanism to monitor their implementation created.

I believe, however, that the post-2015 agenda cannot succeed unless it includes an underpinning global ethical framework.

One can say that many of the sustainable development challenges are to a great extent technical—for example, how to meet the energy needs of a growing world economy while transitioning to safer pattern of energy use.

To call this ‘technical’ is not to minimize the enormity of the task, however: for to wean ourselves off the global addiction to hydrocarbons is an integral part of what’s perhaps the most massive and complex undertaking in history.

We must find a way to align our short-term priorities with our long-term needs. Otherwise, we risk seeing, all across the world, economies slumping, social tensions rising, and adverse climate change galloping ahead with abandon.

The only place where we stand a chance of preventing such a calamity is, for better or worse, the United Nations. For all its imperfection, the UN is the sole international institution of indisputable legitimacy.

Achieving sustainable development requires the establishment of a genuine global partnership for the 21st century—unprecedented in both scope and scale. In my view, it should be our duty to make the United Nations the functional center for harmonizing mankind’s response to a threat far more insidious than any we have faced in history.

This does not mean the UN can be transformed into a multilateral panacea capable of solving all the world’s problems overnight. But it also means we cannot afford to let it devolve into a high-priced forum for invective—a sophisticated debating society for professional diplomats.

As we approach the ‘crowded hour’ of humanity, a revitalized UN needs to become again what its founders intended and its most dedicated advocates continue to champion: the premier venue in which Member States coalesce around a common agenda for human betterment.

# THE FUTURE OF ECONOMY AND ENERGY IN THE SILK ROAD FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL



ROSTRUM - Hon. Dr. Akkan SUVER (Chairman), President of the Marmara Group Foundation, H.E. Natik ALIYEV Minister of Industry and Energy of Azerbaijan, H.E. Arben AHMETAJ Minister of Economy of Albania, H.E. Dr. Erhard BUSEK President of the Vienna Economic Forum and Former Vice Chancellor, H.E. Nizar BARAKA Former Minister of Economy of Morocco

## SESSION OPENING



### H.E. Mehmet Şimşek

Minister of Finance of the Republic of Turkey

I will discuss a view of Turkish economy briefly.

In the coming days, Turkey will go to the three polls. There were many political developments in recent years. In last ten years, we can see the importance of political stability in Turkey's success. Namely, with political stability, Turkey gained a lot of acquisitions. I have a question for you:

Is political stability under threat in consideration of recent developments? Is the political stability will continue? I can reply to this question by this means: I mentioned three polls. The elections of local governments, Presidential election and then parliamentary elections. We can be able to decide

together after I share public opinion surveys. Almost in all public opinion surveys people support AK Party potently. Indicators show that it is 47,7 %. In Yenar's public opinion surveys it is approximately 50%. In ORC's public opinion surveys it is approximately 47%. You see that the lowest is 47%. In summary, the political stability in Turkey is not under threat. It is not threat to the next three political elections. There is no obstacle for reforms.

The process of "December 17" and its problems will be overcome by many reforms. Turkey will be more accountable and have more democratic standarts. We need more reform for stability. The former law of fight against terrorism will be abolished. Special Court's will also be abolished. There will be many reforms.

We lived a process of political uncertainties. I would like to inform you about reflections of political uncertainties to economy, changing of policy of Federal Reserve Banks (U.S.A.) and monetary tightening.

Turkey has grown in proportion of 5.1% in ten years. When we compare this with growing rate of China it is low. However, between the years of 1993-2002 Turkey has grown 4.5%. This is an important success for Turkey. The last year Turkey's GDP was approximately 820 billion dollars. In 2002 it was 230 billion dollars and in 1990 it was 200 billion dollars.

Between the years of 1990 and 2002, the GDP, as dollars, did not increase very much. However, in ten years it is increased 3.5 times.

The next period is more important. We are growing slowly. Why? Because, economies of global world are in recession. Prices of commodity will not increase. It is in favor of Turkish economy. In last five years, EU was in recession. In EU, domestic demand was low. Currently EU is not in recession. For that reason, Turkey's foreign demand will increase. The Arab Spring, especially Libya, effected the commercial investments of Turkey. Currently, The Middle East (except Syria) and Africa has relative stability. There will be positive reflects of this to Turkey. After global crisis Turkey has grown rapidly. We will grow slowly till completing our structural reforms.

When we look at the short term growing, if you ask me about the factors of which can be able to increase the indicators we can understand that the factor is "Foreign Demand". As I mentioned before, the reason of problems was the political uncertainties to economy, changing of policy of Federal Reserve Banks (U.S.A.) and monetary tightening. We have predicted 4% growth in 2014. We have brought down the rate of inflation to single digit level. Turkey had lived with rates of inflation of double digit levels for forty years. We have brought down the rate of inflation to single digit level in Turkey for the last ten years. We aim at 1-3% inflation. It is still in the level of 5-8%. Our aim is to have brought down the rate of inflation to low single digit level.

We have increased some tax rates in 2014. Turkish Liras have lost in value. It caused 10% lost in value.

There are monetary tightening in our monetary policy. Central Bank increased the interest rates in this period. However, interest rates had already been increased. Central Bank helped to catch up with by making increases.

I would like to refer you about financial policy. In 1990's there were high budgetary deficit. There were weak governments, high budgetary deficits, issue Money. By monetizing, they had increased deficit. Then inflation has come. High real interest rates has come. In 2002, Turkey had pay 86% of its taxation revenues to interest expenses. Today this expense is 15%. Other expenses (85%) are now for education, health, infrastructure. This is fiscal discipline.

Recent years, except the year 2009, Turkey implements master criterias. Deficits are approximately 1%. Last year, Turkey's deficit was one fifth of the average of OECD countries. This year it will be almost one fourth. Turkey decreased its gross public debt. The deficit is now 35%. Our aim is 30% by decreasing. Currently, in EU, the rate of average public debt to national income is above 90%, in OECD it is above 110%. Turkish Public Finance is in good state. There is no net foreign dept anymore when you compare with state reserves and depts. Turkey has receivable of 5% of GDP.

Real interest was approximately 25%. Nominal interest was above 60%. Currently, nominal and real interest decreased because of global liquidity and low deficit.

One of the basic problem areas of Turkey is "current account deficit". The current deficit is quite high in Turkey and it is need to decrease it. There are some permanent reasons that we named it as secular. Low savings and conjuncture position etc. For instance, Arab Spring has been negative factor. Economic crisis in EU countries have also been a



H.E. Mehmet Şimşek received his gift from H.E. Ertuğrul Kumcuoğlu

negative factor. Import of gold have been a negative factor, too. In the next ten years the current deficit will be 3-5%.

Reasons are:

1. Last ten years Turkey has made investments to its human capital, infrastructure and R&D. They are basic reforms.

2. Foreign demand is a factor.

3. Our economy is dependent to foreign countries. In total energy it is 72%, natural gas 98% and petroleum 92%. Turkey works on local and renewable energy.

We will try to decrease the current deficit and increase global directly investments.

There has been increasing and decreasing at rate of exchange. Different people has been affected from these movements of rate of exchange.

Lets look at the position of the net foreign currency. There is no problem in Banking Sector. It is at par. Decreasing and increasing will not effect directly the banking sector. Real sector has a deficit of foreign currency position. Approximately 170 billion dollars. Large companies has more exports and their net foreign currency positions are bigger than SME's. Households have surplus of foreign currency and gold. It is above 190 billion dollars. Why? Because, we didn't allow them to become indepted with foreign currency. Currency developments will not effect the statement of households.

As you see, Turkey has predicted the risks and has taken steps. Turkish company's demand of foreign currency is increased. It is regarding with political uncertainty.

As I said in my first speech that after the month of March political uncertainties will be end and stability will continue. The shock is not permanent.

The Banking Sector is one of the most important sectors in Turkey. The active quality is high in this sector. If there is a shock it will not effect the banking sector seriously because of its capital adequacy ratio.

Household debts are in typing of Turkish liras. we are not allow them to become indepted with foreign currency. We have employed 4.7 million citizens since 2007. The statement of household is strong. Turkey's macro economic base is strong. I hope that we can be able to manage the political uncertainties to economy, changing of policy of Federal Reserve Banks (U.S.A.) and monetary tightening.

Now, the most important subject is structural reforms.

Added-value, deepening of capital markets, fighting against informal economy and developing infrastructure are important for Turkey.

As Turkey we attach great importance to Research and Development. We increased the expenses of R&D. There are some encouragements. We support R&D investments up to 225%.

We have developed capital markets. Istanbul is a finance area. Private retirement fund, angel investors etc. Turkey develops its capital markets rapidly.

We support private retirement funds. For instance, If a Turkish citizen who is above 18 years saves 100 TL we will give 25 TL to him. It is a great support for our citizens.

We are getting over fighting against informal economy. Informal economy is one of the biggest problems of Turkey. An Austrian Prof. Shnaider made a research about informal economy in Turkey and said that Turkey is one of the most successful country in getting ending the informal economy. We can be able to catch up with EU countries. In Europe, the rate of informal economy is 18%. In Turkey, the rate of informal economy is 26.5%.

Our infrastructure is an indicator of development. Divided road. Turkey has made great investments to highway, railway and airway. The map of Turkey has been changed. We also invest to high-speed train.

Human capital is very important for all countries. We developed education, employment and decreased the bill of energy imports. We have increased our democratic standards.

The 39% of Turkey's population is student. In EU it is 22%. We spend 18% of our budget and 23% of our tax income to education. Currently, Turkey spends more for education.

We are not successful in the area of employment. We are planning to make reforms in this area in 2015. However, women employment is increased. Women who have university degree are employed in the proportion of 70%.

Our per capita income is above 10.000 dollars. It is managed with 6.5 years education. Compulsory education is now 12 years. Reforms will be increased in next years.

Our energy import was 9 billion dollars the years ago. Today, it is 60 billion dollars. We are planning to make more investments. The 75% of our electricity production facilities are renewable. Hydro electric, solar energy, and then with nuclear energy the deficit will be decreased.

In long term, Turkey's purchasing power parity increased. We almost have reached to EU.

In long term, we also increased the quality of our establishments. With reforms, we proceed productivity. Turkey's future will be better.

Turkey's competitive capacity is high. It is 30% and we are 44th out of 148 countries.

According to Transparency International, the corruption perception index of Turkey is in the rank of 53th of 177 countries in the year 2013.

According to World Bank's index of easiness of transact business Turkey is making progresses. However, we have to work hard to increase the successes.



## H.E. Natiq Aliyev Minister of Industry and Energy of Azerbaijan

Esteemed Presidents, Ministers, Ambassadors, participants, guests, ladies and gentlemen;

Primarily, I would like to appreciate President of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation H.E. Dr. Akkan Suver for kind invitation to 17th Eurasian Economic Summit on my own behalf and on behalf of Government of Azerbaijan.

I would like to address that Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation has been sustaining Eurasian Economic Summit's for 17 years. Marmara Group carries out important studies and works in field of Economy. It includes Energy as well. Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation plays important role in providing cooperation between countries regarding energy. This conference is a great opportunity and platform for dialogue, regional and international energy cooperation, stability and for generating sustainable energy market. The issue of energy supply should be at the top of the international agenda. World countries need and has to use all energy sources such as fossil fuels, other fuels, nuclear energy and renewable energy sources. The only problem is usage and taking out of fuels ecologically and efficiently.

It is required to diversify supply sources and routes of energy. It is also required to set up infrastructure. Transit countries and countries of energy suppliers should make close cooperation and set alliance networks. Our countries energy policy played an important role regarding economic development. Energy is an important factor in our domestic and foreign policy. Azerbaijan produced 43 million 250 thousand tons crude oil and also produced 28.8 billions cubic meter natural gas in 2013. Azerbaijan has been exporting oil and gas to Russia, Georgia and Iran for 2007. Azerbaijan can meet 100% of its need. Azerbaijan is not a foreign-dependent country in energy sector.

Regarding natural gas, diversifying energy and transit, in the leadership of İlham Aliyev Azerbaijan, Turkey and Georgia started a lot of cooperation and also made cooperations with European Union. Azerbaijan supports new energy projects in the region. Azerbaijan supports new energy corridors and energy transmission lines to western markets as well. So, Government of Azerbaijan supports development of pipelines



*H.E. Natig Aliyev received his gift from Hon. Aykut Eken*

for international trade and collaboration. New pipelines are very important for energy safety and security for neighbour countries and global energy markets.

Azerbaijan and Turkey are important countries for Europe's security of energy due to providing guarantee for security of energy. They increased their roles in Mediterranean and South Eastern Europe in generating South Gas Corridor.

In 1990's, energy companies of Turkey and Azerbaijan made a lot of cooperation in pipeline projects of Sahdeniz, Baku-Tblisi-Ceyhan and Baku-Tblisi-Erzurum. Pipeline projects includes crude oil and natural gas. Azerbaijan is an energy producer country in Caspian and Caucasus region. On 11th of January 2011, President of EU Commission Jose Manuel Barroso and President of Republic of Azerbaijan signed Baku Common Declaration. With this declaration, Azerbaijan made commitment to EU countries that it will provide long term natural gas supply and energy security. Azerbaijan signed South Gas Corridor as an actor. On 28th of June 2012, the Project of Trans Anatolia Natural Gas Pipeline (TANAP) has been signed between Azerbaijan and Turkey. According to this agreement, natural gas produced in Azerbaijan will pump via TANAP. It will support to economies of Georgia and Turkey. Because Turkey and Georgia are transit countries. They will be able to benefit from TANAP. This is an important opportunity for Turkey. Turkey's energy dependency to Russia will decrease by the projects due to add 6 billions cubic meter energy from Azerbaijan. In 2001, the rate of Russian gas was 58% in Turkish market. Moreover, gas of Russia and Iran was cheaper than gas of Azerbaijan.

On 17th of December 2013, Sahdeniz consortium decided to invest. The second level of Project of Sahdeniz natural gas area started. With this project TANAP namely Trans Anatolia Natural Gas Pipeline will connect with TAP by passing through Turkey. By passing through Greece, Albania and Italy the pipeline will connect to Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP). With these projects, South East Natural Gas Corridor will be generated. With Sahdeniz Project, it will be produced 16 billions cubic meter natural gas a year and the gas will

be sent to distance for 3500 km. It will provide energy to millions of consumers in Georgia, Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Italy. It is aimed that the first natural gas will be pump in 2018. Firstly, Turkey and Georgia will buy gas. Azerbaijan will send 6 billions cubic meter natural gas to consumers in Turkey. And also relations between Turkey and Nakhcevan will be develop with these projects.

On 17th of December 2013, Ministers of Energy of Azerbaijan, Albania, Bosnia- Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro signed a memorandum of understanding. They decided to make cooperation concerning South Gas Corridor with Europe. TANAP and TAP projects have strategic importance for European countries. In order to develop natural gas projects in South Eastern Europe, it is required to regulate the regulations and conditions of trade. Moreover, it is required to solve the problem of "Nagorno Karabagh" between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Furthermore, Azerbaijan can provide electro-energy security of region. Azerbaijan exports electricity to neighbour countries. It is founded a new electricity transmission line in Iran, Russia and Georgia. In the future, an electricity line project is being planning between Turkey and Azerbaijan and with module central, Nakhcevan will be bridge for electricity transmission from Azerbaijan to Turkey.

On 11th of December 2013, Minister of Energy and Natural Sources of Turkey Taner Yıldız, Minister of Energy of Georgia and Minister of Energy of Azerbaijan Natig Aliyev signed a common declaration in Georgia. They decided to generate a new interconnection between Turkey and Georgia. With this declaration they decided that there will be generated an electricity energy corridor in South Caucasus. Azerbaijan is ready to support cooperations in the region. Our aim is to generate energy lines and partnerships regarding energy security. Azerbaijan aims at relations and cooperations with Eurasian countries. Diversifying delivery routes and productive transmission corridors are important for Eurasian countries.



**H.E. Lamberto Dini**  
Former Prime Minister of Italy, Senator

When we look at the history of energy production, we see a cyclical pattern with one crisis after another being resolved by scientific and technological progress, which has continuously succeeded in closing the gap between the scarcity of natural resources and our capacity to produce.

For this reason we can be confident that science and technology will get us out of future trouble and come up with a solution to the energy “trilemma” that faces the modern world, namely how to deal with the cost of energy, environmental sustainability and national security. Even so, it is a daunting task.

Ideally, the combined effect of technological progress and public policy should be to increase the accessibility of energy resources and put them at the disposal of ever larger sections of the global population. The aim should be to contain energy costs to promote the growth of national economies, and to move the world towards low-carbon sources of production to mitigate environmental harm.

In the past three decades, world consumption has doubled, and three quarters of this increase has been driven by emerging economies, and the future will be no different in this respect. The consensus view is that over the next two decades, consumption is destined to rise by about one third or by even more unless aggressive environmental policies are enforced.

How to meet this increased demand for energy is the question on which our economic, geopolitical and environmental future pivots. The uncertainty of the response to this question is aggravating fears of a new scarcity, which, in turn, leads to international tension, outbursts of nationalism, protectionist policies and infringements of property rights as countries try to seize control of resources. Surmounting these tensions requires massive investment spending that the Paris Energy Agency has quantified as amounting to \$1.5 trillion every year for the next two decades.

Yet things are not moving in quite the right direction. This is all too evident when we look at what is happening in the area of research and development. After reaching a high point in the early 1980s, public spending on R&D has been sharply scaled back in European countries, and, for several years, also fell in the United States. Nor is the private sector

a source of comfort: inadequate public policy has been exacerbated by insufficient R&D work by companies and the allocation of too few financial resources. As a result, it is impossible to hope for any sweeping changes in the current structure of our energy systems at any time in the near future.

As things stand, then, it does not seem as if any technological breakthrough is in the offing that might enable sources other than fossil fuels to prevail, and so, even though we are supposed to be building now the world that will come after, we are likely to remain dependent on them for some time yet. All we can do, therefore, is look to the progress being made in the wide range of competing technologies in the energy sector.

A review of the last century shows that progress has been largely based on incremental refinements of existing technologies, which today are increasingly focused on renewable resources (wind, solar-thermal and photovoltaic).

Although the scientific progress and cost reductions with these technologies have been significant, they remain beset by problems of scalability and continuity, and are destined to make no more than a marginal contribution for some time to come.

Universities, international organizations and corporations, however, are focusing their efforts in several other complementary areas.

First, the convergence between electricity and information technology through the use of smart grids and smart metering is creating the conditions for optimal network coordination. The grid is increasingly able to deal with the local generation and distribution of electricity from renewable sources, which pays off in terms of increased efficiency.

Second, the coming together of the electricity and telecommunications industries in developing countries for the electrification of isolated rural areas that are inaccessible to traditional infrastructure has led to the creation of innovative generating platforms, especially small-scale solar power plants that supply local networks off the main grid and use mobile phones as a means of payment. This solution is spreading in sub-Saharan Africa, where people are now able to escape from their state of chronic energy poverty.

A third potential future scenario consists in the development of on-site electrochemical technologies and systems that, like more advanced versions of the conventional battery, are able to store electricity generated from renewable resources. Such systems would revolutionize the entire economic structure and design of electricity systems by superseding the limiting factors of intermittency and unpredictability that characterize renewables.

Related to this is a fourth prospective technological development, namely the electrification of transport, which at present accounts for more than one third of total energy consumption. Here the battle is between battery power and hybrid hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

A fifth prospect that is only now coming into view results from a combination of chemistry, biotechnology and genetics to create a second generation of biofuels in alternative to the traditional biofuels made from corn or sugar cane (especially popular in Brazil). The new processes produce high-quality

diesel from natural oils and petrol/gasoline from cellulose, both methods that avoid having a negative impact on agricultural production.

The common trait binding these various lines of technological innovation is that they all transcend the fragmentation of traditional scientific disciplines and industrial sectors and work in harmony towards a single goal. The need to adopt a systemic approach towards the achievement of a long-term vision brings together disparate scientific, technological and industrial fields of knowledge in pursuit of common goals for which robust international cooperation is essential.

While considerable hope and resources have been invested in renewable technologies, significant progress has also been made with fossil fuels.

I am thinking of the new technologies of hydrocarbon exploration that are revolutionizing the mining industry and making the most of available reserves, whose level of exploitation is gradually rising from 30% to 50%. Likewise, new technologies are coming on line for recovering “lost hydrocarbons” such as the methane that has been tapped in the depths of the Pacific Ocean (also known “burning ice”), as well as the earlier resounding success of the technology of fracking, which has led to the shale revolution in the USA and vastly expanded the exploitation potential of non-conventional hydrocarbon reserves (shale oil, shale gas, tar sands and tight oil), once again belying the prophets of “peak-oil” doom. This revolution owes little to public policy and much to the vitality of capitalism that promotes freedom of action and rapid decision-making and unleashes ingenuity and animal spirits.

by way of conclusion, I should like to put the energy question in a historical perspective that gives us more ground for optimism than the current troubled state of affairs would seem to allow. Human life and wellbeing and freedom itself depend on an adequate supply of energy. Energy is the common thread running through the history of our civilization, which has now been based on the use of fossil resources for over two centuries. As the great Romanian economist Nicholas

Georgescu-Roegen observed, “economic history confirms (...) the fact that the great strides in technological progress have generally been touched off by a discovery of how to use a new kind of accessible energy. On the other hand, a great stride in technological progress cannot materialize unless the corresponding innovation is followed by a great mineralogical expansion.”

History shows that it takes about half a century before a new source of energy reaches a penetration level equal to one fifth of total consumption. So it was for coal, so it was for oil, and so it was for natural gas. The transition to new low-carbon energy sources will take a similar amount of time, which suggests that our dependence on the current dominant energy sources will eventually be overcome.

That one day oil or natural gas will run out is beyond doubt. Also beyond doubt is that that day is still far in the future. It is not that the resources themselves, whether fossil or otherwise, are scarce; rather, the intellectual resources needed to use them are.

Looking to the future with the experience of the past, we have no reason to believe that new catastrophic prophecies, which yesterday spoke of the “limits of growth” and today warn of “climate change”, will prove any more reliable than hitherto. Nor should we doubt that we have the potential, the instruments and the means to deal with the challenge.

Humanity will not reject any of the opportunities, technologies or sources of energy that science and technology make available. Only by the combination of these opportunities and technologies can we find the answers to our energy trilemma.

As in the past, the world will be saved from doomsday thinking by technology moving along unpredictable trajectories, coupled with the ability of capitalism to profit from technology in increasingly open markets. We should bet on the strength of these market forces, on the intelligence of men and on the innovative capacity of corporations. Let them have free rein.



*H.E. Lamberto Dini with Hon. Fatih Saraçoğlu, Hon. Cafer Okray and Hon. Tarık Çetin*

## ENERGY PANNEL



### H.E. Valeh Aleskerov

#### Deputy Chairman of the National Assembly of Azerbaijan

On May 1995 as my friend Mr. Osman told the “Memorandum of Understanding” for Baku-Tblisi-Ceyhan Project.

Today, this project is working very well. What is the reason for this? Why did this project initiated? Political support. Azerbaijan as government, as President Heydar Aliyev, Georgia as state, government, as President Eduard Shevardnadze, Turkey as state, government, as President Süleyman Demirel supported this project. They make all the necessary legal and regulative alterations. They created a special tax system for this project.

If these haven't been done, this project would have never been realized. Today we would talking in vein. As I always say, if there is no political, economic regulation supports to big projects, there is no chance of success. Let me give an example. The conveyance of the Turkmenistan gas to Europe is being talked a lot. Chinese came to Turkmenistan with their money, technology and support without talking. They paid for this project, for the pipeline from Turkmenistan to China, they said they are ready to pay for the gas. The pipeline is working for some time now.

The pipeline is more than 4600 km, from the Turkmenistan shores on Caspian Sea the distance to EU countries is 4000 km, which means it is a shorter route. If EU gave political and legal support to this project before, this project connects Caspian Sea to European markets was already working.

As Mr. Natıq Aliyev said the projects of TANAP and TAP. I believe if EU gave the necessary support this project say it TANAP, TAP or Nabucco doesn't matter could have been finalized before. But let's say this project is a commercial project, they can wait a hundred years. No project works with this mentality. Today if this projects goes through, it will be done because of Azerbaijan, because of Turkey. It will be because of these states, theses governments, these communities' support.

Green Energy is another topic that is subject to many debates. Before me His Excellency Lamberto Dini talked on this matter. I believe the price has run off. Was it possible to purchase energy with a little bit more price, it was. For years, tens of billions of Euros are being paid to green energy, to companies producing solar energy, wind energy by the citizens, businesses, factories. Depending on what? Depending on that the energy is clean.

Furthermore, when we look at the last 10-15 years we see that the most increased use of energy source is coal. The most efficient source of pollution. This doesn't seem to be compatible. On one hand we speak about cleanness, on the other hand.. When I say this, people tell me that it is increasing in China, in India. Yes the most increase in coal use in China, in India. But also in Europe, in 2012 the electricity production by using coal in Europe increased by %12. How come? At the same time gas is a cleaner source of energy. The carbon emission of gas is %50-60 less than coal. I am sure that if the %30 of the support given to solar energy, wind energy or any other renewable energy has been given to gas , many problems in Europe, Eurasia would much easier to solve today. Who is giving the extra money? United States is giving. Where does the state's money come from? Not pouring down from the sky. From the pockets of the citizens. And accordingly if the political support was to given the exposure of the gas industry, a lot could have changed in the future of the world.



H.E. Valeh Aleskerov received his gift from Hon. Aykut Eken



## H.E. Erdal Trhulj

### Federal Minister of Energy, Mining and Industry of Bosnia Herzegovina

Esteemed organizers of the conference, Your Excellencies, senior officials, guests, hosts and media representatives, ladies and gentlemen,

I am extremely honoured to have an opportunity to address the participants of the esteemed Euroasian Economic Summit and first of all I want to thank the organizer for the invitation and to congratulate for an extraordinary organization.

I am from Bosnia and Herzegovina where global and local have been pervading for centuries. The same is now, too. The sector I am in charge of in the Government of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry is facing similar challenges which the whole modern world is facing.

Maybe the only difference between Bosnia and Herzegovina and most of the countries of the rest of the world is that 20 years ago there was a terrible war which left enormous consequences on all of its citizens and which has slowed down its development in many ways. Before 1992 Bosnia and Herzegovina had the youngest basic resources of all republics of former Yugoslavia. The majority of basic resources was destroyed in the war. Unfortunately, Bosnia and Herzegovina has not yet reached the level of economic development it had before the war. These are the facts which we cannot forget, because they are part of the hardest period of its citizens. Despite everything, we are turning to the future in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Ministry I am in charge of is making all efforts together with the Government to improve the economic situation in the country and to create an environment for a better life of our citizens. That is not a simple task, especially in the last few years when everybody feels the consequences of the economic crisis.

For this reason we are endeavouring to put all our available resources in the function of development and a higher standard of our citizens. Energy is definitely one of the most significant resources. Energy is an important and unavoidable factor in the quality of life and environmental status. It is necessary to strengthen our economy and to secure a pleasant life, but the way we are getting and using it has also local

and global implications on the environment we live in. The quality of air is a justified concern of every local community, and climate changes are one of the largest challenges we are facing at the global level.

On the one hand we are witnessing enormous increase of demand for energy as a result of the industrial development and increase of population. On the other hand global warming and climate changes have become an unavoidable general world's problem and a dangerous threat to numerous aspects of life and development on the Earth.

For this reason it is a deep and real present concern of humanity for climate changes, increase of energy consumption, increased dependence on fossil fuels, and its hazardous effects on the environment and economy, but on the other hand for the significance the energy has on the total development from the local to global community.

Therefore it should not be surprising that the security of energy supply and protection of the environment will be having a significant effect on decisions and policies to define the world's order in the following decades.

The ability of every country to possess and utilize energy sources will determine the status of its economy, national security and quality and sustainability of environment. Therefore energy supply and protection of environment should be used as basis for regional and global cooperation.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is clearly oriented in the direction of EU integrations and is therefore prepared to accept all achievements and acquis of the European Union in the field of energy which is mostly governed by the signature of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community of Southeast Europe. This is how Bosnia and Herzegovina created conditions and real assumptions to make important steps in the adjustment of its energy system and market mechanisms under international requirements.

All available data are saying that energy intensity in Bosnia and Herzegovina is considerably higher than the value of the world's and European average, and that it is an indicator that there is a large potential for further improvement of the energy sector.

The gap to be bridged in order to achieve „international standards“ has decreased in the last two years with the elaboration of a set of regulations, but it is requesting the continuation of activities on the full implementation of adopted legislation.

Every country has its specificities and the set goals are representing only the framework we need to move in. Realization of these goals is not in question, but the way of implementation has to be adapted to the specificities of the country implementing them.

The possibilities for further development are enormous, because we are using only 35% of our hydro potential, we have enormous solar capacities, but also wind and biomass capacities which are almost not used. In present conditions this is becoming our development opportunity, but also our contribution to the fight against climate changes and stability of the global energy sector.

The possibilities for upgrading energy efficiency are



enormous. I cannot say that we have been taught earlier to save, but we were saving when trouble made us do so. Therefore our commitment for a permanent education of our citizens for rational energy use and increase of energy efficiency has become our development and investment opportunity.

With large possibilities for development in the field of energy I have to emphasize that in the previous year we achieved enviable results in the industry sector also, despite the economic crisis, where the growth of industrial production has reached almost 10%, and the growth of export has also increased by 10%.

Special improvements have been made in the military industry which has increased its profit in three years for more than three times and through the signed cooperation with the American partner we have created conditions for the following years for expansion of capacities, introduction of modern technologies, new employments and continuation of production increase.

We are aware of the fact that as a small country we can symbolically affect the global flows, but we are deeply aware and responsible that we can create an excellent local environment which will attract foreign investors and foreign capital. The proof for this is exactly the presence of a multinational company Shell which has expressed its interest after two years for starting negotiations on concession award for exploration and exploitation of oil and gas. I hope that we will position our country as significant in terms of energy also in the local and global frameworks by finding significant oil and gas reserves.

Today I will not speak about our potentials in coal reserves, metal ores which the European Union is missing, biomass where the woods are covering more than 50% of the whole country, the world's oasis of healthy food, a touristic destination which in the last two years has the largest increase of tourist visits in the

region.

Today I also want to emphasize maybe our largest resource, larger and more significant than energy resources. These are our human resources, human potentials. I will not be immodest when I say that there are few places like our Bosnia and Herzegovina where you will be welcomed on every step by the warmth of people, hard-working and professional. For this reason I am inviting potential investors at this summit to come to Bosnia and Herzegovina and to convince themselves of all these potentials I presented today.

Experiences of foreign investors in Bosnia and Herzegovina are more than good. However, our Government and Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry which I am in charge of will not be satisfied until Bosnia and Herzegovina becomes a country full of prosperity because its citizens and people deserve this.

Herewith I want to use the opportunity to thank the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Turkish people who have shown towards Bosnia and Herzegovina great understanding, friendship and help. I sincerely hope that the projects we are discussing will soon be realized to the interest of all parties.

Finally I want to point out that it is more than obvious that we are at the same time part of the global and the local or part of the local and the global, depending from which side we are observing it. Marmara Foundation is exactly contributing that we meet each other better and that we find possibilities for different forms of cooperation and I am exceedingly grateful for that.

Thank you for your attention and I hope to meet you soon in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



H.E. Ercal Trhulj received his gift from Hon. Aykut Eken



## H.E. Mohammad Sami

### Deputy Minister of Ministry of Energy and Water Affairs of Afghanistan

I welcome the opportunity to be part of the 17th Eurasia Economic Summit on behalf of the Ministry of Energy and Water of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to share my understanding on the future of economy and energy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Summit, this year addresses peace, economic development, human trafficking, ICT and energy which are also the main challenges of our country, Afghanistan.

Achieving economic development, bringing peace and developing energy infrastructure are the vital goal of the Afghan government. By understanding these clear facts that we are giving priority to the regional cooperation, any steps that we take towards development of our economy will also benefit the region directly or indirectly.

For centuries, the countries of South and Central Asia were connected to each other and the rest of the continent by a wide trading network called the Silk Road. Afghanistan was at the heart of this network with merchants trading their goods from the Far East to Asia.

Afghanistan having important geographical position in this region can play a significant role in becoming appearing and expansion of regional cooperation. Afghanistan as land-bridge in the center of Asia can unite regional trade and transit including in the field of Energy. Such a link and unity can change the face of the region and will assist our countries in realizing our humanitarian aspiration.

Large projects such as TAPI and CASA1000 will soon pass through Afghanistan, and this will bring change in the lives of millions of people of central and south Asian regions.

Development of a cross-border electrical interconnection linking four regional countries to transfer surplus power from Tajikistan, Turkmanistan, Uzbekistan and Iran to Afghanistan, and finally Pakistan can be the key elements of above initiative.

Honorable Participants

Afghanistan has Great estimated potential of 222 GW solar energy, 67 GW wind power and 23 GW hydropower by

medium and large dams at 70 points and areas in our country recognized for such potentials. Some places 20 MW and some other areas even 100 MW has also been recognized. Such as coal, gas, and geothermal. Parallel to above we have also some credible minerals such as copper and iron that can feed the region and world industries which will create jobs and bring considerable income.

To generate energy using the above renewable energy resources which can meet our people needs and if investment takes place in this sector we can sell the surplus to others as well.

Our strategic goal is to provide power to whole Afghanistan. To achieve this goal, a large investment has to be taken for all the subareas generation expansion, transmission reinforcement and development which need a total investment of about \$10 Billion US Dollar.

Certainly, the deregulation and privatization of the electricity sector in Afghanistan and creation of sound investment environment will assist further development in generation and transmission systems and will attract national and international investments.

The possibilities of developments of both economy and energy are not limited to the region. To truly use this potential, we need international and regional investments not only to solve the energy problems in the region but also to support Afghanistan towards becoming a secure, democratic and self-relying nation.

Finally, I would like to thank the Marmara Group Foundation for its civil initiatives and organizing 17th Eurasia Economic Summit.



H.E. Mohammad Sami received his gift from Hon. Aykut Eken



## H.E. Ilir Bejtja

### Deputy Minister of Energy and Industry of Albania

We can see the future development of the sector of energy in Albania through some very important steps:

The structural reform on energy, touching whole sector, and specifically in each branch; electric energy, hydrocarbons, renewable, and bio energy. This will be accompanied with the efficiency on energy, in order to insure and guarantee sustainability to the system.

We have started and we are still continuing with the legal framework on the sector:

1. Strategy for energy sector - to be approved on April 2014
2. Strategy for the hydrocarbon sector - first semester 2014
3. Laws to be done or amended:
  - On the Sector of Electric Energy - on first semester 2014 - approached to EU Directive, the third Package on the of the electric sector
    - Model of the market for electric energy (still to be amended) - on the end of 2014
    - On the research and development of hydrocarbons - on the first semester 2014
    - On processing, transporting and trading oil, gas and their sub products
      - Law on gas sector - on the first semester 2014
      - Law on technical standards on the use of equipment - electricity, pressure and hydrocarbon equipment - on February 2014
      - Law on renewable energy (still to be amended) - on the first semester 2014
  - And still to come
    - The rule on hydrocarbon sector - on March 2014
    - Law on the efficiency of energy - on fall 2014

This entire legal framework will be in accordance with the EU directives on energy. We hope this will foster the rapid development in the sector and will enhance the interest of FDI for the Albanian energetic resources.

The next step is to create the facilities and the necessary spaces for all the businesses in the sector to be developed with less possible difficulties. Our government is working

also on the facilitation of the procedures on the management of the sector as a whole, as well as on the fiscal system, in order to avoid distortions of the competition in the sector, and to increase the interest for investments in the sector using smooth taxes and tariffs system respectively with the importance of the investment.

The next, but not less important step regards to the design of a sector in harmony with the regional and EU goals on development of the sector. We will be part of the regional and European community of energy and we are developing projects and fostering policies of such focus. Being part of the Union for Mediterranean on the development of energy increases our chances and policies to develop the sector, using the best practice and in the same time gathering benefit from the possible regional and larger cooperation.

The participation in TAP and IAP projects of gas, the gasification of Albania and the creation of the master plan on this regard, as well as on projects relating renewable energies, as the Solar Program for the Mediterranean, recently proposed in the Brussels' Ministerial for Energy with the participation of the UFM on December 2013, or being part of the regional network for the transmission of energy, as well as considering of a great importance the bilateral agreements we have especially with our region's countries like Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and recently with Italy, will increase our power on energy, and will support more our economic development, and our social and political presence and contribution in the region as well.

Considering the climate conditions of our country, the next very important program on electric energy will be the use of solar energy and the wind energy to generate electric energy. These programs are in total accordance and friendly with the environment and guarantee sustainability for the entire national energy system.

On 2012, the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community adopted Decision 2012/04/MC-EnC on the implementation of Directive 2009/28/EC of the Renewable Energy and amending Article 20 of the Energy Community Treaty. Article 20 of the Treaty now includes an obligation on the Contracting Parties to implement Directive 2009/28/EC by January 1, 2014.

The new Renewable Energy Law (REL) aimed at transposing Directive 2009/28/EC with regard to sustainability criteria and the certification system, as well as introducing adequate incentive measures will permit the Albanian market to get use of this energy too. Albania did not submit the National Renewable Electricity Action Plan (NREAP) by 30 June 2013 as required by the Ministerial Council's Decision. The secondary legislation related to feed-in tariffs, requirements for access and operation of the grids and guarantees of origin remain to be developed and embedded in the new REL implementing Directive 2009/28/EC. The provisions related to possible cooperation mechanisms between Albania and Contracting Parties or EU

Member States and the requirements for biannual audits are not yet transposed.

Proper feed-in tariffs for all renewable energy sources are still to be developed by ERE and submitted for approval to the Government to ensure that Albania is on track to reach the interim trajectory.

The transmission system operator and distribution system operator have to improve compliance and transparency relating to the setting and publishing of the standard rules on costs of connection to the grid or grid reinforcements, which are necessary to integrate new renewable energy producers.

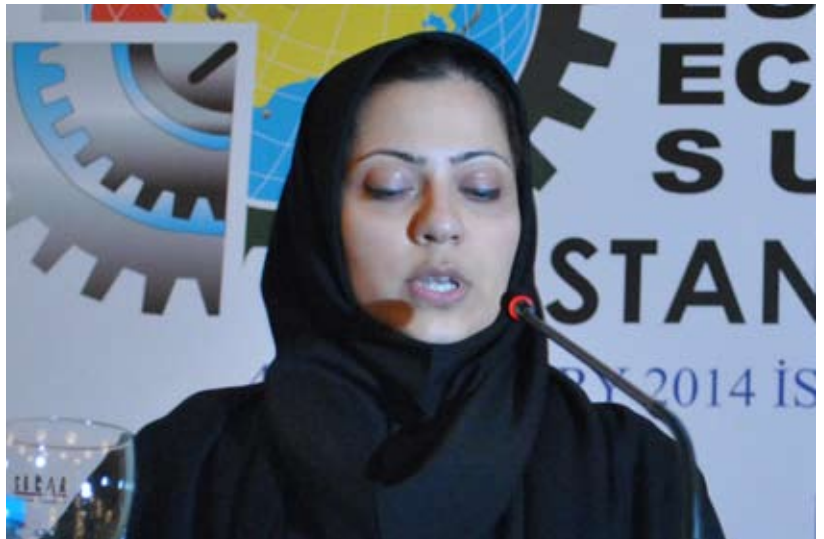
As regards administrative procedures, the deadlines, reception and treatment of applications between different institutions involved will be coordinated and made available to applicants by the National Centre for Energy Applications, acting as a one-stop-shop for renewable energy projects. The forthcoming period is a key to prove the proper implementation of this integrated approach for the benefit of investors.

As for the energy efficiency, our commitment has been slow. No progress was achieved during 2012/2013. A new and overdue Energy Efficiency Law has existed in draft form since 2011. The draft was developed in cooperation with the Secretariat. It has still not been adopted. In its last Implementation Report, the Secretariat has already identified adoption as a priority. The adoption of this framework Law is the basic precondition for the transposition of (Energy Service) Directive 2006/32/EC. The Public Procurement Law also needs to be amended for that purpose. Besides Directive 2006/32/EC, the draft Energy Efficiency Law is also needed to transpose the main provisions of the (Energy Performance of Buildings) Directive 2010/31/EU and the (Energy- Labelling) Directive 2010/30/EU. Furthermore, the Energy Building Code has not been amended, as recommended by the Secretariat, nor has implementation action been taken. The law is foreseen to be approved on fall 2014.

Considering the above analysis of the energy situation in Albania, and the high impact this public good have in the general development of the country, as well as the trust it incises among stakeholders in economy and in common public increasing social capital at macro-level, confirms our engagement to commit to all our goals and objectives in the sector. Increasing performance in energy ensures steady economic growth, as well as sustainable development of the country. The impact in employment rate and in the business factor of these regulations and actions is the increase of the national economy competitiveness in the region and wider.

At this point, our state of compliance is as follow:

We need to move faster with the structural reform on energy, law improvement and investments in the sector, all in order with the EU directives on these regard, in order to create sustainability with energy use and in the energy sector itself.



**Hon. Parisa Fotouhi Mozzafariyan**  
Expert of the Ministry of Oil of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Something that world is facing and we may all be aware of, is the growth of energy demand in next coming decades. According to the forecasts oil demand will be exceeding 103 MB per day by 2030. Rising supply to meet expected demand growth should mainly come from OPEC .while gas is projected to be growing at the rate of 2.1% per year by 2030. Middle East and FSU will be among the most important gas suppliers

According to the data and forecasts,United States became dependent on energy imports rather than domestic resources. Europe is crucially relying onenergy imports to satisfy its needs. The EU imports more than half of its energy from non-EU countries.Two-thirds of EU-27 imports of natural gas stem from only threecountries: Norway, Algeria, and Russia.

Growth in energy use in Asia, both in terms of per capita use and total use in aggregate is expected to rise dramatically in the next few decades.In Africa, the rising costs of energy imports constitute a threat to economic resurgence of the continent.

Concerning the mentioned above points, ”Energy Security “ has thus become a key economic and political concern for countries in different regions of the world.

Different definitions for energy security have been considered. One of the most frequently quoted definitions is the “availability of sufficient supplies at affordable prices”. It is preceded by the European Commission definition of energy security as “the uninterrupted physical availability on the market of energy products at a price which is affordable for all consumers”. Thesedefinitions contain notions of availability, sufficiency and affordability.

Generally strategies concerning energy securitycould be categorized in three groups as robustness, sovereign and resilience strategies.

The robustness strategies are most prominent when disruptions of energy systems are both controllable and predictable. Scarcity of energy resources, failure of infrastructure or inadequate capacity to cope with the rising

demand are examples of the issues addressed with this perspective. The main strategies within this perspective are switching to more abundant and accessible energy sources, investment in infrastructure and decreasing energy intensity.

Sovereignty strategies are focused on disruptions arising from force outside of our control. Protection from such disruption is seen in increasing control over energy systems by military, political, economic or technical means. In another word, a sovereignty strategy is the quest for energy independence.

The essence of sovereignty strategies is increasing control over energy

Systems vis- a -vis “foreign” or “external” agents. Such threats are often perceived as more imminent and more easily catching public attention.

They have also historically been at the center of energy security concerns

Resource nationalism is not only typical in energy-exporting countries.

Most notably the emerging major importers, such as India and China, are supporting their NOCs in acquiring energy assets around the world.

Even OECD countries such as Japan and Korea have shown a renewed interest in the idea of securing supply through a state-owned corporation.

It should also be noted that asserting full or partial control over fossil fuel resources is not an option for the majority of countries that both lack such resources domestically and do not have economic, political, or military power to project their influence internationally. Their primary sovereignty strategies are to increase their reliance on domestic resources

Resilience strategies work in situation of unpredictability, independently of whether or not we have control over energy systems. Resilience of an energy system is its ability to provide critical energy services in the face of disruptions. For example, emergency fuel stocks, which are currently popular in many countries. This perspective focuses on diversity of energy options as the main strategy to cope with the potential threats.

Among many energy security strategies, “diversity” of energy suppliers is addressed in all these perspectives.

Many energy security strategies contain elements of diversification. These range from increasing the number of import/export routes, origins, or destinations, to increasing the number of actors in the energy sector or the number and types of energy facilities and primary energy sources.

Our aim should not be total independence from foreign sources of petroleum. That is neither practical nor necessary in a world of interdependent economies. Instead, the objective should be developing an effective provision to diversify energy suppliers.

The future of energy security will be affected by a variety of technological, economic, and natural factors. It is likely that the production of conventional oil will reach its maximum in the next few decades, whereas the resources of both oil and natural gas may become more geographically concentrated as

the center of consumption will shift towards Asia, especially China and India. Among the many factors that affect the energy security the energy import dependency is one of the most important.

With regard to the supply side in energy market, 46 countries have a total energy import dependency higher than 50%. Fifty-eight countries have a low diversity (one or two dominant sources) of primary energy supply. For 15 countries, the cost of imported fuels is higher than 10% of GDP, and for 35 countries, the cost of energy imports exceeds export earnings by 20% or more. In total, there are 102 countries that are vulnerable in at least one of the above-mentioned aspects.

In relation to the demand side, in 24 countries energy use per capita intensity exceeds the world average by more than 50%. In 18 countries, including China, the average annual growth in energy use has been higher than 6% over the last decade.

This figure shows that not only the energy consumption is increasing in most countries of the world but also the energy dependency and low diversification of energy supply sources seem to be the main threat for the energy importer around the world.

Iran as a founding member of global important communities like The World Oil Congress (WPC), Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF); holding more than 10% of oil resources and 17% of gas resources of the world; has been concentrating efforts to responsibly manage its oil and gas resources.

In addition, by implementing new economic policies and accelerating its huge oil and gas projects, Iran is willing to provide necessary fuel resources for the people all over the world and help the sustainable supply of oil and gas.

Iran strongly believes that, any solution to encounter existing challenges of the world regarding sustainable energy supply requires independence of economic sector from the political, through fair and mutual cooperation based on an effective, sustainable and dynamic structure

As a conclusion is the main concerns of this lecture are as follows:

- Energy is not an end in itself but a prerequisite for economic development.
- Sustainability of energy supply is a crucial factor for the economic development of the countries.
- Although many investments have been done on new energies still most of the countries in the world are reliant on the conventional energy sources.
- Energy security strategies could not be happened in isolation. They require a robust public policy framework and an adequate institutional infrastructure to help make things happen.
- Sustainable energy supply and economic growth could be achieved through diversification of suppliers in most of the countries. In this regard, developing energy trades with countries holding enhanced oil and gas reservoirs and infrastructures such as Iran is inevitable.
- Independence of economic and political policies.



## Hon. Osman Göksel Senior Project Consultant of BP

Being here today is a great joy for me. I want to share the views of BP on natural gas in Turkey and Europe. Especially the role of the Caspian region in supply of sustainable and reasonably priced gas.

First of all I would like to thank the organizers for inviting me here. I would like to thank them for bringing together such distinguished participants.

As many of you would know, at this point we are in a very advanced stage of actualization of South Gas Corridor. In these days where global energy demand especially gas demand is increasing, BP is implementing a great project called Shah Deniz. This will open the south corridor and first time in history, will enable gas to be transferred from Caspian Sea to Europe.

If we look the global energy predictions, we see that the global energy demand will increase by %40. The increased demand in natural gas can also be observed. A decrease of gas production in Turkey and Eastern Europe will increasingly make Europe more dependent on imports. South Gas Corridor will counter the future increased demands of Turkey and Europe and will secure the diversity of energy and supply safety.

The most important development in South Corridor is Azerbaijan's offshore oil resources that will initiate the whole process. The Shah Deniz project started by BP on 1999 is the largest gas project in the region. In order to realize phase 2 of the project, the first gas supply will be implemented on 2018. In the second phase there are offshore facilities, valves, terminals and three pipeline projects. The total cost of these projects that will reach from Azerbaijan to Turkey and from Turkey to Europe is expected to be around 40 billion USD. A hundred thousand barrels are expected to be obtained daily. 6 billion USD worth of gas will be sold to Turkey and the rest will be delivered to European markets. With pipeline project the oil of Caspian sea will be conveyed to Europe.

In Turkey we are working with SOCAR. Under SOCAR's leadership TANAP will be a strategic link in South Gas Corridor. This project will also have an important role in transforming Turkey into a gas center. Turkey is an important country for BP and a regional partner. In 2012 we have experience our 100th year of our activities in Turkey. Turkey is an important actor in regional energy geopolitics and within this framework we are realizing very significant projects with important companies of Turkey both public and private. BOTAŞ and TPAO are our most important partners. Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) project is on the other hand will enable Shah Deniz's gas to be transferred to the western shores of Turkey through South Corridor. The gas selling conditions worth around 100 billion USD. As BP we are honored to utilize this great opportunity. We are proud to realize a project that will open the South Corridor, we are proud to contribute to the energy security of Europe. At the same time we are aware that we have taken a very big responsibility. Shah Deniz will provide significant employment opportunities. As will TANAP and TAP in the countries based on their routes.

Our experiences in great projects in Azerbaijan, Turkey and Georgia makes us trust ourselves and our partners. We can realize the South Corridor project. The investment decision on Shah Deniz-2 has been made last December. We are eagerly waiting to see the gas flowing from Caspian Sea to the heart of Europe. Ladies and gentlemen this day is not far.



Marmara Group Foundation rapporteurs Prof. Ülkü Dicle, Prof. Hande Karadağ, Dr Ufuk Özgül and Hon. Tiran Sarıgülle at the future of economy and energy in the silk road from local to global session



## Hon. Hayati Öztürk

### Member of Executive Board of Petkim

As you all know, today energy is one of the most important subjects of the world. The importance of energy is greater than it has ever been in history.

When we look at the last 20 years world energy demand has grown nearly %50. When we look at the next 20 years we see that this trend will continue. Almost %41-42 growth is being foreseen. The main reason is increase in the population, especially western modern life style is growingly increasing the the demand of energy. Demand end is strong and it will continue to be so. When we look at the supply end, although there are some problems, we see that especially technological developments bring new opportunities in the energy supply before humanity.

Today it is possible to produce shale gas which ten years ago nobody even spoke of. The efforts made in America in the past 3-4 years enabled these kind of non-conventional oil and gas usage. World's biggest importer is now becoming self-sufficient.

On the other hand, exporting countries which in oil and gas are the Middle East countries, the employment demand is rapidly increasing. Because middle class is emerging, especially in developing countries. These development increases the appetite for energy. Accordingly energy security, the supply-demand balance of energy is becoming the main concern of countries today. Especially after the 2008 crisis the world saw this; you need to produce. It is not possible to create jobs, wealth and prosperity without production. Financial markets are up to one point, service sector is up to a certain point. After 2008, USA, EU and England are looking for the ways to get back the investments went overseas. Here the key is energy. To have a competitive energy. The price differentiation for oil and gas in particular around the world is a very serious problem.

As you know oil is a commodity that is easier to transport and carried compared to gas. Today almost %55 of world's oil is being carried with ships. Around 11500-12000 ships are operating today. When we look at gas it is different. Gas can only be transferred through pipelines or it is LNG state

with -160° cryogenic tanks and these tanks are expensive and few. So the regional prices in gas are various. The gas that is cheaper than 1 dollar in Middle East is 3-4 dollars in America, three times expensive in Europe.

Accordingly, the industrialization and competitive strength of countries create significant differences. In this context, when I look at our industry and petrochemicals where did the investments go in the last thirty years? To region rich in hydrocarbons. Where are these regions? Middle East. Or countries growing fast with large markets like China and India. %80 of the investments went to this places. But America is starting to enter the scene in the upcoming era. Because it is a competitive energy, outstanding infrastructure and a big market. And information and technology.

When we look in the Turkey and Azerbaijan context the journey started with the Baku-Tbilisi pipeline brought Azerbaijan to a very important place in Turkey especially after the privatization of Petkim. In my opinion the privatization of Petkim is one of the most important milestones of petrochemical and energy industry. Because the partnership of two countries one of which is rich in hydrocarbons and the other is mostly dependent on imports brought important opportunities for both countries. So after the Petkim privatization and the initiation of a refinery project in Turkey after years by the Socar Group is an important change in the petrochemical industry of Turkey. This facility will be operational in 2017.

On the other hand, south corridor TANAP project is, in my opinion, one of the most historic investments with regards to Turkey's energy security and diversification of Europe's energy supply. This project which is planned to be completed in 2018 and will transfer 16 billion cubic meters in its first phase needs an investment around 10 billion dollars. It will reach to a 24 billion cubic meters capacity in its second phase, and 31 billion cubic meters in its third and final stage. This is a very important strategic project for both Turkey and Europe. Also for Azerbaijan with regards to extracting the Shahdeniz 2 gas to the world market.

In the energy field the Group will operate in all areas concerning oil and natural gas in order to add value to Turkey and Azerbaijan. With its oil exploration, gas extraction, refinery operation, storage tanks and distribution companies Socar Group is very active in the region. With these investments as a national oil company, Socar is becoming an international oil company. These investments are ensuring energy security and also becoming the key for sustainable development.

The OGPC project of the Group is a 18 billion dollar comprehensive industrial park investment with gas preparation facilities, 10 million tons capacity refinery and chemical facilities. Of course oil will be used in transportation and energy but if can enhance the production of chemical and petrochemical commodities with these resources we will encourage sustainable development. I think this is important.

I would like to thank Marmara Group Foundation for giving us this opportunity and present my regards

## ECONOMY PANNEL



### H.E. Abdul Hadi ARGHANDIWAL Minister of Economy of Afghanistan

Excellency Dr. AkkanSuver, President of the Marmara Group Foundation, Honorable Ministers, distinguished participants, Brothers and Sisters good afternoon!

It gives me a great pleasure and it is indeed delightful to be present in the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit and in the very important session of "The Future of Economy and Energy from Local to Global On Silk Road". It is also appropriate that I firstly extend my appreciation and thanks to the Marmara Group Foundation for hosting this important event and for its warm hospitality.

Excellency Chairman!

The New Silk Road Project bears hope that after decades of political turmoil and conflict, Central Asia finds back to its strategic important role bridging South Asia, China and the Far East, as well as Europe and beyond. Afghanistan is thus very much in favor of the New Silk Road project. Yet historically, Afghanistan plays a central role in the concept of the Silk Roads which refers not only to a network of trading routes, linking East, West, North and South but also served as a road for exchanging ideas and cultures. Being located between China and India in the East, and the Far-East and Europe in the West, Afghanistan has been a mid-point of the legendary Silk Road and flourishing center of long distance trade and the global exchange of ideas, art and culture.

Nowadays, Afghanistan assumes that the New Silk Road initiative holds great potential to strengthen regional cooperation among Central Asian states, which

is in our understanding crucial to foster further economic growth in this part of the world. Being landlocked and sharing a difficult topography, Central Asian countries could mutually benefit from reduced transport costs, competition and travel times the project promises. Indeed, trade flows within the region are at present relatively small due to infrastructural deficiencies and the regional regulatory framework. It follows that the growth and sustainability of the entire region is largely and directly dependent on strong and effective cooperation for genuine regional trade integration.

Afghanistan will soon become a central hub in the region, as it has the potential of connecting traffic between Central and South Asia and of linking China to the Arabian Sea and beyond. Exploiting Afghanistan's position as a land bridge between Central and South Asia and other

neighboring economies can be a significant source of regional economic growth. On the one hand, it might provide mutual access to new regional markets among participating countries. On the other hand, it eases access to more far-away locations. In any case, substantial increase of revenues, GDP growth, job creation and long-term employment are expectable.

Distinguished Participants!

Afghanistan would be honored to revive its central role as the facilitator of regional economic cooperation and growth. Regional cooperation is important to us, and a key issue of our national development strategy. After years of conflict, the Afghan economy in general and the private sector in particular has remarkably recovered. With an increasing shift of our economy towards exports, we assume intra-regional trade and regional cooperation as important tools to make best use from our resources and to fully benefit from economic integration into the region and the world. Finally it might be mentioned, that cooperation in the region has not only positive economic aspects. It is also a key to secure peace, stability, harmony and prosperity among neighbors.



Marmara Group Foundation representatives H.E. Ertuğrul Kumcuoğlu and Hon. Aykut Eken at the future of economy and energy in the silk road from local to global session



**H.E. Dr. Erhard Busek**  
 President of Vienna Economic Forum,  
 Former Vice-Chancellor of Austria

First I want to convey a congratulations. I want to congratulate Mr. Akkan Suver and Marmara Group Foundation for organizing this unique event. I believe us coming together here, in this environment will deliver very important results. I hope that Eurasian Economic Summits will continue to bring us together.

This year, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the collapsing of iron curtain. I am not a fan of anniversaries, birthdays. But I believe we should take this into consideration with attention. We can continue to discuss Eurasia. Eurasia is a concept that has been emerged following very important events that took place 25 years ago. Today the concept of Eurasia is continuing to expand. 25 years ago, when the iron curtain fell, important opportunities presented themselves to us. At this moment, the opportunities continue but the challenges are yet to be overcome. At this point, our common struggle will continue. Fukuyama told that we are witnessing the end of history but I do not believe this. We are in the eve of realization of history and history is constantly changing.

I want to share my ideas on how I think we live in a global village. I am saying global village because communication developed in such a way that we can follow each other every moment. We can state our ideas from one point of the world to another instantly. It is true that we are dependent on each other on energy. But when it comes to communication, I think the concept of nation-state changed entirely. Nation-state relies on regional cooperation, economy and commerce and it defines by political consequences.

In order to one neighbor to cooperate with another and overcome conflicts, good communication is required. The sole existence of nation-states in our age is now impossible. What our neighbors do effects us directly.

We need to use the technology and the blessings of our age in order to overcome conflicts. The new Silk Road project is an example of this. Because Silk Road truly became a symbol, it has a nature that can enhance regional cooperation. Following the collapse of the iron curtain regional cooperation has established. Systems we haven't seen before formed. As long as cooperation on different platforms like OSCE and OEIC

the characteristic of the world map changes. Institutions like Central Europe Free Trade Union Regional Cooperation Council has specifically formed to appraise the potential of the Balkans. Russian are trying to improve the cooperation with Kazakhstan in the their region. Countries like Ukraine and Armenia can be considered within this composition. I believe it will be useful to evaluate these regional cooperation mechanisms and observe what they achieve.

The most important principle of economy is to provide opportunity for development. With correct steps, we can avoid using tax payers money in vein and obtain great momentum for economic development. We have witnessed the creation of an excellent Baltic Sea cooperation organization. I will not continue without mentioning Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization. A bank has been also established within this context and became an important tool of financing. I want to draw your attention to a particular point. The inequalities in our region continues. We have inadequacy in water management. There are some promising projects on the other hand. I have faith that very important opportunities will present themselves with regards to free trade. I believe the Balkans have great commercial potential with EU. Very important opportunities are being ignored and missed here.

The new Silk Road project is the title of our session. We are realizing important things in transportation and logistics. One other part of economic development is cooperation in scientific and technological issues.

Educated brains capable of success are migrating to the countries where they can work with better conditions. While talking about migration it is not possible to address this issue as a consensus based migration. Today we are facing stronger waves of migration than before. I am talking about migration waves created because of the wars like in Syria.

The important thing is not how much resources you have but how you use those resources. Certain resources might be plenty in certain countries. There might be resources not very well used in international finance organizations. I think that by mobilizing these resources we can reach our goals.

Talented and creative people are everywhere in the world, but the important thing is how these people are being educated and trained. The important thing is to enrich cooperation in this field.

I wish good luck to you all, in the Silk Road that is going to future.



*H.E. Dr. Erhard Busek received his gift from Hon. Aykut Eken*



**H.E. Prof. Grzegorz Kolodko**  
Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of  
Economy of Poland

From Failing Neoliberalism to the New Pragmatism

First things first. In the short run, the expansion of social market economy is not on the agenda, because more urgent challenges must be addressed. However, in the longer run a kind of global social market economy seems to be the only sensible option for the future of the mankind. Social market economy implies that the core of economic activity is based on private ownership, motivated by the desire to maximize the profits, yet at the same time it takes care of social cohesion. The power of market must be used for facilitating the needs of the people, and not just for the purpose of people's exploitation. Therefore, social market economy is incompatible with and contradictory to the neoliberalism which works on the behalf of a few at the cost of many.

The failure of American neoliberalism

It can be seen clearly from the case of the United States. If in the year 1980 – when Ronald Reagan, a conservative republican – had won the presidential election, the richest 1 percent of Americans were taking over just 9 percent of the US GDP. In year 2007 – on the eve of the financial crisis – it was as much as 23 percent of GDP. Such shift, at the benefit of few rich and by pauperization of many, was possible because of wrong regulation of the financial markets and deliberate fiscal policy of the governments, including the democratic administration under president Bill Clinton.

No wonder, that recently – due to neoliberal policy and the spread of economic crisis – the share of the people considered in the USA as middle class fell from 54 percent in 2001 to 51 percent in 2011. No wonder that people are losing a trust into better future. If in 2008 as many as 54 percent of American people did believe that their children, the next generation, will have better standard of living than their parents, the current generation, in 2011 only 43 percent believe so. This is a qualitative change. For worse, of course. The more so, since it will be more difficult to manage the economic expansion and development policy in the future. And this takes place at the time of continuing fast growth of China and some other important emerging markets.

One must not be naïve. The world, with 7 billion people already and 9 billion in 35 years from now, with so many

inequality and contradictions, with a variety of hardly compatible values and agendas, never will look like the social market economies of social-democratic Scandinavian countries. Yet it can be less conflicting and more progressing if only there will be balanced and sustainable development. As I write in my book: “It is not possible to get to a perfect world, yet it is worth it to keep moving there”.

Regarding neoliberalism, which is confusing the means with the ends of economic policy, it is just a recipe for disaster. The mankind must get rid of this biased type of orthodox economy. Recent crisis should help to do so, however – and strangely – so far it hasn't.

One should expect a significant push into the right direction coming from China. Yet I am afraid that the current Chinese strategy is not determined sufficiently to create social market economy. It should, but it does not. Basically, because China is extremely pro-growth oriented. Such strategy indeed delivers remarkable growth of GDP, but at the same time creates new problems

and challenges which are not addressed in a way they ought to be in the social market economy. Most important issue with this regard is high – and still growing, which is a destabilizing factor – income inequality. This is not sustainable and cannot be tolerated much longer. It must be reversed by policies means, because spontaneous market works the other way. Otherwise, there will be increasing social tensions.

As for so-called Beijing Consensus, as it is called in the West, China as a model for reforms and development can offer a lot to other countries. But it would be better if China itself will go close to “social market economy”. Say, “social market economy with Chinese characteristics”. Definitely, it would be much better for China as well as for the world if this great country will evolve gradually from the current stage to such new reality: market, but oriented for social cohesion. And, of course, forget about neoliberalism, which still – despite the recent compromise – is protected elsewhere, including the USA, where it is music to the ears of the republican candidate for president, Mr. Mitt Romney. Hopefully, he will lose and even the USA will run a more social oriented strategy for development?

Therefore, the economic development strategy in the world of the future shouldn't rely neither on “Beijing Consensus”, as seen in the West, nor on the “Washington Consensus”, since it is a spent force. It must be something new.

The other developing countries, recently more often marked as “emerging markets”, ought to learn a lot from China, but they should follow also what works in such different countries as Brazil and Poland, and even in Canada and Sweden. They can – and should – even learn from tiny Bhutan, where the social and economic strategy is based on the interesting concept of so-called Gross National Happiness, GNH, and not on the maximization of GDP. And people there are as happy as in the richest countries of the West, despite Bhutan is still a poor country.

Ideology versus Pragmatism: Can They Work Together?

How to reconcile the practical approach with an approach which is fundamentally principled? Is it possible to practice economic pragmatism and remain a man of principle? Is it

worth it? It is, indeed, both possible and worthwhile. If we want to live in a world of peace and harmonious development - and we certainly do - new values must be introduced to the process of economic reproduction, however without disregarding the requirements of pragmatism, which is a fundamental and indispensable feature of rational economic management. We need to adopt a more pragmatic approach, favoring multiculturalism and one emanating from a system of values that promote participatory globalization, social cohesion and sustainable development.

There is no contradiction, as the core values underlying the social management process and its economic purposes are concordant to a large extent. The most important aspect of the two approaches is a balanced, long-term socio-economic development. Its equilibrium should be three-fold:

(1) sustainable economic growth, or growth associated with goods and capital markets, as well as investment, finance and labor;

(2) socially sustainable growth, or growth associated with a fair, socially acceptable distribution of income and an appropriate participation of the main population groups in basic public services;

(3) environmentally sustainable growth, or growth associated with maintaining adequate relations between our economic activity and nature.

Therefore, we do not have to sacrifice basic principles on the altar of short-term economic matters or tactical issues but, instead, adapt practical strategic activities to these principles. This imperative charts the evolutionary path for the political economy of the future.

Income relations are of key importance for long-term economic growth. The latter is particularly enhanced by a balanced distribution of income. This conclusion is drawn from a comparative study of long time series and is indisputable. Economic growth is more sustainable in countries with relatively low income inequalities. What is more, income relations in these countries proved more important for their economic growth than the liberalization of trade or the quality of political institutions. This observation points at aspects to which future development policies should pay particular attention.

The possibility of achieving two goals in one go is particularly important. It is viable because one goal - namely the socially sustainable income distribution - is also a means to achieving the second, namely economic growth. This relationship was not to be apprehended by the neoliberal economic thought and the economic policy based upon it; consequently, it has generated a serious crisis through which it is destroying itself. It was also discarded by the economic thought that drove different facets of state capitalism, and for this reason the latter cannot also expect a bright future ahead of itself. Today, the time has come for New Pragmatism.

I am far from underestimating the importance of the rivalry between neoliberal capitalism and state capitalism, but this dichotomy will not be crucial for the future. Its shape will depend on the fallout from the confrontation between these two views of modern capitalism with social market economy that will take on the form of the New Pragmatism. The main line of conflict will run between neoliberalism, struggling to regain his strength and position, and state capitalism which is hostile to it, and the concept of genuine economic and social progress. It should benefit the masses, and not only the

narrow social circles whose actions are fuelled by individual interests and supported by well-paid lobbyists who represent them in the world of politics, the media and the "science". There is no future for any political system perpetuating the situation in which a large economically disadvantaged group labeled the "margin" of social exclusion coexists with a small group referred to as the "elite" and basking in luxury.

It is significant that even the International Monetary Fund, for many years the hub of economic orthodoxy, admits that the policy aimed at surmounting the crisis and conducted by the developed countries - both the United States and the European Union - should be focused rather on increasing tax revenue (primarily from wealthy population strata) than on cutting budget expenditure (primarily targeted at the poorer social groups). We must immediately add that increasing tax revenue of the state does not always have to consist in raising taxes, because this goal can also be achieved through the elimination of tax exemptions and an improved collection of tax receivables. This generally leads to the introduction of pro-growth changes to the structure of final demand and reduces the scale of income disparities, and thus both the causes of the crisis and its consequences are eliminated. Similarly, the redistribution of income aimed at the reduction of distribution inequalities contributes in the long run to the economic development of the emancipating economies.

Moreover, up to a certain level of national income, a greater increase in social satisfaction can be achieved through its less disproportionate distribution than through quantitative growth. Let this be a crucial hint for economic policies; moreover, it should also inspire the entire educational system. The better we understand it, the easier it will be to pursue that direction. At the same time, there is a risk involved, because a policy that adheres to this thesis may steer towards populism instead of being pragmatic. The difficulty is even greater if we consider that production growth is fairly easy to quantify; conversely, measures of social satisfaction can be easily manipulated.

Social satisfaction can be noticeably improved if we reduce the Gini index by a specific fraction of a point instead of forcing the traditionally calculated GDP up by several percent. Economic policies of the future will increasingly have to resort to such a course of action. It will be much easier given that, on the one hand, the absolute level of production and consumption is rising and, on the other hand, the present scale of income inequalities is even greater than the previous one. In other words, when it comes to inequality, there is ample room for improvement. While the economic growth of poor countries will remain the most important factor for many years to come, in the majority of rich countries - with the exception of social market economies characterized by a low level of inequalities - targeted changes in income distribution will be of crucial importance.

Unjustified inequalities, especially those arising from the pathological distribution relations, should be decidedly countered, as they undermine mutual trust between people, and consequently affect social capital which plays a key role in the development process. If different professional and social groups distrust each other, if society does not place their trust in the government, and the latter reciprocates such an attitude, if doubt reigns in relations between entrepreneurs, social capital becomes eroded instead of thriving. The economy, ultimately, resembles a family: even if money were

to be no issue, but there is mistrust among people, things can turn ugly.

And what about the accumulation of capital? After all, it is necessary for the normal functioning of the economy, primarily for investing in the modernization of existing production capacities and the creation of new ones. Won't a shorter ladder of income weaken the public's propensity to save, and thereby generate capital with which to invest in a better future? Not at all. If this were true, we should not take any measures aimed at reducing income disparities. However, with a few exceptions, this is not the case. No empirical or theoretical evidence exists confirming that societies with a more homogenous income structure save more and invest less. It is enough to study the course of relevant capital formation processes in Austria, France, Scandinavia or other countries to see that their more egalitarian societies were just as capable of saving as countries with a more elitist type of income division relations.

It also confirmed by conclusions that can easily be drawn from comparisons between the so-called "large state" economies with "small state" economies. Over several decades (1960-1995), in countries where the state's participation in the redistribution of national income was limited to approximately 30 percent (and therefore countries with greater distribution inequalities), the investment rate, or its percentage share in GDP averaged 20.7 percent; on the other hand, countries with a larger-scale budget redistribution, with an approximately 50-percent share of the state in GDP (and therefore with relatively lower income distribution discrepancies), investment rate averaged 20.5 percent. The difference is, therefore, almost nonexistent. A country can have the same capacity to generate capital, which affects economic growth in the future, with a less unbalanced income distribution, which in turn determines the social satisfaction with the present economic situation. This is another important guideline for the economic policy of New Pragmatism. This is what we should aim for in the future.

The constant proliferation of human needs, coupled with the irresistible desire to satisfy them, is a double-edged sword. It breaks through many barriers and, through permanently stimulating the economy, constitutes an indispensable link in the process of expanded reproduction, that is economic

growth. At the same time, it is a destructive force, capable of blurring human minds, spoiling preferences, encouraging reprehensible qualities and, consequently, introducing irrational elements to the economy.

#### Toward a New Pragmatism

Learning from the experience of the others is a multi-direction process. First, one must take all country's specific factors into considerations: geopolitical position, local culture, legacy from the past, resources, existing structures and institutions. One size absolutely doesn't fit all.

Second, the policy for better future implies heterodoxy. The orthodox mainstream economics is passé. New Pragmatism points to the necessity of exercising various approaches, be it a bit of neokeynesism or monetarism, neoinstitutional and behavioral economics, development economics and ordoliberalism.

Third, it's we must look for a "new pragmatism", since it must take into account not only traditional micro- and macro-economics, but also a new mega-economics of interdependent global economy. Therefore, there is a need for pragmatic co-ordination of the policies on the worldwide scale. More and more challenges cannot be solved neither on the national economy level, even if it is as mighty country as China or USA, nor at the regional level, say the European Union or ASEAN.

Fourth, it's a new approach, because it must deal with new position of transnational capital vis-à-vis national states. Traditional regulation and government interventionism is categorically not adequate.

In another words, China's policy over couple of last decades is indeed quite pragmatic: many problems step by step have been solved and the country doubles GDP every seven years or so. Contrary, the US economic policy hardly has been a pragmatic one since it's led to such great crisis.

Professor Grzegorz W. Kolodko, intellectual and politician, a key architect of Polish reforms, deputy prime minister and minister of finance 1994-97 and 2002-03. Author of international bestseller "Truth, Errors and Lies: Politics and Economics in a Volatile World", published also in the Turkish language: "Gezici Dünya. Geçmişten geleceğe: küresel ekonomi – politik". He writes a blog at [www.volatileworld.net](http://www.volatileworld.net).

## FROM PRESS

# 17. Avrasya Ekonomi Zirvesi başladı

6 Şubat'a kadar sürecek 17. Avrasya Ekonomi Zirvesi, İstanbul'da başladı. Marmara Grubu Sosyal ve Stratejik

Araştırmalar Vakfı'ndan yapılan açıklamaya göre, zirveye dünyanın birçok ülkesinden cumhurbaşkanları ve başbakanlar katılıyor. 17 yıldır aralıksız devam eden ve 42 ülkenin katıldığı zirvede, "İnsan Ticareti", "Yerelden Küresele İpek Yolu'nda Ekonominin ve Enerjinin Geleceği", "Yerelden Küresele Diyalogun Barıştaki Önemi", "Tasarım ve Teknoloji: Disiplinlerarası Yaklaşım",



"Bilişimle Kalkınma", "Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Yerel Yönetimlerde Değişim" konuları ele alınacak.

"Yerelden Küresele İpek Yolu'nda Ekonominin Ve Enerjinin Geleceği" konu başlığıyla ilgili Bosna Hersek Başbakan Yardımcısı ve Dışişleri Bakanı Zlatko Lagumdžija, "Sürdürüle-

bilir Kalkınma ve Yerel Yönetimlerde Değişim" konu başlığıyla ilgili Makedonya Cumhurbaşkanı'nın eşi Maya Ivanova, "Yerelden Küresele Diyalogun Barıştaki Önemi" konu başlığıyla ilgili Rum Ortodoks Patriği Bartho-

lomeos I, "Tasarım Ve Teknoloji: Disiplinlerarası Yaklaşım" konu başlığıyla ilgili Vogue Türkiye Kurumsal İletişim Müdürü Barış Çakmakçı, "Bilişimle Kalkınma" konu başlığı ile ilgili Azerbaycan İletişim ve Bilgi Teknolojileri Bakanı Prof. Dr. Ali Abbasov söz alacak.

Vatan Newspaper



## H.E. Nizar Baraka

Chairman of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of the Kingdom of Morocco, Former Minister of Economy

I am honored to address such a distinguished crowd such as yourself in this beautiful Istanbul. Istanbul is indeed one of the most important centers of civilization of history. When I first received this invitation from Marmara Group Foundation, they asked me to talk about economy and energy and I was proud to do so. I am very happy to take part in the Eurasian Economic Summit. South Mediterinean development models are very important in this region. We are really effected by the development and progress of Europe. We see Eurasia region as a model. We can see the borders of the traditional economic regions. Although recovery has started following the crisis, we are aware of the traditional economic models. We have experienced a period where measures like dismissal of employees and austerity were required. Many countries in the Eurasia started to question their economic situation once again.

A new economic model is needed. The need for change is clearly visible, the world leaders must be creative. With such models, we need to trigger the growth of the countries and support the increasing population.

We must create some optimal conditions. These conditions should bring sustainable and globally sharable growth. We need to put aside to concept of localization and focus on the concept of co-localization. Resources shouldn't be the only thing shared, know-how also should be shared. Our purpose is to increase our ability to competition and globally develop together with more efficiency.

As you are aware, World Bank indicated the solar program of Morocco as one of the best examples of its kind. Our aim in Morocco is to fulfill %42 of our energy demand with renewable energy. We might reach to this point by 2020.

One of the purposes of the program is to develop the use of solar energy locally. While doing it, creating a added value. A model is intended to be created with transfer of technology. Opportunities are being given with tender bidding to actors who can build capacity.

The R&D dimension of the program is in the front lines. The renewable energy programs around to world are carefully observed and considered. We also aim to establish a connection with the European countries. We will ensure the import and export of renewable energy by connecting the Sub-Saharan Africa as well.

Our solar energy program will be one of the engines of growing economy. With this green energy and eco friendly economy we will also support the nutrition and energy security as well. We will be supporting sustainable development with this program which is the part of a green economy.



Ambassador of Kazakhstan H.E. Zhanseit Tuimebayev



Ambassador of Serbia H.E. Danilo Vucetic



Ambassador of Turkmenistan H.E. Ata Serdarov



**H.E Tamas Fellegi**

Advisor to the PM of Hungary, Chairman of the Euroatlantic Foundation, Former Minister of National Development

I am here to represent Hungary. To be here as a guest, as a participant is an honor for me. I want to thank the organizers for giving me an opportunity to address such a distinguished crowd. Also I would like to congratulate Marmara Group Foundation for organizing such an event. Eurasian Economic Summits truly show us the power of Turkish economy and how appealing Turkish economy has become. Our aim is to bring local and global together and obtain mutual benefits. Our country Hungary is located in Central Europe. We are member of the European Union and a member of Shengen Union at the same time. Hungary is also a country of Eurasia. We are aware of the economic, political and cultural importance of the Silk Road. One of the most important companies of Hungary, MOL is a great example to this. Because it is a company that is very active in Iraq and Turkey and also an example of Turkey's works related to Europe and Eurasia. This is the kind of Europe we aim to have. This kind of Europe will economically grow. Prior to 2008 global crisis

Central Europe experienced economic growth. Far greater than Western Europe and Europe Economic Zone. That is why we must be prepared at all times. We need to come out from the crisis stronger. The financial crisis is coming to an end, and we need to be prepared to this end.

Growth and competition must be the focus point of our political and economic decision making processes. Regions and country must act together. I think Turkey has a very important role. Not only because it is located right in the center of Eurasia but because it is becoming more important for the European economies as well. Turkey's economy is strong and with significant output. Turkey is a bridge between Europe and Asia. Hungary is like Turkey and serves as a bridge between Turkey and the heart of Europe. Hungary and Turkey are countries that are friends. His Excellency Prime Minister of Hungary has a policy of leaning towards east. So I believe there can be very serious cooperation between Turkey and Hungary not only due to the historical friendship but for Prime Minister of Hungary's new policy as

well. I want to state one critically important issue of the 21st Century. That is usage of energy and climate change. Today energy is one of the most important political commodities. Energy brings geopolitical issues along with economic ones. That is why Turkey is an important actor in Europe's energy stability and independency. Turkey is a country that can unite the countries of Caspian, Middle East and Europe. Turkey will have an important role in enrichment and diversification of energy resources. We will need to change our ways of using energy. The reach, usage and distribution of energy is very limited at the moment and this can create problems for the future generations. As Hungary we are ready to cooperate with Turkey. We are also ready to make cooperation with other countries in the region. I think Hungarians and Turks are ready to build a common future based on their common past. As Hungarians, we support Turkey's full membership to the European Union and we believe Turkey will be a very active country in the region.



*A group from participants*



## Hon. Prof. Danica Purg President of BLED School of Management

One of the most promoted statements, particularly now in the time of economic crisis, is that economic development and growth can be reached by innovation.

There is consent about the fact that “innovation can only flourish in a culture that recognises and rewards new ideas and gives authority to translate these ideas into practice”. Almost everybody states that unlocking creativity is essential to economic growth.

New research reveals a global creativity gap in five of the world’s largest economies US, UK, Germany, France, Japan. There is overall concern that creativity is suffering at work and at school. More than half of those surveyed feel that creativity is being stifled by their educational system, and many believe creativity is taken for granted (52% globally, 70% in the US).

### Global creativity gap

One of the myths of creativity is that very few people are really creative. The truth is that everyone has great capacities but not everyone develops them. And it all starts in the kindergarten and in the elementary school.

In far most of the systems the accent is on standard methods, discipline and collective behaviour. Skills are rewarded, but not the imagination and creativity. You are a candidate even for an artistic education on the basis of your skills (for example for drawing) not on the basis of your creativity or imagination.

And does it become better? No, it becomes worse. Recently, more than 120 writers sent an open letter to the White House warning president Obama that the increasing use of standardized tests in American schools are destroying creativity and undermining “children’s love for reading and literature”.

It more and more looks like what Thomas Gradgrind, the notorious headmaster in Charles Dickens novel *Hard Times*, said: “Now what I want is facts”. Teach these boys and girls nothing but facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else. You can only form the minds of reasoning animals upon facts. Nothing else will ever be of any service to them. This in the principle on which I bring up these children. Stick to Facts, Sir!”

Economists perhaps understand this play more than some others. Gradgrind forbids all imagination and recreation. These ideas are rooted in the utilitarian educational philosophy of the 19th century. The new wave of standardization and testing find its roots in what I call the neo-utilitarianism of our times.

Don’t we need standards of quality? Of course we do. But they may not get the function of a box all children are disappearing in.

We have to develop methods and conditions in the learning process that leads to reach the quality standards on a creative and engaging way (for example student practice instead of demonstrating, praise original ideas and work, ask open questions instead of suggestions, problem solving methods instead of answers etc. And does it become better in High School Education? The overall picture is that creativity has got this place only in classes of art and music. And in fact it is the

question, how much creativity and imagination we see there. Also here as I suggested before, selection is done mainly on the basic skills.

And so we finally end up inside the box. From that we can understand better the expression “out-of-the-box-thinking” and the big efforts we have to make to do so, we have been living in the box for too long time.

Of course, for a longer time this development has been justified by the Taylorist, Fordist and ideas of scientific management paradigm. We spoke about “managing the classroom” and “managing” the work. The accent has been on execution on the basis of the standardized methods and fixed times. One time we felt that in spite of the system, employees could have good ideas on improvisation. We discovered the suggestion box. Again a box instead of hanging the proposal on public clipboards for open information and discussion. Of course, the box could be only by management, also to become owner, sometimes with rewarding of suggestion.

New technological and organisational paradigms contain notions of leadership based on vision, inspiration and motivation and entrepreneurship, based on initiative, risk-taking and grasping opportunities. It is also a good sign, if you hear that entrepreneurship become an important topic in high-school.

At IEDC we are making efforts to develop leaders that are using their senses, daring to learn on their imagination and intuition. The problems they face are too complex to manage out of the box. At IEDC-Bled School of Management, we are using Art to develop new leaders. One of the activities is to discover your leadership style through the metaphor of art styles.

It is not surprising that the outcome before the crisis has been that many executives answered that they are basically “romantic” leaders, cherishing imagination, but that the organisation and the job just makes them “realists” and that now during the crisis they just describe themselves as “realists”. It is clear that the future educational system and the content has to change drastically, for only with “realists” we shall not succeed to reach economic growth through innovation.





## Hon. Chen Huaifan

### Deputy Secretary General of Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the summit host Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation for inviting me to attend this great event. I especially appreciate the Foundation's vision in combining the theme of this session with the philosophy of the Silk Road, so that I could learn from every one of you, and relish the glamour of the ancient Road. Chinese people have an aesthetic appreciation for the Silk Road. Over the generations, we have been envisioning merchants trekking on the Road for their dreams with camel bells ringing across the vast desert. The Silk Road is not only a commerce route and logistic channel, but also a road for people-to-people and cultural exchanges, a road of dreams, and a road of peace. As early as over 2100 years ago, Zhang Qian became the first Chinese to set foot on this road, and entrusted upon him were the missions for peace and friendship.

With the booming of ship transport, the Silk Road drifted off to years of sleep, though as the world evolves, peoples of different countries, especially those along the Silk Road, had remained true to this affection for the Silk Road. People are beckoning now. They are calling for the awakening of the Silk Road in the pursuit of their common dreams of peaceful development, cooperation and common prosperity. The Chinese people are striving to realize our Chinese Dream, which refers to the prosperity of the country, rejuvenation of the nation and happiness of the people. The Chinese Dream is for the benefit of not only the Chinese people, but also peoples of other countries. The Chinese ancient philosopher Confucius once said, "The man of perfect virtue, wishing to be established himself, seeks also to establish others; wishing to be successful himself, seeks also to help others succeed." This thoughtfulness for others entails that to help others is to help oneself. This principle of conduct has been passed down from generation to generation in China.

Around the world, people of different countries have their own dreams, as manifested in the Turkey "2023 Vision" for national prosperity, the Kazakhstan "2050 Strategy", the Uzbekistan "Year of Prosperity and Well-Being" program, the Tajikistan "National Development Strategy for the period up to 2030" and the Kyrgyzstan "National Sustainable Development Strategy for the period of 2013 to 2017". The dreams in a diversified world are bound to be of various hues. We respect the long-term blue prints of different countries for their own development. Meanwhile, we also believe that peaceful development, cooperation and win-win outcomes

will remain the common pursuits of people around the world. Chinese people wish to share our dreams with people around the world. We also wish to join hands with others to realize our respective dreams.

One of our objectives for this visit is to strengthen people-to-people exchanges between people of China and other peoples of Eurasia, including people of Turkey. Over the past 17 years, the Foundation has paid unremitting efforts to build the widely-influential "Eurasian Economic Forum" to promote the exchanges and cooperation among peoples of Eurasia, which we appreciate very much. Like peoples of other countries, Chinese people cherish family bonds. The Chinese people are now celebrating the traditional Spring Festival. During this year's festival, people in China will take over 3.6 billion travels within 40 days via all kinds of transportation, just to return to their home town for family reunion. Chinese people also cherish friendship. Many Chinese delegates gave up their own family reunions and instead came to Istanbul for this summit, an even bigger reunion of the Eurasia family. This is because we would like to communicate our wishes of peace and friendship

with people from different countries and share our thoughts, as well as listen to the suggestions from all of our distinguished friends.

As far as I know, many countries and peoples have expressed their welcome to the concept of the Silk Road Economic Belt and have already made positive actions. The Eurasian region will see more railways, roads, shipping routes, pipelines, and high-tech communication infrastructure, as well as more cooperation in economic, commerce and financial spheres, and more personnel flows and cultural exchanges. The rich natural, mineral, energy, land, tourism and cultural resources of this region will be cultivated and utilized in combination with edge-cutting technologies. Green development will be realized and benefit the livelihoods of the general public. We are delighted to see that the completion of the Bosphorus Strait Channel will inject immense driving force for the rejuvenation of the Silk Road.

The cooperation among the peoples of China and Central Asian countries has already yielded achievements for the first phase. The trade volume between China and Central Asian countries has grown from 460 million USD around the establishment of diplomatic relations to 46 billion USD in 2012, a 100 fold growth compared with that of 21 years ago. The staff localization level of Chinese oil and gas enterprises investing in Central Asia has exceeded 97%, meaning that these projects have created more than 34 thousand jobs for local residents.

As the biggest peace organization in China, the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament is also proactively striving to promote the construction of the Silk Road Economic Belt. Apart from attending this Eurasian Economic Summit, we will also co-host the "Seminar on the Silk Road Economic Belt" with our Kazakhstan partner in May this year to strengthen exchanges in topics including ecological security, resource security, eco-city building and green economic development for the economic belt. In September, we will hold an international conference with the theme of the Silk Road during the International Day of Peace. Hereby we would like to extend our warm welcome to friends interested in the Silk Road to participate in our activities. Every one has a Silk Road in their minds. We wish to envision, design and build this road with like-minded people, and expand it into an economic belt for everyone to pursue and realize their dreams, so that peoples of different countries would share the development achievements and enjoy lasting peace.

# INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN



ROSTRUM - Hon. Sertaç Ersayın (Chairman), Hon. Mehtap Elaidi, Hon. Erkmen Savaşkan, Hon. Tamer Öztürk and Hon. Volkan Atik at the session of Interdisciplinary Approach to Technology and Design.



## Hon. Sertaç Ersayın

Kale Building Materials, Strategic Design  
Coordinator Industrial Design and Technology

Our guests are here. We are here as representatives of ready-made clothing, fashion, architecture, Sise Cam Company and sector of construction. I am going to be moderator at this meeting as well.

I prepared a presentation that includes eight or ten slide. Kindly let me start with this. Our subject is “Design and Technology”. These words are generally coming together in media, daily life and people use these words according to

their needs. We are bringing these words together at this Session of Technology in this Summit as well. Let me tell you about this subject.

I put the description of design on screen. As you see, there is a description of design which is described by International Design Council. Design is described as “all of objects, services, processes and creative activities in ecosystem”. Moreover, there are arguments of cultural and economic cooperation, change, integration behind this description. Industry, culture, economy, creativity, process, services and objects. What is the meaning of objects? Everything we use in our daily life. For example, from glass to pencil. Design Council described the word of design. The Center of Design Council is located in Montreal and sixty years old.

Well, Technology? It is possible to see a lot of descriptions about technology. Technology described as transforming process of our opinions into products by research and development activities. The origin of word of “technology” comprises of both meanings of “to do” and “to know” in latin language.

When we bring together words of design and technology, it is impossible not to mention the word of “innovation”. If we implement “innovation” to life, we will be able to benefit to life, industry, environment and consumer. If we use the



**Press Conference on 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit**

*The details of 17th Eurasia Economic Summit, named "from Global to Local – Glocalization", has been shared with a Press Meeting. Participants were Head of The General Secretariat of Istanbul Textile&Apparel Exporters' Association Mr. Hikmet Tanrıverdi, Chairman of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation Mr. Akkan Süver, Vice-Chairman of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation Mr. Engin Köklüçınar and Fashion Designer Mrs. Özlem Kaya and press members.*

word of innovation as a topic, it is more beneficial in terms of financial comfort. I don't want to give a speech academically. We mentioned about innovation, technology and design. In 2000's, words of innovation and design is being used more as a topic. When we search developed countries, especially West countries, we can see that we are behind almost 50 years. After 2000's; design, technology, ergonomics, innovation and brand become important as a value. With cooperation of design, innovation and technology, accessibility to services has increased. Quality has become important. Business opportunities increased with brand, design and technology. It is effected the business life directly. There are new financial, technological partnerships.

How can we explain relations of design and technology in base of innovation? If we bring together design and technology, we have to address that some of sectors uses technology and design in low density, some of sectors uses technology and design in high density. The meaning of this is: Design needs technology and also technology needs design. It changes depends on density of usage and competitiveness. It also depends on size of producer company. For example, the needs of Microsoft is different from a local producer regarding density.

We are in an Economic Summit. I would like to show you some numbers. When we look at design, technology and

innovation in terms of integration to national policies, "best of best"s are North European countries, South East Asia, top eight European countries and India. These countries uses technology and design as their national policies and making cooperation between them. They have target. It is important to make our consumers happy with cooperation of design and technology. Developed countries uses technology and design for happiness of their consumers.

How can we use this cooperation? How can it be reasonable? How can we happy with this cooperation? It is required to be different from our competitors. It is need to create differences. Global competition. Different approaches.

There are relations among needs, consume, design and technology. Modern life has new solutions. Modern life provide more comfortable life, more attractive products, nature-friendly products. Analysis, observation, concept etc. Why we are trying to bring together technology and design? What is our aim? To use the most contemporary product. To use the most realist product. To use the most remedial product. To use product that makes easier our life. It increases our life quality. It increases standards of our life to high level. Systems and innovative products increases our life quality.

I tried to present relations of technology, design, product and object.



## Hon. Erkmén Savaşkan

### IMA Fashion Communication and Cultural Studies Course Leader Architecture and Technology

Hello to everyone. I am Erkmén Savaşkan. I am an architect. I continue my academic works at Istanbul Bilgi University and Istanbul Moda Academy. I will speak a little bit about the historical background. For if we want to examine the design and technology relation we ought to know that it has an infrastructure established following the Industrial Revolution in the Western Culture.

What we are seeing now is Le Corbusier's Villa Savoye. This is important: this building is the manifest of modernist architecture. It may not seem as a different form or a different architecture to us. But if you think that it has been constructed at the beginning of the 20th century, you will see the high-tech design and futuristic approach for its era. The time it has been built is a time when the industrial revolution has matured and mass produced materials both in industrial design and architecture are being standardized. Meaning that industrial revolution has taken place, mass production is accelerated based on technology. There are extreme examples to this in the western world.

For example the sketches of Antonio Sant'Elia. The sketches that contain Italian's utopia regarding industrialization and industry society. Technological society comes with a life style that is depended on the production mode.

While Bauhaus in the German style has an approach that interiorizes nature, emphasizes Gusto and proportion and luxury aspect, Sant'Elia and his crew think of a society that is more fitting for Italian and grotesque and more flamboyant. This is again one of the modern time city utopias of Sant'Elia who I really like.

This is Thoe Van Doesburg's contribution in Holland, one of the symbols of De Stijl flow. We see the prior humanism here also. But all these surfaces, glass surfaces, new technological material, the use of concrete is extremely new for that era. At the same time it is a presentation of a life style through cubism,

when we look at the buildings around we see in what context that Holland has been constructed. It also refers to the thinking movements of its time. The followers of De Stijl who have particularly influenced by Mondriaan. At the end of 19th and beginning of 20th centuries there is a breaking point in design due to technology that even enables to speculate to create new social orders, to create new thoughts and forms that are parallel to art movements, philosophical movements and social movements.

Just before Mr. Sertaç Ersayın said something great; in the 90s technology was about progress, in 2000s it is about innovation. The beginning of the 20th century is another time when technology is about innovation. The city of Brasilia built from zero by Oscar Niemeyer is similar to Ankara, as a country that has been formed later on Brazil felt the need to create their capital city from zero as a statement of the newly founded country. We see here also that there is a utopia in question again. An utopia only triggered with courage given by technological improvement. This utopia didn't work by then. Brasilia never went beyond a city where ministries, government buildings are located.

We said that in 2000s the technology is about innovation. Technology takes our life style a step further and the question of how we can include technology into design as an innovative resource rather than what is technological society of how can design realm can adapt to it.

Bu tabi aynı zamanda dönemin politik ideolojilerine ve politik toplumsal yaklaşımlarına paralel bir durum. Artık burada bir yaşam biçimi önerisi değil bir yaşam biçiminin detaylandırılması ve daha gustolu hale getirilmesi durumu var. biraz önce baktığımız tabi ki ,zor dönüyorum eski slaytlara kusura bakmayın, burada bizim bildiğimiz basit teknolojiler var, o dönem için ileri teknoloji olarak tabir ediliyor bunlar. En sonunda da Frank Gehry'nin binasında görüyoruz ki artık o basit konstrüksiyon teknikleri aşılmış ve artık bizi hayalimize ulaştırmaya tam olarak yetkin bir teknolojik döneme gelmiş.

In order to understand the time we are in we need to dig the relation between design and the political context of a given time, that is the reason why I talk about a certain life style, a certain ideology. The first examples we saw were just after militarist era, following a world war so they define society that uniformed and homogenous in nature.

After the openings during the 90s other aspects become to be important for us. For example plurality, it is same to make people live in an exact type of building and to make them wear same kind of shoes rather than the shoes fitting one's culture, physicality and geography. In reality what got into the designing world is a political approach.

Second is ecology. Ecology is becoming very important for us. Today we all have the opportunity produce our own energy, our own water free from the state with a very low cost

and have the chance to live only purchasing internet from the state. Because that technology is improved now. From organic insulation to roof materials, rain gathering systems and and domestic energy systems, we have every sort of technology we didn't used to have including nano technology and macro technology. When we look from the framework of ecology it is now possible to build self sustainable habitats for both individual and corporate lives.

What is another approach? Being more social oriented and communicative. To create designs that are more interactive with the society.

One another thing is we are now in an era where achitecture and interior design are immensely intertwined. If you ask me, historically that has never happened before. Today in accordance with these technological improvements

the interior and exterior became a whole design where they effect one another. The usage of high tech as a material, defining of the building as an habitat which can define its own interior living environment ans sustainability, ecology, nano technology and similar aspects making achitectural structures to resemeble living organisms.

Gentleman will talk about 3D Print but I cannot help but say a few things. This is the latest important progress. Something we all work on very curious what will it become. With this technology buildings can be printed out in last than 24 hours. This will result in extraordinary developments in construction technology and the residence problem in the world. As this technology gets cheaper our production mode will change. We don't always use this 3D Print technology in printing buildings, it helps in industrial and interior design as well. Naturally our budgets are a little bit higher.



## Hon. Mehtap Elaidi

### President of the Association of Fashion Designers (MTD) Fashion, Media and Techonology

Fashion is a field of design that is a little bit different. I want to approach from different angle than it's relation with technology. As the two other disciplines stated the results of innovation and technology on fashion is quite same. During the 1990s when innovation was in the front lines we saw a period where Japanese designers were successful with their creations of cups and siluettes after 2000s and the improvement of technology we see that more clear lines are dominated the fashion design.

The effects of technology in fashion design can be seen in many fields, especially in materials. With the presence of technological fabrics the route of the fashion design took a whole new direction.

As a reflection of that the details we see in sports wear are seriously taking their place in fashion design.

Furthermore, when preparing a collection, making design research is very important. Technology's impact on designer and fashion design in that context was significant with that regard. While this brought a different approach, because it is a realm that everyone has access to it has its positive and negative effects at the same time.

Today, another designer far away can instantly reach to what you have obtained through research. Accordingly a fashion design world acting on a collective mindset has emerged. The existence of technology in cooperation with media created an environment where physical boundaries are no longer exist. This had many uses for fashion design.

Before we used certain platforms to endorse and promote our creations and designs, now you can basically create your own platform and your own mass. And if you are in a unique designing mentality that differentiates you from others, this acts as a detail that enables you to reach where you deserve easier.

With this regard, fashion design is a more quickly consumed compared to other disciplines so the technology makes different reflections.

Before making a very good design brought you to places, today questions like how do you use the technological platforms, how do you present you collection, to whom you deliver it in what technological platforms, how do you expand you sales network becomes significantly important to a degree they nearly consist the whole package.

As I said, technology is a very important tool to carry you beyond your physical boundaries.



## Hon. Tamer ÖZTÜRK

Manager of Şişecam Group Anadolu Glass Design Center

We would like to mention how to design the packing of glass containers and also would like to address our own designs. Namely, we will refer Turkish designs. Who are we? Firstly, I would like to inform you: Siseecam is an establishment of Is Bankası and founded in 1935. It has 4 main groups: Glass, Glass Container (packing), Glass household goods and Chemicals. We are active in 13 countries and export 150 countries. We serve with 7 facilities in the world and 3 facilities in Turkey. We have a design center in Russia. Our main center is in Istanbul, Turkey. We serve Siseecam with our design team that includes 17 designer.

Generally, we start with the level of sketch and then continue towards mechanical drawing by exercising three dimensional parametric drawings. So, we have chance to interfere every point of the design. Our customers can see the visual of design before produce. We show works of tag and press. With mathematical works, we account the cubing of product sensitively.

We start our design with a brief. We make brief with our customers. We should ahead of our customers as well. We have to know about facilities, possibilities of structures of production, market, cities and world market. A designer should have control on these.

Glass is nature-friendly product and an image. Glass designers of our brand add innovative and unique opinions to product. Our designers contributes to our products and customers with his experience and skills of usage of high technology in order to meet expectations of our customers.

This is our design of system: Glass Demijohn. It is not only a design of glass. We organized a team for this and searched polycarbonate lines, filling facilities, transportation, storage, habits of usage of people with this team. After our search, we designed glass container. We developed apparatus patented. Currently, 15 firm is making business on filling glass.

At the level of design, technologies of simulation, virtual realism, virtual market, analysis and prototype is used. 3d printer is no longer a sector of future. How we benefit of this technology? We present 3d models to our customers

as well as drawings. They benefit from these prototypes. In the future, we are planning to make serial production. We present our drawings as 3 dimensional by using computer. For example, we can decide the location of the product on desk and market. It is important for competitiveness. We decide by making 3d studies on computer.

We make analysis. It is very important to supply the most economic material. For that reason, we make analysis. We analysis and design for creating the most durable and sensitive product to nature. Our aim is to prevent risks as well. The designs are innovative and comprises of patented technology. The way of providing developed product and production systems to our customers is innovative designs. For that reason, we are making researches and analysis in detail and patented technologies.

You see the method of production of glass as schematic. In fact, the method of production of glass is quite simple. However, designer should know basic principals of glass. There should be a tap for safety and tag about description of which includes on glass container (packing). We have already patent for tap.

We have produced special tap and spray oil glass. We have already patented them. We made them without demand. We should produce and find solutions before customer asks. We worked on special tap and spray oil glass in 6 months. We produced them without testing.

Sometimes, it is required to produce without demand. For example, we made a Project and put water to glass bottle. People like it. 3 glass production company was producing 4000 tons of glass packing in 2011. In 2013, there are 20 firm producing 14.000 tons of glass container. Until 2018, we are planning to produce 50.000 tons of glass bottle in glass sector. If we produce without demand we can create need, needs creates market and contribute to economy.

I would like to tell about our design management. When companies grow, problems grow as well. It is important to know true data. We have to set a system. Designers should be cooperate and contact with all departments in all levels.

We need central system to collect data for productivity. We should arrange virtual meetings for getting quick outcome. We should constitute institutional memory.

We don't need to wait for data in a central system. It is rapid and productive. We should be a learning organization.

We, as Anadolu Glass Group, we have made many projects together with universities since 2014. Recently, we have experienced and skillful industrial designers in our institutional body. We would like to help designers in universities that they can be experienced industrial designers.

Our aim is to develop technology to export and create a designer team that will include anthropologists, sociologists and futurologists as well. By increasing number of innovative and patented products, we would like to increase awareness of Turkish design.



## Hon. Volkan ATIK

### Istanbul Textile and Apparel Exporter Associations Board Member Textile Industry, Production and Technology

Indeed, I have two duties. I have my own brand. Namely, I am doing my own business. Furthermore, I am a member of Board of Istanbul Ready-Made Clothing Exporters' Association. I am also responsible for organization of Istanbul Fashion Week.

I would like to give a speech by gathering topics as one general topic. I would like to make a short speech.

Generally, we attach emphasis on three points: Research&Development, Design and Innovation. When Research&Development, Design and Innovation gathered in a firm, this situation expands horizon to firms using all of them. The basic subject is innovation. Innovation is important for development of companies and institutions and for sustainability. It is need to reorganize and restructure firms and institutions for development and sustainability.

I would like to bring a newperspective. By coming to get her design and technology create a few factors. The most important one is productivity. In this sector productivity increases day by day.

In ready-made clothing sector, design methods are

developing. With programs such as "coraldraw" and "photoshop", our trade has progressed. For ten years, it has been easy to actualize our ideas to real life with these programs. This opportunity increases our gains in terms of time and productivity. I would like to address the sales as second topic. Turkish firms are planning to increase their sales. Their aim is towards 2023. The target is increasing income per kilograms. Currently, with exports, Turkey's income is 1.70 \$ per kilo. In European countries it changes between 4-6 \$. Innovation plays an important role. It is needed to create new opinions by using design and new technology together.

Another topic is "interactivity". Recently, by disciplines of design and technology, some firms create interaction with customers. Firms are in good and close relations with customers. Firms create new designs according to demands of customers rapidly.

I would like to emphasise the future of this business. What will be the future of design and technology? In my opinion, 3 dimensional printers will be used in the next 20 years. President of United States of America Barack Obama says in meetings that 3 dimensional printer is a technology of future. It is beneficial to benefit from design and technology in ready-made clothing sector. Productivity and speed is important for companies in order to come to the forefront in global world.

Regarding our sector, other than 3 dimensional printers, there are organic and technological fabrics which is used as raw material by firms today. Wearable technologies. I think that wearable technology is one of the most important topic of this meeting. Wearable technologies will be able to be used in ready-made clothing as well as watches and glasses. There are large opportunity in next years about wearable technologies. Online demand and design of wearings has already started.

Which firm that gathered technology and design is the most successful in Turkey and in the world? I thought and decide that the most successful company is Apple. Brand of Apple is an example. I-phones, I-pads, Google I-glasses exhibits serious performance.



*The creatives of  
the session of  
Interdisciplinary  
Approach to  
Technology and  
Design*

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT



ROSTRUM - Moderator Prof. Dr. Ersin Kalaycıoğlu, H.R.H. Prince of Romania Prince Radu, Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria H.E. Daniela Bobeva, Minister of Federal Science and Education of Bosnia Herzegovina H.E. Damir Masic, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour, Editor in Chief of Yeni Asır Newspaper Hon. Şebnem Bursalı at the session of Sustainable Development and Change in the Local Government.



Hon. Tijen Mergen gave a speech at the opening ceremony



## Hon. Müjgan Suver

Chair of Marmara Group Foundation's EU  
and Human Rights Platform

I want to start my remarks with a little story.

While I was in primary school there were always a tree, grass, flowers, flying birds, bees, fish swimming in blue streams, one story roof tile houses according to the season. Sometimes there was a sun above all of them, sometimes cloud and sometimes rain or snow.

In the drawings of my son the streams disappeared. Than birds and flowers but there were factories now which

my drawings didn't have. Avenues, cars, four five story buildings. In the drawings of my grandchildren buses, fast trains, jets, computers, skyscrapers added to the factories but there were no more gardens, birds, fruits, or fish swimming in the stream.

Despite all these thanks to new inventions now there were devices that wash the dish, do the laundry, clean up and heat my house. Televisions make the loneliness at home go away, computers that allow me to reach the information instantly and phones that I could use in home, street or in the car.

I took my time and thought. One part of me was happy and the other was not. I was missing the tulips, green country with blossoming daisies and fresh air. I was missing the shores where I could go to swim in the city I live, I was missing the streams. I was missing the birds' voices that dissappeared.

And I realized that what I really want is a greater picture where my drawings and my grandchildren's unite. I was missing the whole picture. I was wondering if it will ever be possible to see what I drew and what my grandchildren drew in one picture?

As can be seen in this story the benefits of development are causing great harms on social structure and environment on the other side.

If this process cannot be controlled the gains of development can also be compromised. And even result with the collapse of basic ecosystem. The humanity that realized this reality and the increased awareness ensured that the concept of sustainable development to emerge rather than traditional development.

A development that will protect the environment, will better the social rights, a development that will realize that

big picture we all miss, a development that will integrate economy and social and environmental policies...

Today this is what we are going to talk on "Sustainable Development and Change in the Local Government"

We will hear our distinguished executives on the current status, new paradigms, new political determinations, aims, central and local approaches and from their experiences we will extract duty for ourselves. We will extract a homework. For we know that changes start with the individual. We will be the ones who will follow and defend sustainable development and democracy.

I wish a productive meeting for you all.



## H.E. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

### UN High Representative to Alliance of Civilizations

In my opening speech, I stated that we are here today to take a hand in shaping the future of our countries and our world. Our world is in a state of profound change and transformation as countries face economic and natural disasters, civil wars, refugee and migration problems, massive inequality, poverty and lack of clean water, air and health care, among many other problems. Governments are challenged to cope with these demands in the context of rapidly globalization.

Sustainable development, which has been visible as a priority in the global agenda since the Earth Summit on Environment and Development in Rio, 1992, seeks to promote an equitable level of economic well-being that can be sustained over many generations while maintaining the services and quality of the environment. The concept of sustainable development recognizes that our problems are not limited to our own countries or our own localities, but are interconnected and global. When a tsunami, for example, strikes in one part of the world it affects all of us. If there is a financial crisis in one country, it soon contaminates the entire global financial system.

Another, unique dimension of sustainable development is the idea of inter-generational equity. What we do today will have a profound impact on the lives of future generations. And that impact may be something over which those generations have nothing to say because we took the decision, today, in our time. That's why I say; we are here to make decisions about the future, not necessarily our own future, but that of

children yet unborn. We are called upon to make wise decisions and to act responsibly so that what we do today will not compromise the ability of future generations to realize the benefits that we have enjoyed.

That's why during the "Fourth Global UN Alliance of Civilizations Forum", we recognized the important development of the MDGs in relation with our coexistence, respect among all human being and survival in our planet.

Although sustainable development is not a new concept, it has been placed at the heart of the post 2015 development agenda, as well it should be. The objective is to integrate economic growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

At times, there has been confusion between economic development and sustainable development, as if they were separate concepts. As one expert said, "If it is not sustainable, then it is not development." Hence, sustainable development can be seen as an overarching concept that encompasses environmental, economic and social dimensions.

Unprecedented population growth and technology have allowed for the rapid increase of material consumption, which is increasingly stripping the earth of its natural resources and creating irreversible damage to the atmosphere, land, and sea.

Believe me, Ladies and Gentlemen, harmony with our planet is essential for our survival between our planet and us.

Furthermore, the scarcity of resources and conflict over their supply as well as the movement of millions of people into cities has contributed to civil strife and conflict between those that have and those that have not. Such conflict often manifests itself in communal, ethnic, religious and racial animosity, a matter of critical concern to the Alliance of Civilizations.

We say at the UN that Peace, Security, Human rights and development are inter related and they will be no development without Peace and Security.

There is an immense challenge to governance at the national, regional and local levels to reduce poverty and inequality and promote stability, while protecting the resources we need to live and breathe. Lack of dialogue and effective developmental systems have allowed these issues to boil over when that might have been prevented. Far too often, dialogue at the international level has been blocked by the

conflict between national and international responsibilities, between developed and developing countries.

Rather than taking a problem solving approach to the challenges we face, each country and group adopts a negotiating position that seeks to limit its commitment to action. The global community must come together to overcome these roadblocks and implement the policies and programmes that can address our global problems and reach the goals envisioned for sustainable and peaceful development.

Allow me to refer to Outcome Document from The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012, titled, the “Future We Want.” It states that we must “acknowledge that democracy, good governance and the rule of law, at the national and international levels, as well as an enabling environment, are essential for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger. We reaffirm that to achieve our sustainable development goals we need institutions at all levels that are effective, transparent, accountable and we must work to strengthen international cooperation to address the ongoing challenges related to sustainable development for everyone, in particular in developing countries.”

We all understand and endorse the important concepts mentioned above. They have been enumerated in many UN documents, including the Millennium Development Goals. In the international community, there has never been difficulty to agree on the goals that we should be pursuing. The problem has always arisen over the means of implementation: Who should act and who should pay?

In the past, national governments have fully endorsed the goals, but more often than not, it has been state, local and provincial governments that have been the focus of implementation in light of the concept: “Think globally, act locally.” As the Association of Local Governments for Sustainability reported: “since 1990 over 1000 cities and local governments went through a process of establishing greenhouse gas emissions inventories, voluntary CO2 reduction targets and developing local climate action plans.” Moreover, “at the local level there is a greater awareness on how local improvements also address global sustainability. There is stronger political commitment, local target setting, and action in many areas that exceed those of national governments.”

But we should not deceive ourselves about how much local governments’ can take the lead on these critical issues.

{To cite just some recent examples of climate related disasters; there was Typhoon Bopha in the Philippines with more than 1,100 fatalities. The cold wave in Europe resulted in 530 fatalities while floods in Pakistan and Nigeria brought 455 and 431 fatalities, respectively. An earthquake in Iran saw 306 fatalities. Hurricane Sandy in the US was the most expensive disaster, resulting in economic losses of US\$65 billion and insured losses of US\$30 billion in the states of New York and New Jersey (USA) alone.}

Less well known than these large, high profile examples were the follow on effects of natural disasters felt within cities and specifically by the urban poor. Floods and droughts reduce agricultural yields and lead to food price hikes, indirectly pushing millions of people below the poverty line and reducing food and nutritional security. For urban areas,

it is these follow on effects, which local governments are forced to grapple with.

To recognize the importance of Food and Security we just signed an MOU with FAO in order to contribute to global efforts to eradicate hunger, reduce poverty and improve food access for the poor and vulnerable.

The problems we face are indeed enormous. But, in regards to the future we must remain hopeful, determined, and proactive in implementing the many policy recommendations that have been made over the years. Much work has already been done in this regard and we should not act as if we are inventing the wheel for the first time.

For this reason, we must pay close attention to the pioneers of sustainability, and to the cities and regions that have been successful in reaching goals of sustainable development, which can serve as models and examples to our own nations.

In this context, one of the most important initiatives your group can take in this region, is to survey what has been done at the local government level to implement sustainable development and to find the best examples of what is workable and what is not. And to make sure that this knowledge is shared across the region by local governments. Also twinning of cities and local governments can be a useful way to share experience and promote implementation of new ideas and concepts.

When the Post 2015 new Development Agenda is launched, you will have an evident role in its implementation.

In order to continue our discussions within the framework of glocalization we must keep human development in mind when thinking about and confronting each challenge that we are presented with in our region, and the globe.

Most importantly, we must recognize that culture is at the centre of sustainable development and addressing issues that fall within cultural heritage, dialogue, diversity, and cooperation are crucial in creating effective initiatives, business practices, policies, programs, and economic regulations and laws that adhere to the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

International cooperation is key in creating global change and I believe that that we have the potential to shape a future that is sustainable and peaceful for all cultures and civilizations, leaving no one behind, and eliminating extreme poverty.

Let me leave you with a relevant quote from Amartya Sen., Economist Nobel Price:

“Cultural matters are integral parts of the lives we lead. If development can be seen as enhancement of our living standards, then efforts geared to development can hardly ignore the world of culture.”



H.E. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser received his gift from Hon. Tijen Mergen



## H.R.H. Prince Radu of Romania

Thank you for inviting me to the seventeenth annual Eurasian meeting in Istanbul, one of the most prominent international conferences in the region. The Marmara Summit remains, after almost two decades, a rare example of how building trust, friendship and common interest are vital for our part of the world.

I also thank you for the inspired topic of the current session. Talking about long lasting development and the principles and values of good governance is not only necessary but it also represents a moral obligation.

As we all know, a common point of the democratic world today is the extraordinary prominence of politics in our public life. Super-democratisation means often “super-politicisation”. Virtues such as freedom, democracy, rule of law and human rights are present in our vocabulary and culture more than ever.

Nevertheless, practice teaches us that a stable society and a long lasting development need, apart from democratic values, a number of principles and virtues that cannot be obtained by vote or by elections. Values such as vision, identity,



## H.E. Damir Masic

Federal Minister of Science and Education of Bosnia Herzegovina

continuity, institutional ethics, professionalism, sense of duty, become more and more relevant today, in our super-politicised world.

A good system of governance comprises the political leader in partnership with first-class specialists, those who represent the institutional memory. Visionary projects are born by talent, generosity and sense of duty, not by political opportunities. Continuity means knowledge and respect towards institutions, not necessarily political skills. The value of an inspired leadership is that it is capable to create long lasting projects, created in accordance with the realities and aspirations of a generation.

Civil society has a major responsibility in teaching people the values of sustainable development. Intellectuals, scholars and artists, as much as influential journalists, could make a difference in helping our societies to value professionalism, altruism, sense of duty and ethics.

Nowadays, the most stable and respected societies make use of their traditions, culture and institutional competence to consolidate democracy, create prosperity and maintain rule of law and predictability.

Local governance is, somehow, closer to the community than the central administration. The local leader has more knowledge of and connection to the number of people they serve and has, therefore, a more important impact in the citizen’s life.

Of outstanding importance is to make sure that the young generations of our countries shape their cultural and professional horizon in respect with the values of long lasting development and institutional competence, as well as of ethics and sense of duty.

Last but not least, patriotism is an important tool in building a long lasting future for our societies. Sure, patriotism should not be confused with radical behaviour, but associated to loyalty and generosity, common sense and knowledge, dignity and inspiration.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to address 17. Eurasian Economic Summit, as well as to discuss with you sustainable development concept and our contribution to its development. At the very beginning, I would like to emphasize the importance of activities implemented by the Marmara Foundation since 1985. The engagement of this foundation has strong and positive influence on the integration processes in the Balkans and the entire Eurasian region.

What is sustainable development?

Let me quote Professor Dr Konrad Osterwalder here, who said:

“To care about sustainable development means to accept responsibility for the well-being of future generations and also of our habitat, of our

planet. An affirmative attitude towards sustainability has to be an integral part of the moral foundation of our activities and of your lifestyle. This means that promoting sustainable development must be an important aspect of the educational agenda at all levels.”

The concept of sustainable development emerged as a response to a growing concern about human society’s impact on the natural environment. The concept of sustainable development was defined in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and Development as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Definition acknowledges that while development may be necessary to meet human needs and improve the quality of life, it must happen without depleting the capacity of the natural environment to meet present and future needs. The sustainable development movement has grown and campaigned on the basis that sustainability protects both the interests of future generations and the earth’s capacity to regenerate. At first it emphasised the environment in development policies but, since 2002, has evolved to encompass social justice and the fight against poverty as key principles of sustainable development.

In order to implement sustainable development, it became necessary to develop the ideas further in terms of defining what sustainable means and the relevance of development and distinguishing it from environmental education. For this report, sustainability is understood as the end state and sustainable development is understood as the process of getting there. An additional challenge was how to unpack the elements of a new type of development. Environmentalists and researchers recognised, though, that development patterns were harming the environment and that social problems were emerging. In an attempt to address these imbalances, a variety of models and frameworks were created to identify priority areas in sustainable development and ways to achieve progress by identifying economic, social and environmental goals.

These three elements compose the three pillars of sustainable development, also identified at the Rio Earth Summit, as a means to clarify the definition of sustainable development and its application. Each one of the three pillars carries similar importance in creating and maintaining stability and balance. People, the planet and profits are all inextricably linked and interdependent, and must therefore be synchronised accordingly.

What role does education play in sustainable development?

Children starting school today will grow up in a world that’s very different from the one we know now. Climate change and over-exploitation of natural resources will intensify while economic, technological and social changes will create new demands but also new opportunities for young people in an increasingly interdependent world.

Good quality education is an essential tool for achieving a more sustainable world. This was emphasised at the UN World Summit in Johannesburg in 2002 where the reorientation of current education systems was outlined as key to sustainable development. Education for sustainable

development (ESD) promotes the development of knowledge, skills, understanding, values and actions required for creating a sustainable world, which ensures environmental protection and conservation, promotes social equity and encourages economic sustainability. The concept of ESD developed largely from environmental education, which has sought to develop the knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and behaviours in people to care for their environment. The aim of ESD is to enable people to make decisions and carry out actions to improve our quality of life without compromising the Planet. It also aims to integrate the values inherent in sustainable development into all aspects and levels of learning.

There are a number of key themes in ESD and while the dominant focus is on environmental concerns, it also addresses themes such as poverty alleviation, citizenship, peace, ethics, responsibility in local and global contexts, democracy and governance, justice, human rights, gender equality, corporate responsibility, natural resource management and biological diversity. It is generally accepted that certain characteristics are important for the successful implementation of ESD, reflecting the equal importance of both the learning process and the outcomes of the education process. ESD should:

- Be embedded in the curriculum in an interdisciplinary and holistic manner, allowing a whole-institution approach to policy making.
- Share the values and principles that underpin sustainable development.
- Promote critical thinking, problem solving and action, all of which develop confidence in addressing the challenges to sustainable development.
- Employ a variety of educational methods, such as literature, art, drama and debate to illustrate the processes.
- Allow learners to participate in decision-making on the design and content of educational programmes.
- Address local as well as global issues, and avoid jargon-ridden language and terms.
- Look to the future, ensuring that the content has a long-term perspective and uses medium and long-term planning.

To promote ESD, the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014, (DESD) was adopted by the UN General Assembly with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) designated as the lead agency for promotion throughout the decade. The decade pursues a global vision ‘of a world where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from quality education and learn the values, behaviour and lifestyles required for a sustainable future and for positive societal transformation.

The goal of the decade, as outlined by UNESCO, is to integrate the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning. This aims to encourage changes in behaviour that will create a more sustainable future. One of the most important aspects of the DESD is the recognition that ESD must engage a wide range of stakeholders from government, private sector, civil society, non-governmental organisations and the general public.

In its International Implementation Scheme (IIS) for DESD, UNESCO states that ESD is fundamentally about values, particularly respect for others, including those of present and future generations, for difference and diversity,

for the environment and for the Planet's resources (UNESCO, 2006). Education enables us to understand ourselves and others and our links with the wider natural and social environment. This understanding serves as a durable basis for building respect.

Along with a sense of justice, responsibility, exploration and dialogue, ESD aims to move us toward adopting behaviours and practices which will enable us all to live a full life without being deprived of basic human needs.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) takes a holistic and realistic approach to learning by linking ecological, social and economic aspects of our daily lives.

ESD develops students' knowledge of environmental challenges and their abilities to promote sustainable development by fostering holistic, critical and independent thinking, the ability to formulate and solve problems and the ability to participate in democratic systems and to take responsibility for the well-being of our Planet. It develops students' understanding of ecological and environmental issues and motivates them to apply the principle of sustainability to their everyday activities and decisions.

Concluding my addressing, I will repeat that Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) processes emphasize the need for stimulating a holistic, integrated and interdisciplinary approach to developing the knowledge and skills needed for a sustainable future as well as changes in values, behaviour and lifestyles.

This requires us to reorient education systems, policies and practices in order to empower everyone, young and old, to make decisions and act in culturally appropriate and locally relevant ways to address the problems that threaten our common future.

Finally, Linking Education/School Admission Policy to Labor Market Outcomes has to be top priority in order to reach sustainable development, especially in developing countries. Education plays a central role in preparing individuals to enter the labor force, as well as equipping them with the skills to engage in lifelong learning experiences. There are, however, numerous dimensions of education labor market linkages. Rapid expansion of education has not necessarily been accompanied by rapid economic growth in many developing countries. To gain a comprehensive picture of education labor market linkages in any country, supply-side analysis needs to be complemented with demand-side analysis. If education is to promote economic growth, educational policies must consider both the supply of education (quality and efficiency) and the demand for education (labor market policy specifically, and nonlabor policies that affect the labor market, such as foreign direct investment [FDI] and technological development). Without an integrated, multisectoral approach to educational policy, the links between nonlabor policies and the labor market can result in a mismatch between education and the skills in demand.



**H.E Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour**  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic  
Republic of Iran

Sustainability, as a development theory, is a Notion as well as a practice. It meets needs and requirements of local and national development plans. It has also the capacity to deal with regional development and fulfill the aspirations of societies in different regions. Although it implies global principles, norms and regulations, every region has its priorities, comparative advantages, resource potentialities and of course challenges as forces for instability and unsustainability.

In my view there are certain connections and interactions among local, national and regional governance. While each of them has its own requirements, they have some commonalities that worth to take into consideration.

It is my privilege to share with you some aspects of these common characteristics including social welfare and poverty alleviation, environmental degradation, and human capacity development as the most important aspects of sustainability in all three levels of governance. It is noteworthy to highlight that a harmonious approach should be taken into account to achieve sustainability from local to national and regional levels in Central and West Asia.

Social welfare and Poverty alleviation aspect:

Despite having precious assets, including rich energy resources, West Asia and the Middle East are confronting low-welfare and considerable level of poverty.

According to the World Bank Report, 2 percent of the region's population lives in extreme poverty, while almost 14 percent live on less than 2 dollars a day. According to the report sustainable private sector jobs-particularly for youth and women-are critical to both economic development and political stability in the region. Gordon Brown in his speech at Qatar Forum 2013 suggested that Middle East needs to create more than 40 million jobs in short to midterm to overcome with serious unemployment.

Industrialization based on advanced science and high Technology along with removal of trade barriers and Professional education could enhance social welfare through job creation.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have provided, to some extent, a common vision. The post-2015

development agenda should reinforce the international community's commitment to poverty eradication through, among others, inclusive and sustainable industrial development and underscore the central imperative of poverty eradication with well-defined partnerships. Regional cooperation remains a key means for achieving the benefits of industrial development.

As UNIDO General Conference in 2013 reiterated, "The industrialization is a driver of development". Industry increases productivity, job creation and generates income, thereby contributing to poverty eradication and addressing other development goals, as well as providing opportunities for social inclusion, including gender equality, empowering women and girls and creating decent employment for the youth. As industry develops, it drives an increase of value addition and enhances the application of science, technology and innovation, therefore encouraging greater investment in skills and education, and thus providing the resources to meet broader, inclusive and sustainable development objectives.

#### Environmental Degradation aspect:

Environmental degradation can be a by-product of economic activities. As a sign of concern in the Middle East, I recall that in a study done by WB, the costs of environmental degradation in Egypt, Syria and Lebanon was 5.4%, 4.6% and 3.9% of total GDP. Industrial production often discharges pollutants into clean rivers and air, preventing the use of these resources for other purposes and harming the health of those who are exposed to them. These and many other forms of environmental degradation cause real costs to the economy and to people's welfare.

Regional development cannot be achieved if nature is harmed; ecosystems are degraded; species are vanished; landscapes are destroyed; air, soil and waters are polluted; water scarcity is increased, and the last but not the least human habitat is undermined. Most of water and environmental challenges in our region are due to disregarding environmental protection in development plans. Of course some of them originate from transboundary activities. Based on WB reports, our countries share the following long-standing environmental issues, which only differ in magnitude and severity between the countries. These are water scarcity and quality, land and coastal degradation, desertification, urban and industrial pollution. More recently, the countries of the region have been faced with the environmental dimension of their economic liberalization efforts, preferential trade agreements with other regions and globalization.

Regional countries need to provide environmental annex to their regional development arrangements. One of the main concepts in this respect is the Strategic Environmental Assessment. For many years, national development plans in West Asia concentrate on Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA) for evaluation on environmental impacts of industrial projects. Degradation of nature in our region proves that developers should enhance the level of environmental assessment from projects to plans and policies and from spot to wider ecosystems and regions. SEA integrates environmental and social considerations into policies, plans and programs, particularly in sector decision-making.

Countries in our region need to consider collectively major expansion of policy analysis of environmental issues at the regional and sector levels using Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) approaches. It means we should take into

account the transboundary effect of our national development activities. At the same time one should notice that water is a key driver of economic and social development while it also has a basic function in maintaining the integrity of the natural environment. Drivers such as demographic and climatic changes as well as industrial use increase the stress on water resources. With an average freshwater availability of 728 cubic meters per capita in MNA, many countries cannot meet the current water demand. Population growth will contribute to a decrease in already-scarce water availability of 50 percent by 2050, and climate change is predicted to bring more frequent and severe droughts and floods (World Bank 2007). A holistic approach is essential to water management. The Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach that has now been accepted internationally as the way forward for efficient, equitable and sustainable development and management of the national and regional limited water resources and for coping with conflicting demands.

I do not want to leave this aspect of regional sustainability without mentioning the need to have an effective regional environmental sustainability index. I would like to inform the distinguished participants briefly about the attempts in Iran towards addressing SEA and NSI. Article 166 and 168 of Iran 5th National Development Plan suggest the creation of two parallel systems for SEA and environmental sustainability Index which could be noticed by entire region. Article 127 of the same plan also addresses the IWRM in Iran.

#### Human Capacity Development aspect

Human resources specially the youth are the most precious asset that the region has. The young populations in the ME are the main sources of innovation. From this point of view the region is in a much better position than the countries that face with aging problem. Proper human resources development enables our region to create and manage a flourishing economy and gain long term sustainably.

In this regard, Human Development Index or HDI, as an essential indicator, is a summary measure for assessing long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human resource development which are long and healthy life, Access to knowledge, and a decent standard of living. As you are aware UNDP uses four HDI categories: very high, high, medium and low. The average of our region is medium. Iran's HDI value-for the year 2012-is 0.742. This puts Iran in the "high human development" category.

Iran's current position is 76 in the list of 187 countries, according to UNDP calculations, between the years 1980 and 2012, Iran's HDI value increased by 67 percent-or at an average annual increase of about 1.6 percent, almost twice the HDI of High Human Development group (0.73%). UNDP report on HDI says that between 1990 and 2012 Iran achieved the second highest reduction in HDI shortfall among developing countries. Only Republic of Korea was able to do better.

According to the UNDP reports since 1980 the life expectancy in Iran has increased from 51 years to 73 years. As regards to the Access to knowledge I would like to inform that starting from 1980, the expected years of education has increased from 8.7 to 14.4 years which is an impressive achievement. In Iran, for every 100,000 live births, only 21 women die from pregnancy-related causes. The group average for other "high HDI" countries is 47.

As UNDP suggested for the period of 1980-2012, Iran's

policy interventions and actions have produced significant improvements in its human development index.

Iran experience together with other emerging economics in the region such as Turkey on improving HDI and enhancing human resource development can contribute to the regional sustainability.

My final point Mr. Chairman is that we cannot löse sight of the impact of regional stability issues on sustainable development. From this point of view two historical changes have ocured in our region: transformation of traditional regional order and changes in conventional security arrangements. Both have great impact on regional sustainability in ME. I am confident that these issues will be addressed on the parallel session on next door.

At the end allow me to emphasize that to achieve sustainability at local, national and regional level in the West Asia, a harmonious approach is necessary to enhance social welfare and combat poverty, control and confront environmental degradation, and develop human resources and improve human development index. At the same time we, the governments and people of the region, need to revive our historical peaceful coexistence in Silk Road for a prosperous future.

(However, regional and global challenges need regional and global answers. Let's work closely on our common cause, for sustainable development aiming at peace and prosperity in the region and the World at large).



**Hon. Şebnem Bursalı**  
Editor in Chief of Yeni Asır

This is my third time attending the Eurasian Economic Summits. I thank to all who had part in organizing such an event.

I would like to emphasize on the role of women on sustainable development rather than politics. Mainly for my gender and being a woman executive in the business world.

Women comprise the half of world's population and hence naturally half of the ability pool. So a nation's competitive power and sustainable development is directly related and proportionate with how much value is regarded for the potential of women. The formula of sustainable development is quite simple. It is not complicated at all. If you use all the force and ability of the population this will increase your efficiency. I like to say that the sustainable development and efficiency in a country will increase as much as women's involvement in workforce increase. When we look Turkey the ratio of women's involvement of workforce is around %27. We are in the low ranks amongst the OECD countries. The main reason for this is the differences on the roles seen fit for the sons and daughters in the traditional family and social values of Turkey. There is a direction for young males to have good jobs and sustain a family in the future. For the girls, the main

aspect of bringing up is towards marriage and becoming a good mother. I am lucky and I didn't grow in such a family. I had a family who always encouraged and supported me in professional life. As for the professional life, in my own field I am in a unique position for 6 years in my country. In written press there are only two of us who serves as women editors in chiefs. When they talk about me they say woman editor in chief, they don't say man editor in chief for other 41 in the sector because there is a perception that editors in chiefs should be man. It is same for being a member of parliament, they say woman deputy.

While I conclude my remarks I would like to state that the stage world arrives to forces states, organizations, cities to obtain sustainable development and permanent competitiveness. If you are to eliminate the half of the population from this process there is no way you can succeed. For a balanced and sustainable development the inclusion of women to this process is a must. If we compare public and private sectors in Turkey with this regard, we see that private sector is way ahead on this matter. Of course it is not enough and we hope for it to be even better.

We live in a world where the male employers are being paid more than their female counterparts and women are more prone to firing than men in times of economic crisis. I think this is a matter of mentality on top of everything. To fight with this mentality is not only women's job but all of ours. We must achieve it together for a sustainable world.



*Bilboards prepared by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality in the alleys of Istanbul*



**H.E. Daniela Bobeva**  
Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria

I would like to thank to the organizers of the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit.

The summit proved to be a forum of nonconventional views and ideas how to improve our societies and make our economies working better for the people. The euroasian economic ties broaden and intensified after the global crisis. The data prove a rapid debut of European countries on the Asian markets and also large investments from Asian countries in the EU markets. Asian economies coped much better with the challenges of recent crisis and European economies more than ever turned to the large markets and investments of Asian regions. The winners in the economic race will be those who succeed to build strong bridges between Europe and Asia. And this new era of cooperation will change the landscape of the world economy but also will give more room for regional development.

The success of this story will depend to a great extent on the abilities of governments to be proactive and undertake non standard approaches in their economic policies.

Turning to the topic of the panel I would focus on three fundamental factors for a sustainable development I'll look at the role of the political stability, SMEs development and innovation.

Political stability: I come from a country where there was full and obviously sustainable political stability for more than 40 years – same party, same ruler. Then we opted for a change which turned out not easy to establish neither to sustain. With all ups and downs the democracy even a young one proved to be a better choice. What political stability means nowadays? The concept totally changed – protests everywhere, shorter-term governments, people ask for more freedoms but also better distribution of the wealth. It is not easy to be in a government in such environment. The recent global political instability is a logical outcome from irresponsible policies and mistakes, wrong concepts and bad behavior. But it is the most powerful engine to the change and to the right policies The

governments should leave with the bottom line that they do not rule, they come in order to achieve some goals and leave if not doing it. And here the so called political instability helps a lot – to make the governments listening not only hearing. My government also faces protests – some of them political, some of them economic. This creates an atmosphere that the clock is running and we have to achieve as much as possible, that we need to reform and build a solid ground for sustainable development. And the result seems encouraging. Bulgaria performs economically very well: preserving macroeconomic stability, while keeping the lowest level of taxation in EU, the lowest public debt to GDP, fiscal prudence less than 2% fiscal deficit, declining unemployment, increasing social support for the vulnerable.

And this time in order to get people on our side, we have to not just promise but to guarantee that:

- hard work will pay off;
- everyone plays by the same rules irrespectively of the position and possession
- that not only the small but also the big fail when they behave irresponsibly

Second factor for sustainable development is the SMEs development. It is like compulsory element of all political agendas, it is about time to put it truly in the political agenda. The moral hazard of the principle “too big to fail” is commonly committed seen by governments while SMEs sector is left to its own abilities. We need to promote the Entrepreneurial spirit supported by the government and also by the society. Furthermore, strong rules against monopolies and protection of competition, Balanced and affordable energy, Low taxes and shared responsibility for the vulnerable between the state, business and the society, Stable, honest and responsive to the needs of real sector financial sector.

No doubts the future economy is based not only on the entrepreneurial spirit but also on the innovation and education for all. Particularly, for the Balkan region education is of utmost importance for the development. There is still very high level of non covered children by the education system, many school droppers and a very large part of students studying abroad which turns to a large emigration of talented young people. The quality of education systems and the mismatch between education and the labour market demand opens room for a larger unemployment. Cross-border cooperation in education and science is lagging behind.

A positive tendency is the increasing number of neighboring countries students. In Bulgaria this share is about 10 per cent of enrolled students in the universities, many of those from Turkey. We in the EU, we set up ambitious targets as to what per cent of the GDP we have to spend on education. Certainly, more money, meaning larger share of GDP spent for education and innovation will not automatically bring us to the economy of the future. This is the efficient and target use of both public and private funds for education that will create the new economy.



*Family photograph with the participants of the Sustainable Development pannel of the session.*

## CHANGE IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT



**H.E. Emir Kır**

Mayor of Saint-Josse-ten-Noode - Former Minister of State of Belgium

We are discussing a very important topic today. What are the contributions of municipalities regarding environment and energy.

Indeed, municipalities are in a hard process recently. We have to try to reach our aim as well. There is a hard process ahead of us. It is required to manage this process.

Our municipality is one of the 19 municipalities of Brussel. It is located in the center of city. There are many



*Hon. Prof. Ersin Kalaycıoğlu moderator of the Session of Sustainable Development and Change in the Local Government*

high buildings, offices, centers. It has young population and cosmopolitan city. Our aim is to present livable city to our habitants, tourists, businessmen and others. However, our municipality has a speciality. Most of our buildings has been built in 19th century. Our buildings have many problems regarding energy. Especially, we have many problems about energy in buildings of municipality, school, library and museum.

I would like to focus on two subjects. First one: What can we do concerning our own buildings? What kind of services can be present for families and inhabitants.

I am planning to start with energy conservation for families. I would like to serve families regarding incentive premium. We are also planning to solve problems of renovation of home owners and tenants about procedures. We are thinking about making procedures easier. Municipality prepares a assistance information office for families.

Second one: about our own buildings. Municipality buildings looks like a small mansions. However, these buildings consumes energy very much. We prepared a serious activity plan. Our aim is to build new buildings instead of old buildings consuming more energy. Furthermore, unemployment rate in our municipality is 20%. If we can not solve the energy problem, people can abandon our city. We commenced a serious work on it.

strategy and starting point of silk road economic belt. The established area of Xian city increased to 449 km from 261 km, permanent resident reaches 8.5million, urbanization rate reaches 72%. It is forecasted the area will reach 800 km and permanent resident will reach 10 million by 2020.

Secondly, industrial system and economic strength is improved. The average GDP growth is 14.2% in the past 5 years, the total GDP is 484 billion in 2013, and GDP per capita over 8000 USD. Our GDP growth rate is 4% high than AVG of whole china. Xian has established 5 pillar industries, namely hi-tech industry, equipment manufacture industry, tourism industry, modern service industry and culture industry. We have 8 development zones focusing on different industries. Xian has a history of 3100 year, therefore it enjoys the fame of a natural historic museum, we have received over 100mil tourist from home and abroad in 2013.



### Hon. Guo Ruowei

#### Vice President of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Xi'an Committee

A few words about Xian: geographic center of China, it had been served as capital of China for 13 dynasties in China and is the starting point of ancient silk road. China as every knows, is the largest developing country, while Xian is one of the fastest developing cities in China.

The Xian Municipal government has took various policies and measures according to the West development strategy, silk road economic belt strategy to make xian to a international metropolitan, an important science and technology center, a regional trade/logistic and exhibition center, a world class tourism destination and hi-tech industrial base.

The policies and measures are as follows:

Firstly, to enlarge the city infrastructure skeleton and improve the physical carrying capacity of the city. Xian is in the very center of China, within one hour's trip by express road, it covers the 1/2 of Chinese population. Therefore, it serves as the bridgehead of China's western development

Thirdly, constant optimizing of environment has added the charm of our city.

Qinling mountain range, a dividing line of China's Northern part and Southern is to the South of Xian City. The municipal government has executed a multiple of project in order to increase the living environment of the city. Now, the forest coverage is 44.9% and greening rate reaches 32.9%. Better living environment has become a plus in attracting investment from home and abroad.

Thirdly, with the aggregation of innovative elements has become the driving force for innovation. Xian rank the 3rd in terms of comprehensive science and education strength. There are 62 universities and colleges, over 3000 R&D centers, 460 K of professional technicians and 55 academicians of China academy of Science and China academy of social Science. Xian has build sister city relationship with 23 cities of 21 countries in the world. Sumsung has invested 7 billion usd in Xian, out from top 500 companies, there are 136 companies has already settled in

Xian. Xian has become the frontier of China's central and western region in reform and opening up, and a highland attracting high-end talents, industry, technology and capital.

With the implementation of all the policies and measures, the social well-being of citizens has been improved significantly. The city government has allocated 84.7% of general budget revenue and 88.8% of newly increased revenue on the improvement of citizen's well-being in 2013, total amount reached 61.8 billion. Income level of citizen and social security system are continuously enhanced after years of hard work and efforts.

Xian is looking forward to broaden and strengthen communication and coop with Asia and European countries. We believe that along with the investment from central government and the efforts of municipal government in construction of the starting city of silk road, all the participants in this year's Summit will find more opportunities and fields in future coop.



**Hon. Stefano Lorusso**  
Deputy Mayor of Turin

Thank you very much for the invitation to share our experience about such fundamental topic. I would thank the organizer of Eurasian Economic Summit. We are very proud to be here in order to discuss the key topics about the change and sustainability.

We drive our action in terms of local government and how to bring the transformation in order to share good experience for our citizens. For those that Turin located in west part of Italy and is for more than 100 years the capital of industry in Italy because it is the location where the FIAT car factory born. So, we are so proud of the city.

Just a few days ago we had opportunity to share with the Crysler in order to provide FCA Group, automotive group, which is one of the leading car factory in the world.

Therefore for decades Turin has been city of work, the city of industry and the industry belongs to the culture of Turin's people. But just in the starting of 1990's we observed the starting of the Crysler's such kind of industries in terms of heavy production.

So, we observed changing goals, habits of the people and the changing in economic texture of the city. So, the municipality has the problem to react to such kind of very great changing.

And the key element that draw such kind of transformation was the first strategic plan of the city which has been adopted in 1995 and draw the action that the city should put into force in order to transform typical industrial city to maintain strong industry to bring transformation as an opportunity.

The key element has been the innovation and the high level knowledge our university, our technical university which is one of the leading universities in the engineering faculty in the world. And it is the polytechnic of Turin where the two driver of the transformation.

So, knowledge, innovation and sustainability has been the key transformation and very important in heavy industry in a more modern industry. The second key has been the urban development and urban renewing. I am deputy Major of Turin and main charge of such kind of policies. And just in the beginning of 90's almost 8 billion euro in terms of turnover relating to the subway construction, the renewal of the suburbs and other kind of transformation especially our historical center mostly outside of Italy. You know that Turin is first capital of Italy just before Florence, now Rome.

So, we have a very wonderful historical center that for decades has not been a touristic driver because Turin has not been a key of development. When the Major and Administration looks at the very fast changing situation in the economy.

They identify culture and Turin as driver of possible opportunity of development. And several renewal of city in terms of physical transformation has been put into force and the second very big action and very important event has been winter Olympic games in 2006 that we guessed Turin like Sochi now. And we use such kind of opportunity in order to transform the city. Following watch which driver sustainability in terms of environmental impact of the city.

Because we have a lot of brown field in our city and abandon factories mostly inside the city. We try to transform such kind of empty space in full space. Full of innovation and full of technology. So, we use, we combine. So, we call system of Turin the university and the Polytechnic University in order to renew a lot of ancient factories and to provide new residential a new commercial area.

Now, we identify our city's strategic plan that connection with the culture. We provide a lot of touristic places in Turin city after Florence and Rome. Now, our Ambassador worldwide also here in Istanbul.

So, good food, culture, tourism and especially innovation and knowledge society are drivers of our future. Now, we have to put into force such kind of action. I am concluding initial speech. It is totally respect to past. Because, our public that is too high at the moment.

So, we have to bring the transformation without using the driver of the debt in terms of financing. So, our difficulty is to attract private investor that came in order to share and to use our cities to provide development for the cities and good business opportunity.

Because in Italy we don't have more possibility to increase our debt in terms of our monetary way. So, we have to innovate also the ancient practice regarding such kind of transformation. It is not so easy and is very important tool that don't stop transformation of the city that is one of our key topics in our administration. So, these are the main probably in order to introduce.



### **Hon. Dr. Sheng Sixin**

On behalf of H.E. Cao Wenlian, Chairman of the International Cooperation Center of the National Reform and Development Commission of PR China

First of all, I would like to express appreciation to Marmara group foundation for inviting me to attend the Summit. Today I will say something about sustainable development and sub-regional cooperation; but before that, please allow me to use some words to introduce our center. International Cooperation Center of National Development and Reform Commission (for short is ICC-NDRC) was established in 1993 at the approval of State Commission Office for Public Sector Reform. It's an independent director-general level legal entity supervised by National Development and Reform Commission, one of the ministries under the Chinese central government.

The mission of our center is to execute some cooperation projects between the Chinese government and international organizations, foreign governments as well as foreign companies. We also organize some important international conferences, seminars, workshops and training programs on economic development and institutional reform, as well as a range of policy research in the field of economic and social development. The center also handles foreign affairs procedures for overseas training and visits, conducts reception for visits by foreign institutions, NGOs and enterprises. In addition, it offers policy consulting services to foreign investors and local governments, introduces cooperation partners to both China and foreign countries, and publishes Chinese and foreign-language materials regarding economic and social development. In March, 2009, the high-level "Think Tank" chaired by former Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan, China Center for International Economic Exchanges (for short is CCIEE) was founded in Beijing. Our center is the sponsor of CCIEE and participates in organizing the CCIEE.

This is the short introduction to our center. As for the theme of this session, I fully agree that a country's development can only be achieved through realization of economic, environmental, and social sustainability. However, the sustainable development is not an easy job to do. Even for the developed countries, the global financial crisis also shows their difficulty in achieve sustainable development, and the globalization is in trouble due to its inequality. For developing countries like China, their development will continue to need opening up to developed countries on one hand, but they also need to strengthen the regional cooperation with other countries on the other hand. As China's president Xi Jinping said last year, now we need a

new silkroad to revitalize the cultural connection and economic cooperation between China and the middle Asia as well as the East Europe, including Turkey of course. Actually, historically Istanbul was the most important culture and traffic hub to connect Asia and Europe on the ancient silkroad, and it is reasonable to predict that the city and Turkey can do the same job better nowadays with increasing economic power and regional influence. Indeed, as globalization fails in many areas, the sustainable economic, environmental and social development becomes a more and more regional issue, and single country cannot achieve this objective without the cooperation with other countries. However, the regional cooperation between countries has been proved sensitive and difficult to push due to culture, religion, politics, and security factors. In this context, the sub-regional cooperation, in other words, the cooperation between cities or local governments in different countries, is more and more popular and successful. Compared with the sweeping globalization and regional cooperation, the sub-regional cooperation can be viewed as a less compulsory and more natural way to achieve win-win results for people in different countries, because the major actor are local governments and business sector other than the central government;

and also because the sub-regional cooperation is largely based on historical, geographic, cultural, ethnic and/or economic connections between places in different countries.

In particular, China is a big country that consists of over 30 provinces, and every province may be regarded as a country in Europe in terms of territory, population and market. To a large extent, every province or even every city can makes quite independent decision in terms of economic cooperation with foreign local governments or foreign companies. Scholars have proved that, other than a centralized political system, the economic miracle in China is largely driven by the fierce economic competitions among local governments in terms of attracting external resources. In that sense, foreign stakeholders may find themselves having extensive opportunities to get good partners in terms of sub-regional cooperation. In fact, in the past few years, China's local governments in different provinces already tried very successfully to establish cooperation with local governments in Russia, Middle Asia, and Southeast Asian regions, and recently some cities in China are trying to achieve free trade agreement with foreign regions, obviously a more advanced form for the sub-regional cooperation. All in all, these sub-regional cooperation are very practical, effective, fruitful and reciprocal. In any way, the role and the potential of the sub-regional cooperation for sustainable development should not be under-estimated. It already becomes an inevitable trend for the world. Finally, I want to highlight the central role of sustainable social development among political, economic, environmental development, etc. What does the sustainable social development mean? According to China's experience, the foundation of sustainable development lies in the belief and the principle that the benefit of the development should be shared by all people in the country. In other words, the development in a country is supposed to be an inclusive growth, being tolerant to diversity and respect for disadvantaged groups. Without this kind of belief and principle, the development in other aspects will become unstable. The sub-regional cooperation needs to contribute to the communities in both sides, after all. The last words are, the above comments are my personal opinions, which cannot be treated as any official or institutional statement. Thank you; and thank you all



*Family photograph with the participants of Change in the Local Government panel of the session.*

## THE CONCLUSION OF THE “SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT” SESSION

The 17th Eurasian Economic Summit was held at İstanbul WoW Otel with the participations of the President of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina; former presidents of Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Mongolia, Romania and Slovenia; Princes of Romania and Albania, First Ladies, the Deputy President of Azerbaijan, the Deputy Parliament Speaker of Bulgaria, Deputies of Prime Ministers, Ministers, Bureaucrats, Spiritual Leaders, Executives of the Business World, Administrators of NGO's.

After the opening session in the morning four parallel sessions were held. The “Sustainable Development & Changes in Local Governments” session, which was organized by Müjgan Suver, President of The Marmara Group Foundation EU and Human Rights Platform, was presented by Tijen Mergen from Doğan Journalism and moderated by Prof. Dr. Ersin Kalaycıoğlu.

At the opening of the session which started at 14:00 and ended at 17:30 at İstanbul Wow Otel, Müjgan Suver gave an opening speech called “A Big Picture” where she discussed an industrial development example that doesn't destroy what nature has given. The main theme speech was given by Nassir Abdullaziz Al-Nasser High Representative to the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

During the first sitting moderated by Prof. Dr. Ersin Kalaycıoğlu, Prince Radu of Romania, Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria Daniela Bobeva, Federal Minister of Science and Education of Bosnia-Herzegovina Damir Masic, Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour explained why sustainable development was important, how uncontrolled development can also destroy its own contributions and the foundation of the ecosystem, and what they had been doing in their own countries. Editor in Chief of Yeni Asır Şebnem Bursalı mentioned the importance of gender equality, women's employment within sustainable development.

After the first sitting, the speakers answered the audience's questions which were more or less related to sustainable development in local administrations. In that regard the second sitting started with local administrators as speakers.

During the second sitting, Former State Minister and current Mayor of Saint-Josse-Noode Emir Kır, Deputy Mayor of Turin Stefano Lorusso, Representative of National Development and Reform of People's Republic of China Dr. Sheng Sixin, Deputy Director of Xi'an Municipal Development and Reform Commission Jiang Jianchun expressed their suggestions and experiences under the moderation of Prof. Dr. Ersin Kalaycıoğlu.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE: DIALOGUE FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL



*Rostrum - Hon. Engin KÖKLÜÇİNAR (Chairman), Vice President of the Marmara Group Foundation, H.E. Shaykh-al-Islam Allahşükür PAŞAZADE Chairman of Caucasus Muslims Board, H.E. Archbishop Antonio LUCIBELLO, Apostolic Nuncio to Turkey, H.E. Dr. Manouchehr MOTTAKI, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.M. Prince LEKA, Prince of the Albanians*



## His All Holiness Bartholomew I Ecumenical Patriarch

It is once again an honor to address the Eurasian Economic Summit, which is organized each year by the esteemed Marmara Group and is today considering the topic of “Culture and Ecological Dialogue.”

Centuries ago, a Christian mystic declared: “Acquire inward peace, and thousands around you will find their peace.” In some ways, then, the dialogue for peace begins within. This in turn embraces a religious dimension, which can never

be separated from genuine peace, whether locally or globally. As faith communities and religious leaders, we are obliged constantly to remind people about the obligation and responsibility to choose peace through dialogue.

Human conflict may well be inevitable in our world; but war and violence are certainly not. If our age will be remembered at all, it may be remembered for those who dedicated themselves to the cause of peace. We must believe in and “pursue what makes for peace.” (Rom. 14.19)

The pursuit, however, of dialogue and peace calls for a radical reversal of what has become the normative way of survival in our world. It demands a transformation of values that are deeply seeded in our hearts and societies, hitherto determining our relationship with those who challenge our worldview or threaten our lifestyle. Transformation in the spiritual sense is our only hope of breaking the cycle of violence and injustice. For, war and

peace are systems, which are contradictory ways of resolving problems and conflicts. Ultimately, they are choices.

This means that making peace is a matter of individual and institutional choice, as well as of individual and institutional change. It begins within and spreads outside to the local and in turn to the global. Thus, peace requires a sense of inner conversion (metanoia) -- a change in policies and practices. Peacemaking ultimately requires commitment, courage and



*H.E. Shaykh-al-Islam Allahşükür Paşazade with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I*

sacrifice. It demands of us a willingness to become people and communities of transformation.

The various gatherings initiated or organized at the Ecumenical Patriarchate over the last decades have proved crucial in order to prepare the way for a more peaceful coexistence and closer cooperation between the world's peoples. They serve to bring cultures together in a searching encounter and assist religious believers to establish a more meaningful form of communication with one another.

Such an interfaith dialogue draws people of diverse religious beliefs and differing cultural backgrounds out of their isolation, preparing them for a process of mutual respect, understanding and acceptance. It is our unswerving conviction that when we truly desire this kind of encounter and communication and our hearts sincerely seek these, then we will somehow find ways to coexist in spite of differences in our faiths and in our cultures.

Isolation, aggression

In fact, historical conflicts between Christians and Muslims normally have their roots in politics and not in religion itself. Speaking of an inevitable and inexorable "clash of civilizations" is neither correct nor valid, especially when such a theory posits religion as the principal battleground on which such conflict is doomed to occur. It may sometimes be the case that national leaders try to bring about isolation and aggression between Christians and Muslims; or that politicians or demagogues mobilize religions in order to reinforce fanaticism and hostility among nations. However, this is not to be confused with the true nature and purpose of religion.

Christians and Muslims have lived together, sharing the same geographical region, in the context of the Byzantine and the Ottoman Empires, usually with the consent or support of the political and religious authorities of these two monotheistic religions. In Andalusia, Spain, believers in Judaism, Christianity and Islam coexisted peacefully for centuries. These historical models reveal possibilities in our

own world, which is shaped by pluralism and globalization.

It is overly simplistic to distinguish sharply between the cultures or civilizations of "East" and "West," as if the two are unrelated or can never converge in any meaningful or creative way. Moreover, it may be helpful to recall a fact that is rarely acknowledged by historical commentators and political scientists. As the Byzantine historian Alexander Vasiliev (1867-1953) observes:

Perhaps the cultural influence of both the Byzantine Empire and Islam may be noted in the origin and progress of the so-called Italian Renaissance. Classical knowledge, which was carefully preserved by Byzantium, and various branches of knowledge which were not only preserved but also perfected by Arabs [and Ottomans] played an essential role in the creation of the new cultural atmosphere . . . a connecting link between ancient culture and our modern civilization. Here we have an example of the cultural co-operation of the two most powerful and fruitful forces of the Middle Ages – Byzantium and Islam.

Perhaps, then, it would be more appropriate to focus our imagination not on some inevitable clash of civilizations, but on the mutual enrichment that can occur between different, diverse and distinct cultures. This is a hope expressed in a paradoxical way by a contemporary Turkish writer, Turan Oflazoğlu (b. 1932): "What we need is to enrich ourselves with those aspects of foreign culture, which are not congenial to our nature."

This is precisely why a dialogue, which acknowledges differences but also suggests ways to negotiate differences, may prove helpful to map out appropriate avenues of communication between cultures and nations. It is the only way of discovering the peace that is within in order to realize a peace that is local, which in turn materializes a peace that proves truly global.



**H.E. Shaykh-al-Islam Allahşükür Paşazade**  
Chairman of Caucasus Muslims Board

First of all, I would like to present my thanks to my dear brother Dr. Akkan Suver. I hope, we will have a fruitful Summit by the will of almighty Allah.

Also, I would like to present our gratitude’s to President of Turkey Abdullah Gül and Prime Minister of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Besides, I would like to underline importance of inter-religious works of my dear brother President of Religious Affairs of Turkey Mehmet Görmez, Patriarch Bartholomeow and all religious leaders, who are here with us. I am sure that, just like past Summits, this Summit will also enhance peace, cooperation between civilizations and nations. Our delegation consists Leader of Orthodox Church of Azerbaijan Archbishop Aleskandr Issein, Leader of Catholic Church of Azerbaijan Vladimir Fekete and Leader of Azerbaijani Jews Melix Yevdayev. We are here to show tolerance of Azerbaijan.

Mutual respect is almighty Allah’s will. Holy Quran says: “O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you.” (“Surat Al-Ĥujurāt”, 13)

Rising tension of globalizing world is disturbs Caucasian god-fearing fearing people like everyone else. Unfortunately, time to time we are witnessing inhuman actions like extremism and terrorism. As a religious scholar, I think main reason of the problems is ignoring mankind’s spiritual-moral roots. According to scholars, there are five main global problems: population growth, hunger, energy crisis, environmental catastrophes and disturbance in world peace. These problems will not solved

in one day. So we should act step by step. I believe we should use old moral rules in all areas of our lives - politics, economy, intergovernmental relations, etc. For centuries, Azerbaijan was meeting point of many nations and beliefs. Azerbaijan was a part of great Silk Road. Being respect different nations and tolerant to different beliefs is a custom in Azerbaijan, meeting point of west and east. That is why Azerbaijan hosted many international meetings like World Religious Leaders Summit (2009), International Inter-Civilizations Forum (2011) and International Humanitarian Forum (2013).

Azerbaijan was always respectful to different beliefs. For centuries, mosques, Christian churches and synagogues operated side by side and this is a indicator of toleration to different beliefs. Thanks to our National Leader Haydar Aliyev’s foreseeing policy, our mutual respect improved even further. And our President Ilham Aliyev carrying on this great policy.

Religious scholars sense the assurance of religion-state affairs thanks to our President. And thanks to Haydar Aliyev Foundation we can sense spiritual existence of our religious-historical memorials. By the virtue of them, mosques, churches and synagogues renovated; and established an environment based on religious freedom.

It sorrows me to inform you that, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has been going on for 20 years. Armenian extremists damaged our historical-religious monuments, mosques and graveyards. Our people experienced ethnic cleansing. Nevertheless, we tried to solve the problem in a peaceful manner. We always prefer a region full of justice and peace. I am sure, this meeting will move us further in our way of peace.

Once again, I wish a beneficial Eurasian Economic Summit and present my thanks to Honorable President and participants.



*Religious Leaders at the Patriarchate*



**H.E. Hadi Nezir**  
Minister of State of Macedonia

First of all, I would like to salute you with most heartfelt affections and I would like to share my pleasure of being a part of such an esteemed crowd with you all.

Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to once again state how happy I am to be in the beautiful city of Istanbul which has been crossroads of cultures and where dialogue was always present throughout history, and to address you on behalf of the government of the Republic of Macedonia.

Dear guests, esteemed participants,

I find it especially meaningful that the session's subject is the importance of dialogue in peace.

As you are well aware, as an individual hailing from the Balkans I can say that we come across with the subjects of peace and dialogue with every era of our lives.

Us, who lives in the region be it Macedonian, Kosovar, Serbian or Bosnian we are the ones who knows how important peace and dialogue really is.

Dear guests, esteemed participants,

The negative and unfortunate developments that took place in the Balkans at the beginning of the 90s and imprisoned the region for a long time, among other things were mostly because of the lack of dialogue.

All the sides tried to dwell on non-benefit affairs rather than accepting dialogue, tolerance and some realities.

They couldn't said yes to dialogue for peace and the qualities like patience and understanding the others were always kept behind.

We can easily say that today, the new generations attach greater importance to dialogue mechanisms and peace.

With the lessons they have learned from the past and with the globalization, we can say that they putting significant efforts for peace through enhancing international relations and strengthening dialogue.

In this regard, I want to invite us all to

make the calling for understanding the importance of empathy and dialogue mechanisms in order to label the 21st century as the century of peace.

I think that call to dialogue and peace is the primary duty of humanity.

Esteemed participants,

We who live in Macedonia, although from different religious beliefs and ethnicities try to keep the concept of dialogue alive and enhance our dialogue with each other at all times.

Through dialogue, we try to dwell on our similarities rather than our differences.

Furthermore, I can say that at this stage Macedonia is one of the main elements of establishing and maintaining peace.

Dear participants,

In order to overcome the main reasons of many negative developments; ignorance and prejudice, we shall also use the way of dialogue in addition to education.

I call upon you to attach a special importance to tolerance and dialogue to a better and peaceful future to next generations.

Esteemed guests, Distinguished participants,

While I conclude my remarks, I would like to once again state my pleasure to take part in this meeting and offer my appreciation to Dr. Akkan Suver and his team for making this extraordinary organization possible.

I salute you all with most sincere feelings and wish that dialogue will be ever-present in your lives.



*Representatives of Marmara Group Foundation Hon. Cafer Okray and Hon. (R) Admiral Yüksel Önel*



**H.E. Dr. Manouchehr Mottaki**  
 Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic  
 Republic of Iran

It is an honor for me to be here today. Allow me to thank for warm hospitality to Marmara Foundation.

We all gathered here to share our understandings of our social life. Peace is so crucial for our living. Peace is one of the ultimate necessary goals for every society. When it exists, many other goals could be followed; and when it does not exist, nobody is concerned more about any other goals.

Today, with the help of common wisdom of international community, countries are striving hard to follow a balanced and durable development in compliance with their diversified cultures. A terminology sometimes referred to as social and economical development as well as environmental plans. Development is another main theme for every society towards reaching its strategic goals. And needless to say that without overall existence of peace, there would be no development at all. On the other hand, maintaining peace and security requires socio-economic development plans. Considering the broad range of meaning for development we can conclude that peace and development are so inter related that one cannot be separated from the other and lasts long. The main questions one should answer are what are the main forces confronting against peace and blocking development in general and what are the negative forces against development that are blocking a durable peace. These days, the most unrest region are the middle east and north African countries, where we witness a region full of violence and instability. What is needed to bring back peace and stability and development. We all believe that peace and security is a comprehensive concept for the whole world. It could only be actualized when it is not presented everywhere. During the past 60 years many internal and external factors have contributed in exploding violence in the middle east and north African countries. Current situation of the region could be marked as the result of many wrong doing such as foreign intervention and occupation, imposing sanctions, foreign supported dictators, inefficient rulers, social discriminations, fanaticism, lack of modesty, injustice, corruption, extremism, etc.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The root of such behavior in this region could be

categorized in two distinct group. One is foreign oriented interference, the other is internal agnatonizm and denial among domestic groups. Here I would like to explain about an important terminology and that is having a mechanism for transitional power in the countries. The countries who have a democratic mechanism for transitional power definitely the nation in those countries will enjoy a lot. And it will take them away from internal tensions. The countries who follow the democratic transition in their system, in this region , Turkey Iran and some other countries who follow this mechanism any changes will come through a democratic path. Nowadays nation of Iran is celebrating 35th anniversary of Islamic revolution in Iran and returning back of Imam Huomeyni from 15 years of exile and ending a dictatorship regime in Iran. As well as the people of Turkey are enjoying since 1980 this democratic mechanism.

Palestinian people are suffering from occupation and violence. This conflict has played a highly negative role in regional, economic, social and political development for more than 60 years. Continuation of the conflict in Syria may lead to another long term low intensive regional conflict that may undermine regional peace and development for a long time. Any conflict in MENA will just prevent regional development and firmly there will be no winner those who invest unwind will gather typhoon.

Now I would like to draw your kind attention to the spreficiations of contemporary international relation. Current international situation could be marked as transitional. The whole international sense has turned to become transitional towards some unknown future. In order to take opportunities, to take appropriate steps. We need to understand this transitional period correctly.

First, our past experience demonstrate that violence is not proper response to bilateral and regional problems. Iraq Saddam's regime failure in Iran and Kuwait, failure of the former soviet union in Afghanistan, the US failure in Afghanistan and Iraq, Israel's failure in Gaza and Lebanon, failure of the US and EU economic violence against Iran, all demonstrate that violence is not a solution to bilateral or regional problems.

Second, violence is not the right solution for internal problems. Failure of violent groups in Iran and Turkey, Taliban failure in Afghanistan, extremist's failure in Iraq and Syria all demonstrates that it is not possible to solve internal problems through violence.

Third, political movements are shaped by legitimate social demands. We need an approach to answer the legitimate demands of the people on time and avoid violence if we do not answer them others will do.

Fourth middle east the only region that lacks and inclusive regional mechanism for dialogue

As violence and war cannot be impose to the other nations at the same time peace cannot be translated as an imposed peace. It means a justice based peace is the most important thing which the nations are looking for that and it is very important to follow the peace as a necessary step to development.



## H.E. Dora Bakoyannis

Member of Hellenic Parliament, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

I would like to thank the Marmara Foundation and Dr. Suver for their kind invitation to participate in the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit.

I almost never miss the opportunity to visit Turkey and to convey my views and opinions on important matters of our times, here in our neighbouring country.

And this is a factual demonstration of the importance I attach to regional and local connections; I know only too well that the importance of peace and cooperation is directly linked to the relations individuals and institutions develop with each other.

Dear friends,

There is in fact a dual content to the relation of local and peripheral agents with States and Supranational Organisations:

- The wider conflicts and/or clashes of interest often come down and reach the local dimension; this can, in the case of wider inter-states crises, affect local communities without a fault of their own.

- And the second is the added value cities and Regions bring to intra-state and international relations.

This dimension is ALWAYS conducive to peace; and it is this second dimension, Ladies and Gentlemen, that constitutes the subject of our discussion today.

Dear friends,

I confess I feel privileged in having been kindly selected by our hosts to discuss exactly this second dimension: for, in having served at practically all levels of administration, I consider the conclusions I have reached on their practical relevance for local, regional and international politics as, perhaps, factually useful for our discussion.

Let me single out, in starting, an incredibly interesting characteristic of the relations between regions and cities: this is their inherent peaceful character I mentioned above. For, indeed, it is only in periods of peace that such relations thrive; and their development, in turn, greatly contributes to solidifying peace, enhancing economic development, and, above all, the mutual understanding between peoples that

is the main prerequisite of peace. Everybody remembers the earthquakes in Istanbul and Athens which generated a spontaneous reaction in both of our peoples, who rushed to help each other. This led not only to the amelioration of relations between Istanbul and Athens, but to the rapid improvement of the relation of our two states as well.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Take the Balkans, for example: a careful look at the situation of intra-State, Regional, and local cooperation will give you a good idea about the overall level of Regional cooperation in our area; it will offer you a good explanation of the results of past conflicts and divisions and of the great possibilities of improvement.

A first conclusion after such a careful look is that there are a lot of missing links in the Balkans. We are perhaps the only region in Europe with primary flaws in our communications! And links are of primary importance for the development of all sorts of other relations between cities and regions.

Take Athens, for example: Athens is still not connected with direct flights with several of the other capitals in the Region! Neither with Ankara, nor with Pristina, nor with Skopje, nor with Sarajevo, Ljubljana, Zagreb, or Podgorica; To fly to these other Balkan capitals you need at least twice the time that is necessary to fly to Paris, Bruxelles, Munich, or Vienna! And, when other, secondary, cities are for example fraternised they will find it even more difficult to communicate between them.

Take, for example, Izmir and Thessaloniki, or even Izmir and Athens: no sea, rail, or air links between such large cities across a relatively minor European geographical area.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the context of the Regional Cooperation Council in the Balkans, when I was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece and other States of the Region concluded agreements whereby the South-Eastern European capitals would be gradually connected with high-speed railway lines; this was not materialised, but, on the contrary, Greece has shut down all passenger rail services connecting Athens, and particularly Thessaloniki, with all other cities in the Region.

This is deplorable; for it is cities and Regions that enhance real cooperation and understanding between peoples; it is cities and Regions that bring down the psychological and communication barriers between the citizens of various nations; it is cities and Regions that ‘per naturam’ enhance PEACE between peoples as they do not generally mingle with foreign policy issues.

Dear friends,

A good example of city diplomacy was the case of Athens in the period preceding the Olympic Games: in that period there was widespread mistrust in the international Media as to the City’s ability to be ready on time for those Games. I then undertook an international campaign, trying to ally CITIES to the cause espoused by my own city; I visited many key capitals with my immediate staff and with a complete file of the works and actions we were undertaking to modernise Athens and to make it ready for the Games.

The campaign was a complete success; and, when the

Games themselves proved to be a resounding success and not a failure, world opinion turned around in an unprecedented fashion.

An effort of a different kind was undertaken, in the course of the few last years, by the Mayor of Thessaloniki.

The Mayor of Greece's second largest town has opened-up his city to its Balkan hinterland commercially, for tourism and for culture; he addressed, in addition, the peoples of nations who had a living presence in Thessaloniki in the past: Turks, Israelis, Slavs, who once inhabited his city.

Tourism from Turkey, and from Israel, almost doubled following these initiatives. Atatürk's house was renovated; a service in one of the city's mosques, now a museum, was allowed; cruises connecting Thessaloniki with other great cities of our Region started taking place.

Likewise Izmir, and the capitals of Greece's major islands in the vicinity working together, have seen spectacular progress in their relations. It was their pressure that forced the Greek government to ask the EU authorities for permission to grant two-day visas for Turkish citizens visiting the islands. It is now a two-way traffic between the islands and the Western coasts of Anatolia.

Who can doubt, dear friends, that these, initially local relations, when so well developed, have a great beneficial impact on the overall relations of the two nations that share so much in common?

There is nothing so conducive to peace than people getting to know each other, exchange goods, and visit each other in their native cities.

The same is true with the constantly strengthening relations of Greek and Bulgarian cities across the border; with Regions and towns being fraternised and exchanging their culture and goods with each other.

Dear friends,

There is nothing so conducive to peace, mutual understanding, cooperation and fraternity like Regional and City diplomacy and fraternisation.

The EU itself fully realises that, and its policy is strongly favouring Regional cooperation.

Greek Macedonia and Lombardy, which share such common characteristics as rich plains, wooded mountains and beautiful lakes, combined with the presence of historic cities are fraternised. Athens and Rome, the twin pillars of European civilisation, are fraternized also; and they share their common experiences while building up new links and relations; Thessaloniki and Istanbul, furthermore, are two cities that were inextricably linked both in the context of the Byzantine and in that of the Ottoman Empire; there is no reason therefore – quite the contrary! – not to continuously further their relationship today also; today that five Balkan countries are already members of the EU, and therefore belong to the same European family, and the rest of the States of South-East Europe are in varying stages of talks for accession to the EU themselves.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is incredibly positive that cities and Regions have, in relatively recent years, taken by themselves so many fruitful initiatives to be connected to each other and to try and give new meaning and context to their ever-increasing exchanges; this is gradually changing the scene, even if indirectly, in the overall relations of whole countries and geographical entities as well; but they cannot be left alone: Regional State

authorities, Regional European Agencies, like the Regional Cooperation Council I mentioned above, and the EU itself must concentrate their efforts to create the conditions for these local and intra-city initiatives to flourish.

Here are, indicatively, some of the policy priorities I would single out in order to help cities and Regions carry on even more successfully their fraternising mission:

From here in Istanbul I propose the creation of a "League of South-Eastern European Capitals and Major Cities". The League should have two main objectives:

A. Design state-of-the-art policies of inter-connection; find out specific fields of exchanges that would produce swift mutual benefits between cities and their Regions. A small staff of experts in inter-connection should exist in every Mayor's Office.

B. Present to national governments, Regional EU authorities and Brussels itself concrete plans for all the missing links in the Balkans.

Such plans would, indicatively, include:

- The major missing air, rail, and road routes that hinder communication between our major cities and Regions.

- The telecommunications and other systems in need of advancement and streamlining.

- The educational, cultural and other institutions whose synergies would create added value for the Region.

This overall work to enhance and ameliorate the preconditions of city and Region cooperation should not deter the latter, as was fortunately the case until now, to proceed to the forging of links with other cities and Regions, either in their own geographical vicinity or anywhere else in Europe-and beyond. The two are linked, naturally, but they are not mutually exclusive.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Peace is solidified when taking deep roots on the ground; and the most fertile ground, both in history and today, as our recent experience of the cooperation between Greek and Turkish cities and Regions shows, is exactly the level of cities and Regions; but the States and other supra-national authorities have an obligation to work in the direction of providing the necessary means to the smaller entities for facilitating their cooperation.

Let me conclude by saying one thing for each of the relevant levels:

To the cities and Regions I say: continue to surprise us positively, as you have done all these years; forge new links between you; invent new spheres of cooperation and exchange.

And to the governments and the EU I say: do not obstruct the smaller units from cooperating. Provide all the necessary links that will bring them closer together.

But these smaller units must have plans and therefore present well-studied demands to the higher Authorities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The dynamics for peace, instigated by cooperation from below, are there.

With a little further work on the part of both the regional and central authorities, along the lines I have just described, I believe that what are now impressive results can soon become spectacular, to the benefit of peace and the well-being of our citizens.

Dear friends,

Let me finish by expressing my deep satisfaction for the

way our citizens take the relations between our countries into their own hands. Local government is much closer to the citizen. It expresses better than any other level of government the immediate desires of the people. This is why it is this

level of government that, as we know, had generated all this wonderful and humane reaction which led our two peoples to come much closer together.

Thank you so much for your undivided attention.



### H.M. Prince Leka of the Albanians

I am honored to take part in this esteemed summit before an audience of remarkable individuals of which inboud the importance of understanding the role of local and global dialogue as a mechanism of furthering tolerance and peace, whilst insuring further stability in our regions for future generations. This in its self is to the credit of the Marmara foundation and its broader vision.

The South East European region is battling its Balkan legacy and dealing with historical problems whilst focusing on a common European future, this embodies the importance of reaching out and facing our regional challenges. Any deliberate resistance of ignoring problems of regional importance can only lead to the building of mechanisms to those intrest groups that may favor conflicts.

Albania is ancient Nation with one of the youngest populations in Europe with the majority of Albanians below the age of thirty. Surrounded by ethnic Albanians on all its boarders has lead to a unique example of political maturity and patience as they pursue stability. The ethnic Albanians face their hardships brought on by the rewriting of boarders during the conference of London 1913.

Last year i had the great honor of being a part of the bilateral talks between Albania and our neighbor Greece during the visit of President Karolos Papoulias, which emphasized the very good relations between our two countries. However we still have inherited problems from our past. To mention just one: “the Law of War”, Nr. 2636/1940 and Nr. 2637/1940, declared by Royal decree in 1940 against Albania, which keeps in force the confiscation of Albanian lands in Greece, discriminating primarily the Came community of thier rights, including the right of regaining Greek citizenship, which has still not been amended by the Greek Parliament even though we have a signed pact of friendship since 1998. Between NATO members and future European partners dialog is of

great importance.

A great example of dialog should be noted between Kosova and Serbia, where after a harsh war solid ground of understanding has been gained. Whilst the Albanian population in Presheva and Serbs living in Mitrovica still have a long way to go in insuring future stability, as in Macedonia where one million Albanians are seeing the slow implementation of the Ohri agreement which was a factor of stability and peace for the young country through dialogue.

These issues emphasize the importance of tolerance and communication allowing for constructive dialog to encourage common ground which impacts our common European future.

On a closing note:

During the Holocaust Remembrance Day King Zog, a muslim King was honored for opening up the boarders of Albania in saving the Jewish families escaping Nazi persecution.

Albania, a majority Muslim country, was the only occupied country which had more Jews after the war than before because of our honor code the BESA, without a single case of persecution.

The Albanian honor code of the BESA offers a message of peace and respect of which could be our small countries contribution to global dialogue by leading by example.

In agreement with the Chinese proverb, “Something as small as the flutter of a butterfly,s wings can cause a Typhoon halfway around the world”!

## FROM PRESS

### Απογευματινή - Apoyevmatini



Σύμφωνα με ανακοίνωση τύπου του Ιδρύματος «Ομάδα Μαρμαρά», ο σοφολογιότατος Σεχουλισλάμ των Μουσουλμάνων του Καυκάσου Αλαχσουκούρ Πασαζαντέ, ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Μπακού και Αζερμπαϊτζάν Αλέξανδρος, ο ρομαιοκαθολικός Επίσκοπος Βλαδίμιρ Φεκέτε και ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Γιεβντάεφ Μιλίχ Ιλιχάνοβιτς, συνοδευόμενοι από τον κ. Ακκάν Σουβέρ, πρόεδρο του Ιδρύματος Μαρμαρά, επισκέφθηκαν τον Οικουμενικό Πατριάρχη κ. Βαρθολομαίο στο Φανάρι, όπου παρεκάθησαν και στο γεύμα. Στην επάνω φωτογραφία στιγμιότυπο από την επίσκεψη.

### Apoyevmatini Newspaper



## Hon. Genc Seiti

Director of Division for Civil Society of UNESCO

Eurasian Economic Summits have become important moments on the global calendar, as platforms to explore a world undergoing change and to strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation in tackling common challenges.

On behalf of the Director-General of UNESCO, Ms Irina Bokova, I wish to congratulate the Marmara Foundation for this longstanding initiative that brings together representatives at the highest level, to deepen dialogue for lasting peace and sustainable development.

The 17th Eurasian Economic Summit comes under the theme of “Glocalization – Thinking Globally, Acting Locally,” and will explore a range of important questions – from sustainable development and local governance to the challenge of human trafficking and the role of information and communication technologies.

Our session today on peace and dialogue, from local to global is of the highest importance for UNESCO.

Together with the Marmara Foundation and other partners of the civil society and governments, we can make a difference that could be meaningful for the region and also to tackle the challenges of our increasingly connected and globalized world.

We must also reach far beyond institutional and political conferences to build genuine bridges within the civil society, among artists, intellectuals, teachers, professors and creators.

People of the various parts of the region have moved from reconciliation and reconstruction to new priorities – to concerns for professional training, cultural exchanges, community involvement, and policy improvement.

The countries of the region have demonstrated how cultural dialogue can help people overcome differences and reconcile after conflicts. This vision of culture as a bridge for reconciliation and development is ever more important today – as regions around the world, undergo rapid change and look for new democratic pathways, new models for peace and recovery.

Cultural heritage is one of the greatest strength of this region – this is a wealth to be shared with the rest of the world, with all humanity. UNESCO spares no efforts to position culture, the arts and heritage, at the heart of peace-building, reconciliation and development.

The dialogue is essential for progress together towards sustainable development and political stability.

At this time of change, we must remain true to shared fundamental principles – respect for human rights and dignity must remain the foundations on which to craft more peaceful, just and sustainable development for all.

This Eurasian Economic Summit occurs when the international community is shaping a global sustainable development agenda to follow 2015, building on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals.

UNESCO has a clear message in this global conversation. The new sustainable development agenda must be bold and universal, while helping countries focus on what is most urgent -- the eradication of poverty, the reduction of inequalities, and the ending of discrimination. It must place the values of equality, human rights and sustainable development at its core and respond to the needs of all societies -- by accelerating quality Education for All, by fostering social inclusion and tackling unemployment, in particular among youth, and by safeguarding cultural heritage and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions.

We must support countries in harnessing the full power of the sciences to foster the innovation and creativity all societies need today.

Fundamentally, the new agenda must promote peace and security, supporting people in learning to live together and giving priority to mutual understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

The empowerment of girls and women must have a central place in this new agenda – as a breakthrough strategy for justice and social inclusion, and for the sustainable development of all societies.

This starts with ensuring access to quality education and learning for all girls and women as the most powerful force to promote human dignity and to prevent violence and discrimination -- including through human trafficking, where girls and women suffer most.

UNESCO is taking forward this agenda across the world, mobilizing all its experience to promote cooperation in education, the sciences, culture, and communication and information as foundations for inclusive, knowledge societies.

The 17th Eurasian Economic Summit is an opportunity to explore these questions and mobilise the international community to act jointly to overcome common challenges.

I wish to thank all participants for their commitment to reaching these goals.



## H.E. Rav. İsak Haleva Chief Rabbi of the Jewish Community of Turkey

Many of us who are speakers in this session happen to be the leaders of institutions which to some degrees or other claim to represent faith systems identified with more or less qualities in their own way. Again many of us here are involved in dialogue efforts be it inter-cultural, inter-religions or among civilizations.

On my own account I can say that we are yet to achieve the desired outcome in this matter. But it pleases me to observe the extensive distance has been covered and the new dialogue efforts are taking place around us. Dialogue is a concept that must continue unceasingly. Dialogue is necessary and it is very important in this age we live in, but we shouldn't forget that dialogue is not the goal, it is the tool. Dialogue is one of the ways to establish the ground work that will enable people to live in peace and cooperation, however important it is, it is just a way. What I am trying to say is how far the goal seems to be, how much effort it takes to achieve it, we must avoid to regard the way to achieve the goal as the goal itself.

I know that in the art of oratory it is wrong to repeat. Nevertheless, I cannot help but repeat myself. The main goal is to create the culture of living together in harmony. And dialogue is just one of the ways to achieve it. Just like education, just like understanding, just like mutual respect, like justice, equality of opportunity and in short just like any other humane and civilized approach that are the necessity of our age. After stating this point, I believe we can focus on concepts like, enhancing cooperation, and attitudes that will be perceived as racism, hostility and intolerance.

My friends, even those who wants the culture of coexistence to flourish think that to clearly state their thoughts and foresight about how to do it is unnecessary. We talk about a formation of higher authority like there is an agreement. But, no matter what kind it is, a structure's resistance and permanence cannot be thought without the foundation it has been build upon.

There is no doubt my opinions are a result of personal experience and it is need of compellation and enabling with the contributions of valuable friends.

My distinguished friends, for me coexistence and culture of existing together is only possible in an environment where we jointly put our will forward. After stating this as a fundamental infrastructure element and hoping to ensuring of the presence of the common will on this matter, I find it useful to draw your attention to the following aspects. I think coexistence is one of the grounds, bases of living and being together and perhaps the most important one because it is the totality of the values that can be identified as the universal ethical values and evolved from the past and endured history of human kind and to which our belief systems are also based on.

To me social unity that does not based on ethical values cannot compensate their short comings. As you know the norm of "leges sine moribus vanae" meaning "the laws that does not base on morality are null and void" goes back a long time in history. In my opinion the fundamental concept for establishing the culture of coexistence is to eradicate otherization. It is the main obstacle against the culture of coexistence.

The understanding of we are positive and they are negative makes the contradiction between us and them inevitable. Because we have all came to life from the same source, we need to digest that none of us is superior to any of us. I say, let's never forget this.

I think one of the most important beliefs of social unities are the common attitudes based on common interest and concerns. The creation, growth and sustainability of the coexistence culture is directly connected to the realization of the common attitudes that I have mentioned with sincerity and understanding. To me the key words here are sincerity, understanding and willingness.

I don't want to proceed without specifically emphasize the subjects of freedoms of thought and faith. We need to evaluate the freedom of thought and faith not just as thinking and believing freely but as securing the relay and transfer of an individual's thoughts and faith to his daily life and eliminating any possible attempt to be subject to any sort discrimination.

If I am to briefly summarize my thoughts, I would like to say that the foundations of the creation and realization of coexistence culture are closely tied with the explorations of the common grounds between our cultures and lives. A human is a human regardless of his/her sex, faith, race, color of skin and nationality. Even it seems different at first sight their basic needs are the same. Furthermore they all made existed from the same creator. And no one has right to over look, humiliate and scorn one another.

If we are to talk about giving a message to world on the importance of dialogue in peace from local to global, I think what I just tried to mention and point out should be involved in that message.



**H.E. Aleksandr Issein**  
 Leader of Azerbaijan Orthodox Church

In global and contemporary world, different religious and ethnic communities should live together in peace. It is required to prevent terrorism by living together with this peace mentality. In the first years of the new century, a lot of people was died because of dangerous ethnic and religious provocations, disruptive terrorist attacks and conflicts. Currently, multiculturalism concept maintains its importance. Our mission is to participate organizations like this Summit and announce the dialogue all over the world. It is important that implementing theoretical information to practice in real life.

For centuries, world religions lives together in peace in Republic of Azerbaijan. Different religions such as Islam, Christianity, Judaism and Zoroastrianism have been living

for years of ancient era to today. Different ethnic and religious people have had hard experiences in our glorious history. In late 19th century and early 20th century, there were established and active Mosques, Churches and Synagogues in our country. Muslims, Christians, Jewish and Zoroasters was living together. Azerbaijan had principles and tolerance. Aleksandr Nevski Church was supported by muslims and jewishes in Baku. However, unfortunately, Azerbaijan was routed out its national and moral values forcefully in 1917.

Religion functionaries of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and Zoroaster was compelled to pressures. Many of them were martyred. Only three of 17 church stand up. However, there were no conflict between Muslims, Christians, Jewish and Zoroasters. Each of them could be able to performed, lived their beliefs and went cemeteries.

Interreligions Dialogue commenced with Haydar Aliyev who is the national leader of Azerbaijan. Haydar Aliyev said: “Multinationality is our Wealth”.

In 1990’s, there were economic and political problems. Religious conflicts appeared. We will teach next generation that they will not only believe in supremacy of their religions but also believe other religious values and importance of dialogue. Reconciliation and dialogue instead of conflict.

Today’s nations can live by relying on each other. Every people must respect others religions, national and moral values.

This is required for peace and safety of states. And also legitimacy is important for living in a peace. There should be international cooperation.



*Religious Leaders of different faiths together*



**Hon. Maria Yannakaki**  
Member of Hellenic Parliament

The past few years we have witnessed unprecedented mass protests, uprisings and vast political change in the South-East Mediterranean region. These political developments have signified a historical turning point.

Authoritarian regimes, which had prevailed for decades, are seemingly brought to an end. However, we need to bear in mind that the outcome of this violent outburst is not yet sustainable, while the cost, in human and social aspect, is disproportionately and dreadfully high. There is civil war in Syria, social unrest still persists in Egypt, while the implementation of democratic principal values is still lagging.

On the contrary, in the past few days, Tunisia proceeded to significant constitutional changes, thus rendering the state among the most democratic ones, even of more democratic quality, than a number of European countries. The reason behind this difference, in terms of evolvement and effectiveness, lies on the process itself.

It is apparently obvious, that violence is not the key factor to change, even though sometimes it is proved to be unavoidable. The critical agent for benevolent and substantial evolution is dialogue, and honest, mutual desire to achieve terms of consensus. Throughout modern European history, conflict had always been the outcome of unwillingness for consensus and national entrenchment.

However, the cruel socio-humanitarian and economical outcomes of those conflicts became a hard learnt lesson and highlighted the imperative need of roundtables, open conversation and mutual agreements for a livable future, which followed during the years of peace.

There are several reasons to assume that in specific cases conflict is unavoidable, which are related mostly to political

imbalance, power, and potential political gains or losses. We should also consider that conflict is favored and encouraged by certain interests, not purely political, which in most cases are external to the affairs of the opposing sides. In addition, economic interests indicate the cooperation of third parties with unsustainable political regimes, hampering the well-being of the citizens or even leading to their exploitation, thus indirectly enlarging the causes that lead to conflict.

The same outcome could also be attained by the unconcern of the cooperating party to the internal, yet important, affairs of the other. For instance during the last decade, European policy-makers seem to have equated stagnation with stability in the South East Mediterranean region, choosing to cooperate with autocratic regimes. Political reform and human rights were sidelined, while issues such as combating terrorism and containing migration dominated the policy agenda. If EU had gradually pushed towards the direction of human rights and political reform, the outcome might had been different or at least with milder aftermath.

Therefore, we may observe multiple reasons that lead to and sustain conflict. Nevertheless, we need to make a distinction between conflict that leads to violence and conflict that leads to development. A conflict has its own life cycle, almost like something organic. It appears, it reaches an emotional, even violent, climax, and then it tapers off and disappears. The crucial element in this cycle is to avoid the violent outbreak as it leads to meta-violence, but instead to promote development.

Keeping in mind the codependent origination and the mutual ground of disputes, dialogue appears as the ultimate and the most beneficiary tool for resolving conflicts and transforming them to an opportunity for long-lasting development. In this sense, a realistic approach towards achievable solutions abstracts the negative influence of third interests that encourage violence and prevents the devastating outcomes of the latter.

In this context, the participation of international institutions in resolving conflicts peacefully becomes essential, as the conceptualized corresponding experience becomes the mean through which the desired outcome is achieved.

However, it is clear that the global political arena is quite premature—or rather reluctant—to allow for a more sophisticated approach on resolving disputes, while the various forms of interests perplex the corresponding processes and policies. Yet, the cost of violent conflicts in terms of human lives and social trauma is such, that any alternative to the scheme of a peacefully resolved conflict that leads to development, seems irresponsible and unreliable in it's sustainability.



**Hon. David Tsur**  
Member of Knesset - Israel

I was born here in Istanbul and immigrated when I was only six years old. Fought 30 years for my country in uniform and joined the politics a year ago just to influence the peace process. Peace as our Reba and other religious leaders said is almost in our DNA, culture and religions. Unfortunately we are living in a very complicated neighborhood. Some of the speakers before me mentioned that also, I think we in a very historical moment and probably will be written in history. What is happening strategically around us; ongoing civil war in Syria, unstable. We see penetration in Sinai and other places. Groups of terrorism in on hand intimidate and pose a very unique and large threat to Israel especially Al-Qaida groups. On the other hand we can be very much positive and optimistic by the fact that there is a huge motivation on all moderate Arab countries to support peace. Strategically I think the instability surrounding us can create a situation that we can go on and sign a peace agreement.

I heard Mr. Mottaki speaking about some of the lessons to be learned. I think we learned a lot of lesson during the

history. It is important to learn the history in order to see the future. It is true that interfering others in domestic issues should be avoided. We are not forcing our views, ideology and we don't think it is wise to do it and I think everyone should respect the other's religion, culture and I can even understand different regimes although we would love to see democracy surrounding us but we are facing this reality for years and we don't want to change it. I think we have one fundamental issue that we keep from even our Bible; "If one comes to kill you, kill him first" and I think to protect yourself is a very fundamental issue which Israel is all the time keeping.

About the Palestinian issue very short; I think we are in a great progress. Our party which is represented by Tzipi Livni and she is holding the negotiations. In few weeks probably we'll see the framework paper which Secretary Kerry is going to bring to approval in this parliament. I think this is one of the most positive parliaments which we had since maybe 1992 Prime Minister Rabin's

time. We have a majority to support those principles of two state solution on the base of 1967 territories. Principally most of the territories could be given back to Palestinians but the lack of population in order to keep this very sensitive issues make it complicated. Jerusalem issue would probably have to be in focus and I can't get in to those issue in the 5 minutes the Chairman has given because they are really complicated. Also the settlements which I think we almost have an agreement.

The last issue I would like say is that we are very fortunate to eliminate the lack of resources for years with the explorations in the last years of significant amounts of gas and other resources. I think it is one of the most positive things we can develop. The peace is going to be signed shortly and afterwards Israel is going to be independent on energy and probably even can export to Turkey, to Palestinians which has already been agreed, Cyprus is cooperating, through Greece and to even other countries to the East.



Marmara Group Foundation rappartours Prof. Turay Yardımcı, Hon. Mustafa Pakoğlu, Hon. Metin Biçersin, Hon. Assoc. Prof. Uğur Özgöker, Hon Mustafa Karagül and Hon. Dr. Simten Orhan at the session of Importance of Dialogue in Peace from Local to Global



**Hon. Prof. Zahari Zahariev**  
President of Slavyani Foundation - Bulgaria

1. 20-th century will remain in history first of all with two crucial events, marked also two turns in the civilization progress of the humanity. The first of them is the October Revolution in Russia in 1917, which opened the road to the unique experiment for an alternative social economical and political perfection of the society and the state. No matter how we would evaluate it today, one thing is a matter of fact – it transformed not only the political card of the humanity but put its non-obliterated mark on the civilization in general.

The second turn is also connected undoubtedly with the historical changes in Europe and the world in the end of the 80-th and the 90-th years of the last century. Although revolutionary by its character – unlike the October – they had as a whole an evolutionary process. Started with the ideas of the “perestroika” in the USSR, they overturned very quickly our concepts about the structure of the society and the world. The “tender revolutions” in Eastern Europe shown ambiguously that there is no and cannot be anything unchangeable in the course of the historical process, that the structure of the society and the state depend directly on the what is “being forged” in a civilization plan. That’s why we can declare in the firm believe that the start laid by the “perestroika” in the Soviet Union gives the channel of a new historical change. It will determine the aspect of the world decades ahead reshaping not only the political card but also making serious correctives in the value system and the life of the contemporary society.

2. Both great turns of the humanity in 20-th century have their motherland in the “Old Continent”. Contrary to all pessimistic prognoses, built up over the thesis of the “civilization tiredness” of Europe, it has defended this time also its position of an epicenter of the historical process. Not underestimating what is happening and becoming imminent in an economic or geopolitical plan beyond the Atlantic or the Far East as well, we can declare boldly that the furor of 21-th century also is being builder up in the bounds of this continent.

What will it bet? The possibilities are two. As a new civilization upsurge in the spiral of the historical development. An upsurge guaranteeing not only new horizons for the scientific and technological progress but also a qualitatively new stage in democracy of the public, political and economic relations with a granted peace and security in the international space.

Or the second possibility, that of the pessimistic scenario: scientific and technical revolution, that exceeds the capabilities of the society to harmonize its existence and moral with its advancing march and brings this way all conflicts, knots and “ulcers” of the past development as a ferment of the future. And this means permanent tendencies of destabilization of the public relations, erosion of the state system, lack of stability and predictability in the international relations on the account of the national egoism, chauvinism and hegemonic ambitions in a regional, global and geopolitical plan ruining the peace.

3. Which of this two directions will the humanity take depends again in a very high degree on the choice of Europe. No on the declared one – it was made in theory long ago – but on the one of the real steps, which unfortunately are far away behind the declarative purposes.

Evaluating objectively the present situation, both in a national and broad public, political and international plan, we cannot but find that the above two alternatives are still behind its historical solution. They keep on living together on the territory of the European space, bringing destabilization, uncertainty and much dramatize both for the Europeans and the world as a whole. It would not be forcedly if we say that the impossibility to establish after Yalta and the balance of the block opposition a stable and effectively functioning planetarium system us security is closely connected with the un successes of the European dialogue Both in the “narrow” scene of the word, i.e. referred to the situation in European Union, and in a broad continental plan. The presence, still, of fireplace of tensions and war conflicts, egoistically motivated, passing each other as aims and scope, visions for the future of the international process, the stagnation in the negotiations about a new structure of the European space – this is only a part of the symptoms of the schizophrenic double-dealing of the civilization European identity.

4. One of the basic problems which Europe is being confronted with today in rationalization of its new identity especially in determination of the limits of the integration process is that of the future of the national state. The social development refuter literally daily and noisily declared suggestions about gradually withering away of the national identity as a basic factor on the formation of different models of the future. No matter how that may sound, this thesis unites the extreme apologists of two irreconcilable visions about the social development – the communist and capitalist ones. Nether the experiment of formation of a united socialist nation, nor the thesis of a gradual “talking at

feeling of European identity have succeeded. The artificially formulated and tenaciously imposed thesis of an “Europe of the regions” has in practice the same fate as the imposed by propaganda theory in Eastern Europe about the socialist integration destroying ethno-cultural and national-historical borders based on the socialist internationalism.

The crash of the socialist experiments in this direction in Eastern Europe especially on the territory of the Soviet Union has shown strongly that the guiding principle in the relation “national-international” belongs to the “national”. Any attempt for it to be regarded from the positions of any by its ideological colors “internationalism” might be very dangerous. Even the use of all the arsenal of means of pressure by the totalitarian state can only slow down but not prevent the destructive kick of the national in relation to any efforts for “ethno-genetic engineering”.

The theory of the globalization destroying the national-state borders should be regarded in this context as well. Of course, there is no reasonable thesis able to contest the “shortening of distances” between countries and peoples in the contemporary world. Nor the dynamiting of the ethno-cultural dialogue between different civilization circles connected with it. All this has an fully objective character. But this is far from an imposing tendency toward unification of values and traditions, even less a possibility of imposing a uniform model of development although subordinate to most democratic norms of co-existence and functioning of the economical and political system in the framework of a society.

5. The philosophy of globalize established theoretically on this basis has managed in short time to discredit itself as an instrument of hegemonies, as a comfortable screen, but also a brutally open intervention in the life of sovereigns countries and peoples. The connected with it aggressions against different states not only have harmonized the world but given rise to dangerous centers of tension and sowed additional mistrust toward the possibilities of a non-goodwill dialogue. They discredit the ability of the international structures to establish a new, effective system of European and world security going beyond the known foundations of the block opposition and the “Balance of Fear”. The only positive thing which the philosophy of globalize has brought as a result is the far more clear belief that there are not and cannot be any universal and ideological systems and that any attempt for an ideologically motivated “engineering” of the objective tendencies of development does not only accelerate its march but set new “wolf’s traps” before the civilization process.

The attitude of the philosophy of globalize in relation to the national state had an exceptionally harmful and in the same time dangerous effect on the regional and world security. Essentially but also practically destroy the fundamentals of the classic national state. It questions corner-thesis’s of the world policy as sovereignty, non-intervention in internal affairs, right of self-defense or said shortly – the fundamentals of the international law. This way, the force of the right begins more and more to step back but before the right of the force.

And in practice, this means an erosion of the state system imposed consciously from outside. It is still more difficult for the contemporary national state to manage defending its historical functions of a consciously built and voluntarily maintained home of its people, guaranteeing it both outside security and the right to organize its life itself and intellectual development in unison with its ethno-cultural and political traditions and under the sign of the permanent interests and prosperity.

6. In this respect, a non a synonymous effect has also the integration policy. The artificially speeding up of its rates contradicting to the objective course of development of the block, super concentration, strengthens the anonymous character of the power and drifts the individual from the real civil rights and limit its opportunities and abilities to react to the managing decisions drooped from above. The non-balanced delegating of sovereignty by the national state to the European bureaucracy which very often caters for itself and global geopolitical interests, makes senseless not only the traditional foundations of the state organization but also erodes purely and psychologically the trust of the people to them. And this stimulates an exceptionally dangerous process – losing the belief in the functional abilities of the of the state, the public mood directs its steps to another logic of social conduct. And it is: when the state is unable to exercise its functions, then the people itself should secure its ideas of justice relying only on its own efforts and possibilities. This phenomenon opens the doors to the sporadic process, uncontrolled revolts, violence and terrorism. It fills out the sails of the primitive populism, non-militant nationalism and xenophobia of religious irresponsibility and chauvinistic hatred.

7. The development of Eastern Europe going the last years gives many examples in this respect. But unfortunately, even strongly located today, they are not far an irretrievable past. Such tendencies turn into a part of the public daily round at many places as Balkans and the territory of the former Soviet Union. Although deaden and in a latent form, they hang as “Sword of Damocles” over the foundations of the society.

It is even more terrible that from the destabilized by the “tender revolutions” and 20 years of unsuccessful experiments Eastern Europe, they find by a specific manner its manifestation in the life of the traditional West-European democracies. From this point of view we can declare that the fate of the United Europe and the integration processes is being decided in a great degree on the basis of what happens in Eastern Europe and the post-soviet space. The civilization processes of the change emaciate not only distances but also the existing in the past political and economical differences. It is high time to comprehend in spite of the membership in EU, that we all are in one and the same boat and that the future of the European idea as a basic ferment of the civilization change will depend also on the successfully decisions of many open questions connected with the peace, security and prosperity in our joint home.



**Hon. Ionut Vulpescu**  
Member of Parliament of Romania

We have all noticed how inspired is this panel's title: peace is not only an everlasting desideratum of the mankind, phrased as an imperative in all religions and assumed by the great majority of political leaders, but also a result of the dialogue between local and global.

In this regard, it is truly counterproductive to hope that peace could be enforced top to bottom, as a law, which once formulated, is automatically respected by all. In fact, the imperative of peace – which it is summarized to “Love your neighbor” – is to be dated the time God gave Moses the 10 Commandments. These have passed, without interruptions, into the moral codes of the three greatest Abrahamic religions (in order of appearance: Jewish, Christian and Muslim) and in different shapes in all known religions. But unfortunately, it cannot be said that the fierce phrasing of this imperative, even if it has diminished considerably – in the meaning of all moral laws that governed humanity – the conflicts and casualties, eliminated from the life of this planet, the wars, genocides and violence.

Peace is, above all, a state of mind. It is not, however, as the Illuminists were deluded to believe, a natural state. The “noble good” doesn't act in according to moral laws, but to natural ones, which are cruel and based on a continuous swallowing of the smaller by the greater. What else is the concept of “food chain”, if not an aseptic and neutral description of an everlasting war in the world of nature?

Peace as a human state of mind and thus as a moral command by which it is animated, is by contrary, the result of culture and education. In pre-modern times, these were mostly accomplished by religious institutions and family. Nowadays, not only the local element, but also the global one competes – or, to be more precise, should compete – to the acquirement of a peace culture and a culture of peaceful coexistence.

We come from a region where, although continents, cultures and religions interfere (and ancient traditions stand against us), we could say that hasn't generated, in recent modern history, great global conflicts. Not from the Black Sea have the Great World Wars started, nor the states in the region are responsible for triggering the major economic and financial crisis (the 1929 one and the 2008 one). However,

our region hasn't been spared by infighting and bloody confrontations, some of which are still existent, but as frozen conflicts. I believe that we all agree that these were due, in the first place, to the deficit of a mutual knowledge (approach), communication and dialogue: therefore, the lack of a peace culture.

It is sometimes mentioned, in history books, that the wars are caused by divergent economic interests. This is a profoundly erroneous Marxist perspective, which persists even after the collapse of communism. If it is true that there are divergent economic interests between states – as in the former Yugoslavia, even between parts of the same country – the necessity of solving this difference exclusively through war, with the complete destruction of a side and the absolute victory of the other, it is not a direct solving condition. In reality, as proved so many times, dialogue can solve any type of conflict, even those that seem irreconcilable. The peace culture can bring those in disagreement at the same table and

if it is advanced, can determine everyone that it is better to sit and talk, than to bring up weapons, so the chances of a war would remain only a bad memory. I am convinced (and my politician friends have confirmed my belief) that all the participant sides in the Yugoslavian conflicts, regardless their degree of culpability, agree that it would have been more profitable for everyone if the solutions had been produced at the negotiating table. Everyone, even those who apparently won this war, lost.

Peace always starts at a local level, from people, from communities. If at this level we succeed in spreading a culture of peace and coexistence, the chances for an irresponsible government to start a war, are way diminished.

This does not mean that at a global level there is nothing to be done. By contrary, the dissemination on local levels of this peace culture can be successfully achieved only if there is a global agreement regarding the increased allocation of resources. But, unfortunately, we notice with deep concern that while the allocated resources for arming grow, the ones for culture and education diminish, and the religious institutions, whose role in promoting peace is so important, are less involved in social life. A key phenomenon in this respect is the refusal of a global decision regarding the limitation and control of international trade with firearms, the main risk of a war. Thus, we witness the paradox that highly developed and advanced countries, which themselves internally promote a solid peace culture, tolerate and yet encourage nations, ethnic and ideological groups, factions of all kinds, from less developed regions and recently entered the international community, to easier and cheaper reach weapons, instead of reaching libraries and schools.

Our duty as politicians resides in, my opinion, repeating and promoting through our personal example, what the illustrious founder of the Republic of Turkey phrased so simple and eloquent: “Peace at home, peace in the world!” Only through an accord between local and global peace we can hope that war, genocide and violence will remain the mere shadows of the past.



**Hon. Prof. Bekir Karlıağ**  
 Head of Alliance of Civilizations National  
 Coordination Committee

We know very well that the principal foundations of civilizations that are the most unique, the most distinguished work of mankind are plurality and the experience of living together.

Without knowing and interacting the other there is no way that living together can be realized. In order to live together, first we must know and understand each other, we must accept one another as we are. As long as we fail to do that, we will never ensure peace.

For ensuring peace, establishing dialogue in a global and local context, we need two instruments. One is intercultural dialogue in a local meaning. The dialogue between cultures must be regional and local. Cultures, by definition are conflicting with each other. Dialogue is one of the most important tools to prevent that.

Globally speaking, against the understanding that enables wars and destroying the other unity among the civilizations is sufficient. Religion is the main reason that mobilizes and creates both concepts. Accordingly, inter-religious dialogue leads us both inter-cultural dialogue and common efforts among the civilizations. Thus as the world, today we need a new concept of civilization that will bring these three elements together. We need a concept of civilization that does not oversee imperial aims, does not destroy the other, that does not allow war, conflict, hostility, grudge, hatred, threat and terror.

With this understanding, under the leadership of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan the initiative of Alliance of Civilizations started in 2005 within the United Nations. And today the speech of the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations at the opening session stated that 120 countries are the members of the Alliance of Civilizations. 24 international organizations are among its friends group. As a necessity of our history, culture and civilization Republic of Turkey is playing a leading

role in the Alliance of Civilizations. For this a committee has been established in Turkey with the representatives of 10 ministries.

Within this framework, we established a Civilization Research Center in Bahçeşehir University and we prepared a documentary series of 20 episodes called The River Running Westwards. In Turkey it is being aired on TRT. Around the world this documentary is continuing in 32 countries and in 85 television stations and promotes the idea of civilization and inter-cultural dialogue.

I will conclude my remarks while pointing a second important element.

Be it civilization, be it dialogue or culture, it should not only be in words; the foundation, the base should be established. In order to do that, an academic infrastructure is required. Nothing that is not based on academic foundation can be permanent or unifying. For this reason, we have opened the Alliance of Civilizations Institute in a 500 years old dervish lodge in Istanbul and

we educate in four languages; English, Turkish, Spanish and Arabic. We have masters and PhD students, we tutor 70 students from 19 countries.

These meetings help us to know each other, to understand each other and for that I believe there is benefit in repeating them, with this opportunity I thank Marmara Group Foundation to allow us to speak our minds in these meetings and present my regards to you all.

**FROM PRESS**

# Dialogue and peace

**As faith communities and religious leaders, we are obliged to remind people about the obligations and responsibility to choose peace through dialogue. Human conflict may be inevitable, but war is not**

...the world is divided into two camps, one of which is more peaceful than the other. In order to live together, first we must know and understand each other, we must accept one another as we are. As long as we fail to do that, we will never ensure peace.

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**Today's Zaman Newspaper**



**H.E. Milix Yevdayev**  
Leader of Azerbaijan Jewish Community

In the future years, world will be more effective and efficient about interreligions dialogue. The aim will not be conflict, on the contrary reconciliation. Religions are very important for peace and dialogue.

Azerbaijan is a model country. Because, Muslims,

mentality.

My desire from God is that we will be able to be in Qarabag. "One Nation two State"s people will live in a peace and safety.



**H.E. Metropolitan Yusuf Çetin**  
Spiritual Leader of the Turkish Syrian Community

I am very pleased that I have a speech at the session of "From Local to Global: The Importance of Dialogue for Peace" in 17th Eurasian Economic Summit which is held by Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation.

Dialogue is a way that two or more people from different cultures, different beliefs, and different mentalities talk each other by coming together for communication. With dialogue, people make cooperate and discuss tolerantly for solving many problems or satisfy the needs.

It is need to make dialogue between individuals, societies and cultures with possibilities of science and technology in todays global world in 21th century.

Christians, Jewish people and all others live in a peace in our country. There is no problem between them and no anti-semitism. With decision of President of Republic of Azerbaijan Hon. İlham Aliyev confirmed "Human Rights and Protection of Minority Rights" on 27 December, 2011.

Currently, 30.000 Jewish People live in Azerbaijan. Generally they lives in the cities of Bakı, Şamaxı, Oğuz ve Qubad. A new Synagogue built in Bakı in 2011. Moreover, 2 Jewish Primary and Secondary Schools built in 2013. Before 6 Synagogue had been built. Our people are living together friendly. Albert Aqaronov is our national hero. We are in good relations with Russian-Pravoslavs, Rome-Catholic Churches, Protestants and Alban-Christians. We are sharing our all sadnesses and happinesses.

Russian Orthodox's Center for Religious and Civil's Opening Ceremony was in 2013. President of Republic of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev supports every religions and cultures. Furthermore, Catholic Church in Bakı is also an model of living together

Dialogue between different cultures and religions is a need for international peace in global world which is getting from local to global.

We all know that on the base of divine religions there are mandatory provisions of living together in a peace. For providing world peace and making people happy in their life, we have many responsibilities. It is not hard to make cooperation between members of divine religions on the base of core values. We will be able to contribute to world peace by doing cooperation and dialogue.

In todays world, it is hurt humankind's heart that there are wars because of political interests and abuses of religions. Our responsibilities must be only to God. However, unfortunately some people try to impose of his truth to community dominantly in the name of God. It causes restlessness in society. For world peace spiritual leaders should solve problems with dialogue by negotiating each other in peace.

God created sacred humankind. Virtuous people save humankind's peace. Jesus remarks about this sacred duty in his statement that "happiness is providing peace. Because, they will be able to be called as son of God".

Honorable President, Esteemed Participants,

Assyrians are the oldest civilization living in Mesopotamia region. In the part of creation of Holy Scripture addresses that origins of assyrians indicates that they are son of Nuh, Aram. They have historical background for 5500 years in this land. Assyrians lived in peace and tolerant together with different religions, languages and races. The best example is their cultural transfer for people living in the region.

In 4th century after christ, scientists of Assyrians translated

ancient greek literature into syriac and arabic in School of Edassa Urfa. Because of war, these literary scripts went to the West and are translated into latin.

In 9th century after christ, dialogue between assyrians and muslims developed and transformed towards translating cooperation. They translated medicine, astronomy, philosoph areas from syriac to arabic as well.

Philosophical translations in the era of Caliph of Abbasi El-Memnun between years of 815-833 beared an official identity. By translators, literary creations were translated from greek and syriac to arabic language for Islamic world.

I would like to thank and present my appreciations to President of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation Dr. Akkan Suver.



**H.E. Vladimir Fekete**  
Leader of Azerbaijan Catholic Church

I am grateful that you invite me to the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit and let me share my experiences. I agree with Hon. Aleksandr and Melix Yevdayev's speeches about life style, tolerance, respect and interreligion dialogue.

Interreligion dialogue is an experience. It is important for the future of country. I congratulate the efforts of Sheikh al-Islam Allahşükür Paşazade about dialogue. We are in a common base all together. Three important things following:

- 1- To get rid of Ignorance
- Holy Bible says: " Devil is enemy of Human being. Its

aims are terminate faith and increase hate and death. A faithful person works for God and God helps him. God helps the people that they meet good people and make dialogue for peace".

I met Islam five years ago when I came to Azerbaijan. When I live in Europe and Slovakia I could only read about islam. I could'nt met experienced personalities. I have learned Quran and read. After learn about Quran, I think that we have to make dialogue.

- 2- To respect other religious beliefs and opinions

We cannot understand the hugeness and sacred of God exactly. God desires that we should dialogue with other people living all over the world, obey the rules and respect to others. We have fate. God forgives and likes people forgiving.

Conflict is an harmful thing that makes tensions and causes preventing dialogue. Without dialogue, hate arises. It is required to get respect.

Tolerance is needed between people. In global world, demand is to live together. Kindly respect each other. Differences are wealth.

- 3- Importance of the election of religious leaders

The God created people as social. People can only live in society. Religious Leaders are important for people. Religious leaders should be democratic and tolerant. They directs people useful way. For that reason the election of religious people is important for all human being. Religious leaders should be a model to people.



**H.E. Muhammed Jusufspahic**  
Mufti of Serbia

All praise belongs to the almighty Allah, God. Allah may have different names according to different religions but it is

all the same and we are sharing it. All religions are way to Almighty God.

We should not be lost, that's why we have to talk Muslims, Christians, Jews. We have to talk about that one who will come, whom we are waiting for and that is messiah, savior. And this is Isa, Jesus son of the Mary and we are waiting for him. And since the beginning of this life we are usually looking for the life. We should not look for the life, we have to look for the giver of the life.

We are looking for the might, power. We should not be looking for the power, we should be looking for the powerful and Almighty.

These are the days we have to catch. All over the time we had two lines. When you are reading the Quran, the last testament, gospels. In one line we have Abraham, Moses, Jesus Christ, Mohammad as the last messenger of Allah.

And there is the other line, line of polytheists. We have to choose only one line. Line of Abraham, Moses, Jesus Christ, Mohammad.



**H.E. Monsenyour Yusuf Sağ**  
Patriarchal Vicar of Turkey of Syrians

I listened the speeches in the morning. Very well spoken. But we should clearly argue if that is the case in action. The world is busy with two major issues at the moment. As long as these two issues remain unsolved, you can talk about economy as long as you want, you can come together as long as you want, you can salute one another as long as you want nothing will be achieved. The world needs peace. And the world has an environmental problem. As long as these two issues remain unsolved economy can't be improved nor peace and prosperity can be achieved.

Economy is of course a matter of living. Without economy humans cannot live. But even a smallest spark of war takes out all the world's earnings. Today the sad incidents happening around us, be it Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan they are taking their toll on economy, and on the peace as well.

And as they take their toll on peace it makes man unable to work. Because a man must be at peace first, must feel secure only then he can work. There are very high level individuals present here. Religious leader. Patriarch of the Orthodox world is here, ecumenical patriarch. The distinguished mufti of 15 million Istanbul is here. It is time to take responsibility rather than just saying good and nice things. We must ensure peace, we must ensure the environment. The world God has trusted us was a heaven. The world our father Adam and our mother Eve lived in was a paradise. Today our world is no longer a paradise, it is about to turn into hell. Today there is a problem of environment. What will we left to our grandchildren? We must not think for ourselves but for our future.

Being from different races, different faiths, different nations is not fate, it is the will of God. And this is the statement of the generosity of God. We all come from the same mother and father. We may not be brothers and sisters in religion but we are in humanity. Everyone should live their religion freely, should introduce himself as he is. I am a Christian, I should be able to live my Christianity. Our Muslim brothers in the most remote spot on earth should also live Islam with ease and freely. Then economy will better itself, then people will see the peace and living together themselves. Two years ago, in a FAO meeting in Rome, I heard this on a commentary of Montecarlo Radio; in 2009 the world has spend 1 trillion 285 billion dollars for armament gentlemen. 1 trillion 285 billion dollars is being spend for weapons and for to destroy the brotherhood of humanity. Hello economy; economy of what? At the same time 485 million people are fighting with hunger. 6 million people living in the edge of hunger, edge of death. While one is living the life with honeys and butters the other is fighting to feed himself at the end of the garbage cans and we come here to chat in 5 star hotels, talking about economy and flatter one another.



**Hon. Prof. Agni Vlavianos Arvantis**  
President of International Biopolitics Organization

Across the globe, leaders have been so preoccupied with the economic crisis that they have been overlooking the true crisis plaguing our planet today: the lack of enlightened leadership and the urgent need for long-term strategies with a vision. Strategies that can lead to peace and development,

both globally and locally. Can we hear the ticking clock of destruction? Time is of the essence, as with every swing of the pendulum, more forms of life disappear. If we take this urgent wake-up call seriously, we still have the time to act. It is time for global action for change.

As a small speck in the universe, planet Earth possesses bios – life – the most precious gift. We have unique privileges but also obligations. The dual economic and environmental crises are closely linked, and resolving them will require an unprecedented level of international cooperation. If we are to solve the problems of our world, nations must redirect their efforts away from conflicts over national interests, religion, or ideology towards a unified approach that respects human diversity and the wonder of life on earth.

Global warming and environmental deterioration are not only threatening natural resources and biodiversity, but society as a whole is seriously affected. Natural disasters are more frequent and more devastating, exacerbating global inequality and making fragile economies increasingly vulnerable. Extreme fluctuations in temperature result in freezing weather conditions such as those recently experienced in the USA, or heatwaves and flooding. If we continue on our present path, water scarcity, hunger and the spreading of new diseases will lead to unprecedented waves of migration, economic uncertainty and

social unrest, compromising livelihoods and public health, and creating enormous social problems that we cannot even begin to imagine.

Ethical values and a clear vision are our primary responsibility, since we have only managed to make very small reforms on the mistakes of the past. Progress in technology has given us faster killing machines with endless possibilities for destruction, but also more efficient communication methods. Let us use these forms of communication to cease the destruction of life.

We have unlimited options to halt the advancing damage of climate change, to reverse unemployment, to create dynamic networks of education with the participation of every citizen on the planet. The technology to secure enough food and safe water resources for everyone is also available. Green jobs in the renewable energy industry, in emerging technologies, green buildings, transport and infrastructure, resource efficiency, as well as more general environmental projects, including creative initiatives, can inspire every sector of society to contribute to climate change mitigation (<http://biopolitics.gr/green-salary-download>).

Peace cannot be achieved on a planet ravaged by pollution, hunger, poverty and disease, which are a major cause and effect of global environmental problems. Peace dialogue for local and global development therefore needs to deal with environmental problems within a broader perspective that encompasses the factors underlying world poverty and international inequality. Many development efforts for economic progress are structured to meet human ambitions and are simply non-viable. They draw too heavily on environmental resources and future generations will inherit the losses. Responsibility for the transition to a new society does not only lie with our leaders. We all can and should be involved. This Eurasian Economic Summit, with its most distinguished international impact, can set the framework for reforms and strategies that can infuse new thinking and new ideas for the participation of every citizen in a global dialogue for peace. Through a constructive exchange of views, with a thesis, antithesis and synthesis of new values, we can mobilize world leaders and humanity's collective talent in order to lay the needed groundwork for change. This is the goal and essence of "biopolitics."



**H.E. Jusuf Kalamperovic**  
Former Minister of Interior of Montenegro

Once again I would like to thank Marmara Foundation and its president Dr. Akkan Suver for organizing this large and important summit. Our theme is dialogue. At this summit for the last 17 years we have conducted major dialogue. Present at this summit are important representatives of states, academic institutions, religious communities that each year in the eternal Istanbul conduct a dialogue on important issues for the good of their country and of all humanity.

I come from a small town on the Adriatic coast, where many nationalities live and predominantly members of the three great religions: Orthodoxy, Muslims and Catholics. The relationships between the people have traditionally been good. Never in this city, which is called Bar and of which I was mayor, were there ethnic and interfaith conflicts.

A well known story is that during the Second World War, every Friday morning in a cafe, drank coffee together an Orthodox archpriest, the Catholic archbishop and Islamic mufti. It was just enough for people to see them together. They made a great contribution to the community life and good relationships despite the differences in nationality or religion. This is still the case today. This year, in this city of Bar are being completed three great religious buildings: the orthodox Church, the Catholic Concathedral and a large Islamic center

with a very large and beautiful mosque for whose construction was greatly contributed by the Turkish Government for which, on behalf of citizens of Bar, I would like to sincerely thank.

My homeland of Montenegro is a small country with only 650,000 inhabitants. In Montenegro live several nations and believers of several religions. No nationality has more than 45% of the population. Evidence of good relations between nations and religions is that at the time of the tragic conflict in the former Yugoslavia, only in Montenegro, there was no war or any conflict between nations and religions. It is a nice tradition. Small Montenegro is proof that you can live together despite the differences.

There is an old saying that it is better to negotiate for a hundred years than to have war for one year. Ultimately, every conflict and every war ends with peace, dialogue and a treaty. Dialogue must be conducted between states, between religions, between different cultures and other ways for the good of every society and every person. During the dialogue we must respect the others system of values, tradition, culture, religion and other differences among people, nations, etc.

There are universal human rights, and many general human values, but you cannot dress the entire world in the same uniform. Everyone has their own values. Istanbul should remain Istanbul, New York what it is, Moscow - Moscow, Beijing - Beijing Delhi - Delhi, etc.

Attempts to impose on other your system of value leads to conflicts, terrorism, wars and misunderstandings. All of us in the world cannot, at all cost, be Europeans, Chinese, Indians, etc. The world was created by God as a garden of different flowers and colorful flowers should be allowed to blossom freely. Understanding between people can only be brought by dialogue. That's how the humans work is different from other living beings. Any imposition of one's values and interests on others leads to conflict, wars and to great tragedies. Every nation has this experience. These types of experience, unfortunately, have the people who live in the former Yugoslavia. Once again, thank you to the Marmara Foundation, which contributes to dialogue among people and peace in the world. We from Montenegro are particularly happy that Marmara Foundation is headed by the Honorary Consul of Montenegro, a great man, Dr. Akkan Suver.



## H.E. Archbishop Antonio Lucibello Apostolic Nuncio of Vatican to Ankara

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Marmara Group for its concern in favor of social peace inside and outside of our national borders.

Rightly, the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit emphasizes that: "the source of disputes, conflicts and discrimination is the lack of dialogue, for this the importance of dialogue for our future will be revealed by definition".

Due to the present social scenario in the Region and abroad, what we really need, in order to contribute in building the local and global peace, is dialogue and more dialogue between families, groups, institutions and Countries all over the World which hopefully should become our "common home".

Even if dialogue is for sure one of the most important instrument to reach understanding and peace, nevertheless dialogue alone it is not enough without adding the true and the highest value of fraternity as foundation and pathway to peace.

Fraternity is an essential human quality, for we are relational beings. A lively awareness of our relatedness helps us to look upon and to treat each person as a true sister or brother; without fraternity it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace. We should remember that fraternity is generally first learned in the family, thanks above all to the responsible and complementary roles of each of its members, particularly the father and the mother. The family is the wellspring of all fraternity, and as such it is the foundation and the first pathway to peace, since, by its vocation, it is meant to spread its love to the world around it.

The ever-increasing number of interconnections and communications in today's world makes us powerfully aware of the unity and common destiny of the nations. In the dynamics of history, and in the diversity of ethnic groups, societies and cultures, we see the seeds of a vocation to form a community composed of brothers and sisters who accept and care for one another. But this vocation is still frequently denied and ignored in a world marked by a "globalization of indifference" which makes us slowly inured to the suffering of others and closed in on ourselves.

In many parts of the world, there seems to be no end to grave offences against fundamental human rights, especially the right to life and the right to religious freedom. The tragic phenomenon of human trafficking, in which the unscrupulous prey on the lives and the desperation of others, is but one unsettling example of this. Alongside overt armed conflicts are the less visible but no less cruel wars fought in the economic and financial sectors with means which are equally destructive of lives, families and businesses.

Globalization, as Benedict XVI pointed out, makes us neighbours, but does not make us brothers. The many situations of inequality, poverty and injustice, are signs not only of a profound lack of fraternity, but also of the absence of a culture of solidarity. New ideologies, characterized by rampant individualism, egocentrism and materialistic consumerism, weaken social bonds, fuelling that "throw away" mentality which leads to contempt for, and the abandonment of, the weakest and those considered "useless". In this way human coexistence increasingly tends to resemble a mere *do ut des* which is both pragmatic and selfish.

This being said, it is easy to realize that fraternity is the foundation and pathway of peace. The social encyclicals written by the Popes can be very helpful in this regard. It would be sufficient to draw on the definitions of peace found in the encyclicals *Populorum Progressio* by Paul VI and *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* by John Paul II. From the first we learn that the integral development of peoples is the new name of peace. From the second, we conclude that peace is an *opus solidaritatis*.

Paul VI stated that not only individuals but nations too must encounter one another in a spirit of fraternity. As he says: "In this mutual understanding and friendship, in this sacred communion, we must also... work together to build the common future of the human race". In the first place, this duty falls to those who are most privileged. Their obligations are rooted in human and supernatural fraternity and are manifested in three ways: the duty of solidarity, which requires the richer nations to assist the less developed; the duty of social justice, which requires the realignment of relationships between stronger and weaker peoples in terms of greater fairness; and the duty of universal charity, which entails the promotion of a more humane world for all, a world in which each has something to give and to receive, without the progress of the one constituting an obstacle to the development of the other.

If, then we consider peace as an *opus solidaritatis*, we cannot fail to acknowledge that fraternity is its principal foundation. Peace is an indivisible good. Either it is the good of all or it is the good of none. It can be truly attained and enjoyed, as the highest quality of life and a more human and sustainable development, only if all are guided by solidarity as "a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good". This means not being guided by a "desire for profit" or a "thirst for power". What is needed is the willingness to "lose ourselves" for the sake of others rather than exploiting them, and to "serve them" instead of oppressing them for our own advantage. "The 'other'- whether a person, people or nation- (is to be seen) not just as

some kind of instrument, with a work capacity and physical strength to be exploited at low cost and the discarded when no longer useful, but as our 'neighbour' a 'helper'.

Fraternity needs to be discovered, loved, experienced, proclaimed and witnessed to. But only love, bestowed as a gift from God, enables us to accept and fully experience fraternity.

The necessary realism proper to politics and the economy cannot be reduced to mere technical know-how bereft

of ideals and unconcerned with the transcendent dimension of man. When this openness to God is lacking, every human activity is impoverished and persons are reduced to objects that can be exploited. Only when politics and the economy are open to moving within the wide space ensured by the One who loves each man and each woman, will they achieve an ordering based on a genuine spirit of fraternal charity and become effective instruments of integral human development and peace. Thanks.



## H.E. Prof. Rahmi Yaran Mufti of Istanbul

As you know, God created human being different from other living being and also gave human being some responsibilities. As individual, every people should be conscious of these differentness and responsibilities. Every people should ask and answer these questions: Who I am? Why I have been created or sent to this world? Who sent me to this world? What is my mission?

My answers to these questions are:

I am a creature of God. Almighty is my God. God is only authority that I must obey. God created me. However, I can make good or bad things with my will. It depends on my will. God gives award and pledge heaven for our goodness and punishment for our evil as well. My mission is to be in His way and invite people to His way. God's way is justice. God's way is trueness. His way is sympathy, respect, compassion, goodness and sharing. I must implement rules of God to be in His way during my life. I must obey the rules of Almighty with His consent to be able to reach my aims in my life.

Quran remarks: "Invite people to the way of God by getting lovely advices. Tackle for people to direct them the way of Almighty. God knows people who deviates. God knows people who are in His way as well". Goodness and evil can not be equal. Eliminate evil. When eliminate the evil you will be able to see that you can be friend with a person you supposed enemy before.

Our Prophet liken believer to honeybee. He explains this situation like this: "Honeybee eats clean things and produces clean. When honeybee perch somewhere, it can not make damage there.

In Quran, Almighty directs us to goodness either world life or heaven. For example, God ordered Prophet Moses to

go Pharaoh with his brother Harun by saying him he should speak with soft words.

Esteemed participants,

Although we came different countries, have different cultures, have different religious views we are in the same meeting which is held in peaceful and respectful way. We are explaining our opinions. All world people can live in peace and dialogue. It is possible. People should not be anxious about each other. There should be fair sharing. There should not be cruelty, injustice, hunger, poverty, violence and abuse in the world.

However, threats of individuals and organizations available in the world. One hand there are people dying because of hunger on the other hand people consuming limitless and wasting. There are also some people and organizations that abuses children and women. It is not possible to get peace to world people with these problems. We should solve problems for

peace.

Our responsibility is to work against injustice, exploitation for justice and world peace with communication and dialogue. People who aims at goodness should be able to come together and make dialogue. Everybody should be intimate. People should be open to each other.

Domestic peace brings world peace.

I would like to present my appreciations to esteemed participants. Thank you for arranging this meeting. God bless you.



H.E. Archbishop Antonio Lucibello, Apostolic Nuncio of Vatican to Ankara with Dr. Siver and Hon. Ayrim

# ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT



*Rostrum - Hon. Dr. Akkan SUVER (Chairman) President of the Marmara Group Foundation, H.E. Prof. Ali ABBASOV Minister of Communication and Information Technologies, H.E. Stephen CHEMOIKO Minister of Transportation of Uganda, H.E. Askar ZHUMAGALIYEV Minister of Communications and Transportation of Kazakhstan and H.E. Rasa NOREIKIENĖ Deputy Minister of Economy of Lithuania*



## **H.E. Prof. Ali Abbasov** Minister of Communication and Information Technologies of Azerbaijan

Let me first thank the Marmara Group and Chairman Suver for the invitation to this high-profiled summit organized with support of the government of Turkey and wish all the best to participants and organizers. I enjoyed joining the event last year and it is great to be back. Public figures, private sector executives, members of civil society are all here to discuss on how to strengthen economic, humanitarian and cultural relations between countries and people across the Eurasian region.

It is my pleasure specifically to emphasize the role of the host country - Turkey in this development. Today, Turkey,

with its booming economy and geopolitical weight, has turned into a regional power which perceived as a leading player of the region by many countries around. The country possesses up to date information and communications technologies (ICTs), including satellite, radio and TV broadcasting and expands its soft power throughout the region.

The experience of the developed economies proved that ICT has a great impact on global prosperity. Today, the growth of ICTs is twice higher than the world's overall economic growth and its revenues are at historic high with 4 trillion USD. ICTs can be seen as an important driving force for closer integration of the entire region.

The Government of Azerbaijan pays a great importance to the development of ICTs. The main target of "Azerbaijan 2020: Development Concept" is to empower ICTs for doubling non-oil sector of country's GDP in coming 8-10 years. ICTs sector has been envisioned as priority sphere of Azerbaijan's development and 2013 has been announced as "ICT year" by the presidential

decreed. Country's telecommunication infrastructure has been revived and fully digitalized. Today, there are 70 internet users per 100 citizens, 50 percent of them enjoy broadband communications. Azerbaijan keeps a leading position in this index among the CIS and Central Asian countries. Mobile sector infrastructure is modern and provides 3G, and 4G services. The mobile penetration is 110 percent. Digital TV coverage is around 98 percent of the population and we are about to complete digital switchover this year.

To increase the efficiency of public administration and to provide transparency and inclusiveness, we have achieved



*Marmara Group Foundation Delegation at H.E. Prof. Ali Abbasov's office.*

very good results in e-governance making many online services available for public use.

Development of innovative entrepreneurship, improvement of the legal framework, adoption of various assistance and incentive mechanisms, affordability of financial resources and venture capital financing, implementing and maintaining macroeconomic stability are those solid measures taken by the government. We also support start-ups and R&D groups aiming to stimulate the production of high tech and innovative services and goods. Newly established State ICT Fond and High Tech Park are serving to this purpose. The government thinks that with providing reasonable fiscal and monetary policy, Azerbaijan will straighten the competitiveness of local companies enabling them to participate in local and regional market's ambitious projects along with foreign counterparts. To achieve this goal, favorable business environment and financial resources will be available via the State Fond. Additionally, highly qualified specialists and engineers, so necessary for innovative and technological development, are trained.

Important measures are taken for creation of internet economy. It is well acknowledged that internet economy's share is growing year by year. Based on the Boston Consulting Group report in 2010 in the European Union (E27) countries, 4.1 percent of GDP fall on internet economy. In Great Britain 7.2 percent, in Sweden 6.6 percent and in China's Hong Kong 5.9 percent of the GDP revenues did come of internet economy. Based on the estimation, in coming 4-5 years, the share of internet economy in developed countries on average will reach 16 percent while it will be 8 percent in developing countries.

However, in our region we don't have such expectations. The main reason is obvious – lack of highly developed national and intraregional digital and broadband infrastructure. The government of Azerbaijan takes preemptive measures in this regard. Together with the State Oil Fond, we have prepared a roadmap to roll out of vast broadband internet infrastructure with model "Fiber to Home" in urban and the rural areas of country in 2014-2016. By 2017, around 400-450 million euro will be allocated for this program.

Due to the high profitability of the project, 20-25 percent

of the money will be provided via reinvesting. The main expectations from the program are following: by the end of 2016 to provide broadband access to services to 85% of the country's population: 30 Mbit/s speed to rural settlements and 100 Mbit/s to cities; improvement of the competitive environment, expansion of broadband and Internet market, increase of investment opportunities and development of small, medium-sized enterprises (SME), and stimulation of start-ups; the project also should be transparent and for the project participants responsibility and accountability is a key requirement.

We pay special attention to public-private partnership (PPP) as well in the implementation of this project and consider the private sector as a key contributor to the project.

Because of its geographical location and economic potential the Eurasian region is in the spotlight today. In the classic sense, Eurasia means two great joint continents of Europe and Asia. However, we are talking about the region that is surrounded by South Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. A region, rich with natural resources and hydrocarbon reserves, which also has high scientific, technological potential and human resources has a potential to compete with the advanced countries of the world in all priority directions of the development.

When we look at the history, this region was considered as the center of trade routes and played an important role in economic development in a vast region. Everyone is aware of the historical significance of the Great Silk Road. It is not a coincidence that Azerbaijan supported the initiative and played a leading role in restoring the historic Silk Road since the first day of gaining its independence. Generally, Azerbaijan is known as the initiator of infrastructure projects in the region. Infrastructure projects such as Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline in energy sector, new Baku - Tbilisi - Kars railway, the Trans-Anatolian gas pipeline (TANAP), Trans-Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) are just some examples. "Shah Deniz-2" final investment documents signed these days with the initiative of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan play a significant role for the development of countries covering a large region. As a continuation of these initiatives, we are actively working on building regional and

international transit information highways and data centers that will serve the transnational ICT sector development.

Given that South Caucasus and Central Asia region is located between developed Western Europe and South-East Asia, we have started the implementation of project on construction of two large-scale fiber-optic highways. These initiatives are designed to connect Europe and Asia via shortest possible routes. One of the projects, Europe-Persian Express Gateway (EPGE) started operating since the last year. 10,000 kilometers in length and a capacity of 3.2 TB/s network has turned into a great example of regional cooperation.

Fortunately, with Azerbaijan's initiative significant improvements can be witnessed in the implementation of the region's new "Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway" (TASIM) project. We hope that TASIM project, the transnational fiber-optic highway with expected total length of 11,000 km and an initial capacity of 2 TB/s will be covering Eurasian countries from Western Europe to the Pacific.

With Azerbaijan's initiative, a resolution on the establishment of the "Eurasian Connectivity Alliance" (EuraCA) was unanimously adopted during the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly's plenary meeting on September 4th, 2013. The establishment of the Eurasian Connectivity Alliance will have positive effect on the creation of open global information society, the spread of high-speed internet access and related services, the establishment of ICT related and knowledge-based industries, expansion and diversification of trade and economy in the region. We believe that the EuraCA will turn into a significant platform for the detection, constructive discussion and the solution of existing problems in the Eurasian region. The main objectives of the EuraCA are the provision of quality and cheap connection to the region, the regional content development, network infrastructure expansion and acceleration of TASIM project implementation process.

Using this opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude to all the countries for supporting TASIM project and the EuraCA proposal at the UN's 64th and 67th sessions. Joint work of many countries and international organizations on TASIM and EuraCA is a striking example of cross-border cooperation between public and private institutions, in other words "Cross-Border PPP".

2013 was a very significant year for TASIM Project, so during 19th BakuTel international exhibition and conference in December in Baku a Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of TASIM Consortium was signed between 5 regional operators - China's "China Telecom", Kazakhstan's "KaztransKom", Russia's "Rostelekom", Turkey's "Turktelekom" and Azerbaijan's "Aztelekom". We believe that all the financial, technical and other documentation works related to TASIM project will be finished by mid-2014. An initial TASIM Consortium Secretariat and office is currently funded by the government of Azerbaijan.

One of the factors which draw attention to the realization of the above-mentioned projects is an active involvement of the most of the Great Silk Road countries. In fact, in the beginning of the 21st century, we are witnessing the transformation of the ancient Silk Road into a Virtual Silk Road.

Development of the satellite infrastructure is also very important in the overall development of the region and is seen as a part of Virtual Silk Road. Currently satellites of Turkey, Russia, Kazakhstan and the Arab countries operate in a wide region. As you know, "Azerspace-1" telecommunications satellite was launched into orbit and started its commercial activities since July of 2013. A large number of television and radio channel (mostly foreign) broadcasting, and various communication channels are carried out by the satellite. Primary and backup satellite ground control centers were established and are operated. Observation satellite and second telecommunications satellite are to be launched respectively by 2016 and 2017.

Establishment of network infrastructure and information highways across countries combine the strengths and capabilities on ICT development in the region and plays a special role in the solution of socio-economic problems, including poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and other social misfortunes.

International and regional cooperation is a great importance in a globalized world. We believe that this kind of events create new opportunities for solving the problems common to all of us. We also believe that this important summit on economic cooperation in the Eurasian region will be a great contribution to the expansion of the new cooperation and finding solutions for sustainable development. Once again, I wish success to the summit.



*Participants of ICT for Development Session*



**Hon. Dr. Tayfun Acarer**  
Chairman of Communication and Information  
Technologies Authority

Minister of Communication and Information Technologies of Azerbaijan just said and I agree with him that we are witness to developments that make us pleased as two brother countries. Especially, developments in ICT sector in Azerbaijan makes us satisfied as well as developments in ICT sector in Turkey.

The ICT sector is an interesting sector. Former Minister Transport and Communication of Turkey Binail Yıldırım said: "ICT area has become a life style".

There are many interesting statistics about ICT sector. I would like to share some of them. It is known that there are 7.2 billion people in the world. There are also 7.2 billion mobile subscriber. It is equals to people living in the world. It is developing rapidly. Internet is a wide network. However, the interesting statistics is that there are 3.5 billion toothbrush in the world. There are 7.2 billion people in the world and there are also 7.2 billion mobile subscriber that is equals to people living in the world. However, there are 3.5 billion toothbrush that is not equals to people living in the world. The interesting thing is this. ICT sektör surround our life. We

should get internet different place in ICT sector as well.

Internet is a process of changing our life and effects our life in every area from education, entertainment, trade to communication. Even some notions changed with internet. We can not think a home without internet today.

There are many interesting statistics. Firstly, I would like to inform you about Turkey and then I would like to share trends of ICT sector in the world.

Last month, 2013 Progress Report of EU addressed that Turkey is getting adapt to regulations of EU regarding Information and Communication Technologies.

In detail of this report, it is emphasized that business managers has decreased administrative costs by reducing documents' scope, determining standards and rules of the time of repairing breakdown, reducing the fee of interconnection and mobile call termination and by getting service of leased line.

Furthermore, it is addressed that Board of Cyber Security and National Cyber Intervene Center has been established in Turkey. National Cyber Security Strategy has come into operation in 2013-2014 Action Plan as well.

I would like to share some data with you about Turkey. Whereas there were only 20.000 subscriber of broadband internet in Turkey, today it is increased to 33 million. Approximately 24.5 million of this is mobile broadband subscriber. In other words, 76% of this mobile broadband subscriber and 24% of this subscriber of broadband internet. Why? Because smart equipments, computers increases day by day in our life.

17 million phone is coming to Turkey every year. 83% of this is smart phone. They are all potential mobile computers.

The number of subscriber of broadband's penetration is 65% in Turkey. The internet usage time is 33 hours. Social networking site subscriber number is 36 million. This is a serious number.

Our third generation mobile phone subscriber number is 49,5 million. Our 2G subscriber number is approximately 26 million as well. 3G is increasing everyday. 68% of our people

## FROM PRESS

# IT sector boom chance for emerging countries: Acarer

**Emerging countries could get bigger shares in the IT sector thanks to the recent and ongoing boom in the market, says Chairman of Communication and Information Technology Authority's chair**

Zeynep Topaloglu - ISTANBUL

**T**he rapid ascent of the information technologies sector provides opportunities for emerging countries to take a bigger share of the sector in the future, said Chairman of Communication and Information Technologies Authority (BTK)

and it is estimated to be \$1.68 trillion by 2015, according to data provided by Acarer.

But the real point he wanted to make was the trend change accompany that revenue jump.

He stressed that "communication sector's revenues are expected to drop so the raise will be accounted by information technol

"The real opportunity is at the IT," he reassured. "They say world population is 7.1 billion but we have 7.2 subscribers to IT services. Meanwhile, 3.5 there are billion tooth brushes in the world which means we have subscribers as many as world population but half of the world doesn't have toothbrush," he said.

on Turkey, Acarer gave outlines some of the steps taken by Turkey in recent years. Along with the development of communication and information technologies in the country, he said, the cyber security issues, which are crucial to strengthen country's network against the risks emerge from highly vulnerable cyber spheres,

showed skyrocketed utilization of bandwidth internet and jumping smartphone popularity in the country. "Eighty-three percent of all imported phones are smartphones," Acarer said, drawing attention to two results of the phenomenon. "Firstly, this leads to incredible rise in mobile data usage as all smartphones are potential mobile computers," he said.

"But this also means the price we pay for phones rise rapidly," he added. Therefore, emerging

Hürriyet Daily News

uses 3G. Our internet usage rate increased 152%. Whereas there were only 20.000 subscriber of broadband internet in Turkey, today it is increased to 33 million. Turnover of the sector increased 315%. The turnover of ICT sector of Turkey is 47 billion dollars.

I would like to take your attention to the rate of smart phones that is increased 80% in comparison to last year. Every telephone is a computer. We can do everything via application programs of mobile smart phones.

What is the meaning of this raise? Firstly, our expenses to imported smart phones are increasing. The average price is 300 dollars. Our countries can produce telephones by making cooperation.

Amount of data in mobile networks increases everyday. The increase is not only in Turkey but also in all countries of the world. There will be mobile networks failures in the near future. We have to take measures in a short time.

There are interesting statistics in the world. What was the capacity of ICT sector in the world in 2012? It was 1.45 trillion dollars. What was the capacity of ICT sector in Turkey in 2012? It was approximately 42 billion dollars. In 2015, the

number will be 1.68 trillion. It will increase. In ICT sector there will be a decrease about 60 billion dollars. The income from communication will be getting low.

Well, What is the origin of increase for 83 billion? From IT part. We have to pay attention to this. It is a very important situation for young, dynamic countries like our country. I believe that it is a great opportunity for countries like Turkey. For that reason I believe that we should attach great importance to IT.

We have to use fiber access system to overcome many problems of fixed network. What can we do for mobile? We should establish base stations such as femtocell, picocell, microcell to solve the problems of communication traffic.

We have good opportunity in telecommunication and IT. Especially IT. I would like to present you an example. In 2013, the revenue of a Japan company, Dokomo, was more than the revenue of data. Turkey is like this today. Our revenue of IT is increasing continuously.

I believe that there are many important business opportunities regarding IT sector between our countries. I pay my respects to you.



**H.E. Askar Zhumagaliyev**  
**Minister of Communications and Transportation of**  
**Kazakhstan**

On behalf of delegation of Kazakhstan, allow me to greet participants and guests of 17th Eurasian Economic Summit and to thank for the given opportunity to speak here.

Dear participants,

During the financial global crisis, Kazakhstan kept its pace in development due to timely and efficient anti-crisis measures. For the last 3 years, our annual GDP growth had been 6% average. International experts consider Kazakhstan as one of the three fast growing economies.

For sustainable and balanced economic growth, Kazakhstan is currently developing priority sectors of economy.

Today ICT is a key factor for economic competitiveness and society's quality of life. Kazakhstan understands and supports it. In this respect, informational state program for 2020 has been approved by President. The program aims solving issues about efficiency of public administration, availability of innovative information and communication

structure, creation of information environment and cultural development of society. For creation of competitive environment, laboratization of the telecommunication market has been implemented since 2004.

Today's telecommunication market has eleven long-distance and international providers for mobile operators and over 400 operators providing services for local telecommunication and access to internet. The laboratization allowed to reduce tariffs on long-distance calls by five times, international calls by 6 times, mobile calls 6 times, internet 5 times.

Laboratization allowed applying new technologies.

Due to conducted reforms in telecommunications in 2005-2013 period, we have increased number of internet users from 600.000 to 12.000.000. Now internet penetration is more than %70. Number of mobile subscribers increased from 5.4 million to 29.7 million and mobile phone penetration is more than %170. As for achievements in the e-government, 5-10 years

ago all public services of the government agencies were provided by direct contact of civil servants. But 21st century is the century of data transfer. In 2004-2009 period, there has been started an intensive work on creation of e-government infrastructure. This work was conducted for each agency by creating necessary information systems and data bases.

There was simultaneously implemented program on decrees of information in equality which allowed us to have 63% computer literate population by the end of 2013. When the infrastructure was ready, we faced a lot work on adjustments about "how the front office will function". For providing high quality public services, we again faced a lot of work on analyzing and optimizing business processes of each public services, making special plans on optimization and automation of processes put business in motion. As a result, citizens' government works became much more easier and faster. Real estate issues now can be solved in 5 minutes

instead of 30 days. Couples can apply for marriage court via internet. Citizens can make their fees and other payments via internet. Overall, 570 services have been transferred to e-format. Nowadays, 38 million services are provided in e-format per year. As a result, Kazakhstan ranked second in e-participation rate and in online services index 14th.

IT Park Free Economic Zone has been opened, where all conditions for business created.

As my colleague from Azerbaijan said, we are developing transit potential of great Silk Road and now we have good results. Of course we will continue this active work.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to thank once again for the opportunity to speak here at the Eurasian Economic Summit. I would like to invite all of you to cooperation with Kazakhstan's IT business. IT sector is dynamically developing and attractive. Kazakhstan is open, our IT sector is ready for partnership. You are welcome in IT Park Free Economic Zone, where all conditions for your business have been created.



*H.E. Askar Zhumagaliyev, H.E. Mahir Yağcılar and H.E. Zivko Budimir together*



**Hon. Mag. Violeta Bulc**  
 Founder and CEO of VIBACOM - Slovenia

Thank you very much to the organizers first giving me a chance to speak such a prominent audiences. I am very humbled and honored. Thank you very much and I hope I can contribute to your thoughts. I am a simple entrepreneur and innovator. My background is in telecommunication and ICT. However, I think that the infrastructure itself does not generate value add. Only people can do that. That's why I was attracted. Business innovation, social innovation are important. Using ICT is important for success, prosperity and creating value. I would like to show you and raise couple of issues that come along when we start really empowering ourselves with ICT.

I am coming from a small country. I could talk to you about statistics. Slovenia is a very developed ICT country. We are second in Europe in mobile penetration. One of our core business and one of the global industries is actually ICT. We are very strong in mobile applications. Probably there is no grandchild and probably not your daughter or son that would not have at home application on their mobile. Mobile

Pad everybody plays that comes from Slovenia. Many many more advanced IT applications. ICT will be used not only for entertainment but also for business, social development and for connecting people. However, ICT being just a tool. Really depends how can we use. On the level of consciousness. It presents individuals, in societies, in states leaders that lead those groups. It is required for personal development and openness to see potential of ICT. The second one of course related to that is also how we perceive creation and what is the creative driver. Is it productivity or Is it innovation? As soon as we move for productivity quality to innovation we understand much more potential that ICT is bringing. Of course consequently the organizational behavior that comes along and we will see that ICT can really powerfully follow us. But it is human limitation or human potential that is opening up. I would like to argue that of course because of the human nature ICT can be used either in a constructive or destructive way.

In destructive way we see a huge pollution as a result of ICT of course not in the developing countries but if you go to Africa you will see what absolute old IT equipment used. This is our responsibility. We have to find and use green technology. We can use every material again and again as a raw material not as a waste. ICT causes social detachment and different forms of harassment. We could go on and on. But I don't want to give any power of this negative elements. I really like to speak openly about the positive aspect of ICT. Because, I as a computer engineer we devoted as a systematic thinker and social responsible person I would like to show you the power of ICT to engage people. We see really important positive consequences of ICT in medicine, in access to global knowledge, global experiences, communication and of course to all different types of information. However, I would like to show you real examples of cooperation, co-creation and mass participation. Without ICT we will never be able to do that. So, ICT is the tool to enable new business modeling, new business thinking and especially new social models. What

kind of communities global or local we can create. Slovenia is in the eleven more modern countries in the last two years. The usage of ICT is high. We really connect people who want to create. Over six thousand people have creative thinking. Project challenge available. Young people have creative thinking. Fourteen thousand creative ideas report positive effects of ICT. This is only possible because of ICT.

In the local level, in Slovenia there is a project called Heart of Europe. In the last 13 year there are partnerships in Municipalities. We powerfully make connection between 9 and 16 different municipalities depends on type of the project. They cooperate together. At the back there are really effective ICT tool. ICT tool keeps fresh the information. There are mass participation and mass innovation. ICT is incredibly positive tool. We should develop new business models and new social structures. If we don't make this it will be just dead investment. Social cooperation is need in Europe for

development and sustainability with ICT. Technology is for people. Technology is a dead tool without people. Technology should be wisely used in hands of people for positive affects to human life.

Let me start to conclude my points just a bring an attention. ICT helping to co-create of the world. I would like to talk emergence of new civilization that is based on global values. Open, co-operative, co-structural. Industries, countries, different sectors cooperates horizontally. In the world, right now, there is no solution can be made by vertical unit. All challenges are co-structural. ICT is incredible tool that help us utilize, mass participation and mass innovation. Systematic thinking replaced analytical thinking. ICT is an infrastructure. Here is the question that I am raising. Can we invest in ICT to serve the needs of people. It is our personal responsibility.



**Katanda Kamyá on behalf  
H.E. Stephen Chemoiko  
Minister of Transportation of Uganda**

I am greatly honored by the invitation from the President of the Marmara Group Foundation, Dr. Akkan Suver, inviting me to attend and participate in the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit here in Istanbul in the Republic of Turkey.

This is my second time to attend this summit and it gives me pleasure to be here to share with Your Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates the experiences of Uganda in particular and the East African Community in general on the issues of sustainable development.

I will focus my attention on issues of sustainable development in the context of infrastructure and Information Communication Technology (ICT) which have been identified as corner Stones in accelerating the achievement of sustainable development of our region (East Africa) and my country (Uganda).

Distinguished delegates,

The East African region to which the Republic of Uganda belongs developed a Regional Economic Co-operation (REC) referred to as the East African Community (EAC). Initially set up in 1964 by Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania on attainment

of independence, it broke up in 1977, only to be revived in its current form in November, 1999. Currently, membership of the EAC has expanded to include five countries namely, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi.

The community members have a total population of almost 150 million which is being developed into an economic block for marketing, investment, infrastructure development. It is the regional unit for social development of the populations with aims of progressing towards a political federation, as the ultimate goal.

Neighboring countries to our EAC like Somalia and the young Republic of South Sudan, not to mention Sudan have applied for membership to this community. This is testimony to their appreciation of the efforts of the EAC to enhance economic sustainability of the region through a network of infrastructure developments in the railway and corridor roads, energy, petroleum and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sectors.

Distinguished delegates,

These have been designed to act as the engines of economic growth to propel the region to meaningful economic integration and prosperity. The achievement of these goals is based on the pooling of resources among member countries as well as presenting our aspirations through agreed regional projects to donor countries and international financial institutions for funding. The implementation of these regional undertakings is expected to facilitate the establishment of suitable conditions for the development of stable and strong institutions to enhance good governance, social, technological and political developments in the region generally and in the respective partner states in particular.

Efforts in this direction have already left the drawing board are beyond the planning stages. In the area of roads every country in the EAC is busy upgrading sections of its road infrastructure to bitumen standards to provide smooth connectivity by road to all member countries. This is expected to enhance the railway freight carrying capacity in line with anticipated improvement in productivity and trade within the region.

The region has realized the need to undertake a human skills development in the Standard gauge railway since the available skills are predominately in the one meter gauge railway technology. Two institutions one in Kenya and another in Uganda are to be developed to match up to the skills requirements assessed in the railway subsector.

The energy sector in EAC has registered substantial capacity in the hydro power generation. Uganda has a total hydro power generation capacity of 480 MW. This is expected to increase to close to 1200 MW when the Karuma and Isimba dams are completed. However, little has been done to develop effective transmission capacity of the generated power within the region. Regional interconnectivity of power transmission among partner states is still negligible.

Distinguished delegates,

Equally it has been realized that other renewable sources of energy i.e. geothermal and solar have not been fully explored and potentials exploited. This is partly because of lack of expertise in the exploration and exploitation of these energy sources at a commercial scale to make a meaningful contribution to the supply of power to the region and among individual countries. This limits the region's capacity to enhance sustainable economic development. Capacity building of human resources to enable the region and individual countries to harness and exploit these energy sources is at skills deficit identification level. The next level would be to develop a human resource development strategy.

The Oil and gas sector has of late gained momentum promising to turn around the economic fortunes of countries in the region. Kenya and Uganda have already identified oil and gas resources in commercial quantities and are at various stages of developing capacity to exploit the resource. However, technological capacity and financing of the preferred technology are hurdles in the exploitation of this resource.

Besides the earlier incapacity mentioned, is also lack of sufficient human resource capacity in upstream, midstream and downstream activities in the exploitation of the oil and gas resources at all levels in order to undertake skills capacity development. The skills gaps will be met by training in local institutions being developed in the region and international institutions.

Distinguished delegates, getting to the crux of the matter,

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has been identified as a lever in the transformational development of the EAC. ICT progress is a big force in the realization of economic growth of partner states of the EAC.

Currently impressive developments have been made in the establishment of ICT infrastructure and ICT services in the region. Notable among these have been establishment of an optic fiber infrastructure to complement undersea cables, E-Government services, development of ICT policies and regulatory framework, migration from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting infrastructure, use of Wi-Fi networks, technology enhanced learning, a breakthrough in the digital divide through the mobile communications, e-commerce establishment of ICT incubation hubs e.g. IBM Lab, K-Lab and Mobile Money transfers increasing Access to hitherto limited financial services in the rural areas in the region.

Much as impressive human resource developments have been made in the ICT sector, skills gaps remain enormous in the realization of the full potential of ICT use in transformational

development in the region. There is need to develop a vibrant ICT industry and facilitate the creation of a highly competitive service sector to catalyse economic growth, promote social and cultural interaction and integration in the society. This would be achieved through the use of ICT and enabling efficient and effective service delivery through ICT.

Distinguished delegates,

Currently, the skills gaps identified in the region can only be filled by increasing on the support to designated institutions of excellence in the region in the ICT area. This would preferably be through extending /sourcing for financial resources, appropriate high-tech equipment to train and expose students to modern technological developments in the ICT area. Already Institutions like, Makerere University-Institute of Computer Science, Mbarara University of Science and Technology and Gulu University in Uganda as well as the Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)-Rwanda, University of Rwanda-College of Science and Technology in Rwanda as well as the University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and the Multimedia University College in Kenya are ICT graduate program offering institutions in the region which deserve support at international, regional and national levels to achieve the ICT expertise training required in the region.

In addition there is the IBM Laboratory at the Catholic University in Kenya, a partnership between the Government of Kenya and IBM, under which, a research and innovation centre for practical skills capacity building of ICT personnel in the region, was established.

Cognisant of the multiplier effect in the advancement of ICT capacity as a lever to transformational development of the region, I request for support from countries like Turkey whose ICT credentials and capacity is tremendous, to come to Uganda's rescue in particular and to the rescue of the East African region in general in our efforts to develop the ICT industry.

I wish to convey greeting from the people of the Republic of Uganda for the invitation extended to me to interact with the Excellencies here present as well as all the distinguished Delegates to this 17th Eurasian Economic Summit. Sincere thanks are extended to the President of Marmara Group Foundation, Dr. Akkan Suver and his team for the excellent organization of this forum facilitating an exchange of experience among such eminent participants from all corners of the World.



Representatives of Marmara Group Foundation Hon. Yüksel Çengel and Hon. İsmail Hakkı Demirci



**Hon. David Tsur**  
Member of Knesset - Israel

After Ms. Violeta Bulc's speech I have almost nothing to add. So I will be very short. In Israel we are called as a start up nation mainly because a lot of start ups in innovation, technology specially on ICT because as a small country we believe we don't have any benefit or added value on the hardware and we are investing mainly on the people's minds. Science and R&D which we think are the most important issue that we can provide because this is the future. Everything is concerning in the growing market of ICT was already spoken before and Israel is a very very fast growing market on anything connected to the ICT, web, data but as I said we are very much focused on R&D.

I want say a few words about system and what this R&D system brings to ICT. First of all science and technology schools, very much supported by the government and also by the private sector.

Secondly and maybe the most important field of R&D, because probably all of you know we are a small country surrounded by hostile neighbors most of the time we have to see that we can protect ourselves, so everything which is coming from ICT connect to the security branches like military and police is a very very developed. We have branches of R&D in the security forces which bring huge amount of scientific young people and out to the market, civil market

after they serve in the special units in the security branches and from there we see a lot of startups and other products.

The third thing is the private sector which is being encouraged by the government by legislation that we in the parliament are very much supporting in order to bring investments and especially the R&D parts of a large ICT companies to Israel. So I can tell you that the largest ICT of Microsoft is in Israel, Google R&D is again in Israel because we are very much giving them low income taxes and providing them also with our mind and R&D people and products. It is a win-win situation.

I think we as politicians and also leaders can help by legislation, prioritize, by policy to encourage this kind of R&D. Cyber security issue is a huge part of research and development we do in our country. As I said we see that future can be threat but also opportunities, so in cyber terrorism, cyber attacks, cyber security all the infrastructure today; communication, system on transportation etc. are very much on the cyber today which is a convenience of course but also

it is very vulnerable without cyber protection. So basically this technology is coming from need but we know that any technology if it is not coming from a high incentive or of common need it will probably stuck.

The main challenge I think we have half of the world doesn't have the capabilities of access to this growing market for example in Israel we tripled the number of cellular smart phones, %80 of the people have access to internet those who don't have it because they don't choose to have it. I think main challenge is not the West countries because the market is growing up, the countries in Africa, some of Asia which don't have any access to internet, smart phones although the market of cellular and smart phones is growing very rapidly in Africa we have total areas in Africa without that so I think the future will be on projects that can provide area of wi-fi and access to the internet from satellites so it can provide the service to large places and regions and will be in the market soon. Tel Aviv for example is wi-fi free.

All the citizens can access to internet in all the streets and 4G is already penetrating so I think as the expert before me said that it is a great tool and we think the secret is mindset, the human investment. We can drop a lot of borders and we can create a lot of cooperation.



Marmara Group Foundation rapportours Hon. Prof. Nilüfer Eğriçan, Hon. Cenk Saltık, Hon. Dr. Hakan Yılmaztürk, Hon. Dr. Hüseyin Çelik and Hon. Musa Karademir at the session of ICT for Development



## H.E. Mahir Yağcılar Minister of State of Kosovo

First of all I would like to state my appreciation for participating to the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit. I salute you all with affection and respect and hope that the Summit will bring good outcomes for us all.

I am the Minister of Public Administration of Kosovo, for years I have been attending to these Summits organized by Marmara Group Foundation, and I would like congratulate President Akkan Suver and all the members of the Marmara Group Foundation for their success. I believe you are aware that I am conveying my speech in Turkish language, I come from Kosovo and as the representative of the Kosovo Turkish Community I am taking part in Kosovo's institutions as a parliamentarian and minister since 2000.

While attending the ICT for Development session of the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit, I will try to convey the efforts of the Government of Kosovo in the fields of information society and information technologies along with my personal views. Ministry of Public Administration of Kosovo is the leading institution in forming modernization policies in public administration and electronic services within the state structure of Kosovo. The Government of Kosovo bearing in mind the importance of the information technologies to daily life and development, has transformed the institution that was in a directorate level within my ministry into Information Society Agency with a decree.

Although we are a new state, we do follow and observe the developments and innovations in the world, in route to European Union we are implementing our efforts with the aim of both providing for our own internal requirements and for reaching European standards. In another words, we plan to implement our efforts regarding Information Society and Information Technologies based on the Lisbon and other relevant criteria.

Our age is the age of information technologies or socially the age of internet. Such an age that can create a cyber and social network with the individuals from all over the world.

There is an opportunity to transform the information, thoughts, attitudes and reactions of millions of people into a device. Positive or negative, threat or aid, cooperation or provocation. Accordingly information technologies is a

reality that must be followed and observed by all, regardless public or private sector. The element of information technologies that accelerates the change, transformation and developments in our lives also has an important place in public administration.

What are the techniques and purposes? Who will use them, with what purpose, what will be its effect in the development of the state? The modernization and the compatibility of the devices, applications, service providers combined with service receivers create the information society and a new socio-cultural connection. Question of how this information can influence the developments of the societies, states and the world naturally comes to mind.

Today, in a world created by facebook, twitter or other social networks, public sector cannot remain as the reliable governance with the current status quo, the old standards and comprehension is ending, innovation is required. A new global civilization needs to be formed, the state mechanism cannot act as nothing is going

on in this new socio-cultural connection formed by the new generations. Accordingly, a modern public administration without using the information technology, the internet, e-mail, social media cannot be thought of. Public administration should be integrated with the citizens, reduce the times of the processes, it should be innovative and it should support economic growth, humanitarian development and, social and cultural life. Public administration should be the supporter and mediator of development, not its narrow strait. It should keep the development route fluid with legislature, create ease for information technologies, support innovations, take precautions for cyber attacks, maintain compatibility and standards, and manifest leadership for the humane and technical infrastructure.

The government of Kosovo is working on this matter knowing the road of economic and democratic development is dependent on the progress of information society and information technologies.

With your permission, I will briefly try to tell our efforts in the areas the Government of Kosovo. In the essence of realizing the reforms of public administration which is one of the priorities of the government of Kosovo, lays the use of information technologies. The fastening of public procedures and improvement of the services offered are our main goals. With this regard, 2009-2015 e-Governance strategy and the related legal framework has been accepted to this end. In 2012 in compatibility with the European Union Interoperabilitet the Kosovo Interoperabilitet Framework has been accepted. The purpose is the establishment and execution of services according to the developments of the world and standard, the increase of the local and center governance capabilities and become useful to both public and private sectors for the implementation of intra-institutional projects.

Up until today 3 fundamental efforts have been made in Kosovo with regards to e-governance:

- Network system and technical infrastructure established for all state institutions and is being managed by Information Society Agency.

- Establishing database center and providing service for

all institutions.

- The realization of the projects of development and management of electronic services applications and technical infrastructure.

Today in the institutions of Kosovo, applications for taxes, customs, banking services, electronic archive, civil records, biometric passport and ids, digital diplomacy, assets of institutions, salary systems of public employees provide online opportunities.

In the coming period we try to initiate services like; electronic residence record, geographical area, digital topography, call centers, electronic document processing system and other system applications.

Along with these efforts, we train and educate new personnel in the field of information technologies in order to deliver faster and better quality services.

While the globalized world taking fast steps in the information technologies we don't want to be left behind in this area, we know that political and economic development, democracy and the sustainability of society is directly

connected with innovation and technology.

We all realize that the internet's effect and influence is rapidly rising in every aspect of life. Despite all economic and political struggles, the internet usage in Kosovo is increasing like in every other corner of the world. According to 2011 census access to internet based on family units is %57. When we look at the cities it seems as %74,41. The latest research and data show that internet usage is rapidly increasing and at this stage the penetration rate of internet in Kosovo is %80.

In this technology age, only states that can cope with information technologies and remain competitive can ensure development. Where ever they are, people are increasingly using the internet and accordingly the state must provide the best and most efficient services and information with the best device to its citizens. Quality and fast public services is an important ground for the development of society and the content of the people. These aspects are also important reasons for international cooperation to be formed. Especially the cyber threat issues clearly puts forward the fact of the necessity of joint action.



## H.E. Yerjan Khabshai

### Deputy Minister of Transportation of Mongolia

First of all I would like to salute you all on behalf of Mongolia. Especially on behalf of the Ministry of Transportation that I represent. When we received an invitation to this Summit we were very happy because we have a lot of ties with Turkey, we have ethnic, cultural and brotherhood ties with Turkey. We are very happy to be here. Now I would like to inform you about my country's transportation policies.

As you know Mongolia is a country located between China and Russia. It has an area of almost 1 million square kilometers and a population of 2,9 million. It possesses a very old and rich history and culture. 24 years ago Mongolia transformed into a liberal economy and market economy. This wasn't easy. We faced great challenges. We worked to create solutions and still working on them today.

We had great problem in infrastructure. We didn't have sufficient infrastructure. Today our infrastructure is truly renovated and in good condition. Now we are making great

progress in railroads and airways. Today with the support of the parliament and the government our country is continuing new initiatives and openings. We have two significant state strategies. The Railroad Strategy accepted on 2010 and State Civil Aviation Concept signed on 2013. Now the projects are ongoing within these frameworks. This year we will sign a new concept that will include sustainable highways.

We really wish and aim to be a center between Europe and Asia. In order to achieve that we are doing everything we can for repairing all the highways, building new roads, constructing bridges, intersections. We started some big projects. For example we plan to finish a 3600 km highway and 1800 km railroad by 2016. There is a construction of new airport in Ulanbataar and it will be finished in 2016. We continue the constructions of H3 and H4 highways as well. We relaying many of the roads we plan to finish the fast highway construction in 2014. This will enable us to re-admission the fast highway between China

and Russia.

Aside from these our country attaches great importance to mining as well. Natural resources are point of attraction for third party countries and they will contribute to economy greatly. We have cooperation and collaborations in the fields of highway construction and civil aviation and we want to deepen these relations.

Dear guests, participants,

As you all know in history Mongolians and the state of Mongolia had a role in Silk Road. Today Europe and Asia is equipped very well again for the same sustainable economy and Mongolia is well aware of it.

While I conclude my remarks I want to once again congratulate Marmara Group Foundation and Dr. Akkan Suver.



**H.E. Rasa Noreikienė**  
Deputy Minister of Economy of Lithuania

I am very pleased to be here and have an opportunity to share Lithuania's experience in using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

But first I would like to thank President of the Marmara Group Honorary Dr. Akkan Suver and his team for inviting me here and for excellent organization of the summit.

As Lithuania has just finished its Presidency of the Council of European Union, let me start with few words about some of the achievements during our Presidency.

Since the start of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2013 Lithuania, in close cooperation with European Parliament, the European Commission, the President of European Council has focused on the creation of a credible, growing and open Europe.

We managed to make progress on Enlargement agenda by seeking the continuous implementation of the EU enlargement policy based on firm obligations, conditionality and clear communication. Lithuania ensured the continuity of negotiations with Turkey, Montenegro, prepared the Negotiating Framework for opening accession negotiations with Serbia, continued the development of European perspective for Western Balkans and prepared for adoption the Council Conclusions on Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association process.

I would like to underline our common success on the opening of the chapter 22 in the EU accession negotiations with Turkey in October. In addition, after a year of negotiations, in December Turkey signed the Readmission Agreement with EU. Simultaneously, the Dialogue on visa liberalization between the European Commission and Turkey was launched. We are really impressed by the economic achievements of Turkey during the last ten years and as Honorable Dr. Akkan Suver yesterday said, we will be glad to see Turkey as EU member while celebrating its 100 years of independence.

Now I'll go back to the ICT issues everybody knows that ICT is important part of the economy. This sector generates 5% of European GDP with a market value amounting to 660 billion euro annually and it also contributes far more to overall productivity growth.

Fully exploiting the potential of ICT we can fundamentally

modernize the functioning of public administration and develop more efficient public services. That is why Lithuania pays considerable attention to ICT. Public procurement is one of the areas where we have achieved really good results in applying ICT. Currently, Lithuania is among the leading EU Member States in this field.

Talking about the EU public procurement volume, each year public authorities spend nearly 19% of the EU's GDP on goods, services and works. Total public expenditure on public procurement creates a large share of economic activity – amounting to over 2 trillion EURO per year. This money is spent by more than 250 000 contracting authorities in Europe.

Large scope of public procurement means that it is very important to pay considerable attention to the procurement process so that public funds are spent responsibly. A well-functioning public procurement market can foster economic growth and job creation, provide huge business opportunities for companies and promote competition. At the same time, the strategic use

of public expenditure can be a powerful tool for achieving specific social and environmental goals and fostering innovations. That is why public procurement is among the instruments which contribute to making progress under three priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy: smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

To meet the challenges of the Europe 2020 Strategy various initiatives have been undertaken. One of them is the Digital Agenda for Europe, which identifies e-government and the Digital Single Market as crucial elements of a modern and competitive EU economy.

Within this framework significant efforts to digitize public procurement in the EU have been made. The EU has its vision to digitize the entire public procurement process from notification to payment, the so-called implementation of "end-to-end e-procurement".

What is the reason that end-to-end e-procurement is important?

The transition to end-to-end e-procurement can generate significant savings. The World Bank estimates that e-procurement can trigger savings of 6 to 13.5% of the total public procurement expenditure. End-to-end e-procurement may simplify the process for market actors, what is especially important for SMEs, facilitate innovation, increase transparency and competition. It may also improve the overall administrative efficiency by cutting the duration of the purchase-to-pay cycle, by reducing administrative burden, and by improving auditability.

In order to make use of the benefits of e-procurement the new modernized public procurement directives, which have been adopted by the European Parliament last month, provide for requirements to publish contract notices, to make contract documents accessible and to submit the tenders by electronic means. These requirements will become mandatory within 54 months after the new directives enter into force.

Currently, European institutions are considering the directive on e-invoicing in public procurement. E-invoicing is an important step towards paperless public administration. It is estimated that the adoption of e-invoicing in public

procurement across the EU could generate savings of up to 2.3 billion.

Now I would like to move to Lithuania and talk about our experience and achievements in this field.

The transposition of public procurement to electronic environment started in 2002 from the e-notification phase and step-by-step is approaching to the end-to-end e-procurement.

In 2009 the Law on Public Procurement obliged the contracting authorities and entities to ensure that e-procurement constitutes at least 50 % of the total value of all procurement. I would like to note that e-procurement in Lithuania means publishing of contract notices, accessibility of contract documents and submission of tenders by electronic means.

The idea of implementing this tough requirement in very short period of time was shocking at the beginning, yet, the statistic shows that all the concerns were undue. At the moment, more than 87% of all published procurements have been carried out in the electronic environment.

Currently, the value of published e-procurement exceeds 90%.

The fast growth of e-procurement in Lithuania demonstrates considerable benefits of electronic instruments. The analysis carried out by the Public Procurement Office demonstrates that procurement procedures have become simplified, streamlined, more effective and transparent with small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) playing more active role and the competition increased.

Following the data comparison of 2009 (when procurement were being carried out in traditional manner) and 2012:

Number of published procurement – increased by 22% (from 59% to 81%).

SME participation in public procurement – increased by 2% (from 73% to 75%).

Number of suppliers participating in public procurement – increased by 13% (from 7230 to 8185 suppliers).

Suppliers from 44 countries are registered in the Central Public Procurement Information System.

In four years the average period of procurement procedures became 15 days shorter.

As the World Bank estimates that e-procurement can help save from 6 to 13.5% of the total public procurement expenditure it means that Lithuania can potentially save from 100 to over 300 million euros per year.

The Central Public Procurement Information System is not a single instrument for e-procurement in Lithuania. The Electronic Catalogue CPO.It was developed and officially opened by the Central Purchasing Body in 2007. The Central Purchasing Body concludes framework agreements for works, supplies or services intended for contracting authorities and on the basis of these framework agreements builds up its e-catalogue.

The Government obliged central contracting authorities to carry out procurements by using e-catalogue in 2009. The mandatory requirements to use e-catalogue for all contracting authorities entered into force this year.

At the moment, the following categories are centralized and proposed by e-catalogue: office equipment, office paper, stationary goods, cartridges, automotive fuel, mobile services and telephones, medicines, electricity, building modernization

(renovation works, technical supervision of construction, investment plans, energy performance certificates, energy audits).

It is important to note that the building modernization was a big challenge for the Central Purchasing Body. The idea to standardize and centralize construction works was raised when the Government started the residential building renovation program in order to renovate multi-apartment residential buildings in Lithuania. The Central Purchasing Body seems to address the challenge successfully. The centralization of construction works is calculated to save 10 per cent of the planned project value.

As you may see from

the diagram the value of centralized public procurement is growing rapidly. Centralized procurement helps to save owing to both: e-catalogue and framework agreements with reopened competition. 40% of costs saved in procuring mobile services and 36% saved in procuring stationary goods could be mentioned among the most successful saving practice examples.

In spite of the optimistic statistics we can state that achieving success was not easy. The main obstacles we had to overcome included hesitation over the possibility of changing the rooted habits of contracting authorities and suppliers as well as the lack of capabilities and awareness in the field of e-procurement.

To summarize, it should be noted that the transposition of public procurement to electronic environment has enabled us to increase transparency and competition, simplify and shorten public procurement process and overcome corruption. Consequently, it has resulted in savings of millions of taxpayers' money.

It is also important to stress, that Lithuania's Corruption Perceptions Index keeps getting better along with the progress in e-procurement (in 2008, the score was 46, and in 2012 -54).

To conclude, we consider that all countries should seek possibilities to transpose the public procurement process, as well as other public administration procedures to electronic environment, to create e-governments and fully exploit the opportunities created by ICT tools.

I wish you all great success in using ICT and in all fields you are involved.

## FROM PRESS



**Bugün Newspaper**

# SESSION OF THE SAGACIOUS



*Human Trafficking has been going on for ages and today it threatens contemporary world.*

*The scale of human trafficking is unfortunately increasing with every passing day by the merchants of lie who falsely draw bright horizons to innocent individuals seeking a better life, a chance of employment and who are running from terrorism and despotism.*

*Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation regarded this issue as a threat and discussed it intellectually with the title of "Human Trafficking" in the 17th Eurasian Economic Summit on February 4-6, 2014.*

*We believe that when the future takes shape with peace, prosperity, stability and democracy, Human Trafficking will be diminished. We believe that if countries become more democratic, more prosperous and more stable these proplems will end.*

Dr. Akkan Suver



## GLOBAL IMPACT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Our endeavors on the issue of human trafficking made a significant global impact. In addition to various organizations, statesmen and intellectual circles, Vatican City State has also emphasized the importance our efforts. President of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People H.E. Cardinal Veglio wrote a letter in recognition of our works on human trafficking.

# THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING. HOW TO IMPROVE IT: THE FRENCH CASE



**Hon. Joelle Garriaud-Maylam**  
Member of French Senate

The UN Palermo Convention of 2000 gives us a detailed definition of human trafficking: “Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs”.

Exploiting forced labour and prostitution involves more than 20 million people in the World, with 2.5 million new victims each year. 80% of these victims are women or children. 79% of the identified victims are subject to sexual exploitation and 18% to forced labour. According to the UN and Council of Europe it generates 32 billion Euros revenue each year. That makes it one of the biggest sources of illegal money around the World, along with drug-trafficking and arms-trafficking.

This “human trafficking” takes us back centuries ago, to a dark period of our history, the time of slavery. Although they are specifically prohibited by article 5 of the Charter of the fundamental Rights of the European Union, these criminal activities have gained a renewal in our globalized World. Hidden behind the legal definition and the cold statistics, the individual stories are tragic and the ways of exploiting people quite varied: sexual exploitation, forced labour and begging, domestic slavery, organs trafficking amongst the most common.

The European Union hasn’t been spared this terrible phenomenon. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall and the borders opening in countries formerly under Soviet rule, this human trafficking has greatly developed.: close to 25.000 persons are supposed to have been its victims between 2008 and 2010. Almost two thirds of the victims come from Europe, especially from Bulgaria and Romania. The EU is deeply aware of how serious the situation is and has made the fight against this trafficking one of the priorities of the Stockholm programme, an action plan aiming at developing an area of justice freedom and security.

Financial liberalization, the use of a common european currency and the expansion of instant means of communication (internet or social networks) have simplified money transfers and obscured the tracking of these illegal financial transactions. The tools which allow the perpetrators of these illegal activities to hide their identity are numerous and relatively easy to master. The legal authorities have to learn to be one step ahead to counter their deplorable crimes.

But who are these victims? Quite often, they live in rural areas isolated areas and belong to very poor families having contracted debts in their village. They also have been dreaming-and this is specially true of young woman-of a better life with greater financial opportunities in the West.

Creditors who gravitate around mafia circles convince them to send their children, or go themselves to Western Europe under a promise of easy Money which would lead them to returning home with enough to build their own home. They then borrow more money to pay for the trip. It’s this “camata” a loan system very ancient in Romania which has resuscitated in the early 90’s. A large number of these poor people discover the truth and their fate only when they step onto French, Italian or Spanish territory and are forced to prostitute themselves or to start begging on the streets. They feel then linked to their mafia creditors, and keep on hoping they will earn one day enough Money to go back home. They are also afraid of the police whom they fear might come down heavily on them.

The gangs.

The increase in scope of the eastern gangs has been steady these last 20 years. Our central Office for the repression of human trafficking has led to the dismantling of 52 international networks in 2012, 13 more than 2 years earlier. Among those, almost half (that is 23 networks) were led by Rumanian gangs.

These gangs used to be tiny networks operated by small leaders, including heads of household. The first gangs to arrive in Western Europe were Albanian, who mostly worked in Italy where they got the upper hand against the local Mafia, thanks to the anti-corruption measures which were in the 90’s. Then they emigrated to other countries. They are

now incredibly well organized and are now operating on a different and much bigger scale.

They also know all the legal loopholes of the countries in which they work.

The difficulties

Dismantling this kind of networks is a long-term and tedious job, as it relies on discovering the existing links between the victims who don't speak the language and live under false identities, and are too afraid to come forward and cross their gang masters, knowing their own safety and that of their families back home could also be threatened.

As a Rapporteur on a bilateral treaty between France and Romania on isolated Romanian young (under-18) delinquents, I have seen first hand how difficult it is for the police to tackle the problem, particularly with youngsters. In France a child under the age of 13 cannot be prosecuted and therefore doesn't have penal responsibility. The gangs use that loophole and tell the youngsters to lie on their age. It's often quite difficult to determine the precise age of one of these youngsters as they have no ID, are reluctant to talk, frightened of reprisals by their gang masters and their age cannot be guessed safely by mere bone analysis.

When we manage to send these youngsters to Romania with a bit of money-to help them reintegrate into society of their native country-many of them come back...

So what can we do?

The legal and policy framework

In fact we have a legal framework at our disposal, with two prominent legal instruments. The first one is the UN Palermo Convention.

This UN 2000 Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is a multilateral treaty with a special emphasis on human trafficking through one of its three Protocols, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children. This Protocol is the only legally binding instrument to fight against human trafficking. It includes means for the prevention of trafficking, while protecting the victims and also pursuing the perpetrators and falls within the jurisdiction of The UN Office on Drugs and Crime which acts as its Custodian.

The second one is the Council of Europe Warsaw Convention of 2005, which insist on the training of professionals and the implementation of a national coordination mechanism, with the establishment of a national and transnational referral mechanisms.

Finally the European Union has developed over the last few years a comprehensive policy and legislative framework to effectively eradicate human trafficking. In June 2012 it adopted a communication on a strategy for the years leading to 2016. It offers guidance with for example two training manuals, for borderguards and for diplomatic and consular services.

So we have the framework, but, more than ever, international cooperation for a more efficient response to this growing problem. This is the key to success. This cooperation must be at an international and regional level, with the countries of origin, of transit and final destination.

This will require new tools, and I believe the franco-rumanian Agreement could be an example of what can be done.

To dismantle criminal networks, we need to coordinate police services on a transnational basis. We need an integrated and multidisciplinary partnership programmes across relevant disciplines and with stakeholders and other actors involved, and a coordination between public authorities, private sector, NGO's and civil society in all these countries. We need to create exchange programmes and send police officers, magistrates and social workers to the countries of origin. We need also build international data-basis covering the movement of East European migrants, particularly the youngsters. Obviously it needs to be done in full compliance with applicable data protection rule.

But we also need more preventive actions at the local level. For what is ultimately crucial is the work carried out in the country of origin, to prevent prostitution or forced labour, especially among the very young and isolated migrants. We need also to inform them that our western countries are not lands of plenty and that life there could be miserable for them...

The French Implication



Hon. Mme. French Senator Joelle Garriaud-Maylam opened session of the Sagacious

For the past ten years, France has worked intensively towards a way of bringing all the necessary elements in line so that the international instruments against human trafficking could be effectively applied.

Within the Council of human rights, France has supported since 2004 the creation of a post of special Rapporteur on human trafficking. It has also supported the efforts of the UN within the framework of the World initiative against human trafficking (called UN Gift), which was launched in 2007 to improve coordination of all international organizations working on the subject and helping financially the victims.

France was also very active in the working group on human trafficking within the UN Office against drug and Crime, the work of this group having led to the UN adopting in 2010 (resolution 64/293) an Action Plan against human trafficking, in view of an efficient implementation of the additional Protocol to the Palermo Convention.

At the European level, France ratified in 2008 the Convention of the Council of Europe against human trafficking. It collaborates actively with GRETA, a body which checks this legal instrument is properly applied. A national action plan is being elaborated to follow the recommendations of Greta. As recently as August 2013, France has included in its national law the 2011/36/UE directive of the European parliament, as well as the directive of and the Council of Europe of April 2011 regarding the prevention of human trafficking, the fight against this phenomenon and the protection of the victims.

Regional cooperation in Europe is at the centre of the French strategy. We've created the position of Regional Technical Counsellor in charge of this fight within our Embassy to the UN in Vienna. This Counsellor cooperates with 16 different countries of South East Europe to help them reinforcing their institutional capacities and civil society. We feel that multilateral tools are always more efficient if they rely on an "on the ground" implication of the local and regional players as well as the NGO's and civil society.

I would like also to mention our implication in West Africa

Countries of the Guinea Gulf have been identified not only as a major centre of forced labour and of sexual exploitation of women and children, but also a hub for circular ways of human trafficking, they have been proved to be countries of origin, of transit and of destination.

The scope of these trafficks and the business associated with it in the region provide an important underground economy which is hard to eradicate and contribute to destabilize the states. It must be understood that trafficking in the region is a huge problem, far than just a humanitarian challenge. It has transnational implications, permeates across regional economies and can destabilize whole States.

These traffics have not been limited to one geographical area. Thus, numerous victims from West Africa arrive in Western Europe through Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

France launched in November 2013 for a 3 years period what we call a PRiority Solidarity Fund which helps the fight against trafficking in Guinea Gulf State countries. It aims to reinforce regional coordination in 5 countries (Cameroon, Benin, Togo, Ghana and Nigeria) between which exist important trafficking flows. The main objective is to empower these States by improving their capacity to fight trafficking. It encourages the exchange of information on good practices.

It wants to place the victim at the heart of everything when dealing with this appalling crime against humanity.

Cooperation with Bulgaria

To illustrate our emphasis on the ground local cooperation, I would like to give you another example of a pilot Project in the prevention of human trafficking with emphasis on the Rom minority Bulgaria, which is largely funded by France. It is sponsored by the city of Varna and the Bulgarian family planning organisation, with help from the Regional Health Network and Saoutchtie" a prominent organization of Varna.

The Project aims to serve as a model for the states global policy and procedure in the field of prevention in the most vulnerable ethnic groups of Bulgaria. Its aim is to reduce the number of Rom victims in the Varna area, to encourage concrete measures to prevent early pregnancies among Rom girls and improve safe sexual behaviour. It also aims at instigating better public awareness of human trafficking.

We also finance a Project in Bosnia Herzegovina, in the Tuzla area, for the protection of children, which provides adequate teaching and training programmes for them and information for their parents. And, still in the region, we contribute to multilateral programmes like the "G"overnance" one of the OSCE which provides assistance to the victims in The Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia.

Conclusion

To conclude, I would like to say our main challenge is to implement in each one of our countries the main principles of international law with the help of local authorities and civil society.

The security of whole regional areas lay on the capacity of the various countries players to cooperate and go beyond a merely security-oriented approach. We need to see these juvenile delinquents as victims and not offenders. We need to protect them. This is an issue of basic human rights which won't go away for as long as there remain big discrepancies in lifestyle and resources internationally and as long as we, in positions of authority, don't act together.

I hope this Istanbul Summit will contribute to the awareness of this necessity and will lead to further steps to help eradicate this scourge on mankind.

Human Trafficking is a violation of human rights. It's an offense to the dignity and integrity of the human being. It is an appalling crime against humanity.

We have the legal framework, but we need more coordination and more political commitment to implement efficient action plans through a global and local approach. Some EU countries still haven't enacted EU rules on human trafficking, more than 6 months after the deadline for transposing Directive 2011/36/EU and the Commission has recently requested them formally to ensure full compliance with their obligations under EU legislation.

Tackling this issue is a responsibility which lies with each of our governments.

I place great hope in Turkey, which has succeeded in having a great influence in the region. I strongly feel more should be done at the regional level, especially in the countries of Central Asia, the Balkans and Eastern Europe. I feel this fight against human trafficking should be a priority for each one of our countries. To see the Marmara Foundation involved in discussing this issue is a great boost. As I have said earlier, we need your help!

# HUMAN MIGRATIONS



**Zivko Budimir**  
Bosnia-Herzegovina\*

It is very interesting to me that today, in this high forum, I can talk about “human migrations”, because I come from the country that lives on this subject continuously for several centuries, that every day, daily political as well as national strategic, faces a term MIGRATIONS in a various forms. I will speak from the position of President of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the chief of executive authority of one of the entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, one of the constituent elements of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a European country, which had the misfortune in the late twentieth century, as a part of the breakup of Yugoslavia, to be destroyed in the horrific war. The state that “renewed” and confirmed its modern statehood in Dayton, but that even today, about twenty years after the war, didn’t fully resolved its major issues for the normal functioning of the legal and equitable state, state in which war ended, but, unfortunately, in the name of different views on the development of the country, still “wars” with the future and even with history. Thus, some, not only ruining the future of their country by threatening her segregation, systematically try to hush up even its past, while others, attempting to impose their will in a multinational community, disable the acceptance of diversity and reality. The country where great religions and the great powers in European history overlapped and joined: the Empire of Rome, Charlemagne, the Ottomans and the Austro - Hungarian Empire, religions of Western Christianity, Eastern Christianity, Judaism and Islam. The country where, in the 1914th year, exactly 100 years ago, the wick of the First World War was lighted. Already these few determinants of the state from which I come are enough to perceive the complexity of the topic on which we speak today, seen from the perspective of the person living in Bosnia and Herzegovina, who fought and fights today for the integrity of the state, of course, from the high-state function I perform. This topic is very broad, and for us, people from Bosnia and Herzegovina,

also very, very important. Very important for the whole Europe in which we are geographically well positioned, but still far away from membership in European Union. But let me, though, do not go too wide, the issue of Bosnia and Herzegovina itself is wide enough. The topic of “human migrations” can be discussed from different aspects: from a purely demographic, socio - political, economic, legal, historical, and even cultural-anthropological standpoint. And every aspect implies concrete problems. Individually - human and collectively – national, to the final consequences. And right at the beginning of the speech, I have to put an important fence: in Bosnia and Herzegovina is still in force statistics census data from 1991. So, those data of 22 years ago, before all those events that will happen to us with four-year war and everything else that can be subsumed under the concept of “Dayton Bosnia”. Only in the last 2013 year there was executed a new list, and we are eagerly waiting for official data in the spring. And the second fence; State of Bosnia and Herzegovina even today doesn’t have systematically achieved

national political consensus how to resolve the main questions of its statehood, even one regarding the return of its citizens scattered around the world.

Therefore, in Bosnia and Herzegovina we rely either on statistical data of the old list, or statistical data from various international organizations that are (still) present in the soil of our country, or on the data of the local communities with all the risks of accuracy that they carry in themselves.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a complex state. The state of two entities: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Srpska and three constituent peoples: Bosniaks, Serbs and Croats. There also live other nations, such as Roma and Jews, but in much smaller number. We are known as a traditionally emigrational country, thus proportionally to the number of inhabitants, we belong to the group with the most members immigrant population. The reasons for human migrations were different, but the most common were wars and natural disasters, as well as socio-economic reasons. Whether it was through distant history, the era of the two world wars and between them, or at the time of and after the recent war.

According to data of the World Bank, Bosnia and Herzegovina is ranked second in Europe - behind Albania - in terms of volume of emigration in relation to the total population, with 1,471,594 emigrants, which makes 38.9 % of the total population of BiH. In addition, with the rate of emigration of highly educated population of 23.9 %, 11.1 % of which are doctors, BiH also takes one of the leading positions in Europe and worldwide. According to data from the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the total number of immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina and their descendants - the second and third generation - is about 1.7 million. Most of them live in European countries: in Germany about 240,000, in Austria about 150,000, in Slovenia about 150,000, about 80,000 in Sweden, about 60,000 in Switzerland, then in the USA about 350,000, about 50,000 in Canada and about 60,000 in Australia.

\* By alphabetical order

I personally consider that this number is higher when we add the number of inhabitants of Bosnia and Herzegovina who have migrated to neighboring countries of Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia, which once formed a common state.

According to data of The Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, in the period 92-95 year, about 2.5 million people of Bosnia and Herzegovina were forced to flee from their homes, 600,000 of them stayed in BiH, the same number stayed within the boundaries of the former state of Yugoslavia, and about 1.3 million have gone abroad. I remind, by census from 1991, Bosnia and Herzegovina had 4,377,033 inhabitants, which means that more than a half of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina migrated because of the threat of war.

In the official national statistics it is also felt:

- Lack of data on the entire population that have left our country, on any basis
- Lack of information about citizens who left the country as highly qualified immigrants
- Lack of data on how many members of the diaspora hold dual citizenship
- Lack of data on how many migrants are employed outside BiH
- Lack of data on the educational profile of the diaspora, etc.

We expect that the new census data will give the most of the answers to these questions, no matter the time of the census, as well as population census itself was loaded by political situation in the country, which was characterized by a strong charge of national political community, through the operation of three dominant national political parties in terms of domination of one another.

However, the expected answers will be followed by the activities planned in this regard at the relevant ministries and the “government” of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- Support to the development of academic research in the field of immigration
- Organizing international meetings of researchers in order to establish a network of researchers for further research
- Promoting the importance of migration for development through workshops and seminars for representatives of institutions in BiH
- Raising awareness of the importance of migration for development in the private, academic and non-governmental sector, as well as in media, etc.

It is important to emphasize that in Bosnia and Herzegovina the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been acting since 1992, with the base in Sarajevo. In cooperation to the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), IOM has established a program to evacuate war wounded, who could not receive treatment locally. After the war, IOM has expanded its activities to assist in the return of refugees and assist BiH citizens to settle in third countries.

Today, the return of citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the increase of illegal migration, such

as trafficking and smuggling, the reintegration of discharged military personnel and migration management, make migrations to be a great challenge for recovery and development of BiH. The big question for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and crucial at the same time, is whether the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina will have enough strength to resolve its big issue and resolve it for its own and satisfaction and pleasure of its citizens, those inside and those outside. It’s been a long time since they left their homes. If they once went because of war and natural disasters, they now “does not want” to return (of course not all of them) for socio-economic reasons. Europe, America and Australia assimilated them into their systems, but just as people called it ‘second order’. It is not often that one in Bosnia and Herzegovina speaks about them with some contempt, because they, going to foreign countries, had better improvement than those who remained, they quickly fitted into Western society and confirmed themselves as working and professional. The only thing they could never resign from themselves is a label “stranger”.

Immigration policies of Western countries, which have completely different goals in all this, contribute to this situation: getting cheap labor, filling workplaces with workers that are missing, strengthening the educational structure of their society, science and the economy as a whole. I’m sorry that my entire presentation dedicated to the topic “human migration” in a negative context I dedicate solely to my country. It’s difficult knowing, but it’s fair to say. I am glad, however, that more and more people in the country from which I come sees this issue, as well as more political, scientific and even religious institutions. I expect from 2014 to be unraveling year for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that means increased activity directed towards all its citizens, regardless of where they are. I expect that from Bosnia and Herzegovina, from my Sarajevo, in this year, in memorial to 1914 and 1992, and everything that happened there during late twentieth century, will start the message of peace to the whole world, start the message to all those who have left their homes to return to their homes because happiness is found only in thesis “be on your own in your own”. I sincerely hope that these messages will be transformed into reality. Forgive me for the final emotion; after so many years of grief, we deserved a period of joy.



H.E. Erdal Trhulj, H.E. Zivko Budimir, H.E. Askar Zhumagaliev and H.E. Mahir Yağcılar together

# BEYOND RULES OR REGULATIONS



**Emil Constantinescu**  
Romania

**H**uman trafficking is the modern name for slave trade; it is a century old social practice, accepted during some historical times through written laws or customs. If states' modernization and democratization led to slavery abolition starting with 13th to 19th centuries, the situation of sexual exploitation of women and children or forced labor imposed to some people recruited through fraudulent lies meant to be sold in order to obtain profit is different.

These practices, kept on in a latent, suddenly exploded in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century in Europe as a billion dollar business, second as profitability after drug trafficking. The more profitable as, unlike drug trafficking, the „product“ could be sold again. At the same time, a big number of human traffic victims recorded in the official statistics plus those who either do not consider themselves as victims, or do not want to admit it during enquiries, question the way the European Union respects human dignity – fundamental right assumed by Western civilization.

Analyzing the sudden changes caused by the industrial revolution of the late 19th century, Emile Durkheim noticed that these have caused a rupture of the traditional community ties between the individual and the guild he belonged to until then, a fragmentation of the social identity, an inability of some people to be adapt to the new demands of the labor market, a rejection of new social practices.

This inconsistency between the aspiration of the individual, marked by inertia and the dynamic of the industrialized society makes people seek refuge from the social control rules. The meaning of the word in ancient Greek is “beyond rules or regulations”.

From a sociological and psychological point of view, not much different was the case of the post-communist societies in transition, in Eastern Europe, at the end of twentieth century. The collapse of communist dictatorships in this region brought the people living in this space freedom, guarantees of fundamental human rights, the opportunity to live in democracy and improve their life in the new conditions of a free market economy. Job loss and the difficulty of integrating young

people on the new labour market have increased the desire to emigrate in an idealized West, seen as the only solution for a decent life or, at least, for survival. Very soon a new kind of modern slavery proliferated and trafficking networks have been internationalized and found accomplices from the police forces and other corrupt officials who became rich on the defenseless victim.

If we look at the phenomenon from the perspective of a market economy, we can see that proliferation of human trafficking networks is not only the consequence of an increasing offer from the post-communist states (or countries outside Europe). It is equally the consequence of an increasing demand in the receiving countries, where traffickers operate national networks or branches of international networks recruiting vulnerable people in the East to get rich, by subjecting them to forced or illegal labor, prostitution and begging.

We must say it very clear: there are traffickers as they are allowed to exist. Loopholes, the complicity of civil servants, magistrates' tolerance are not likely to reduce human trafficking. At the same time, the economic downturn and financial crisis in the countries of origin contribute to increasing the supply, to assuming risks to escape into the unknown of more and more vulnerable persons due to poverty, lack of education and information. But the huge economic growth of human trafficking, persons used for illegal labor, prostitution and sexual exploitation of minors of both sexes, comes also from the increasing demand on the European Union markets.

Perhaps even because of the arrogance of teaching lessons to others the European Council decided only in April 2004 to adhere to the UN Convention from November 15, 2000 against transnational organized crime. And only in July 2006, the European Council approved, on behalf of the European Community, the Protocol on prevention, suppress and punish human trafficking, especially women and children, as additional protocol to the UN Convention.

It was just a first step, as along with preventive measures - as responsibility of European Union member states and their obligations to protect victims, the most important thing is, in my opinion, to regulate the cooperation between member states authorities for strengthening the borders control and for increasing the efficiency in the exchange of information regarding members of human trafficking networks and other organized crime groups; and there is still more to be done about it.

A sustainable solution is not possible without an exemplary mobilization of civil society, schools and parents, in order to identify vulnerable people, especially underage, and to help them not making hasty decisions that could result in a fall under the influence of individuals expert in recruiting for the benefit of traffickers networks and pimps. Eradication of illicit human trafficking of people across all Europe is a matter of us all.

# FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL MIGRATION



**Mihail Formuzal**  
Moldova

The importance of migration is increasing under the economic circumstances that have globalized in the second half of the 20th century and in the 21st century. In modern perspective, migration creates a lot of problems that require the agreement of all countries and the solution requires a global approach. Between 2008-2010 global economic and financial crisis escalated the problems like poverty, unemployment, social instability and caused an increase in the migration processes. Military conflicts and natural disasters experienced in the developing countries during the last decade resulted in returning back to feudalism age with its negative concept of human trafficking. Many ex-soviet countries are not exceptions with regards to increase in migration flow as with the cracking down of planned economy and developing of free market a lot of workers failed to find jobs in their own countries and forced to become immigrant workers. According to UN numbers, the total immigrants in the world are 230 million people. Immigrants make up for the %10,8 of the developed countries population whereas this number is only %1,6 in poor countries.

Poverty has created a problem of mass worker immigration in Moldova and partially in Gagauzia. In the last 10 years the number of immigrating workers reached to 600 thousand which is more than %50 of labor force of the population. But in official records, the unemployment rate of the country is only around %7-8. The unemployment problem for a Gagauzia as a part of one state is characteristic. This resulted in the increased immigration of workers, mainly to Turkey and the Russian Federation. As a result, immigration has negative effects on national economy just as it has positive. Every year, immigrant workers through international channels transfer 1.5 billion USD. The income of Republic of Moldova's state budget's income was 1.9 billion USD in 2012. This cash flow is a section of economic development because it supports the consumption in the country and creates resource for investment. Besides migration processes result in fast transfer of technology from industrially developed countries to the developing countries. Immigrants helps the industrialized countries' endurance to stiff competition and the continuity of their investment appeal.

The negative effects of these migration should not be forgotten though. Today because of immigration Moldova and Gagauzia is experiencing shortage of qualified labor force. Majority of the immigrants become subject to discrimination and sometimes to brutal ill treatment in their host countries. Naturally, immigration flows become the target of illegal organizations and a source of income for the crime world. %30 of those who immigrated from Moldova do not plan to come back. Countries of the Turkic World are being affected from the globalized problems of immigration from one country to another. It is not possible to solve to problems caused by the immigration process by a particular country or region. The calls of the modern world forces countries and some regions to cooperate very swiftly. To me main aspects to eliminate the poverty and stop migration are as follows;

- Ensuring better environment for businessman and investors in order to increase the income of the people in the countries subject to migration
- Ensuring the application of innovative technology in the production of agricultural products
- Increasing the quality and level of people's labor, increasing the endurance of the work force to competition, creation and rational use of human resources
- Increasing the quality and accessibility of education
- Increasing the quality and accessibility of healthcare
- Realization of joint projects aiming the strengthening the infrastructure
- Creation of digital infrastructure in order to have a common database for information exchange on immigrants

I would like to traditionally state that, developed Turkic states internationally supports, small countries cannot overcome the problems of poverty and immigration. Republic of Turkey, Republic of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan are executing this policy with regards to supporting small countries' people to improve their living standards. In the past 7 years with limited resources, the Gagauzia Administration has been administered an economic and social model that has bettered the living standards of its citizens and reduces poverty. In Gagauzia development strategy is applied on health, education, health, culture, social welfare, industrial and agricultural production, trade, residence and infrastructure in accordance with the social economic development program designed by World Bank for 2009-2013.

Since the day Moldova became a border country to the European Union we are facing a new problem - immigrants coming from other countries to go to EU. In adapting to the new realities of the local environment Moldova, its people and Gagauzia must be ready not only immigrants. This is a mutual process. For centuries in Gagauzia region, different religions, cultures lived together and a tolerance towards other cultures and religions have been developed. The significant amount of the responsibility in social integration falls on local administrations. We understand that only with a collective approach, a joint effort of the administrators of all countries, a result can be achieved in tackling illegal migration.

# AN OVERVIEW OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE WORLD



**Punsalmaa Ochirbat**  
Mongolia

I am extremely honored to have an opportunity to address the participants of the esteemed Eurasian Economic Summit and first of all I want to thank the organizer for the invitation and to congratulate for an extraordinary organization. I enjoyed joining the event last year and it is great to be back. Public figures, private sector executives, members of civil society are all here to discuss on how to strengthen economic, humanitarian and cultural relations between countries and people across the Eurasian region.

Today our topic is human trafficking and considering that this issue has become more and more important over the years, it is very accurate that the Summit addresses such an issue. Many countries in many regions of the world suffer deeply as many people with different racial, national and ethnic backgrounds do from this illicit act.

We are in a better situation than other countries in human trafficking and illegal migration issues. Our citizens usually migrate to another country just to make some money and they return when they save enough. And usually they use their savings as investments. Therefore, human transitivity does not always mean human trafficking. It enhances understanding between nations.

However, human trafficking is nearly as bad as kidnapping and an indefensible crime. It is actually modern slavery. Globalization brought many problems as well as new opportunities. In other words, it increased transboundary mobility of human being, products, capital and information.

It also increased carbon dioxide emission and terror. Problems are common and interest areas are various. Fight against corruption, International Financial System, economic and social development, public health, energy, transportation, communication networks, cooperation against terrorism, climate change, human rights, justice and democracy! Nowadays, because of violence from east to west and south to north, poverty, othering logic, immigration mobilities are reality.

Human Trafficking which has started with women, men, children, illegal workers and refugee nowadays threatens all civilizations. International data indicates that in Europe, approximately 500.000 women and girls are being sold by getting from Central Asia, Middle East and CIS countries. Especially, in 85% of conflict regions; women and girls are being sold. According to international data, the amount gained in human trafficking is billions of Euros.

Inadequacy of international regulations, international cooperation, cross-border coordination, strategies eliminated sexual abuse of women and children are some of the triggering reasons of human trafficking.

We believe that migration wave will increase year by year because of getting worse of distribution of income. Conflict in Syria, political affairs in Afghanistan, internal disorder in Pakistan, prospective conflict between USA-Iran-Israel will cause huge migration waves.

This migration wave will go to West. In consequence of global warming, rising sea water will cause “Environmental Immigration” from Asia to Europe. According to scientists glaciers on Himalayas will melt and then immigrant mobility from Pakistan, India, Tibet and China will arise. Therefore, addressing involuntarily immigration and human trafficking 17th Eurasia Economic Summit is very important.

We do not denationalize our citizens for migration. It is their right to leave our country whenever they see necessary. Primary issue for Mongolia is international trade. Our priority is economy, construction, tourism, agriculture. We make enhancements in our laws.

Mongolia has a great potential for tourism. We have a rich Turkic history and Turkic historical artifacts. Also there is great potential for trade in Mongolia. We need to improve our facilities for exportation.



*H.E. Punsalmaa Ochirbat with Hon. Yüksel Cengel*

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL (INVOLUNTARY MIGRATION)



**Arnold Rüütel**  
Estonia

First of all, please allow me to thank the organisers of this forum, especially President Dr Akkan Suver of the Marmara Group Foundation for the invitation to participate in the 17th Eurasian Economic Forum.

We live in a very restless world. Practically each day brings us news of new trouble spots of violence in different parts of the world. Among other things, this creates preconditions for human trafficking.

Estonia has ratified the Palermo protocol that complements the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, and in our actions we proceed from the following definition of the protocol:

***“Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”***

This definition encompasses both domestic and international human trafficking.

According to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the number of human trafficking victims hits tens of thousands each year, while 75% of them are women. According to the UN, the labour of about 12.3 million slaves is employed in the present-day world. 20% of them are illegal immigrants.

Asia is the most problematic in the world when it comes to this issue. There, around 10 million people rank as slaves. In Latin America the respective figure is ca 1.3 million, and in

Africa, around 660,000.

The majority of slaves are women and children. Child slavery is increasing most rapidly in those regions where armed clashes take place between ethnic and religious groups. There are around nine million child slaves in the world who are employed as beggars, prostitutes and soldiers, as well as unskilled workers in factories, plants, mines, etc. The only payment that they receive for such work is food and shelter. According to the Palermo definition, a person under the age of twelve is considered to be a child.

According to Eurostat data, altogether, 9 528 victims of human trafficking were identified among the 27 member states of the European Union in 2010. From 2008–2010 alone, this figure rose by 18%. The majority of the victims (80%) were female.

The preliminary data for 2013 indicate that the number of crimes related to human trafficking continues to rise. In addition to prostitution, forced crimes are committed.

In 2012, the European Commission adopted the European Union Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016.

This strategy is based on five priorities:

- The identification, protecting and assisting of victims,
- prevention,
- making it easier to file charges against human traffickers,
- cooperation and a coherent policy to fight against traffickers,
- increasing people’s awareness of potential dangers, and an immediate and effective response.

The number of crimes related to human trafficking appears to be on the rise in Estonia as well. In 2013 this figure was 43.

The number may seem insignificant, but once you take into account the entire population of the European Union, this indicator for Estonia is relatively high. In order to achieve greater legal clarity, human trafficking was criminalised by Estonian legislation in 2012. When combating this problem, we proceed from the national plan to reduce violence.

Estonia has been criticised for not paying enough attention to international human trafficking problems. We have drawn serious conclusions from this criticism.

We support the work of the UN Human Rights Council.

Similarly, we support the incorporation of the gender aspect into all UN initiatives, and fully support the newly-created UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (or UN Women).

Permit me to add some thoughts of my own also on involuntary migration.

According to international statistics, involuntary migration

has never before been as extensive in the world as in recent years.

According to estimations, in 2012 there were:

- 15.4 million refugees,
- 937,000 asylum seekers,
- 28.8 million internally displaced people forced to flee their homes to another place in their country (involuntary internal migration).

This is also directly related to the European Union, especially through external migration. In 2011, 7.5 million people lived in the European Union who originated from outside its member states.

The now independent former Soviet republics recall that due to internal migration eleven to twelve million people a year changed their place of residence. Immigration to Estonia was around 80,000 people a year. Following World War II, Estonia's net migration rose by 0.5 million people.

Before the restoration of independence, the Estonian immigration act was adopted in 1990, regulating immigration to our republic.

After the restoration of independence, Estonia faced the danger that its indigenous population would become a minority in its own homeland. The share of those who spoke other languages had risen to above 40%. In order to alleviate the situation the Estonian Remigration Fund was created. Its financial resources were used to build homes for those single people and families who expressed the wish to return to their country of birth. This step significantly helped Estonia stabilise the ratio, and to do so in favour of its indigenous population.

Estonia shares European values and customises its migration policy in accordance to this. We support the creation

of a common European asylum system. This is a long-term goal that aims to ensure the asylum seekers an as similar as possible treatment in the European Union's member states. Yet at the same time, we must take into account that each member state has a certain capacity to integrate immigrants, and this cannot be disregarded.

The European Union, including Estonia, has become a target for immigrants from various parts of the world. This has resulted in a constant increase of pressure on the amount of immigration. The attempts at illegal immigration both in the European Union as well as Estonia demonstrate a growing trend. In 2013 alone, the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board discovered 267 people who tried to illegally cross the border with the aim of immigration.

Due to our geographic location, Estonia is a country that may be used for transit migration.

What could be said in conclusion?

Human trafficking and involuntary migration, which is directly linked to it, are problems which in order to be solved demand a common will and joint efforts by all of the world's states.

Based on my own belief, a possible solution to the problem of involuntary migration could be a shift from involuntary migration (both domestic and external) to an internally regulated migration, creating the means and conditions for people to return to their former homes if they wish to.

We live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and must admit that the slave trade is literally flourishing.

We expect a more effective intervention from the UN in order to solve this problem. This requires the joint efforts of all UN member states.



*H.E. Zhelyu Zhelev, H.E. Arnold Rüütel, H.E. and Mrs. Mihail Formuzal and H.E. Emil Constantinescu*

# IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF PEOPLE



**Bamir Topi**  
Albania

Firstly I want to thank you for your invitation to this meeting, which I especially feel honored to be a part of because of the themes it is addressing, which are so important, as they touch on the politics of social and economic development and above all on the report of the developmental trajectories of the environment and resources, all placed within the context of, what figuratively could be called “our enemy”: time.

In fact, in our country with the establishment of democracy, political pluralism and a market economy, the economic development has sustainable growth. Of course, the comparative base was quite low and therefore the indicators were apparently encouraging. But the thing that accompanied this growth was a deficiency in environmental conservation.

The legacy of a centralized and bureaucratic system was prohibitive, with no established institutions and a lack of culture for caring for the environment.

The Rio declaration which followed the 1992 earth summit on sustainable development and subsequent programs on the implementation of its principles, such as Agenda 21 are in fact standards, which have at their heart economic and social development, conservation of the environment, the harmonizing of economic growth with social care and the efficient and effective use of resources.

Albania’s position in relation to the motto: “Think Globally, act locally”, leads me to bring before you my view regarding the role of public institutions, which focus specifically on the major principles and objectives of the constitutional institutions themselves in a country where it is sanctioned that every constitution has as its subject: “To improve the quality of life of its people”.

Of course it is not easy, but progress will be guaranteed by every international institution, such as the UN and others, through programs and projects which have at their heart the implementation of these principles; the growth and

consolidation of the institutions; identifying global strategic partnerships, at a regional or local level; increase in management capacity; stimulating scientific use of natural resources, etc.

If we talk about the duties of local institutions in the former communist countries of Eastern Europe, including my own country, over time the decentralization process has started and is continuing to give the proper influence to local authorities to play a major role regarding strategic planning of local and regional economic development.

This is supported considerably by the international institutions of Europe and the United States of America and also by the programs of the UNDP. But one obstacle is the willingness of central government, who have not given adequate financial resources, for local units to play their role; and the breaking up of local units has been such that there is no guarantee for the economy.

Deep reforms are needed. Currently territorial reform has begun in Albania and we hope that this will get the needed political consensus to be generally accepted. Reform, it is hoped, that will not be for political purpose, but for the clear purpose of social and economic development.

Apart from a good understanding by domestic politics, I think that these reforms need to be supported by the sorts of programs, which in the future will be clothed in exaggerated bureaucracies, because a I quoted at the beginning our common enemy is TIME.

In contrast to its inherited problems and those created by the old politics, Albania has and continues to make every effort to achieve the standards to gain the status of candidate country for the EU. Of course on this journey of ours we need support, courage and most of all assistance, to touch the new generation, which is and needs to be the guarantee for that which I have already mentioned. In connection with the programs for the mechanism of Europe, which support this journey in a sophisticated manner, I seek that they would be flexible, direct and with a tangible impact in a relatively short time.

I want to say that the revitalization of local and regional resources, in the context of the global crises is fruitful and will empower and give hope, sending a message of cooperation and growth. It will provide more trust in local, regional and global institutions; it will increase the economy and social care; it will increase managerial capacity and it will include the young and interested groups in decision making; it will preserve the environment as a result of the increase of scientific knowledge... and finally it will increase safety, not only globally, but also regionally for which we are so often gathered.

Of course above all else this job needs cooperation between different institutions at all levels: globally, regionally and locally, experts need to meet together to work out programs for initiatives for reaching short and medium term results. Economic welfare, social care and car effort resources will undoubtedly come in the long term and social peace for all.

# MIGRATION IS ONE OF THE MEGATRENDS OF THE GLOBALIZING WORLD



**Danilo Türk**  
Slovenia

It is very timely and wise to put the issues of international migrations on the agenda of the Eurasian Summit. I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Akkan Suver for the choice of the theme and for the opening speech.

Migration is one of the megatrends of the globalizing world. At the same time, it is surprising that the existing dimensions of this phenomenon are rarely discussed and much less considered among the major issues affecting global policy making. The approaches usually taken in international debates are dictated by its specific aspects i.e. most often economic, legal and humanitarian. However, this “aspect-specific approaches” can not be expected to produce adequate policies without a proper understanding of the global scope of the phenomenon and a debate of its effects on global development.

Therefore let me first take a quick look into these two basic questions: First, the scope of the global phenomenon of migrations today and second, the nature of global discussion about them.

In a recent statement made on the occasion of the International Migrants Day, on 18 December last year, the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration, William Lacy Swing emphasized that human mobility - domestic and international - has grown to unprecedented levels. There are 232 million international migrants today.

If the numbers of domestic migrants are added, the total number comprises around one billion people - about a seventh of the whole global population. Several billions more are affected by migrations - family members who stay at home and may be dependent on migrant remittances and the people in countries of immigration who depend on goods and services provided by the migrants.

The economic effects of international migrations have become enormous. Let us take only the example of migrant remittances: At 400 billion \$ in 2012 and the expected 515 billion \$ in 2015 the levels of migrants’ remittances are many times higher than official development assistance (ODA) and roughly equivalent to the total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

These are the figures provided by the International Organization for Migration. It is worth quoting them here in Turkey, a country which has for the past decades been among the most active countries of emigration and a country which has experienced all the effects of migration and its effects on society.

The future is likely to bring additional demands. The ongoing demographic changes and economic transformations both in the countries of emigration and the countries of immigration will lead to new needs of matching the skills at an ever increasing variety of job levels. The times when unskilled labour was by far the main feature of migration are over.

Education, sophisticated skills and creativity are among the most important elements of the capital of migration for the future. According to estimates, the European Union will have, by the mid-century, a labour shortage that will be measured in tens of millions jobs at all skill levels. Such needs are likely to grow in other parts of the world as well - including in China where the ageing of the population is likely to have an important effect on its future development.

Let me now proceed to the second question.

It is surprising that the international community has so far not addressed the megatrend of migrations comprehensively. In the UN there have been only two high level dialogues on migration - the first in 2006 and the second in 2013, in October last year. The latter one resulted in a UN declaration on the subject. It is expected now that migration will be given an adequate place in the process of preparation of the UN’s post 2015 Development Agenda. Certain key concepts are already emerging and gaining general support:

Migration should be a part of the new partnership for development. Good migration governance must be based on respect for human rights and characterized by safe, humane and orderly migration. This is an imperative both for governments and for the business sector. The fact that such governance does not exist in most places in our world should be a sufficient reason for a call for change. The post 2015 Development Agenda will be a good opportunity for a policy debate to generate the necessary change.

At present, it is important to reflect upon the conceptual approach proposed by the recent High Level Dialogue and on its implications. Human rights of migrants are the first concern identified in the High Level Dialogue. This is fundamental. Countries of immigration far too often perceive migrants only

as labour and not as equal human beings - people with rights and needs and legitimate aspirations. This has to change. The world of the future will have to integrate migrating people fully and the principle of non-discrimination, so fundamental in all human relationships, will have to guide the processes of integration.

It is said that human rights are universal. Therefore they must apply fully to migrants. In the time of hardship and financial uncertainty such as we presently experience in Europe it is particularly important to pay due attention to the rights of the most exposed and the vulnerable. Migrant workers are among them and very often they are the first to lose jobs or to experience other forms of hardship. It is therefore not surprising that the UN human rights bodies insist on the principle of non-discrimination as an essential basis for policy making at the time of shrinking resources. Non-discrimination has to be strengthened both as a fundamental legal principle to be applied in practice and as a fundamental human value which requires constant political support and cultural attention. At the time of growing xenophobia and political extremism these are political tasks of the greatest importance.

And then, there are specific human rights violations which have to be combatted and eliminated. Many of them are connected with involuntary migration. In fact, involuntary migration is in itself a violation of human rights. It violates the right to freedom of movement which is based on the premise of the free will in decision making on movement and selection of residence as well as, very importantly, on the right to return. Various forms of denial of the right to leave any country and to return to one's own country have traditionally been considered as egregious violations of human rights and have been combatted accordingly.

In the post-cold war era, i.e. at the time when the practical scope of freedom of movement has become much broader, the focus of attention has shifted to violations of human rights related to involuntary migration, in particular to human trafficking. According to the estimate of the Global Freedom Center, a US based NGO specialized in the identification and prevention of human trafficking there are, at present, around 27 million human beings victims of trafficking. According to ILO, human trafficking generates an income of about 32 billion \$ annually.

Here the world needs full clarity: Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery and must be eliminated. The traffickers and all those who are abetting them, including - as the case may be - public officials, must be prosecuted and punished. The argument that some of the trafficking might be, in fact, voluntary is highly dubious. Victims who incur high debts to pay "fees" to the traffickers or employers lose their ability to make decisions voluntarily. Coercion, including various forms of indirect coercion, deprives people of their ability to exercise their freedom to decide and represents a violation of human rights. Further violations and criminal acts against victims occur in the process of trafficking. All these phenomena need to be combatted.

The world needs an effective mechanism of cooperation to combat human trafficking. The existing international standards which have been developing throughout the 20th Century and have found contemporary expressions in the international instruments against internationally organized crimes are welcome. But they are insufficient. National governments and nation states have the decisive role. It is for the nation states to define adequate legal instruments and development policies designed to reduce and eliminate human trafficking in their territories. Territorial sovereignty has not lost any of its importance with regard to the need to fight the crimes involved in human trafficking.

In a world in which migration is likely to grow the world needs to be attentive to the dark sides of migration. Hence the need to place great emphasis on the problems of violations of human rights and of crimes affecting the victims of human trafficking.

Before concluding I wish to make the following point: In the present statement I do not deal with the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons resulting from wars and political instability. The tragedy of refugees stands alone as a humanitarian problem of primary order which requires both effective and massive humanitarian response as well as political solutions. The current tragedy of Syrian refugees is a case in point. All humanitarian efforts to alleviate suffering must be supported and all political attempts to end the war must be continued. Refugees and internally displaced people will continue to be a major concern of the international community.



*Former President of Slovenia H.E. Danilo Türk, H.E. Former President of Romania and Mrs. Emil Constantinescu with Madame Mijgan Siver*

# THE IMPORTANCE OF PALERMO PROTOCOL



**Zhelyu Zhelev**  
Bulgaria

Combating trafficking in human beings is a priority for Bulgaria and one of the main State's actions against organized crime and crimes against the personality. Since the introduction of the crime "Human trafficking" in the Criminal Code in 2002, Bulgaria constantly and sustainably develops the anti-trafficking policies towards keeping legislation up-to-date with international and European standards, increasing penalties for the traffickers, doing effective prevention, protection and victims' support.

The institutional framework is being established as to all international requirements and recommendations. Even further - the Bulgarian legislator included in the definition of human trafficking the "irrelevance of the consent of the victim" and this is giving wider opportunities for the law-enforcement to initiate investigation and opportunities to identify victims.

Bulgaria has strong legal and institutional framework for combating trafficking in human beings with victim-centered approach. It is important to underline that the Bulgarian legal system on combating trafficking in human being is strongly based on the Palermo Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention on Combating trafficking in human being.

Bulgaria developed clear criteria for identification of victims which police, border police, liaison officers, NGOs and social workers are using to identify victims.

A special "Guide for identification of victims of trafficking in human beings" was developed in 2009 by Ministry of Interior, National Commission for Combating THB, International Organization for Migration and NGOs, comprising different indicators for identification of victims for different types of exploitation. These indicators and criteria give the opportunity

for all institutions and organizations timely to recognize and identify victims of trafficking. Prosecution of the trafficking is important part of the State Efforts.

Bulgarian police and prosecution is partnering /executing 9 Joint Investigation Teams (JIT's) on THB together with several EU Countries and special investigative techniques are used for investigation of THB crimes (special intelligence means<sup>1</sup>, work with informers, under-cover agents). Special investigative techniques are: the technical means and the operative methods for their application, which are used for preparing pieces of material evidence, i.e. films, video records, audio records, photographs, and marked items.

Since 2005 Bulgaria has a state/governmental body - the National Commission for combating trafficking in Human Beings – which coordinates the horizontal policy of combating THB and 12 state institutions and implements the Combating THB Act. (there are also 9 Local Commissions who are implementing National policies on local level.

The National Commission developed and has been managing 2 State shelters in which victims receive protection and long-term support and (1 additional State shelter planed). Most importantly, the National Commission with the two state shelters for victims of trafficking and all NGO shelters provide accommodation and assistance whether or not victims cooperate with the police.

Bulgaria has developed a National Referral Mechanism for victims of trafficking in partnership with Netherlands and NGOs and it is also a part of the Transnational Referral Mechanism, which assures safe referral and support to the victims. Bulgaria is predominantly a country of origin for victims of trafficking. Main reasons for it is the poverty, but not only – many of the victims are coming from dysfunctional families, lacking education and social experience – root causes in many other counties.

That is why we consider prevention and education, a main and major tool to fight human trafficking and to decrease the number of victims or potential victims as well, especially when we speak about children.

As you probably notice all our efforts are focused on the 4 Ps (prosecution, protection, prevention and partnership. All basic principles of Palermo protocol. In this respect Bulgaria is joining the EU Commission and its call to the countries to ratify the Protocol and use it as a strong legal instrument to fight human trafficking, together with all other relevant international instruments.

# A GREAT ORGANIZATION BY İHKİB



Marmara Group Foundation presented a glimpse of Turkish Fashion at the gala dinner in partnership with Istanbul Apparel Exporters' Association (İHKİB). Hikmet Tanrıverdi, who organized this special event on behalf of Istanbul Apparel Exporters' Association continued tradition started by Süleyman Orakçioğlu and Nuri Artok.

İHKİB glamorized the participants by organizing a Fashion Show with the design of Özlem Kaya.



## THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT CUP AT THE VELİ EFENDİ HIPPODROME

The Eurasian Economic Summit Cup organized by the Jockey Club of Turkey took place in the evening on February 5. Marmara Group Foundation is grateful to the President of Turkey Jockey Club Hon. Serdar Adalı for his significant contributions.



# TUNZALA CHARMED THE LISTENERS



Thanks to a great gesture by Azerbaijan the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit had the chance to listen famous jazz singer Tunzala in the dinner that took place at the WOW Hotel on February 5. Tunzala charmed the listeners with her exceptional music and took the participants first to the Caucasus and then to the Turkish world with her great songs.



## **FINAL DECLARATION OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> EURASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT**

Marmara Group Foundation has successfully concluded the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit organized on February 4-6, 2014 with the participation of 37 countries.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit; Prime Minister of Bosnia Herzegovina, President of the Federation of Bosnia Herzegovina and former Presidents of Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Mongolia, Romania and Slovenia were present.

Princes of Romania and Albania, First Ladies, Vice President of Azerbaijan, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Bulgaria, Deputy Prime Ministers, Bureaucrats, Diplomats, Religious Leaders, executives of business world and NGOs and 24 guest Ministers have also attended the Summit.

426 high level foreign guests participated to the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit which has opened with the messages of President of Turkey Abdullah Gül, President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and the video message of UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit the subjects of economy, energy, involuntarily migration, human trafficking, sustainable development and change in the local government, the importance of inter-cultural dialogue for peace and information and communication technologies have been addressed within the framework of "From Global to Local".

The ongoing unstable monetary policies which are expected to continue this year also stated as a factor that creates the expectation of alteration in the world's financial balances.

While the importance of the Silk Road asserted; it has been stated that global economy, global politics and global relations will witness the awakening of Eurasia and the acceptance of the fact that sun rises from the east will emerge.

Special emphasis has been made on how the establishment of new productive transportation corridors between Turkey and Azerbaijan and the diversification of energy delivery routes would contribute to the economies of the region's countries. The importance of the safe and efficient distribution of energy resources with regards to ecology and economy has also been

mentioned. The importance of transferring information from one country to another in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and creating a joint satellite system through virtual Silk Road consistently pointed out.

The importance of the synergy of Satellite System that will be created with the joint use of the satellites launched by Russia, Turkey, Kazakhstan, China and Azerbaijan also mentioned.

The fact that the negative impact of the refugees, who have been subject to involuntarily migration in order to run from the ring of fire of our region and seek the prosperity and stability in the western countries, on the host countries' stability as well as their economy was a subject of great emphasis.

Especially it has been pointed out that human traffickers apply to Black Market. So, there should be a common struggle against this situation in international area.

The participants of 17<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit remarked that World Peace can be able to come true only with multiple dialogue. Currently, there are no statements such "my village, my city, my country" anymore. New statement is "My World". Particularly religious representatives pointed out that dialogue should be advised by not only religious leaders but also academicians, politicians, responsible administrators and non-governmental organizations.

In the session of "Sustainable Development and Change in Local Governments" participants remarked the importance of sustainable development and its control. Otherwise, there can be corruption in the basic ecosystem and it can terminate its benefit. The participants also told what they did in their countries about sustainable development and change in local governments. Moreover, employment of women and importance of equality of women and men has been remarked. Principle of localness and the importance of experiences of local governors in localness are discussed.

In Closure Ceremony, with representatives of Turkey's Minister of Finance and Minister of Health, it has been decided that the next Summit, 18<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Summit, will be on 8th April, 2015.

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