

Considering that historically, culturally, intellectually, educationally, legally and economically, Serbia has always been integral part of the European continent;

Knowing that Serbia and its culture have been an unbreakable part of the diversity of the European cultural heritage for centuries;

Whereas that we inherited common tradition with other European societies which today is most clearly embodied in the European Union as an organization;

Considering the fact that citizens of Serbia share fundamental values of the European Union, that they have the same desires and aspirations to live in a society based on human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human and minority rights;

Underlying the fact that Serbia and its citizens want to live in a society ruled by pluralism and freedom of expression, not by absolutism, tolerance – not exclusivity; justice – and not the right of the strongest, solidarity and social justice – not greed and exploitation, gender equality – not discrimination, equality of all people despite their differences;

Reiterating that all the mentioned values are included in Article 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and that they define the Republic of Serbia as the country based on the rule of law and social justice, principles of civil democracy, human and minority rights and freedoms and European principles and values.;

Bearing in mind that the European Union has united countries that previously fought multiple wars for centuries and has been the largest peace project since World War II providing peace for its members for the longest period of time in history;

Whereas the preservation of peace is the Europe's most important goal and that Serbia strives to preserve lasting peace in the region and on the continent;

Stressing the fact that the unification of the European continent, which began with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, will not be fully completed until Serbia and all the other societies of the Western Balkans become full-fledged members of the EU;

Reminding that the Serbian National Assembly confirmed twice, in resolution 2004 and resolution 2013 that the 'Objective of the Republic of Serbia in the accession negotiations is to acquire membership in the European Union in the shortest possible time';

Considering the fact that all the Governments of the Republic of Serbia, since democratic changes on October 5th 2000 have been based upon the program of Serbian accession to the EU;

Bearing in mind that Serbia has been practically stopped on its way to the European Union with many standstills, setbacks and very little progress in meeting the criteria for the EU membership in the last eight years, since the opening of the accession negotiations with the EU in January 2014,

The Main Board of the Party of Freedom and Justice issues a **Declaration**

'SERBIA IN THE EU 2030'

We emphasize absolute dedication of the Party of Freedom and Justice to the European integration of Serbia and full-fledged membership in the EU by 2030 as the country's highest national interest that will provide the citizens of Serbia with a just social system, freedom of expression and creation, high standard of living and a certain future that would make Serbia a prosperous country to live in, again.

We acknowledge the immeasurable importance of the European Union as Serbia's partner in the economic development, social well-being, political stability and foundation of democratic institutions.

We confirm the necessity of implementing complete societal, political, social, security and economic reforms aimed to align the state legal and institutional framework with the EU standards and to solve problems of the society in various fields such as the rule of law, human rights, fighting corruption and organized crime, environmental protection.

We recognize the importance of the support of the whole society to this process and its effect on the speed of the accession process and we oblige ourselves to actively inform our citizens about the advantages and challenges of the EU membership and to raise the awareness of the understanding of the accession process.

We appreciate the support and help of the European Union in the accession process, including financial and technical support, as well as the solidarity shown through the expert support and

knowledge and experience sharing of the member states in the accession process and after its completion.

We are dedicated to close cooperation with the European Union, its member states and political and social organizations which form the democratic order of the EU and also to establishing stronger cooperation in the fields of common interest such as investments, energy, security, agriculture, education.

We confirm our dedication to the principles of solidarity, democracy and respect for human rights and we recognize these principles as the foundations of Serbia as a full-fledged member of the European Union.

We oblige ourselves to be fully committed to fulfilling our obligations from the Accession Negotiations Framework and European Reform Agenda, as well as to meeting the necessary political, economic and legal criteria for the EU membership.

We support the continuation of a constructive dialogue and cooperation with the EU as well as the final realization of our national priority to become a full-fledged member of the European Union.

ACTION PLAN 'SERBIA IN THE EU 2030'

The Party of Freedom and Justice, as the sole guarantor of Serbia's membership in the European Union, will, upon coming to power, make accession negotiations more efficient and the alignment with the EU policy more effective. Membership of Serbia in the European Union will be achieved in 2030.

In order for Serbia to become a member of the EU in 2030, the accession negotiations must be completed by the middle of 2028, that is, the EU Treaty of Accession must be signed by the end of 2028, after which a two-year process of ratification of the Treaty of Accession would follow in the EU member states.

In order for this to be achieved, by the middle of 2028, Serbia must implement all the obligations from the accession process and fulfill the last criterion for closing the cluster, thus acquiring the conditions for making a decision on the successful conclusion of the negotiations.

To this end, upon coming to power, the Party of Freedom and Justice will invest all its political and professional capacities in the implementation of the activities foreseen by the National Program for the Adoption of Acquis of the European Union within the strictly planned deadlines.

The Party of Freedom and Justice will also be the guarantor of the fulfillment of EU standards.

Especially dedicated to the fulfillment of politically sensitive criteria, the Party of Freedom and Justice, in the FIRST YEAR upon coming to power, will initiate and implement the following:

- Stopping the current official rhetoric about the EU, stopping the anti-EU and anti-Western campaign which has been run by the Serbian Progressive Party and Socialist Party of Serbia (SNS-SPS) Government for the last 12 years. Informing the citizens in accordance with the facts. Start fighting against disinformation of our citizens.
- Alignment with the foreign and security policy of the EU, including the common foreign policy towards Russia.
- Ensuring complete independence of the prosecution and the judicial system.
- New Strategy for fighting the corruption with the emphasis on high-level corruption
- Repeal of the Law on special procedures for the implementation of the project of construction and reconstruction of line infrastructure structures of particular importance to the Republic of Serbia with the aim of fighting high-level corruption.

- Providing proper conditions for free and professional delivery of information, without the influence of the state, i.e. the political parties in power, especially on the public service media, RTS and RTV, which are still being funded via the public budget of the Republic of Serbia, in addition to the regular monthly subscription, i.e. the fee that citizens pay through their electricity bills. Special attention will be given to electronic media that use public good such as national television channel frequency.
- Improving the election process, creating equal electoral conditions for all parties and preventing putting pressure on the public employees and consequent controlled and influenced voting (since the largest employer in Serbia is still the state itself, which means

that the majority of employees in the public sector are directly dependant on the ruling parties).

- Regulation of the legislative framework and the application of measures for confiscation of property acquired through a criminal offense, i.e. crime, as well as the measures for the processing of cases of high corruption, organized crime and money laundering.
- The improvement includes the adequacy of social benefits for those living below the poverty level, including social benefits and child allowance, as well as solving the issue of a large number of cases in social protection services and providing adequate financial and institutional resources for employment and social policy, which would, more systematically, be aimed at young people, women and the long-term unemployed.
- Implementation of a comprehensive program for improving the business environment (clarity, simplicity, transparency and predictability of regulations) with greater involvement of the business community in the processes.
- Ensuring the financial and operational independence of the Regulatory Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services (RATEL) and the Regulatory Authority of Electronic Media (REM) in alignment with EU Acquis and strengthening their capacities for proactive work.

IN THE SECOND YEAR:

- Alignment of national legislation with EU Directives on public procurement from 2014.
- Full implementation of the new Strategy for fighting corruption, with the emphasis on high- level corruption.
- Adoption of the Law on safety and health at work and the new Labour Law
- Implementing a comprehensive tax reform and full alignment of legislation in the field of VAT, excise and direct taxation as well as transformation of the Tax Administration of the Republic of Serbia.
- Establishing a Chemicals Agency which would be controlling the movement of all hazardous chemicals in Serbia.
- Forming a special budget Environment Fund
- Aligning the rules on GMO trade with the EU rules.

IN THE THIRD YEAR:

- Full implementation of all the GRECO recommendations from the fourth and the fifth evaluation rounds
- Ensuring full sustainability of the Health Insurance Fund of the Republic of Serbia through universal health care and funding of the healthcare system through the value-added taxes.
- Undertaking all the necessary actions for Serbia to become a member of the World Trade organization, i.e. solving all the problems that Serbia has direct influence on.
- Alignment of State aid policy with EU rules, i.e. stopping the practice of non-transparent aid to foreign investors.

IN THE FOURTH YEAR:

- Amendment of the legal framework and alignment with EU requirements, especially the law that would allow participation in civilian CSDP missions.