

Closing of the General Meeting of the Association of Towns awarded the Europe Prize

Dear Sirs and Madams,
Dear Friends,

Our first virtual meeting has ended.
It is surely my and your wish to be able to meet in person next time.

But as it turned out, we can effectively meet by means of the advanced technology.
We have covered a number of important and pressing problems. Thank you for your lively discussion. Our meetings contribute to the promotion of an international cooperation and strengthening the European solidarity which we can appreciate especially now, during the pandemic.

As Ursula von der Leyen, Head of the European Commission aptly put it regarding the Covid: "What I see today in Europe, shows the way and fills me with proud. The future of Europe are Polish doctors going to Italy. The Czech sending 10 thousand protective masks to Spain and other countries. The planes which transport the ill from the northern Italy to the eastern Germany or train which transport people across borders to the places where there are spare intensive care beds."

This is the activity of the Council of Europe that influenced the process of unifying the Europe in the social, cultural and economic spheres. However, It would be much more effective if it could translate into the cooperation between the local governments. Meetings such as ours are the opportunity to create a forum for discussion, sharing the visions of how to perceive the world, in order to learn also from those who have a different perspective.

This is also the mission of the Association of Towns awarded the Europe Prize.

I want to thank the youth. I am very happy with your engagement since it's you who will decide on the Europe's future. Without divisions and borders. A unified Europe is a chance for us all, not a threat.

Thanks to Mr. Masiulis, President of the Subcommittee of the Europe Award, for your support and good cooperation.

Great thanks to you all for your participation on the General Meeting.

Thank you for your attention and your time.
See you soon!