



**Conclusions from the second "Jean Monnet Dialogue" with the *Sobranie*,
Skopje, 22-23 June 2019**

We the Leadership, coordinators and representatives of the parliamentary parties in the *Sobranie* met in the format of the "Jean Monnet Dialogue for peace and democracy", in Skopje on 22 and 23 June 2019. We are determined and committed to promote and drive the EU integration process. To this end we have agreed to carry out the necessary reforms, including institutional reforms of the *Sobranie*, to ensure that the Assembly can efficiently deliver on this path and thereby meet the expectations of all citizens. Fostering a spirit of dialogue and compromise between our parties and strengthening the legislative and oversight capacities of the Assembly are critical for the country's membership of the EU. Indeed, we are convinced that our dialogue provides a real opportunity to put the *Sobranie* not only in the center of building-consensus on legislation to support the EU reform agenda but also to lead that reform agenda using all its important democratic legitimacy, scrutiny and legislative powers.

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Following agreement at the first Jean Monnet Dialogue, we followed up on the consensus achieved by adopting a new Code of Ethics with overwhelming cross party majority. In addition, the President of the Sobranie established a Working Group to review the Rules of Procedure, which met five times in order to prepare for a comprehensive review of the rules during the 2nd Jean Monnet Dialogue.

As a result, the 2nd Jean Monnet Dialogue achieved consensus on a comprehensive review of the Rules of Procedure, updating and clarifying key provisions, leaving only a number of outstanding issues that will be follow-up in the Working Group on Reforms.

We also discussed at several occasions the need to institutionalize the parliamentary culture of cooperation, consensus building and dialogue in the every-day work of the *Sobranie*. As such, we are determined that the *Sobranie* can be a driver in the EU reform agenda, delivering concrete results for the citizens, as well as demonstrating regional leadership in developing a modern European culture of parliamentary dialogue and consensus building. The latter also directly addresses the recommendations from the Commission's report on the country and wider Western Balkans region.

Jean Monnet *dialogue*



СОБРАНИЕ



European Parliament

Independence of the Institution

During the 2nd Jean Monnet Dialogue, the topic of the independent security of the institution was also discussed. As this was the first time this important topic was discussed, the parliamentary leadership and party coordinators agreed to discuss it in the frame of the Working Group. In order to address all key issues related to strengthening the independence and efficiency of the Sobranie, we also decided to work towards ensuring the Independence of the Sobranie over its own budgetary, security and staffing arrangements. We agreed to carry on our work in the Working Group on Reforms on these important issues for ensuring the independence and effectiveness of the Assembly.

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Finally, we agreed to continue our dialogue on the implementation of the EU related and institutional reform agenda as well as wider topics of mutual interest to the Leadership, Coordinators and representatives of the parliamentary parties in the *Sobranie*. We are committed to ensuring our consensus is maintained in these key areas including by meeting regularly in the Jean Monnet Dialogue format with the European Parliament.

We also underlined our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing MEPs Mr Vajgl, Mr Fleckenstein and Mr Kukan, for their friendship and unwavering commitment to the *Sobranie* and people of North Macedonia on the country's path to EU membership. We agreed that the President of the *Sobranie*, on behalf of the parliamentary leadership and coordinators, should send a letter to the new President of the European Parliament underlining the important role of the MEPs and to express our interest in continuing co-operation with the new European Parliament on the Jean Monnet Dialogue process.



Signed

H.E. Mr Talat XHAFERI, President of the Parliament

Ms Frosina TASHEVSKA-REMENSKI, Vice-President of the Parliament

Mr Goran MISOVSKI, Vice-President of the Parliament

Mr Vesel MEMEDI, Vice-President of the Parliament

Mr Jovan MITREVSKI, MP, SDSM

Mr Ejup ALIM, MP, DUI

Mr Nikola MICEVSKI, MP VMRO-DPMNE

Ms Elizabeta KANCENKA MILEVSKA, MP, VMRO-DPMNE (independent)

Mr Afrim GASHI, ALERNATIVA

Ms Meral Uzeiri FERATI, MP, DPA

Mr Suriya RASHIDI, MP, A4A

Ms. Teuta BILALI, MP, BESA)

Mr. Panko MINOV, MP, Option for Citizens