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TOGETHER FOR EUROPE – REGARDLESS OUR DIFFERENCES¹

The process of European integrations implies dialogue. Montenegro is fortunate that almost whole society and all its structures support that process. It is advisable to have different professional and expert views on its contents and dynamics, since that contributes to prompting process that we should all care about.

While commenting achievements so far, one has to bear in mind objective circumstances not only in Montenegro but in the region as well, and analyze Montenegrin situation and its public policies in that context.

Therefore hypersensitivity of members of the Montenegrin Government against statements of CSO representatives' surprises. Often, one can get an impression that reacting to these statements is highly placed on decision makers' priority lists. If this would result in argumentative and mutually respective polemics, then it would represent one of the key impetuses towards realization of doubtlessly common aims.

However, the problem is in nature of dialogue that governmental representatives put upon – populist and politicized tone that characterizes all of their statements and reactions referring critical attitudes acquainted with best intention, which are being appraised as “false conclusions and incorrect evaluations”. On the other hand, problem is, obviously, as well in perception and estimation of existing situation which are in some parts so divergent, that it raises question if we are sharing the same reality? **If we chose to turn a blind eye in front of our own disadvantages and problems, and lull ourselves with euphoric rhetoric, instead of facing and resolving these issues, we will choose longer and harder road with uncertain end, because EU won't, as its officials state, repeat the same mistakes.**

Open dialogue and constructive critics are necessary preconditions for radical changes of our society which can only make us closed to declared objectives. Chilled empty phrases of Euro jargon can not contribute, in any way, to the fulfilling of commitments upon which there is consensus in Montenegro. **But, we should also be concerned about declining level of trust for this cause. I am afraid that Montenegrin citizens are beginning to recognize more populism that reflects in simulated europeism, than the real results of our European road.**

Daliborka Uljarević,
Executive Director

¹ Respond to Secretary for European Integration comment on Daliborka Uljarević's presentation on panel discussion “Montenegro and EU – challenges and opportunities”, organized by Leadership Development Programme of College of Europe, Transfuse and Robert Bosh Stiftung