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Sarajevo

US activist for human rights, Martin Luther King once said: "We must build dikes of courage to hold back the flood of fear." This referred to America in the 1960s, just like it refers to Bosnia and Herzegovina nowadays. The dikes of courage to stop the flooded side.

After the end of the 1990s conflict, this country made real progress, economic recovery, institution-building, political and social reconciliation, and these steps have recently been made at "snail's pace".

As politics acted, fear started to get hold of citizens. Each leader trying to use this fear or even light the flame of fear is beyond the limitations of modern European policy. To a large extent, European Union was indeed created as a reaction and an antidote for the policy of violence and harassment which spread all over Europe in the first half of the last century, as you know, with a lot of blood.

Accordingly, I would like to point out that European Union and its officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina express their solidarity with the citizens of this country who raise their voice, just like Duško Kondor raised his voice for fundamental human values, political freedoms, freedom from consciousness and freedom from fear.

During these years we know that we are on the side of a large number of citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The international community supported judiciary of Bosnia and Herzegovina, among other things, in efforts to provide assistance to the courts to process those who committed war crimes in order to implement their own and personal goals. Such soldiers must face justice.

But, if society undertakes efficient steps to ensure punishment of those who spread fear, to prevent those who try to use fear from doing it, then we also have to meet the good which exists in the society. It definitely exists, and, believe me, I have been in diplomacy on all continents for thirty years, and I know that there are no better people than the people in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the darkest days in Bosnia and Herzegovina, dozens of thousands of ordinary people, noble but ordinary people, never lost their voice, their moral feeling for justice and injustice, and until today, even within this country, there is not enough

recognition for the dozens of thousands of decent citizens who stepped forward to protect their neighbors against hysteria and intolerance.

This award represents what is good in this society, decency of citizens, kindness of citizens.

I have the privilege to join the others here and greet courage, contribution to a better Bosnia and Herzegovina given by those to whom we pay respect at the today's ceremony.

Thank you.