



10th anniversary of the Igman Initiative
PARTNERSHIP FOR EUROPE

Statement of the Presiding of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haris Silajdžić,
Presidents of Montenegro, Filip Vujanović, Croatia, Ivo Josipović and Serbia, Boris Tadić



Sarajevo, 29.05.2010.

We, the Presiding of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Haris Silajdžić**, Presidents of Montenegro, **Filip Vujanović**, Croatia, **Ivo Josipović** and Serbia, **Boris Tadić**,

having gathered in Sarajevo on 29 May 2010 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Igman Initiative, a network of non-governmental organizations from the above countries and acknowledging our adherence to principles, values and objectives on which the European Union is founded, **are hereby stating:**

Confident that the European prospects, defined at the Zagreb Summit in 2000 and subsequently affirmed at the EU Summit in Thessaloniki in 2003 and reaffirmed by the 2006 conclusions of the Council of Europe, are a driver and guarantee of peace and stability in the region of South-East Europe, stimulating bilateral cooperation aimed at the improvement of mutual relations to the benefit of all our citizens;

Pointing out the necessity to proceed with resolving disputes and disagreements between the countries in the region through dialogue in order to overcome historic differences and to turn to future and prosperity of our countries and the region;

Confirming that full membership in the European Union is a strategic objective of all countries gathered within the Igman Initiative and expecting our partners and the EU to recognize the necessity of speeding up the process;

With a high regard for the civil society role in the process of redefining values in our societies and in managing our creative potentials directed towards the accomplishment of that strategic objective;

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Having gathered within the Igman Initiative and considering the above stated principles, we are **assessing** that in the past ten-year period our countries made significant efforts to improve their mutual relations;

We underline that the role of the civil society was unavoidable in that process and therefore we encourage all members gathered within the Igman Initiative to proceed with their activities in directing our societies towards the fulfillment of our future goals, primarily those focused on the EU membership of the countries of the region.

We express our readiness to further improve and strengthen cooperation of our countries and seek new forms of partnership to be employed in the attainment of our European objectives.

We are willing to continue with the practice of having meetings to discuss constructively the future of our region and encourage overall cooperation in partnership for Europe;

We are inviting (our governments), the civic society and all others to take part in the project of transformation of our political and structural reforms, advising them to closely work together on all levels in order to attain the objectives set as soon as possible and to the satisfaction of our citizens.