



Republic of Albania
COMMITTEE OF NATIONWIDE RECONCILIATION

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R E P O R T
OF
THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE RECONCILIATION MISSIONARIES
For integration in EU with the culture of lawfulness, peace and cohabitation

Tirana, 4th of September 2013



THE CONGRESS AS THE SUPREME FORUM:

The Congress of the Reconciliation Missionaries is the supreme forum, summoned once every four years by the Committee of Nationwide Reconciliation for the orientation of the reconciliation missionaries in the reconciliation process. The Congress approves the four-year agenda of the Committee of Nationwide

Reconciliation (hereafter CNR) and the National Assembly of the Reconciliation Missionaries that is lead by CNR. The members of the Assembly are reconciliation missionaries elected from their district branches. CNR leads the yearly reconciliation expeditions in cooperation with members of the Assembly and the grassroots groups that are established in 2800 villages, 60 municipalities and 300 communes.

The grassroots groups of CNR include reputable missionaries of the areas, representatives of the local administration and education. These groups coordinate their work with the district police representatives and are in contact with the two main residences of the CNR, the north residence in Puke and the south one in Lushnje. The process of reconciliation is initially conducted through repeated contacts that the grassroots groups have with the families in enmity and later through the meetings of the expeditions with their extended families to advance the process up to the final stage of forgiveness and reconciliation.

THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE FOURTH CONGRESS

The Fourth Congress of the Reconciliation Missionaries was summoned on September 4th 2013, in the hall of the Academy of Arts, in cooperation with the Universal Federation of Peace and Family, National Institute for the Integration of Albanian Orphans, and the Nationwide Union of Political Prisoners and the Politically Prosecuted. The congress was convened in the presence of members of the assembly and representatives of CNR from Kosovo, Montenegro, and Macedonia. The congress conducted its business in the presence of media, representative of the Albanian government, civil society and international organizations. The Congress approved the report and the plan for the unconditional liberation of isolated women and children, which will be sent to national and international institutions.

The documents of the congress serve not only for the orientation of the missionaries in the reconciliation process, but also for the promotion of the culture of lawfulness and the encouragement of the state structures in responsibly fulfilling their duty in service of the public, and for the sensitization of the citizens in cooperating with the government, state institutions, and police in the war against crime.

The congress assessed and approved the platform the Cooperation Memorandum between CNR and the Internal Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Albania.

THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION

Cooperation and community-wide decision-making - the key to the prevention of murders

CNR leads and organizes the process of reconciliation at the national level. Every year it organizes reconciliation expeditions in all the districts throughout the country in an effort to bring dialogue between the families in enmity and to prevent murders.

The expeditions operate on an annual, or multi-month time scale, as well as on shorter time scales on the verge of religious or national holidays. They are organized with volunteers without any support from donors or the Albanian state,

and are an effective means in the prevention of murders and in the dissemination of the culture of lawfulness. The expeditions mobilize the permanent grassroots groups of CNR in the villages, which are led by a reconciliation missionary, the representative of the local administration and the representative of local school board. These volunteer groups monitor and keep under control the situation of conflicts and enmities in 2800 villages, 60 municipalities and 300 communes. These structures have become customary and work actively in terrain on a permanent basis.

The central staff of the expeditions, consisting of 11 to 24 missionaries together with the directors of CNR, repeatedly contacts the families in enmities until finalizing the process of reconciliation. In key moments, 24 to 60 other reconciliation missionaries are mobilized together with the central staff in the reconciliation process. The goal of the expedition of reconciliation is to make peace between the families in enmity without obstructing justice, by asking for the punishment of the crime according to the law and the penance of its author.

The experience of CNR has always led to the permanent reconciliation of the families in enmities. CNR has found the support of the citizens in the south as well as in the north of the country. Because of this support the expeditions have been able to reach the reconciliation of 30-40% of the conflicts and enmities every year. Based on the wide experience, before and after the political pluralism, in the events of 1990-1992, 1997 and 2011, CNR has drafted the long-term strategy of its work in service of peace and cohabitation among Albanians, the resolution of conflicts in good faith, and the prevention of murders. Until 2008, as a result of the work of the volunteer groups of CNR and the support of the institutions and the state police, the number of murders decreased from 450-600 per year, to 70-80 per year. Their work helped in the prevention of social conflicts, as was the case in 1997 when the reconciliation missionaries convinced families in the north to not send their armed sons in war against the protesters in the south.

After 2008, the biased attitude of members of the governments and the cease of cooperation between the government and CNR because of the criticism that CNR has made about the bad governance, have damaged the process of reconciliation and led to the doubling of the number of murders from 70-80 per year to 150 per year. Even after the cease of the cooperation, the reconciliation expeditions continued their work without support and managed to decrease the number of isolated families from 1670 to 1208, and decrease the number of children that do not attend school due to isolation from 911 to 590. The expeditions were able to realize the unconditional liberation of women and children in the areas of Puka, Has, Kukes, Malsi e Madhe, Postribe, Mirdite, Dukagjin, Iballe, Malesi e Lezhes, and Malesi e Tiranës. In these areas the efforts of the expedition in persuading the citizens for respecting the tradition of acting in good faith and community-wide decision-making have been effective.

The expeditions have observed that in the areas where the tradition of community-wide decision-making is applied, like in Malesi e Madhe, Postribe, Mirdite, Kukes, Puke, Has, Diber etc., citizens not only preserve the tradition of forgiveness and reconciliation but also observe the law more than the citizens in metropolitan areas. The local administration in these areas remains uncorrupted and is respected for its service toward the citizens. The dialogue and the community-wide decision-making have been the key in helping them eliminate

conflicts and enmities, and develop their economic activities of farming, animal husbandry, and forestry, without antagonism and regressive tendencies.

THE STATE OF THE ALBANIAN SOCIETY

The efforts for integration in EU

The Albanian government is making efforts to become a member of the European Union but the social and political state of the country have not made the progress required by the standards for this accession. The government has undertaken legal reforms, but they are realized only on paper and are not being implemented. Due to the lack of justice and efficient institutions of rule of law, Albania is facing the application of self-justice, the so-called blood feuds – a grave phenomenon that endangers the lives of many citizens. Albania is the only country in Europe where people are murdered as a payback for the crimes committed by their relatives, even when these crimes have been committed many years ago. This has made a large number of citizens to isolate themselves in their homes, hide, or leave Albania, as a measure to protect their lives from the threat of murder,

These murders are being committed under a deformed mentality of Kanun. They have no relation to the traditional blood feud, its nature and its rules, because they are committed in complete violation of the Kanun. The murders for land, honor, revenge and blood feud committed during the political transition period have been raised as an issue by the General Assembly of the United Nations also.

The deterioration of values

The political class during the political transition period, not only has it not played a positive role in the protection and promotion of the values and virtues of Albanians like hospitality, generosity, trustworthiness, good interethnic relations, religious tolerance, solidarity, observance of rules in community etc, but it has ruined these values through the wrong orientation of the society toward disorganization, manipulation of vote, conflicts, incitation of hate and division that culminated in 1997 with an almost civil war that caused 3000 dead, and in 2011 with the clash of the government with the protesters that resulted in the murder of 4 citizens and injury of tens of others. Elections still continue to cause clashes and murders and are plagued with actions of selling and buying the votes.

Because of corruption and organized crime connected with highest levels of government and prevalent throughout the public administration, Albania has entered in a widespread crisis that the government, unable to provide a solution for, tries to hide it from the international institutions. CNR has always raised every issue that it considers important for the consolidation of democracy, to any relevant, domestic or foreign institution, because only the confrontation of the problems of the country can provide long-term solutions. This position of ours has made the government - in an effort to hide the real situation of murders, because this phenomenon is an obstacle for the pseudo-agreements in the process of integration- to openly and covertly attack CNR. The true integration is the consolidation of democracy and rule of law and not the signing of agreements that are reached under false pretenses. Integration in the European Union should not be a goal in and of itself, but it should be a guidance and indicator of the progress of democracy and

that is why the manipulation of the indicators by hiding the reality does not serve the true integration of Albania among the civilized nations with functional democracies.

Domestic violence and violence toward women

Instances of domestic violence that end with the murder of women and girls are unprecedented. Since 2011 and until now the murders of women have increased tenfold in number. In these murders, elements of sadism and terror are exhibited through the inhumane massacring of the bodies. These murders used to be extremely rare in Albania, and their increase in the recent years is very alarming because these are signs of a society that is losing its social norms and cohesion that, even in the absence of the rule of law, helped to maintain order and harmonious cohabitation.

Experts of criminalistics, sociology, and psychology should examine thoroughly the nature of these murders and the disturbing increase in their number, so that a clear strategy could be drafted for the efficient prevention of such murders in the future and the preservation and cultivation of some social and moral norms that enable the creation of a healthy society that respects the rights of the individuals and gender equality.

Incitation of religious and cultural hatred

Manipulated individuals and groups have continuously incited actions against our inherited culture, religious tolerance and interethnic cohabitation. Religious objects and cemeteries have been repeatedly vandalized and unnecessary protests and public debates over the opposition of new mosques or churches being build have been instigated, when it is the laws that determine all such decisions. Often the clergy will exhibit tendencies of retaliation, sometimes with the purpose of manipulating history to artificially expand the territory of their respective religion. The Albanian population is indifferent toward religious issues and follows them with little interest. Albanians respect cultural and religious diversity and live with such a diversity even within their families. The youth associate with each other without considering the religious background of anyone. The citizens view the religious objects as objects of their inherited culture that should be respected, however not in a fanatic way.

Albanians have ancient traditions of multicultural state-building that start from the times of the Illyrian Empire and the state of Arber. Ethnic groups of those times cherished equal rights with the autochthons and the cultures of peoples of the East and West found the welcoming foundation for the cultivation and prosperity of their values in the Illyrian and Arber's lands. This cultural heritage, preserved until nowadays in its original form, with the diversity in dances, games, songs, instruments and clothes that enrich life, preserve peace, joy and happiness among citizens, has been left abandoned by the irresponsible behavior of the political class. These irreplaceable riches, that would win the highest awards in world festivals are disappearing and are not being proudly inherited by the young generations, as it is the case in western countries like, Norway, Sweden, and Germany.

Disguising reality for political interests

Since 1990, thousands of innocent citizens, including women and children, have been murdered through actions of self-justice. Only in the Mother Teresa Hospital in Tirana, 600-700 serious injuries are registered every year, 60% of which are results of accidents, while 40% have been caused by cold weapons or firearms. Road accidents cause victims every day, and the President of the Republic has compared their number with the number of deaths in a war, meanwhile the Albanian government has taken no measures to stabilize the road transportation or stop the building of roads that do not possess the minimal standards of safety. The disguise of the problem by the Albanian government, whose purpose is to not lose the electorate or power and to not obstruct the accession of Albania in EU, has worsened the situation and in this way is damaging the integration process even more.

POVERTY AS A SOURCE OF VIOLENCE

The irresponsibility in governance and its consequences on the lives of the citizens

The geographical position of Albania in the Mediterranean, together with its nature, landscape, climate, flora, waters and underground resources, create the conditions for the provision of high standards of living and economic opportunities for every Albanian family, nonetheless these riches are mismanaged. Apart the favorable natural environment, 60% of Albanians live in poverty and insecurity about their future. The country has a large debt serving the interests of a group of politicians and not those of the citizens that suffer every day due to crisis of insecurity about the future and struggles for sustenance. Poverty is a companion of crimes and one of the main sources of murders, suicides, domestic violence and human trafficking. Most of the murder victims and the murderers come from poor families, as is the case with most suicide victims. Poor families remain the ones touched the most by conflicts and threatened the most by crime. 20-25% of the suicides reported by the police, were committed because of inability to pay back debts. In all grocery stores you can find lists of families that have debts to these stores, some of which have not been paid back for three or even six months.

The most dangerous of the debts that have ruined many Albanian families are those incurred due to losses from gambling and casinos. The government has continuously been informed about the worries of the civil society that casinos are a potential danger for the society, but ministers connected with these businesses have refused the requests for closing them down, and on the contrary have increased their licenses several fold. This situation has been a burden on the lives of many children that do not receive any support and often become orphans.

During the years of the political transition 12,000 children abandoned school and started working in order to provide for their families, meanwhile 5,000 other ones have emigrated in the western countries. A considerable number of these children come from families in enmities. Due to the work of the reconciliation expedition of 2013 the number of children isolated because of blood feuds that cannot attend school has decreased from 910 to 590. These children are mainly located in metropolitan areas and a large part of them work under fake identities as street vendors of cigarettes and other small merchandise until late hours of the night in the streets of Tirana, Durrës and Shkodra. The project of the Ministry of

Education that has been ongoing for 10 years, called “The Second Chance”, and other projects funded by the EU that provide online teaching to these children have not brought any progress in their rehabilitation or education. The only solution to their problem is their unconditional liberation from isolation, because their isolation is in contradiction with the law, human rights, and with Kanun. None of the projects funded by the government and the international community has helped the children isolated because of blood feuds.

The same thing has happened with the projects about the trafficking of women, which has often been the cause of deep enmities between Albanian families. The number of Albanian women and girls that are secretly involved in prostitution to provide income for sustenance is the highest in the region. In this line of work, they often face violence and highly endanger their lives. In the past couple of years citizens are frightened by crimes and are unable to report them because in doing so they put themselves at a higher risk. The events in the village of Narte, where women were being sexually assaulted for years and would not report these assaults because of fear, is only the tip of the iceberg of unreported crime that happens in Albania.

The damage of the prospects of a good future

The sale of national riches, like land, banks, telephone networks, electrical energy, mines, water resources, touristic areas etc., for a low price has damaged the economic prospects of many Albanian families. The deforestation, destruction of irrigation systems, human erosion of riverbeds and hills, pollution, and unregulated construction on the coasts have eliminated the opportunities for the development of tourism, businesses, and agricultural production and livestock farming.

The law nr. 7501 on the distribution of agricultural land, approved with parliamentary consensus, has caused the abandonment of the production process in villages and has caused many disputes, conflicts and enmities, more than 50% of which happen between blood-related families. This law has distributed the lands among families in a way that it excludes family members that lived in the cities from land ownership. Also the distribution has left many owners with disconnected parcels of land and not large blocks. This distribution has caused these lands to become unprofitable and the majority of the population has left them barren. There are about 120,000 cases of disputes on land ownership registered in the courts, and in about 30,000 of these cases the parties have decided to solve the conflict outside the court, often causing a chain of murders and enmities.

The local administration in the districts and prefectures has neither a strategy for the economic development of the families in villages nor any urban projects for the cities. The chaos in the process of urban planning is spread throughout the metropolitan areas and the lands occupied by illegal construction, in this way obstructing the economic development of the whole country and a normal living for the citizens, especially for children in the cities, who do not have any playgrounds to play, green spaces or even sidewalks to walk on.

The projects for Roma groups and families in enmity

As is the case with the families in enmities, the ethnic Romani and Egyptian groups remain violated and in extreme poverty, lacking employment, housing or any

social welfare. Often the Roma and Egyptian groups are forcefully evicted from their houses. The state has not made any effort to provide them housing and employment, to integrate them in the Albanian society, or to preserve their culture and heritage. The fund of the European Union and other donors designated for helping Roma groups, like the ones designated for the families in enmities, never reached their intended target. Individuals that easily create ghost associations, institutions, and foundations embezzle these funds by creating futile projects that simply follow the standard that the donors impose. These donors usually give the funds without the due diligence necessary to understand the capabilities of the individuals and organizations that receive these funds. In many cases the organizations and individuals receiving these funds have close ties to individuals and specialists that work with these donors, for embezzlement purposes and in clear conflict of interest.

THE PRIVATION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE

The virtue of the abolishment of death penalty

The observance of fundamental human rights and freedoms in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Albania determines the protection of the right to life and is the reason that the primary constitutional role of the state is to respect and protect this right above all rights. Faced with the large number of murders, over 90% of Albanians, including representative of parliamentary political parties have declared that they approve of the death penalty as a murder prevention measure. This line of thought has been opposed by all the forums of CNR by highlighting the notion that support for the reestablishment of the death penalty is support for primitive revenge and blood feud committed through the state. CNR considers the abolishment of the death penalty as one of the novelties of Europe and as a very important message for humanity. The first, second and third congresses of the reconciliation missionaries have praised this decision of the Council of Europe.

Amnesty International has considered the death penalty as the ultimate privation of human rights, as a cruel, inhumane and degrading act, committed on behalf of justice and state, but violates the right to life proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. No Albanian should consider death penalty as a right of the state or of the society. Even the Kanun wanted the prevention of blood feud when considering forgiveness and reconciliation as a major obligation of the society and each individual. Experience worldwide has shown that even in those countries where death penalty is still applied, the number of murders and crimes is higher than in the countries that have accepted this form of punishment. The tendency worldwide is toward the abolishment of this penalty in any society. Death penalty guarantees neither the restoration of justice, nor the stoppage of murders. State institutions, the Albanian society, media, public and private universities should do more in shaping, sensitizing and emancipating the public opinion about the importance of the abolishment of death penalty.

Privation of freedom and other rights

Blood feuds and isolation deprive people of many constitutional rights, among which is the right to vote. Even though this right has been systematically violated by the parliamentary political parties, the citizens isolated because of blood

feud should be able to exercise it. The right of every citizen to elect, or be elected, according to article 45 of the Constitution, should be guaranteed by the law. In the same way, according to the Constitution everyone is free to choose his religion and convictions and express them individually or collectively in public through objects of worship, education, practices and rites. The freedom of assembly is another constitutional right that has its fundamental importance in the establishment, development and preservation of democracy. For these reasons CNR has considered the mobilization of other factors that allow the families isolated because of blood feud participate in elections like all other citizens as highly important, insisting on the provision of mobile ballot boxes in the cases when these families were unable to attend one of the voting centers.

As it has been the case in previous times, the expedition of 2013, which started on January 6th and continued throughout the electoral campaign, apart the efforts for keeping the situation of the families in enmities under control, urged citizens for a wide and civilized participation in the electoral process. From 1208 isolated families and 3800 other ones that hide because of enmities, it was made possible that 260 families in hiding and 47 isolated families be accompanied by the missionaries in the election centers and vote. Since the Central Election Committee refused the request of CNR for the use of mobile ballot boxes, the majority of the citizens involved in enmities were deprived from their right to vote. Thousands of other families that are involved in land disputes in their villages and have moved in the city without changing the location of their voting center had difficulties in going back to the places where they were registered to vote in order to not be faces with their enemies.

The citizens that are isolated or in hiding because of blood feud did not feel that their lives would be safe if they went to vote. The lack of confidence to go and vote is based on last year's bitter experience of Gentian Beqiri who was murdered when he was in house arrest and under the surveillance of two police officer; the experience of Rolanda Doku who was supposed to be under the protection of the police by a court decision; and that of Frederik Marku and his son, Jurgen Marku, who were murdered as soon as they left the police station where they had been seeking protection.

Emigration

Because of the threat of murder for revenge and the lack of protection in Albanian citizens are forced to leave the country. In the cases when the reconciliation was not possible, this action was the only way out during these years of political transition. Western countries have contributed for the families that emigrate because of enmities by providing them protection and asylum. In the majority of the cases the asylum commission and immigration courts have provided safety to these families with the assistance of CNR.

In the past three years, due to the economic crisis that has affected many countries and the increase in the number of immigrants in the western countries many Albanian families that are threatened by blood feuds were refused asylum and were deported. The decision to refuse the provision of asylum for these families have come as a result of the increase in the number of attestation letters of blood feuds released by unauthorized individuals that have formally created pseudo-missions or pseudo-institutions of "reconciliation" for profiting through fraud.

According to the recommendation of the Albanian government with protocol nr. 10/07 released on 10/7/2009 and the one with protocol nr. 1716 released on 29/09/2009, from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, all the domestic and international institutions should refer to CNR for the verification of the cases of enmities and blood feud conflicts in order to avoid false information and abuses. No other organization or institution of the Albanian state is authorized to release any such certificates without a new decision being made that replaces these documents because they are official documents of the Albanian government released in accordance with the conclusions of the Congresses and National Conferences of the reconciliation missionaries.

According to these recommendations of the Albanian government and resolutions of the Congresses and National Conferences of reconciliation missionaries, CNR is the leading forum of all the reconciliation organizations and missions and has comprehensive structures throughout the territory of Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia and Montenegro that are capable of following any case of blood feud conflict. No other institution, organization or individual has such a capability and experience and so it was decided the all the cases be recorded and followed by CNR, and if there is no documentation in the offices of CNR, no other certificate should be accepted by immigration courts or asylum commissions. Every year there have been around 40-50 families that were seeking the right of asylum because of blood feud, but in 2011 traffickers and dealers created pseudo-associations with the goal of making profits, and in one particular case sent in a short time period 400 families to seek asylum in Brussels with certificates that were not corresponding to cases archived in CNR, when there only 7 families genuinely seeking protection there. In order to confound the immigration officers about the genuineness of the certificates released by the traffickers, by pushing them to change previous procedures of contacting CNR for verification, people incriminated with the traffickers and that held high positions of power in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and the State Police, have repeatedly staged fake accusations against CNR since 2011 and until now.

The ineffectiveness of the laws about blood feud and violence against women

Confronted with the out of control situation and public pressure, in the beginning of 2013 the government made some amendments in the law to increase the sentence of murder for blood feud, murders in the family and murders because of duty, and its efforts stopped there. Since the approval of this law these murders have been occurring more often and it does not seem that the law had any effect whatsoever. The Ministry of Justice has misunderstood the notion of blood feud and does not know the cause of these murders.

These murders in Albania are technically not murders for blood feuds, but murders for self-justice, that are committed because of the lack of justice and the rule of law. None of these murders during the transition period has been committed in accordance with the traditional rules of blood feud. CNR has requested that the notion of blood feud, even though it is used to explain a social phenomenon of nowadays, not be included in the penal code because blood feud as a Kanun term does not have any real basis in the modern legislation, even in the nowadays conditions of the Albanian society. Murders for self-justice are not blood feuds.

These unclear policies of the lawmakers have led the citizens and the state institutions toward a dead end.

For the law to be efficient, it should explicitly state and give a maximal punishment for any murder. Every premeditated murder should be punished maximally, with a sentence of no less than 25 years in prison and up to life in prison with no right of parole. The new law that uses this maximal punishment for murders for blood feud does not penalize at the same level the initial murder that causes the blood feud in the first place. Simply by admitting the crime, the authors of the first murder that starts the blood feud, are sentenced 8 years less than they would otherwise. Other loopholes in the law usually lead to a sentence of only 8 to 12 years. This kind of handicap does not solve the problem of murders for self-justice but complicates it even further. CNR has prepared and will present to the new government the report for a legal reform to eliminate these contradictions in the penal code and in the justice system, however keeping in mind that crime cannot simply be prevented by the law or the force of the police. In this aspect the sensitization of the citizens for the culture of lawfulness is the only long-term solution of the problem.

THE DECREE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

After the decree of the Catholic Church in the Metropolis of Shkodra, Sapa and Lezha for the excommunication of those that murder for blood feud, there have been no improvements in the problem of murders CNR supports the good intentions that inspired this decree but is of the opinion that the Catholic Church should have the same stance against all kinds of murders and violence.

The reconciliation process is deeply founded in the concept of forgiveness, which is a central concept in many religious doctrines, including the one of the Catholic Church. That is why we think that it is important that the Church try to welcome citizens and educate them about the love for life and forgiveness, and try to prevent murders and violence with its messages of peace and harmony. The reconciliation missionaries have always had the support of the clergy in their efforts and consider this support as the crucial element in many reconciliation processes among different families.

THE DECISIONS OF THE CONGRESS

Taking into consideration the situation of conflicts and enmities in the Albanian society, the results of the continuous work of the reconciliation expeditions, the experience of all the missionaries and the support of their work by the citizens, the congress decided:

1- To support the plan of the government for restoring order in the next 300 days because the restoration of order is a primary factor in the decrease of the number of murders for self-justice, or often called murders for blood feud, and to support the reconciliation process considering that the restoration of order does not solve the problem of blood feuds in Albania once and for all because the final solution of the conflicts is reached only when the process of reconciliation is finalized. When the situation of crimes has been more under control, as was the case in the years 2005-2008, the number of murders for blood feud went down also, but

this number did not go to zero because conflicts and murders for blood feud kept happening. In their role as a member of the civil society, the reconciliation missionaries, through their leading forums, will monitor and assist in the process of the restoration of order. In case of the lack of political willpower or inability in the implementation of the government plan for the restoration of order, the reconciliation missionaries will be the first that will raise their voice and present their worries to every relevant institution.

2- To start a nationwide expedition, in cooperation with other factors of civil society and government, for the unconditional liberation of all the women and children isolated because of blood feud. The unconditional liberation of the isolated women and children creates the opportunity for the liberation of all the isolated families and the reconciliation of conflicts.

3- To ask the Albanian government to increase the level of cooperation with the reconciliation missionaries in revising the legal framework for the prevention of murders for self-justice and in working together for the integration of Albania in the European Union without blood feuds.

4- To ask the Albanian government to support the process of reconciliation, not only for the resolution of conflicts, but also as one of the most positive aspects of community-wide decision-making, and of active democracy. This process should be supported because it is the best way to restore the lost faith of the citizens on their state- a faith that is necessary for the consolidation of long-term democracy in Albania.

5- To ask every Albanian citizen to do its duty as a member of the Republic in supporting the initiatives of the government and civil society for the efficient prevention of murders for self-justice. Every government plan is destined to fail if anyone of us is not persuaded for the observance of law and if we do not persuade each other for the restoration of order. The pressure of the community for observing the law is the most efficient factor in the reconciliation of the families in enmity, and is one of the purest forms of active democracy that is practiced in the most civilized countries of the world. The complexity of the phenomenon of blood feuds makes the involvement of everyone of us necessary in ending once and for all such practices that are unbecoming for a nation with a state-building tradition and culture cultivated for years.

Tirana on 4 of September 2013