



## Marko Cadez

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A shorter version of the speech in front of the EU institutions representatives, WB ministries of economy & regional business community:

- Since 8 years we have been requesting the EU and USA to help prevent the escalation of conflicts in the region
- We invited the political leaders in the region to listen to the voice of the economy
- We tried to speed up the process
- We insisted on full access of our economy and companies to the European single market
- We invested a lot of our energy in this process - WAS THIS A FAILED INVESTMENT?

Our collective traumas are beginning to eat us from inside.

Some of us being traumatized through terrible physical abuse in the war times, some of us by being isolated for most of their youth, some of them by witnessing tragic times of wars and devastation.

So we can:

Again again relive our traumas, holding ourselves, our families and friends or our entire electorate as hostage by preventing any growth and healing.

Or we can transform our experience of trauma and redirect its energy in building something new, something which frees our potential to be who we really are - creative, productive and compassionate human beings.

Healing of the Trauma is a hard job to do and requires skillful therapist and guidance who is able to adapt his approach, rethinks his strategies

But if the therapist, in this case European decision-makers, is more traumatized and scared than his patients - the result is not promising. It not only affects clients it blocks all of us from going anywhere.

We gave our ideas on including this region in European economic and security structures on the basis of existing frameworks of the European Economic Area. We supported free trade and even tried to find creative solutions for trade facilitation.

We do not have time to lose anymore