

**Republika e Kosovës**

**Republika Kosovo-Republic of Kosovo**

***Kuvendi - Skupština - Assembly***

July 15, 2020 Pristina

Mrs. /Mr.........................

Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Assembly..................................

Honourable, Mrs/Mr ........................,

On behalf of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, and on my personal behalf, please allow me to extend my concern regarding the inability of citizens of the Republic of Kosovo to freely travel without visa in EU countries, because visa liberalisation for the Republic of Kosovo has still remained unfinished process.

As you already know, on 18th of July 2018, the European Commission confirmed that the Republic of Kosovo has fulfilled all the criteria for visa liberalisation.

Kosovo is pro-European country, however the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo are still not permitted to move freely. I have to emphasize that this has caused to the citizens the feeling of isolation in the middle of Balkans, whereas all neighbouring countries of the Republic of Kosovo are entitled to enjoy the right of visa free movement.

I would like to extend that based on the Report of the European Commission , in July of 2018, the number of asylum-seekers from Kosovo to EU, has marked a significant decline from 2016- 2017, of 36% or expressed in numbers from 11675 in 2016, and 7410 in 2017. The same report underlines that the Republic of Kosovo has sponsored inclusion campaigns to all municipalities, in order to inform their citizens about the rights and obligations including visa liberalisation.

Based on the below mentioned, we assure you that the possible fear for the abuse of visa liberalization by citizens of the Republic of Kosovo in order to seek asylum in EU countries is unfounded.

As the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora, and as Chairperson of the Committee, I kindly ask you, without further delay, to support the recommendations of the Parliament and the EU Commission, which certified the fulfillment of the plan for visa liberalization.

With this action, you will prove to the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo that freedom and equality are EU virtues and that these virtues also apply to the citizens of Kosovo.

We look forward to your cooperation and engagement in this matter. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration for you and your country!

Respectfully yours,

Time Kadrijaj

Chairperson

Committee on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora

Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo