

Brčko District is a testament to the power of reconciliation and coexistence, authorities must use the opportunities ahead



*Speech by PDHR/Brčko Supervisor Jonathan Mennuti
at the Ceremony marking the 24th anniversary of Brčko District*

Ladies and gentlemen,

On this joyful occasion of the Brčko District Day, coupled with the celebration of the International Women's Day, I extend my warmest congratulations to each and every one of you. It's a moment to reflect on our journey, our achievements, and the path ahead.

As we mark the 24th anniversary of the District, let us recognize it as a testament to the power of reconciliation and coexistence in the aftermath of conflict. The District remains a unique, peaceful, and stable community on the path of vital reforms, and that is an achievement worth celebrating today.

This morning, we witnessed the unveiling of a new symbol in the city's panorama, the launch of the new port crane, the pinnacle of the Port modernization project. The crane, and the Port as a whole, represents more than just infrastructure; it signifies a new era, one characterized by regional

connectivity and exchange, and expanded trade opportunities for the District.

Indeed, we can envision a future where the District reclaims its position as a commercial focal point, a hub for new ideas and technologies – from energy to food production – a champion of environmental remediation and protection, and a vital transportation nexus.

This is a tangible vision, and I assure you one within reach. With your engagement – be it as citizens, elected officials, civil servants, NGO or media representatives – we can realize this vision together.

This year has already proven to be challenging. Opportunities were missed, precious time was wasted on petty politics, and therefore not used to serve the interests of the District and its citizens. District authorities (be they in the majority or the opposition) must refocus immediately and take action to reduce corruption, improve public services, enhance business prospects, and create a healthier environment for all. Do not lose opportunities in the coming months to implement forward-looking reforms and raise the standard of living for Brčko residents.

Stronger engagement by all breeds accountability, transparency, and progress. I encourage voters to be involved and make informed decision about their leadership. Rest assured, your international partners stand firmly by your side.

Together, we can overcome any obstacle and forge a brighter future for everyone in the District.

In closing, I wish you all a joyous District Day. Let us reaffirm our commitment to unity, progress, and prosperity as we embark on this journey together.

Thank you.