

Resolution of the XV Verona Eurasian Economic Forum in Baku

The participants of the anniversary XV Verona Eurasian Economic Forum gathered together in Baku this year and now wholeheartedly express their deep appreciation of our Azerbaijan colleagues' warm hospitality and help with successful preparation and organization of the event.

Holding the XV Verona Eurasian Economic Forum in Baku shall break new grounds in its history. In fifteen years, the Forum became an influential platform ensuring communication between businessmen and government and experts' community representatives of many countries.

It expanded geographically over time. At first, only representatives from few countries engaged in the Forum's activity. Now, however, its reach has grown much broader. Everyone who believes in the Greater Eurasia, from whichever part of our "macroregion" they are, from Europe and the Greater Middle East to the South-East Asia, from Trans-Caucasian region and the Central Asia to the Indo-Pacific, desire to tell their story, share their plans and approaches, discuss their opportunities and needs. So this year we had a chance to learn what our colleagues from Mongolia, India, China and other countries think.

The agenda of the Verona Eurasian Economic Forum has changed drastically as well. At the start, the main topics were situation in energetics, security of energy supply and interaction within the Greater Europe that, sad to say, needs to be strengthened. Today, our primary focus is on the future of energy sector. A few sections of the Forum in Baku addressed this issue. Also, no less time was dedicated to discussions regarding finances, technology and industry, transport, logistics. Broadly speaking, the fates of the world were discussed along with the international relations deterioration, place of a person in the modern world and care for wellbeing of a person, realistic climate agenda, newly-emerging social and economic development model and its incompatibility with voluntarism and devil-may-care attitude in international affairs.

Representativeness of the Verona Eurasian Economic Forum and the utmost importance of the issues we discuss for all our "macroregion" entitle us to call to our countries and peoples in the hope that they rise to the call. Applicable conclusions and specific deeds must follow.

There is no alternative to a broad peer-to-peer inclusive international cooperation. Business diplomacy is of a great importance here. All countries and all regions around the globe need equally such kind of cooperation. Not so long ago, everyone understood that, appreciating and supporting this approach. Thanks to such cooperation, G20 managed to neutralize global financial and economic crisis in 2008 relatively quickly, although temporarily, without addressing the structural issues. By now, such cooperation has suffered greatly. It should be not only restored, but exceeded by expanding G20. This is a must. We urge all peoples of all countries that hold dear our common future to unite the efforts with a view to improve the broad

peer-to-peer inclusive international cooperation. Let there be dialog instead of confrontation; progress and no regress.

Having paid the toll of endless victims and losses, many wars and conflicts, humanity embraced the principle of *pacta sunt servanda* as the supreme value in global communications, which means that “agreements must be kept”. Strict adherence to this maxim, the unavoidable fulfillment of concluded agreements, the respect for promises made shall create a situation of legal certainty, respect for each other and mutual trust. Without this, without the protection of private property and the open market economy principles, it will not be possible to have long-term economic projects, to conduct current affairs or make personal projects of life. We demand that common sense prevail and that any infringements regarding the observance of international treaties, the execution of concluded agreements and the principle of protection of private property be stopped.

In words, everyone agrees that a person, their interests, needs and desires should be at top of mind in economic development. Everyone supports the statement that normal economic development should go hand in hand with the human personality, spiritual, intellectual, moral development. But unacceptably little is being done for this purpose. Mostly, only nice slogans are proclaimed, followed by nothing. This can no longer be tolerated. We call on everyone to unite with us and put care about a person before people's diplomacy, public diplomacy, and business diplomacy. Our goal is to make this criterion decisive when making any political decisions.

Holding of the Verona Eurasian Economic Forum in Baku is only the first step. It shall be followed by organization of the Forum in other centers of our “megaregion”. Baku was not chosen by chance. Its place is in the heart of Eurasia. According to its culture, traditions, history and political geography, Baku is located both in Asia and in Europe. For many years, Azerbaijan has been able to pursue a multi-vector policy of cooperation and interaction with a variety of countries and groups of countries belonging to different political and state systems. We will be guided by the same considerations when choosing other venues for the Forum. It will advance further into Eurasia. In consequence of such an undertaking, we plan to mobilize the widest public international support for our appeal. We are sure that Greater Eurasia has a huge potential, and our task is to jointly put it at the service of peaceful productive development.