

## ***Conclusions of the Leaders' Meeting of the Brdo Process Slovenia, 25 July 2013***

### ***I.***

***Under the framework of the Enlargement process as the driving force, all countries embarked on the path of serious structural and economic reforms, which helped them become more economically competitive and more integrated into Single European Market. Good results achieved in the area of judiciary and fundamental rights, justice, freedom and security should be pursued.***

***The final goal and a common vision remain unchanged - to include Western Balkans in the European Union. After Croatian membership, accession process must continue with other countries of the region. While new approach to negotiations makes the process stricter it also brings the opportunity to be better prepared and aware of the merits based progress.***

***Current overview of the Western Balkans shows the region has already gone through significant and overwhelmingly positive changes, which all importantly contributed to stabilization as well as economic and social progress of the region.***

### ***II.***

***The aim of the meeting is therefore to highlight the readiness for political ownership and responsibility of the region, thus bringing the European Perspective back to the high political level, and therefore:***

- *confirm the importance of regular meetings of high level political dialogue with the EU;*
- *express readiness to strengthen stability through cooperation, respect for the good neighboring relations, readiness to compromise and exchange experiences in solving open issues in line with best European practices;*
- *acknowledge the importance of social processes and mutual trust in the region reconciliation, effective regional cooperation and honor legally binding international agreements, represent a foundation for the common future within the EU;*
- *will support and help each other with sharing good practices regarding the Enlargement process;*
- *emphasize the EU reforms implementation through political unity and compromise;*

- *agree to strengthen infrastructural networking through jointly presented projects, which we all prepare under common coordination and with close cooperation of EU Institutions, and therefore define common economic and infrastructure interests that are of strategic importance for the region and the EU;*
- *are aware of additional efforts that should be put into sound economic developments of the region. Economic growth and job creation are one of the most demanding challenges ahead.*

### **III.**

***Together we want to prove that outstanding issues can be solved** within the proposed forum and on the basis of the open political dialogue through the respect for the undertaken international obligations and responsibilities. We are ready to change the perception that the Western Balkans countries cannot solve internal or bilateral problems among themselves. We stand ready to send a message to our citizens that mutual understanding, cooperation and partnership can provide for compromise solutions, safer and prosperous life to each and every one of them.*

### **IV.**

***To achieve this goal, Brdo process Leaders will continue with its commitments** and enlargement policy. Growth will not happen without political stability and clear certainty into the near EU membership prospect. Slovenia and Croatia will remain firm and fair supporters of the enlargement process and will help communicate the messages of the region to the EU family and relevant institutions in the Brussels. As the communication and the dialogue are the key, we welcome this forum of high level dialogue, where the countries of the region can interactively discuss with the EU members the future EU enlargement agenda.*

### **V.**

*We also agree the next Leaders Meeting will take place in Croatia.*