

ANA BRNABIC

Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia

Thierry de MONTBRIAL

I will perhaps start with you, Madam Prime Minister. If you can please spell out what your fundamental points of disagreement are, and then we will talk about how to overcome some of these disagreements over time. Please.

Ana BRNABIĆ

Thank you very much. Thank you for inviting me to this important event. I would also like to send regards from the President of Serbia, Mr Aleksandar Vučić, my predecessor. He has been the person who has, along with Mr Rama, initiated, after decades and decades, this dialogue between Albania and Serbia. I think it was a very brave and very responsible move from both of them, and I think – although it was initiated probably about two years ago or so, perhaps three – it has already actually resulted in a much better understanding between Serbia and Albania, and the appreciation of Serbia towards Albania, and enormous respect from Serbs towards Albania and appreciation of the fact that, yes, the peace in the Balkans, in South-East Europe, and the prosperity of this region, has a lot to do with what kind of relationship we have between Serbia and Albania. I am very, very pleased to be here with my colleague, Mr Rama. I would also like to thank him in front of all of you for his support in building the bridges between Serbia and Albania.

I think we do not have many disagreements. We have, I guess, one key one, and that is obviously Kosovo, but we are always finding new ways of discussing this issue so that we do not leave it – as Mr Vučić would also say – for subsequent generations. I think that is also the one indicator of how responsible policy and responsible politicians should look like, and I would also like to thank you for recognising this effort.

That is basically what I have to say. I think there is basically one key disagreement, but we are trying to find a way to discuss it and talk about it in a way that will bring us closer to a resolution, and show that we do not want to leave this for the generations that will follow.

Thierry de MONTBRIAL

You can say that it is a very good start. If we could put some people, like the main actors of the Middle East, to speak like you, Madam Prime Minister, the world would be easier. Maybe we will do that in the World Policy Conference someday.