

Honorable Mr. President,  
President of the Assembly,  
Mr. Prime Minister,  
Mr. Rucker,  
Mr. Feith  
Honorable Mrs. Tina,  
Honorable members of the Presidency of the Assembly and Government,  
Honorable Presidents of Municipalities,  
Dear members of the Constitutional Commission,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased that on behalf of the Constitutional Commission of the Republic of Kosovo, certainly that today we are very emotional, since we have rare and particular satisfaction in our history as people and as a state, that in this solemnity to officially sign the Draft Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo in front of You, citizens of our Republic and of democratic world.

In my name and in the name of the Constitutional Commission, I would like to welcome every one of You in this solemnity, in particular You that have assisted and supported this very important process, You present in this hall and all citizens of Kosovo, who actively participated in the process of final draft, and all of you that have supported peace, justice, freedom and democracy in Kosovo, support that have enabled us to make the Constitution that we are signing today.

Ladies and Gentleman,

Hygo rightly stated that:” there is nothing greater than idea” and today I am convinced in this more than ever.

Since the time of the idea for this major project with members of the Commission, we had mixed feelings, the distance of its realization and the curiosity itself to have the privilege to be a president, respectively member in this very important professional and national Commission, and particularly today in this rare respectful activity of our work, we feel happy and proud.

Now, it is clear for all of us that peace and overall prosperity can not be build without general historic idea and without people to realize those. Freedom is the source of every meaning and value; it is imperative condition of any reasoning for existence.

Also today, by this solemn act, we are valuing the war for the freedom gained, peace and we are taking over the responsibility to build a future for everyone in the territory of our independent and democratic state.

Ladies and Gentleman,  
Honorable citizens of Kosovo,

I have the pleasure to inform that we, the Constitutional Commission of the Republic of Kosovo, have made efforts to transfer all our human and intellectual capacities in this draft of our Constitution.

Feeling and need for unity for our state and for our citizens had prevailed over our party, ethnic and professional beliefs. Great ideals and knowledge gained in our lives have united us as a people that love peace, freedom, democracy and prosperity, as a people that love civilized Kosovo with a future.

We were very fortunate to have the support of the President, the Prime minister, the President of the Assembly, all political parties, civil society and I believe also the support of all citizens of the country and the support of international community.

Ladies and Gentleman,

By this Constitution, we are standing between the desire for requesting and implementing the truth and justice and sensitive desire for practical issues for preparation of our people and our country for the future.

We are making possible that our people and our country takes its future in its own hands and we call upon them for support for the works that have been done in accordance with time. We are not only describing the world, but we want to change it. Our aim is nobler than the legal and political aim of the Constitution. We have tried to build overall ideas in stands of society.

Ladies and Gentleman,

Our Constitution aims to create people that in their memory will have experience and mutual respect for the people and for the country during their life time, to create new possibilities, services required from them for the country, smooth contacts and integration of our people and our country.

It is a Constitution of possibilities and not the constitution of disadvantages. And if we have achieved those, than we have achieved the objective of the functions that we will always serve.

We have openly and strongly protected the values that have to rule our country in accordance with civilized world and moreover to build the future.

This Constitution will protect the rights of every citizen of the Republic by the premise that, nobody will ever be truly free until all people are able to enjoy the same freedoms.

We were inspired by many drafters of constitutions of modern and democratic countries, when we have made comparisons by respecting legal tradition of our country.

In particular from the fathers of America, who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776, particularly in words written in a hot summer by Jefferson, among others stating: "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that Creator has endowed every men with unalienable particular rights, among those are life, freedom and search for happiness".

Ladies and Gentleman,

By this Constitution we will help the democracy, and not only the democracy in general, but democracy for opportunities, for development, to build our joint identity and to prepare the next generation to lead their causes and to rule themselves in coming decades and centuries, that our Republic is a country when people plan their future, people that want to live and be proud of this country.

Ladies and Gentleman,

We, the Constitutional Commission are proud with the Constitution. We have reasons to be proud of our country and our citizens. We believe that our republic and our citizens will feel good and completed with their Constitution. We are members of the values of good of our country and not of denial of anyone or anything, not today and not for generations to come. By this Constitution, we have protected the values of building our country, creation of equal opportunities for everyone and requesting accountability.

Our written words during compilation of the Constitution were cautious; those had expressed opinions deriving as a clash of objects in our minds and debates within the Commission and with citizens. We expect the support and we will respect opinions of the members of the assembly and citizens on how they will consider and review this Constitution. Rational spirit has the power of review. I would like to ask everyone to do the same and to support the Constitution.

Ladies and Gentleman,

I would like to thank you once more from the bottom of my heart for the support and for everything that you have done in order for us to present today this Draft Constitution of our Republic.

I would like to express my gratitude for the assistance of local and international experts. In particular, on behalf of the Constitutional Commission I would like to thank USAID and ICO for continued support, particular thanks to experts such as Judge Tunheim, Professor Louis and Professor Christie for their excellent expertise, Mrs. Tina and Jonnas, but earlier also Mrs. Torbion for the support and Mrs. Piter Feith who has given his approval and full support since the beginning of his mandate. Particular thanks for

patience to listen us, for devoted work and emotional relation with this Constitution to Mr. John Alello and as well as his assistant, Gresa Caka, as well as administrative staff, translators and lecturers.

Honorable members of the Constitutional Commission,

I believe that many of our ideals are embedded in this Constitution and will never fade. Citizens of the Republic will be happier by this Constitution or as Montesquieu said "there is no such beautiful aim than to work for the people to come to be happier than we were". I believe that we have achieved that our country will be a part of progressive countries and nations.

I would like to express gratitude to every one of you for all that work, commitment, patience and mutual respect, reliability, accountability and for opinions you have provided in hundreds of meetings. I will respectfully remember our joint work during all my life and you will be a model of my work in the future.

Thank you for attention.