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OPENING ADDRESS

*Distinguished Academicians,
Esteemed Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I would like to express my appreciation and pleasure because the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts is the host of the international symposium dedicated to the topic, the significance of which is invaluable for the contemporary civilization.

I use this opportunity to point out to the traditional commitment of Montenegro to the humanistic concept of society as well as its present orientation towards implementation of the political, cultural and ethic values aligned with the rules of democracy and international legal norms.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dynamic, political and economic processes which marked the 20th century, innovations in the field of technologies and communications, scientific advancement enabled the new forms of connecting at the international level.

As a general worldwide project, globalization strives towards promotion of the universal values, establishment of relations among the states and integration at the global level of information and knowledge, through the idea of a single world and humanity.

Spreading of social, political and economic activities outside the borders through collective activities of the states, contributes to the global exchange of ideas, information, capital and people. Somehow the world is being connected at the planetary level; it is becoming a whole and continues to be diverse.

The dominant question of the epoch that we live in is how to harmonize the modern world with the idea of humanism, how to establish an optimal relation between the political goals and economic interests, ensure peace in the world as the

universal value, reduce poverty and various forms of discrimination, preserve the world from climate and environmental changes.

In order that the process of globalization would give positive results, through reduction of contradictions in solving of the economic and financial problems, it is our joint goal to create a worldwide association of states which can open the new prospects for better mutual understanding.

However, causes of numerous globalisation and crisis challenges lie not only in the economic but also in moral and cultural reasons.

It is obvious that this creates the room for a civilizational paradigm which should be founded on the single system of values arising from the universal and, therefore, common moral and cultural principles.

That would be the generally acceptable norms of social behaviour in line with the social and democratic development of the modern world.

That is why the development of global culture requires our joint commitment, strong cooperation of politics and science, in particular because politics should be contributing to enhancement of good and fair distribution of social benefits, so that the notion of justice would realize itself as a moral act and enable people to have a dignified life.

Thereby, the socio-cultural development, technical and economic development of society would be enabled, resting on the values of various civilizations and their humanistic and moral values, both material and spiritual.

Contrary to the thesis on “clash of civilizations”, development of the modern world should move in the direction of intertwining of cultures and new humanism, which is a bridge between individualism and collectivism, national identities and global openness, based on commonly adopted system of social justice.

The new humanistic concept of planetary collectiveness is built according to the criterion of aesthetics, resting on beauty and art, criterion of ethics – as good, true and justice and the criterion of logics – as relatedness and objectivity.

By establishment of these value patters, we get the prerequisites for adherence to all the important human values and autonomy of human personality, for protection of human rights, freedom and collectiveness while, at the same time, distancing from the anti-humanistic ideologies of the past and their negative effects.

That is why it is necessary to seriously and persistently be engaged in articulation of the democratic values which will stimulate tolerance and development of science so that we would contribute to a single democratic progress.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I find the role of humanistic sciences especially important for establishment of our humane future – primarily the role of philosophy, sociology, anthropology, ethics and axiology as well as achievements of exact sciences which can serve as the starting basis for the entire field of social and economic changes, so that the idea of humanism would get the spot to which it is deservedly entitled in the modern world.

Humanism could be observed as the process of real spreading of freedom enjoyed by people, freedom to follow the human values reflected in the phrase: “All human rights for everyone”.

Humanism is a notion by which we can with certainty establish the line between the good and evil, in favour of good. Humanism is what makes our human history and our future more humane and enables free expression of the unique human personality.

With such belief, I point out that I am rejoiced by the fact that Montenegro is today a place of gathering of the scientific and spiritual elite, the renowned scientists of worldwide repute, who will by arguments of science open the new horizons in order to reach through the virtues of knowledge the vision of humanistic development of the modern world.