

Bucharest Summit Romania, June 5th, 2006

Chairman's Summary

On the 5th of June 2006, Bucharest hosted the summit launching the Black Sea Forum for Dialogue and Partnership (BSFDP) that brought together Heads of State and Government, Ministers and other high representatives of the Black Sea countries, as well as senior officials of the European Union and NATO, European countries and the United States, regional and international organisations. The BSFDP was also attended by representatives of NGOs, think-tanks, academic and research institutions, the civil society and business associations and companies from the region and the Euro-Atlantic community.

The BSFDP is launched in the context of a wider inter-regional dialogue involving countries of the Baltic, Black and Caspian Seas and the Balkans. This dialogue, which was substantiated and broadened at the Kyiv Forum of the Community of Democratic Choice (December 2005) and further prolonged at the "Common vision for common neighbourhood" Conference (Vilnius, May 2006), is an answer to the perceived need to strengthen and streamline regional interaction according to the aspirations of peoples and societies of defining a shared vision for democratic and sustainable development in the immediate vicinity of the European Union.

Thereupon, the Black Sea countries agreed in Bucharest to enhance their responsibility in maintaining peace, prosperity, stability and good neighbourly relations in the Black Sea area through making the BSFDP an open floor and flexible platform for free and fair dialogue, particularly on strengthening democratic institutions and market-driven economy in the countries of the region, with a view to bringing them closer to the European and Euro-Atlantic community and facilitating their integration with global markets and trends. Therefore, the BSFDP would provide a platform for discussion on:

1. ***Better and more effective synergy of the existing instruments and resources*** at interregional, regional, European and international levels, namely:

- At interregional level: The Community of Democratic Choice as a process and dialogue between the countries of the Baltic, Black and Caspian Seas on democracy, stability and development.
- At regional level: BSEC, GUAM, BLACKSEAFOR, the Document on Confidence and Security Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea, Operation Black Sea Harmony, the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, Black Sea Euro-region, Black Sea Border Security Initiative, South-Eastern Europe Cooperation Initiative, South-East European Cooperation Process and the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.
- At EU level: future membership for Romania and Bulgaria, accession talks with Turkey, ENP, EU Action Plans with Ukraine, Republic of. Moldova and, in the near future, with Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, EU Special Representatives for Moldova and South Caucasus, technical missions for monitoring and managing borders, EU border mission for Moldova-Ukraine, ESDP instruments, specialized assistance (TRACECA, TACIS, INOGATE) and the future ENPI.
- At NATO level: current and future membership, Partnership for Peace,

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Individual Partnership Action Plans, Partnership Review and Planning, Partnership Action Plans against Terrorism, Partnership Action Plans on Defence and Institution Building, Greater Black Sea Area Group (PFP Consortium).

2. **Bottom-up approach**, where representatives of both governmental and nongovernmental organisations from inside and outside the region are able to set jointly the agenda at both regional and European/Euro-Atlantic levels.
3. **A pro-active attitude**, which should induce individual countries, regional and international organisations to have a better understanding of the available means and resources to make the best-case scenario for the region come true.
4. **Multidisciplinary integrative approach** to develop 'win-win' solutions in the relations between the countries of the Black Sea region based on enhanced co-operation, with due respect and adequate protection of the legitimate interests of the countries concerned.

The first high-level BSFDP event focused on four areas of critical importance for the development of regional cooperative architecture (how to shape a common vision and set a common agenda for the Black Sea region): good governance, sustainable development, energy security and crisis management. The workshops held during the BSFDP summit were to identify critical gaps and required action toward a stable, prosperous, democratic and secure Black Sea region. Also, discussed were practical ways to improve national and regional capacities enabling the countries of the region to respond in a cooperative manner to present challenges and opportunities.

The BSFDP is not an institutionalized organisation, but rather a flexible and open format for debate and cooperative action. The best brand name for the BSFDP is that of a 'network of networks', which is meant to put to work the energies, political will and resources of regional actors to the benefit of stronger partnerships, in a pragmatic and project-oriented manner.

Romania invites all countries in the region and partners from the European and Euro-Atlantic community to make the best use of this new platform for dialogue and cooperation. The next steps will seek to identify practical ways to enhance regional interaction by redefining strategic choices and selecting realistic projects proposed by companies, regional organisations and task forces. A BSFDP network, at operational level, could be developed in the future, involving both governmental and non-governmental organisations that are committed to the further development of cooperative endeavours in the Black Sea region.