

Declaration of the participants from the first international conference of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union

“For Europe: Communicating European Integration between EU Member States and Enlargement Countries”, 17-19 November 2017

Under the project CEPES - Communicating Europe between Pan-European Societies, co-founded by the Erasmus + programme of the European Union

Podgorica, 18 November 2017

We, participants of the first international conference of the Montenegrin Pan – European Union, held in Podgorica, capital of Montenegro, express our will to support the better communication about European integration process between the European Institutions, the Member states and the Candidate and Potential candidate countries from our region in order to support dynamic integration process of Montenegro and its neighbours (countries of enlargement) to the European Union. We are advocating for a renewal of the Enlargement process.

1. **FOR EUROPE THROUGH BETTER COMMUNICATION:** better communication is a strong instrument for enhanced dialogue between the European institutions, the EU Member States and countries of our region. The conferences of our Member Organizations like this, foster dialogue between all stakeholders, including governments, academic community, CSOs and media. By promoting European values, contribute for fulfil the EU criteria in our own countries, lobbying for faster EU integration of our countries and through discussion about European perspective in the context of united, strong and stable Europe, we enhance policy debates in the region and contribute to our commitment to achieve main goals recorded in the Statute of our organizations.
2. **FOR STRENGTHENING OF SOLIDARITY, SOCIAL AWARENESS AND COHESION:** As the Pan-Europeans, we support the revived concern in the European Union for the European pillar of Social Rights, its strengthening and full implementation. Social awareness and cohesion has to be properly included in the integration process of the region.
3. **FOR THE FINALIZATION OF THE INTEGRATION OF SEE:** For us, Pan-Europeans, the integration of the SEE countries into the EU is becoming an important strategic issue and does not allowed any delay. Therefore, we strongly support the continuation of the process of enlargement of the EU until all SEE countries fulfil the requirements and become members of the EU. We urge the EU to help these countries, especially Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Albania, in fulfilling the criteria and in joining the EU. We consider unilateral blocking of aspiring countries to become member states, such as Macedonia is facing, unacceptable.
4. **FOR RENEWAL OF THE ENLARGMENT PROCESS STRATEGY:** We are also advocating for a renewal of the Enlargement process. We applaud and fully agree with the proposals of the president of the European Commission, Mr. Junker, in which he launches 2025 as accession date for Montenegro and Serbia. This will give a new dynamic for the whole region and the swift integration of the all other SEE countries.