



Kosovo Diplomatic Academy
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Celebrating Ten Years of Kosovo Independence: Achievements and Aspirations”

Defence Diplomacy, Nation- Building and the Civil-Military Relationship

Tolerance and Peace as Pre-Requisites for Nation-Building

Speech by Ambassador Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan, President, Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, Malta

Greetings - Ambassador Dr Beqir Ismaili, Professor Dr Nabil Ayad, Honourable Ministers, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. I have the great honour to express my heartfelt congratulations to the Government of Kosovo and its people in their 10th anniversary of independence. Special thanks to the Kosovo Diplomatic Academy for organising such an important and timely conference.

I am delighted to be here today to discuss the importance of tolerance and peace for our world today and for the future. I had the great pleasure and honour to welcome HE Mr. Behgjet Bacolli in Malta last November at the launch of the **Global Council for Tolerance and Peace** which was granted full diplomatic status by the Maltese Government as an international non-governmental organization. Once more, we were delighted to welcome

Minister Behgjet Pacolli and Ambassador Beqir Ismaili in Abu Dhabi last month when they were participating in the *International Conference on Diplomacy, Security and the Digital Nation State*. During his visit Minister Pacolli was received by senior Government officials including the Foreign Minister and the Minister of Tolerance. His visit attracted good media coverage due to the friendly relations between our two countries. As a result of the visit, the Embassy of the Republic of Kosovo is being set up at present in Abu Dhabi at present.

Minister Pacolli highlighted the role of the United Arab Emirates in promoting Humanitarian Foreign Policy and fighting against radicalisation and discrimination. His thoughts in this area echo the aims and objectives of the **Global Council for Tolerance and Peace**. As a result of these meetings and events, we are hoping to have a branch for our organisation in Kosovo - a country which is at the forefront in practicing tolerance and peace which can be a model to be emulated by other countries in the region and beyond.

As we hear reports from those working in various countries and absorb news reports, we become aware that day after day, terrorism and extremism are spreading across the world, and that the world seems to be becoming more brutal and violent. The level of racial, religious, and ethnic extremism is increasing, and hatred and intolerance are spreading. Unfortunately, this is not only true among our generation, but also it is evident among young people who seem to develop highly polarised views through engaging with Social Media. The enemies of peace and the forces of extremism have worked for years to nurture intolerance and hatred, and to instill destructive ideas in the minds of young generations.

As a result of all the above mentioned, we have initiated the establishment of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, with the intention of disseminating the culture of tolerance and peace worldwide, particularly in the minds of the youth and in the hearts of these from shattered societies. Our mission is to demonstrate how to acquire constructive knowledge and to respect universal human values by rejecting hatred and extremism, so that individuals will not be drawn to racism and violence. Our goal is to help all people to better understand and accept others, and to accept tolerance as the only way to peace.

The aim of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace is to uplift these principals around the world, through strengthening preventive diplomacy efforts, supporting youth initiatives, and building international partnerships at both governmental and private levels, with Parliaments, universities, research centers, and with the leaders of thought, science, legislation and media. As a culmination, we are setting parliamentary and academic groups drawn from different countries and will launch a major annual international award to the person or group contributing to the protection of international peace through global strategies.

We hope for global support for these strategies. Looking at human history, we can observe the fate of nations and empires built on hatred, distrust, and conquest. We have an opportunity to work to make a better world, particularly for the coming generations. The future of peace and tolerance in the world depends on the steps we take together in changing the present.

Let us work together.

Thank you