



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Presence in Albania**

**Political and Public Affairs Unit
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Head of Presence's statement to the media

15 December 2009

Q: Who is deepening the crisis: the majority that does not tolerate or the opposition that does not enter the parliament?

Ambassador Bosch: First of all I like to say that there is of course little that I can add to what the Dutch Ambassador just said. Because he was as clear as anybody can be clear, and of course it also came from somebody from the EU (I'm not representing the EU) so of course, they are the ones who should decide what is good and what is not good for you as far as the *avis* is concerned. But that being said, it was of course quite clear.

I don't know if you read the speech that I made last week – it was about “it takes two to tango”. I can repeat that here once more, but before I do so, I would also say that for Albania to develop further, it is of course of the utmost importance to keep the independence of the institutions, and that there will be no pressure by the Government on the independent institutions, and that the rule of law runs its course, all the time, unimpeded. That is very, very important in order to get ahead.

And then, I come to the point that I was making last week. All of us of the IC, the Dutch Ambassador referred to this already – asked both sides to moderate their language, to reach out to each other, but so far it seems that this has not been listened to very much. So, once more, I will tell about “it takes two to tango”, the three basic steps. I think these steps should now be at wall of the offices of everybody, of both the Government and the opposition, as the motto for the rest of this year and probably also for next year.

Once more:

Step One – You need to communicate regularly with your partner, otherwise they are liable to step on each others toes – *so it's time for greater dialogue!*

Step Two - You need to lend a sympathetic ear and reach out to each other's weaknesses - *so it's time to compromise!*

And then the last one, the step three:

You will not stay a dancing duo if you don't even talk to each other, not even whisper in the ears, maybe this time in the informal meeting mentioned before without the press

present, so it's time not only to use softer language, but to talk to each other in a normal tone.

And especially now, as we are approaching the Christmas season, especially these words become even more important, because what Christmas is all about is reaching out to each other, not to hate each other, but to love each other, and to really try to make this world a better world to be, and that is not by using hard language, but by nice language, by soft language, and by reaching out. So I hope in this way we can have a very happy Christmas. Happy Christmas!

Q: How possible do you think a compromise is, because the opposition is not going to parliament, is even making a kind of competition with the majority, who manages to get more people to the squares.

Ambassador Bosch: That's why I say 'talk to each other' to both sides. A compromise always has to come from both sides and history has shown anywhere, anywhere, when there is a will there is a way. So as I said, I think now it is really the time to reach out to each other.