

**MIROSLAV ŽIVANOVIĆ**

Dear Mrs. Broz, dear laureates, dear families, your Excellencies, of course all those who feel like citizens who pay respects to courage and its affirmation today.

I would like to greet you on behalf of Mayor of Sarajevo, City Administration, City Council, and welcome all those who are not from Sarajevo and wish them a pleasant stay in Sarajevo.

I would especially like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all those who enabled this magnificent ceremony today in any way; as, I hope, that with this event we want to tell everyone that the civic exists in Mostar and Trebinje and Bihać and Banjaluka and Sarajevo, and all over Bosnia and Herzegovina!

The efforts that were made in organizing this event are especially valuable because the message of glorification of civil courage entered the public space of our society, which is burdened with negative values and broadly spread apathy and resignation at least for a moment. I am saying this especially because today here we have so many of our fellow citizens for whom this message is of key importance. I am convinced that the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of necessary conjunction of youth and civil courage. That is why I most sincerely hope that the examples of civil courage we will meet today will be understood and accepted in the right way, just as I hope that these young people will be inspired and motivated in all professional and other personal decision they are going to make in the future.

Finally, I would like to appeal to all laureates and their families, as a citizen, and sincerely thank them for the expressed civil courage; I would like to ask you to get even more courage and strength and go on, in spite of the fact that it might be emotionally exhausting and demanding, sending your priceless message of civil courage.

Thank you.