

Joint actions, biotourism and diplomacy

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We are gathered here today to initiate a collaboration milestone for the region. I also speak on behalf of Mr. Leonidas Rokanas, Ambassador of Greece in Tirana, who is not present today.

Apart from the city of Korçë and its surroundings, the wider region comprises the provinces of Pogradec, Devoll and Erseka, including the Albanian Lake Prespa. These areas are characterized by great natural beauty and immense cultural and historical value, untapped for many years. What is more important, however, is the friendly and welcoming attitude of the local residents, who welcome all visitors. The project we are discussing today tackles the restoration of these values and the development of their full potential, as promoted by Biotourism.

Certainly, a lot of action is required in the long run, but this is only the beginning. This project entails another dimension in terms of European cooperation, perhaps even more important than its direct objective. Both countries will cooperate in order to generate a mutual effect, to bring to light all positive effects of synergy, understanding and the productive results of good neighborly relations. These actions should be expanded and multiplied in order to strengthen the relations between the two countries. The Greek Embassy in Tirana and the Consulate of Greece in Korçë will continuously assist in this effort.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to make a general observation: an increasing high level of synergy between the two countries has already been noted, which indisputably promotes the European future of Albania. In this context, I wish the long-term implementation of the project every success.