

GREETING SPEECH

*Namik Dokle**

*Honorable Governor,
Distinguished participants,*

It is with great pleasure that I greet the proceedings of this conference on behalf of the Albanian Government.

I understand from its objective, that is to analyze the role of central banks in the time of integration, that during these two days issues related to monetary policy, banking supervision, and financial stability not only in our country but also in other countries by including the practices of different countries and those of other Southeast European countries will be broadly discussed.

Looking at the program, I feel glad that honorable representatives from Albania and abroad participate in the proceedings of this conference and I am confident that their speeches will contain interesting observations, which will reflect the major findings of this activity.

The central bank has always been considered a dignified partner in our governing philosophy, which plays a key role through its decisions not only in maintaining the macroeconomic equilibriums of the country but also in achieving the financial stability in general.

Moreover, it is with great pleasure that we realize that the banking system is becoming ever more powerful and what is more important this system is characterized by an ever greater consolidation and soundness.

During these years we have been engaged in observing the institutional independence of Bank of Albania, making sure that our governing policies are not in conflict with the monetary policies of Bank of Albania. I would like to stress that the fiscal policies of the government are designed in such a way that they are in harmony with monetary policies as long as they are part of mid-term and long-term development programs.

The government considers Bank of Albania as a powerful partner in the counseling area. From this platform I take the opportunity to thank this institution for the opinions and the active role it has played in all debates and round tables where future of economic policies is decided.

As you well know, Albania is involved in an intensive negotiation process towards the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the EU. The Albanian Government always considers the process of European integration a major priority. The successful completion of this process will bring the achievement of European standards in all fields and I believe that financial integration is as important and complex as the political, social, and cultural integration. That is why we are totally engaged in meeting standards related to financial institutions, markets, justice, and courts.

In conclusion of this short greeting address, I take the opportunity to thank the Governor of Bank of Albania, Mr. Fullani, for having organized this important event and wish all of you good luck, fruitful discussions on behalf of our aspiration towards the European integration.

Thank you.

*Namik Dokle: Vice Prime Minister of Republic of Albania.