



President of Montenegro

Address by H.E. Mr. Filip Vujanovic, President of Montenegro at the OSCE Summit, Astana, December 1-2, 2010

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. President Nazarbayev,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express satisfaction that we are gathered here at the OSCE Summit, first time after 11 years. This meeting at the highest level is yet another proof of the commitment of participating states to the Organization and its strengthening. I would like to thank Kazakhstan, President Nazabayev and Chairman-in-Office Minister Saudabayev for the excellent organization of the Summit and for great efforts they invested in successfully leading the OSCE in the past challenging period. This year, when we commemorate the anniversaries of the Helsinki Final Act, Paris Charter and the Copenhagen Document is both symbolically and essentially important for the future of the Organization and our common vision of peace, stability, security and prosperity in the area from Vancouver to Vladivostok. This is why we are having dialogue within the Corfu Process, and Montenegro wishes to contribute to it.

As the youngest OSCE participating state Montenegro is fully committed to respecting its basic principles and norms aimed at strengthening Euro Atlantic and Eurasian, including the Euro Mediterranean component of security. We believe that the implementation of commitments stemming from the membership in the Organization represents the best way to achieve this goal. Strengthening institutional and structural capacities of the OSCE in the entire conflict cycle is of key importance, especially in the context of an efficient response to crises. In dealing with the protracted conflicts in our area we need to implement common principles, existing mechanisms and lessons learned to find

a sustainable solution in dialogue. All of us in the Balkans, after the tragic experience we had, are particularly aware of this.

Strengthening CSBMs, modernization of Vienna Document and revitalization of CFE are crucial for the successful adaptation of the Organization to modern environment. Having in mind transnational threats and challenges we face today, we need to strengthen capacities to fight terrorism, organized crime, trafficking of persons and drugs, WMDs. In this context, we believe we should work together on greater engagement of the Organization in Afghanistan, in the areas where it has expertise and experience, since its security and stability are directly linked to the security of the wider OSCE area. As a host country of an OSCE Mission with which we have an excellent cooperation, we can emphasize with pleasure and gratitude the important role the Organization can play in inducing reforms and strengthening democratic institutions.

Human dimension is a core of modern democracy and security of our countries. This is why we need to strengthen it and fully implement our commitments, from respect of human and minority rights to guarantees of freedom of expression in all forms. In this sense the role of the OSCE institutions is invaluable. Montenegro has had positive experience in cooperation with all OSCE institutions, in particular ODIHR, especially when we restored independence in a democratic referendum.

As a country that is strategically determined to integrate in European and Euro Atlantic structures and be a responsible member of the OSCE, Montenegro constructively contributes to the promotion of stability and security of the Region. This year we are chairing three regional initiatives – SEECF, Adriatic-Ionian Initiative and CEI. We have also chaired over Dayton Article IV Commission, a successful mechanism for arms control under the OSCE. We are committed to further strengthen good-neighborly relations and regional cooperation which is a precondition for long-term peace and stability of our countries. Montenegro is making crucial steps in overall reforms and fulfilling obligations for the EU and NATO membership. This is why the EC recommended to the European Council and Parliament to grant EU candidate country status to Montenegro. We believe that our intensified efforts in overall reforms will result in the launching of the membership negotiations. After we have joined NATO MAP, we have started implementing of the first ANP. All this recommends us as a responsible and credible partner to the international community in strengthening stability and security in Europe.

Montenegro remains committed to strengthening of our Organization. The documents we adopt on the Summit will certainly contribute to this goal. Creating security community in which the use of force is unthinkable is a noble goal we share for the sake of present and future generations.

In conclusion, let me congratulate Kazakhstan once again for the successful Chairmanship and the Summit, and wish best success to Lithuania next year. I assure you Montenegro is going to continue to be your partner and friend in fulfilling common goals for the good of all of us in the OSCE region.

Thank you for your attention.