

“Working for peace and international security based on common goals, shared principles and rules”

It is my pleasure that today I have the opportunity to be at a meeting in this historic setting at the Palais des Nations in Geneva a city that has been a place of refuge and philosophy since the time of Rousseau, and that before the Second World War was headquarters of the League of Nations, and today of the United Nations.

- On behalf of the Democratic Party of Socialists and on my own behalf, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for the occasion of our delegation to take an active part in such an important event. The SI Council confirms the vision of our International: to build better future for the mankind through closer cooperation in various fields, with the intention of overcoming the challenges we face globally as soon as possible.

Let me briefly remind that DPS was the ruling party in Montenegro for more than two decades- the only country in the Balkans that managed to preserve peace and stability during the 90s, when almost the entire area of the former Yugoslavia was engulfed in ethnic conflicts and war. Also, DPS played a key role in organization of the referendum according to the highest European standards on the renewal of Montenegrin statehood- held in year 2006. Likewise, the Party was engaged in developing strategic directions of the Internal and Foreign Affairs. Since 2006. we set a clear goal, a European system of values and membership in the EU and NATO.

As result Montenegro has recognized as a stable economy, as a factor of regional stability and a reliable neighbor. However, in the last two years, that goals have been threatened and essentially called into question. After the change of government in 2020 and the peaceful democratic transition of power, all processes have been stopped and blocked, because the result of the election was seen by nationalist circles both inside and outside the country as a new chance for big-state ideas and projects. That has also seen as a new chance for Russian destruction of Europe and the West, for which the Balkans are always a suitable ground.

In addition to facing the consequences of the pandemic and threats of war at the door of Europe, on the internal level, Montenegro has been going through an institutional and political crisis since August 30, 2020. The main actor of the crisis was the Government, which fundamentally destabilized the state and society and forced us to deal with the defense of vital state interests instead of development. The agony ended three months ago with the removal of that government and the formation of a new parliamentary majority and a new minority government.

Since the formation of the minority government in April, that was supported by our party, we believe that will be initiated the desired dynamics of reform and integration processes.

We firmly believe that the reconciliation of society can only happen on the basis of European values. Building strong institutions, the rule of law, good regional cooperation, appreciation and respect for diversity, multi-ethnic harmony, for us in Montenegro, represent the path to successfully fulfilling the obligations of the integration agenda, that have no alternative when it comes to the peace and security of Montenegro, the Western Balkans and Europe.

When we talk about peace and stability, the challenges of Montenegro and our region - the Western Balkans, as well as Europe and the whole world are still complex.

Even today, more than 20 years since the Balkan Wars, the states of the region face the threats of nationalism and anti-Semitism, that become even stronger within global challenges, such as the current aggression of Russia against Ukraine.

It is completely clear that the danger that Russia brings with it should be understood with complete maturity, and on the other hand, the potentially positive changes that the process of European integration in the Western Balkans would bring, that could strengthen the same defense capability of the European Union.

We believe that by the end of 2024, Montenegro will fulfill all obligations from the negotiation process with the EU, and that the EU will appreciate these efforts. As well that the Ukrainian crisis will further promote awareness in the EU about the integration of the Western Balkans, so that Montenegro could be an integral part of united Europe to the near future.

Finally, allow me to thank the Socialist International, as well as all sister parties, for their continuous support in our efforts to achieve this strategically important goal for us- full membership in the EU.

We from the Western Balkans know very well that if there is no security, there is no democracy, economic development, human freedom, solidarity and progress, in a word, there is no peace and stability.

Past experience in the Western Balkans has taught us and we know today that tolerance, understanding and cooperation are key elements for our future, for the success of our countries and a better standard of our citizens.

“Rad za mir i međunarodnu bezbjednost zasnovanu na zajedničkim ciljevima, zajedničkim principima i pravilima”

- Zadovoljstvo mi je da sam danas u prilici da budem na sastanku u istorijski znamenitoj Palati nacija u Ženevi, gradu koji je još od Rusoovog vremena pružao utočište misliocima i filozofima i u kojem se prije Drugog svjetskog rata nalazio štab Lige naroda, a danas Ujedinjenih nacija.

- U ime Demokratske partije socijalista i u svoje ime, koristim priliku da Vam najiskrenije zahvalim na prilici da naša delegacija ima aktivno učešće na ovako značajnom događaju. Savjet SI potvrđuje vizije naše Internacionale da u izgradnji zajedničkog društva i budućnosti za čovječanstvo, uspostavljamo bližu saradnju u različitim oblastima, u namjeri da što prije savladamo izazove sa kojima se globalno suočavamo.

Dozvolite mi da ukrakto kažem da je DPS više od dvije decenije bila vladajuća partija u Crnoj Gori, zemlji koja je jedina na prostoru Balkana uspjela da sačuva mir i stabilnost, tokom 90-tih godina, kada je skoro čitavo područje bivše Jugoslavije bilo zahvaćeno etničkim sukobima i ratom. Takođe, DPS je imala ključnu ulogu i u organizovanju referenduma po najvišim evropskim standardima o obnovi državnosti Crne Gore 2006 godine. Isto tako, i u trasiranju strateških pravaca razvoja na unutrašnjem, i na spoljnopoličkom planu. Obnavljajući državnost odredili smo jasan cilj, evropski sistem vrijednosti i članstvo u EU i NATO.

To je rezultiralo da Crna Gora bude prepoznata kao stabilna ekonomija, prepoznata kao faktor regionalne stabilnosti i pouzdan susjed.

No, u posljednje dvije godine taj cilj je bio ugrožen i suštinski doveden u pitanje. Nakon promjene vlasti 2020. i mirne demokratske tranzicije vlasti mnogo toga je zaustavljeno i blokirano, jer je rezultat izbora u krugovima nacionalista i u zemlji i izvan nje viđen kao nova šansa za velikodržavne ideje i projekte. Viđen je i kao nova šansa za rusku destrukciju Evrope i Zapada, za šta je Balkan uvijek pogodno tle.

Pored suočavanja sa posljedicama pandemije i ratnim prijetnjama na vratima Evrope, na unutrašnjem planu Crna Gora je prolazila kroz institucionalnu i političku krizu od 30. avgusta 2020. godine. Glavni akter krize bila je Vlada koja je iz temelja destabilizovala državu i društvo i koja nas je natjerala da se umjesto razvojem bavimo odbranom vitalnih državnih interesa. Agonija je okončana prije tri mjeseca smjenom takve vlasti i formiranjem nove parlamentarne većine i nove manjinske Vlade.

Pošto je u aprilu završeno formiranje manjinske vlade koju je podržala i naša partija, verujemo da će se pokrenuti željena dinamika reformskih i integracionih procesa.

Čvrsto vjerujemo da se mirenje društva može desiti samo na evropskim vrijednostima. Izgradnja jakih institucija, vladavina prava, dobra regionalna saradnja, uvažavanje i poštovanje različitosti, multietnički sklad, za nas u Crnoj Gori predstavljaju put ka uspješnom ispunjavanju obaveza integracionih agendi koje nemaju alternativu kada su u pitanju mir i bezbjednosti Crne Gore, Zapadnog Balkana i konačno Evrope.

Kada govorimo o miru i stabilnosti, izazovi Crne Gore i našeg regiona- Zapadnog Balkana, kao i Evrope, ali i čitavog svijeta i dalje su kompleksni.

I danas, kada je prošlo više od 20 godina od Balkanskih ratova, države regiona suočavaju se sa prijetnjama nacionalizma i antisemitizma, koje postaju još jače u uslovima globalnih izazova, kao što je aktuelna agresija Rusije na Ukrajinu.

Potpuno je jasno da se sa potpunom zrelosti treba shvatiti opasnost koju Rusija sa sobom nosi, i na drugoj strani potencijal pozitivnih promjena koje bi donio proces evropskih integracija na Zapadnom Balkanu, te učvršćivanje same odbrambene sposobnosti Evropske unije.

Vjerujemo da će Crna Gora do kraja 2024. godine ispuniti sve obaveze iz procesa pregovora sa EU, i da će EU cijeniti te napore, kao i da će ukrajinska kriza dodatno pospješiti svijest u EU o integraciji Zapadnog Balkana, kako bi Crna Gora i Region u skoroj budućnosti postali sastavni dio ujedinjene Evrope.

Dozvolite mi na kraju da se zahvalim Socijalistickoj Internacionali kao i svim sestrinskim partijama, za kontinuiranu podršku u našim naporima da ostvarimo ovaj za nas strateški važan cilj, punopravno članstvo u EU.

Mi sa Zapadnog Balkana najbolje znamo da ako nema bezbjednosti, nema demokratije, ekonomskog razvoja, ljudskih sloboda, solidarnosti, napretka, jednom riječju nema mira i stabilnosti.

Iskustvo iz prošlosti na Zapadnom Balkanu nas je naučilo i danas dobro znamo da su tolerancija, razumjevanje i saradnja ključni elementi za našu budućnost, za uspjeh naših država i bolji standard naših građana.