



PREDSEDNIK REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE

BORUT PAHOR

Ljubljana, 14. junij 2022

Spoštovani gospod predsednik,

v luči agresije Ruske federacije na Ukrajino in učinkov vojne na evropsko varnost, se čedalje bolj potrjuje, kako pomemben garant varnosti in stabilnosti je Evropska unija. Medtem, ko iskreno podpiram vsa prizadevanja, da se Ukrajini in Moldaviji podeli status kandidatke, pa me čedalje bolj skrbijo razmere na Zahodnem Balkanu, ki mu ves čas deklaratorno zagotavljamo evropsko perspektivo, a se ta čedalje bolj oddaljuje.

Posebej me skrbijo razmere v Bosni in Hercegovini. V tej državi so negativne posledice prepočasnega širitvenega procesa Evropske unije in odmikanja evropske perspektive najbolj očitne. V teh razmerah se krepijo nacionalizem in težnje po spremembi meja, vse to pa vodi v še večjo nestabilnost, ki ogroža varnost ne le BiH in njene neposredne sosesčine, pač pa tudi Evropske unije.

Prepričan sem, da je nujno potrebno, da se Bosni in Hercegovini podeli status kandidatke za članstvo brez pogojev. Pogoje naj BiH seveda izpolni, a vrstni red naj bo drugačen – torej najprej podelitev statusa kandidatke in nato izpolnitev pogojev. S tem bi se po mojem prepričanju okrepile proevropske sile v Bosni in Hercegovini in dinamika notranjega prilagajanja evropskim normam.

Ocenjujem, da so potrebni konkretni koraki za čimprejšnjo širitev Evropske unije na Zahodni Balkan. Albanija in Severna Makedonija naj junija dobita zeleno luč za začetek pogajanj, Kosovo pa vizumsko liberalizacijo. Verjamem, da je za oboje potrebna zgolj politična volja držav članic, saj vse tri države izpolnjujejo vse pogoje za omenjeno. Želim si tudi hitrejšega pogajalskega procesa s Črno goro in Srbijo.

Spoštovani gospod predsednik,

iskreno sem prepričan, da je Evropska unija odgovor na vsa vprašanja Zahodnega Balkana. Zato Vas prosim, da se zavzamete za konkretne korake k hitrejšemu širitvenemu procesu na Zahodnem Balkanu, zlasti za podelitev statusa kandidatke za Bosno in Hercegovino.

Njegova ekscelenca
gospod Charles Michel
predsednik Evropskega sveta
BRUSELJ

Ljubljana, 14 June 2022

Dear Mr President,

in the light of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the effects of the war on European security, the importance of the European Union as a guarantor of security and stability is becoming increasingly evident. While I wholeheartedly support all efforts to grant candidate status to Ukraine and Moldova, I am increasingly concerned about the situation in the Western Balkans, to which we have always been declaratively guaranteeing a European perspective, which is, however, becoming gradually more distant.

I am particularly concerned about the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is this country that most evidently faces the negative consequences of the EU's slow enlargement process and of the shifting of the European perspective. Because of these circumstances, nationalism and border change tendencies are on the rise, leading to further instability that threatens the security not only of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its immediate neighbours, but also of the European Union.

I believe it to be essential that Bosnia and Herzegovina be granted candidate status for membership without conditions. Bosnia and Herzegovina should, of course, fulfil them, but I believe the order should be reversed – first it should be granted candidate status and then it should meet the conditions. I am convinced that this would strengthen the pro-European forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the dynamics of internal adjustment to European norms.

In my opinion, we need to take concrete steps to ensure that the European Union expands to the Western Balkans as soon as possible. Albania and North Macedonia should be given the green light to start negotiations in June, while Kosovo should be granted visa liberalisation. I believe that all these two steps require the political will of the Member States, as all three countries satisfy all the conditions. I would also like to see a quicker negotiation process with Montenegro and Serbia.

Dear Mr President,

I sincerely believe that the European Union is the answer to all the challenges the Western Balkans are facing. I therefore urge you to advocate concrete steps for accelerating the enlargement process in the Western Balkans, in particular granting Bosnia and Herzegovina candidate status.

**His Excellency
Mr Charles Michel
President of the European Council
BRUSSELS**