

13/10/2013
BRATISLAVA

The Syrian civil war is an armed conflict between the government forces and various factions of opposition forces seeking resignation of the president Bashar al-Assad and his regime backed by Baath party. The conflict is considered to be a part of the so-called Arab Spring revolutionary wave in the Arab world. First bigger demonstrations erupted in March 2011 and have grown into armed struggle since mid-2011. By mid-July 2012, fighting had spread all over the country including the capital Damascus. Heavies and artillery were used against the revolting towns and cities inflicting heavy material losses. Since the very beginning the armed insurgency has fundamentally affected the lives of civil population with more than 120 000 reported dead. However, there is a massive evidence of tortures, executions and abuse of human rights on the both sides of the conflict, notably used by government forces as the mean of resistance suppression. What is more, in August 2013 chemical weapons were used against the civil population, what has caused a grooving concern in the global politics triggering a dispute about military intervention without UN SC approval.

The Syrian conflict has been dividing international community since its beginning, what has been preventing the international community to agree on an effective solution for the country and its population suffering by months of armed conflict.

In good faith to put an end to the humanitarian crisis in Syria

delegates from the **European Union, Federative Republic of Brazil, League of Arab states People's Republic of China, Russian Federation, and the United States of America** gathered together within the **Forum for the 21st Century** to find an adequate solution in compliance with international law. The result of this conference shall be thus the preparation and final approval of a resolution binding the international community to act.

Considering the alarming situation in Syria

the international community identifies the acute need to find a common ground in order to stop the violence and put an end to the ongoing conflict.

With respect to the current situation,

Forum for the 21st Century does not favor any division of the country, as that might be a destabilizing element for the whole region. However, a single ethnic, national or religious group must not be privileged and all ethnic, national or religious groups must be guaranteed the same treatment and equal rights. To achieve this, a democratic rule must be established with no discriminatory elements based on any religious or traditional legal systems. This might be a

serious problem regarding the number of extreme Islamic groups in the opposition forces. The resolution must find a common solution acceptable for the most of the Syrian society with consideration of the local cultural and religious specifications.

The forum thereby unanimously agreed on

support for peace negotiations between the Syrian government and opposition forces. However, composition of the opposition delegation must speak with one voice and represent vast majority of Syrian people. Preserving the integrity of the country, only opposition groups acknowledging national unity may become legitimate representatives on the peace conference. Combined moderate opposition forces that will be able to prepare a common position in a reasonable time shall be treated as an only eligible partner for the dialogue representing the all opposition forces in the Forum's proceedings.

Due to its urgency, the final composition of the opposition delegation shall be decided during the next meeting of the security section as well as the framework for the peace negotiations. This meeting shall not be later than one month before the peace negotiations. The task for the Forum for the 21st Century is to identify the key proposals, that might be acceptable for both parties providing sufficient proposals not only for agreement on ceasefire, but giving the solid background for the New Syria to be born.

Having in mind the deeply rooted mutual mistrust

The Forum for the 21st century must still reach an agreement on the effective means to enforce and monitor of the negotiated commitments. A responsible decision is crucial for the restoration of peace in the country and prevention and to prevent any further escalation of the tension even after the potential agreement is reached. The stability risks in the country affected by the civil war were identified and three stabilization plans were proposed during the transitional period.

After the announcement of the negotiated cease-fire, all the rebel groups that were not identified as the dialogue partner for the peace process shall be disarmed. This may be done by further negotiations with such groups, undertaken with the help of Syrian army, legitimate opposition forces or with the help of a territory limited international mission. The rule of law must be established in the whole country with special regard to the preparation of the new elections.

It is necessary to make provision for the fact

that the only legitimate mean for letting Syrian people decide its own future is a new election at the national level, granting for a new government. All the political parties and groups must be allowed to participate. To ensure a security risk free election process, a monitor mission shall be deployed.

Feeling solidarity with the Syrian people

Forum for the 21st Century embraced the position to support a war-torn country with all the possible means, including humanitarian assistance. To prevent the misuse of such aid, an independent and effective channel of distribution shall be found and monitored by international community. The beneficiary of the humanitarian aid shall be the local population, not any of the fighting groups. However, not only the local population, but also Syrian war refugees outside the country should be receivers of any such help.

Regarding the need to establish the sustainable peace in Syria

all these points mentioned shall be the subject of further discussion within the Forum of the 21st Century. The **European Union, Federative Republic of Brazil, League of Arab states People's Republic of China, Russian Federation, and the United States of America** kindly approve to accept such a heavy burden of responsibility, showing good will to avoid a mutual confrontation and focus all above on the interest of the Syrian people.

Michal Klacik

Chair of the Global Security Issues Section

Peter Levdansky

Deputy Chair of the Global Security Issues Section