

JOINT STATEMENT

by the President of Slovenia Borut Pahor and the President of Poland Andrzej Duda

The President of Poland Andrzej Duda paid an official visit to Slovenia on 27 March at the invitation of Slovenian President Borut Pahor.

In line with their official talks, the two presidents release the following joint statement.

With due regard to our commitment to a common European future based on common cultural identity and values as well as shared Central European historical experience,

in confirmation of our commitment to a policy of peace and freedom on the continent of Europe,

based on the principle of equality and respect for diversity of the people of Europe,

and with an undertaking to abide by common standards:

1. We will make a joint effort towards ensuring that the widest possible discussion takes place on Europe's common future, a discussion that respects diversity and needs of all its citizens, and serves our common good.
2. We shall strengthen political dialogue and trust between the leaders of the Member States and those of our closest neighbours. We will engage in dialogue with like-minded countries and with the EU Institutions regarding the realisation of common goals of the Community, whereby we shall pursue the principles of solidarity and equality of all Member States.
3. Being aware of the need to improve the workings and responsibilities of the EU we will aim at refining the decision-making process and strengthen the legitimacy of the key institutions of the EU.
4. We shall endeavour to complete the single market project and be consistent in our adherence to the four fundamental freedoms. In doing so, we shall highlight the need to streamline administrative procedures in order to limit excessive regulation and bureaucracy.
5. We agree that infrastructural interconnectivity is a vital element of the EU economy and limiting the possibility to provide the services within the Single Market will have negative spill over effect to other economic sectors important to the EU. We will endeavour to modernise Central European transport, telecommunication, energy and environmental infrastructure, including within the 3Seas Initiative, thereby further boosting the development and enhancing the technological potential of our economies.
6. We undertake to strengthen security in NATO and the European Union, by which we mean individual human security and collective security, and to protect the external borders of the transatlantic community. The security and freedom of all Europeans was the founding idea of the fathers of the European project.
7. We draw attention to the need to improve communication with those EU citizens who may be losing faith in the Union and who feel that it offers inadequate response to the current challenges.

8. We will concentrate our efforts to strengthen instruments of power and geopolitical strategy as they relate to the regionalisation of the global order, whereby we shall bolster the EU so that its position within a global community of competition and cooperation is invigorated.