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**COORDINATING UNIT FOR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

FIRST REGIONAL FORUM ON YOUTH:  
“SECURITY, OPPORTUNITY AND PROSPERITY”

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**NEW SECURITY AS A CULTURE OF PERMANENT PEACE  
(SECURITY AS CULTURE AND CULTURE AS SECURITY)**

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Security is being positioned as the prime topic of this Forum, not without very good reasons, so we have to say it loud and clear at the very beginning: in our ever-changing, unstable and totally unpredictable ICT world, Security can no longer be considered a technology, technique or just an “unavoidable evil” – New Security becomes new standard of civilized life and a sustained form of New Culture, because of its newly uncovered total, complex, multidimensional, integral, integrated and dynamic character.

As for my homeland, Croatia, the beautiful South European and West-Mediterranean country which became a sovereign national-state through the recent Liberation Homeland War 1991-1995 – our supreme National Special Security Operation is the development of Culture of Permanent Peace, as our new integrated strategy of Total Integral Security is based on the concept of Common Good, the very root of our common traditional civil European republican and democratic political culture.

In our New Digital World, freedom and peace are fundamental preconditions for opportunities and prosperity for all, whilst war is only the exclusive and unjust right to extra-profits for the political, ruling minority. Global free information flow and international socio-economic communication on every level must be gained by mutual cooperation, tolerance and understanding, not by any kind of “traditional recipes” of various “special operations”! This is why the most important human right of the future will most assuredly be: ***the right to know, right to equal access to knowledge with various related derived rights, such as right to decent working conditions, right to equal opportunities for life-long learning and gaining knowledge on large scale, which will also include equal rights to sustained healthcare, various new forms of food security and genetic rights, etc.*** It is obvious that employment, especially the most intriguing question of Youth Employment, will be the utmost intelligence, security as well as political and economic top priority agenda of our societies tomorrow, and in our opinion it is the key question of every civilized Culture even now! At this point I would like to stress the utmost and unique value of all twenty Recommendations of United Nations University Report to the Second Preparatory Session for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (especially UNU Report Recommendations No. 10, 13, 15, 16 and 20).

Borders between civil and military security are in radical and constant transition – in today’s world conflicts most of the warriors are “underage” (children and youth), most of the war casualties are civilians, military conflicts are in most cases “paramilitary” or “supramilitary” because wars are usually not officially announced whilst regular army forces become true social “cases” in the world in which “civilian combatants” represent a respectable military/paramilitary/supramilitary force. How can men in uniforms fight un-uniformed fighters and how do they get advantage over them? We have to reconsider and reconstitute our evidently obsolete concepts of security in the world in which experienced military personnel is totally unprepared for the new threats posed by “explosive” women, children and elderly! Accordingly, for the new concept of Total Integral Security it is simply not good enough “to be well informed” but it is needed “to manage the integral knowledge” – so as to achieve this goal, we have to radically change our strategic worldview, our tactical and operational activities and our behavior in general. We have to take the following into serious consideration: ***new social values are hardly waiting to be constructed – let’s unite and help Global Youth to build them!*** Efficient (“zero-effect”) use of the totality of all our productivity resources (human, physical and natural capital) is most assuredly the right

pathway of doing that as a long-term sustainable development strategy, with ILO 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work as a key promotional tool.

Ignorance in various forms is our most dangerous enemy, from the earliest times of our civilization until today – it is the very root of all forms of totalitarianism, slavery, terrorism and all other forms of perverted social conditions that has degraded us as human beings throughout the whole “civilized” history. Strategic build-up of decent “*le condition humaine*” must be based on our strategic and conceptual orientation towards Knowledge and the politics of “equal chances & different choices” for all, and this would represent ***the real quantum leap of humanity as our most precious present to future generations.***

At this point we simply have to remember the key part of ILO *Resolution concerning human resources training and development*: “Education and training are a means to empower people, improve the quality and organization of work, enhance citizens’ productivity, raise workers’ incomes, improve enterprise competitiveness, promote job security and social equity and inclusion. Education and training are therefore a central pillar of decent work”.

Global recession, unemployment on great scale, especially the Youth Unemployment, international and fundamentalist terrorism of various kinds, corporate instability and total mistrust in existing national and international institutions, standards as well as in the prevailing socio-economic ethics and morals, are only the visible top of the invisible iceberg – the immense iceberg of radical changes that our world is currently going through. Full scope of this changes we do not openly see yet and most of them we do not fully understand yet – we just feel them on our skin, and the basic question is when are we going to really know them in our hearts?

Only when we finally realize that Youth is the only ever-renewable human resource on this planet and the most propulsive form of “intelligent capital” which returns investments in extraordinary forms of unthinkable paybacks, can we really start thinking about our common sustainable future – until then, all our simple-minded, isolationist thoughts of future are only the idealistic remnants of the past improvisations which live their futile lives in our confused heads, often making our heads spin in undesirable directions, producing most unwanted consequences.

***Tomorrow has always belonged and will always undoubtedly belong to young people, so we have to join our heads, hearts and hands together to make an historic end to all totalitarian illusions by promoting and implementing the intercultural concept of Common Good for all, in the sustainable security environment of the New Culture of Permanent Peace. By doing that, we may rightfully hope that we will finally connect economic growth with higher quality of life for future generations, eventually.***