

Conference on the Future of Europe

January 9th, 2018

Distinguished guests, Your excellencies, professors, dear colleagues and friends, good morning. Yesterday, a group of students at Faculty of Political Science, a voice of a new generation of diplomats, advocates, politicians and experts have gathered to discuss the future that is in the front of the European Union. On their behalf today, I am privileged to tell you about their vision. A vision of this young people is simple but powerful, they want to build a diversified, innovative European union that harness all the best elements of our traditions and culture. To build more efficient and responsive EU government.

When I think about European Union, I am reminded that more than sixty years ago, Robert Schuman declared that a united Europe is indispensable to the advancement of world peace. Since then, Europe has emerged from a continent torn apart by war and discord into a union of countries and ideas dedicated to building a more secure, democratic, and prosperous world. However, with fast globalization and dynamic change of the world and its image, EU is at a crucial moment where our leaders must put differences and individual interest aside, and focus on the progressive future of the entire EU and its members. There is no time to be or not to be, there is only time to be more progressive, more efficient, more innovative and more empowering.

We must pursue excellence in every sphere of our union, making it possible for EU to represent its citizens as one voice on global scene. That means we must promote education, science and skills development by delivering platforms like European Research Area that will give opportunity to our countries to fight against poverty, to improve our security, to raise employment and give people a chance to be innovative in sphere of sustainable energy, transportation, medicine, technology and much more. And Horizon 2020 presented by EU commission is just a platform that we need at this crucial moment.

More strategic and value adding initiatives are required abroad to support the internationalization of EU companies and to ensure political and commercial influence for shaping market conditions favorable to European Union interests. Instead of fighting against global threats as terrorism and crisis of huge migration, we can do it together by having

common asylum and migration policy and investing our resources in European Counter-terrorism agency that will provide information, forces and help to all EU members.

To keep the vital role around the world and to keep up with the globalization, EU must focus on innovation, technology and science so it may have global presence in the end.

Out of many, we are one. „Out of many, we are one“ is a phrase that describes European Union in the best possible way. Our common values and shared interests for a more peaceful and progressive world are anchored in the rich history of our partnership and at this moment it is time to hear a voice of a new generation that will make it possible to achieve this vision of more inclusive, innovative and mind opened European union.

Thank you all, very much.