

UKRAINE: FROM PAST TO FUTURE

In 1991 Ukrainians made a conscious choice in favour of an independent Ukraine. Nowadays it is very important to take advantage of an opportunity to build a new country, a democratic and sovereign Ukraine, a Ukraine of the future. We should try to reform our state for the sake of the country of this type.

Ukraine is not a political novice on the international arena. We were one of the co-founders of the UN. We have successfully integrated ourselves into many international structures like the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the WTO.

At the same time, we continue to look for a good security model to protect our country and our citizens. Resolving national security issue and fighting against foreign aggression will be some of our key tasks in the future.

Another important factor to our success is related to building a democratic society, in which government and common people are dedicated to some fundamental principles – the rule of law, openness and transparency. We need to have an agreement about the kind of future we want for Ukraine. Young or old, Ukrainian-speaking or Russian-speaking, Hutsuls or Tatars may have very different attitudes. However, we need to come together as a nation to overcome many problems that we faced after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Modern Ukraine can offer a lot to the world. It has a large territory and one of the largest populations among European countries. There are many examples of success in farming, business and tourism. According to one ranking, our country is 33rd in the world for the IT start-ups at the moment. We have something to be proud of and need to keep moving forward.

What is more, we need to create a society where members not only enjoy their rights, but takes responsibility for their house, their town and their country. We should not expect that somebody will fix our problems, but should focus on what we can do for ourselves and build a Ukraine of the future today.