

**Program platform
“A knowledge society”**

for the period 2008 – 2012

Starting with

OUR VISION

The Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina – the society of freedom, democracy, equality, social justice, inter-generation and other solidarities. The society where the quality education will be available to anyone and where the dignity will be guaranteed by social, legal and economics mechanisms.

and **OUR MISSION**

Youth social democrats are the association of free and socially responsible young people, who measure their political and social activity on the basis of the following:

- freedom and equality for anyone,
- equity and equality,
- solidarity as a foundation for social integration,
- democracy.

Through building up and strengthening the organization of Young Socialdemocrats as an organizational form of the Alliance of Independent Socialdemocrats, large number of young people has been given the opportunity to be involved in creating and making political decisions that would contribute to the progress of our society. Young social democrats are equal partners to its older colleagues in the political and social work, and due to the energy and ideas which they have, they are huge strength and resource which can bring us to the development and better future. Our local communities should be led by young people as much as possible, because enthusiasm and energy and inventively of young people at that level may quickly bring results i.e. better life. We are going to create better conditions for greater involvement of young people in the processes of creation and decision making at all levels of the authorities.

The Young Socialdemocrats create their views on the basis of each freedom of each individual, solidarity as a basis for social integration, equality of all people, gender equality and respecting human resources and implement them at local, republic, state and international level. Due to that we are becoming the voice of social democracy in the RS and BiH and respected member of the world organization gathering all social democrats.

Strongly believing into the strength and our beliefs and wish for not following the strict rules without asking for our opinion, and wish to fight for our basic principles, we shall use all our efforts to fight for our democratic society which will be based on the values of freedom, human rights, social justice, peace, equality, tolerance, gender equality, solidarity, social progress and wellness where each individual person has right to think, act and work with no fear, pressure, violence and exploitation. We are against marginalization of young people and we believe it is not enough to believe in future, it rather can be built TODAY with our ideas, visions views, solutions- involvement and action.

We strongly believe that only our actions may change the society in which we live in the society which we want.

Starting with the fact that we are young potential with enthusiasm and potential for contribution to positive changes for both local and global level, we are opening the space to all youth to join us in achieving our goals.

We, Young Socialdemocrats, are fighting for:

- respect for a human, his dignity, rights and freedom, independently on his-her beliefs, religious and national affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, political beliefs and social status,
- equality of opportunities, affirmation of justice and freedom of neglected individuals, groups and levels, gender equality and inter generation solidarity,
- guaranteed right to humans for health care, education, social protection, work protection , family and other rights,
- the society with no privileges, discrimination and marginalisation,
- the society where all people will have right for human and paid work, where all types of work will be properly treated, rights and right protection of workers, people that live of their work and on the basis of their work,
- modern democratic state based on the political engagement of the population, which will enable development of the free, equal and solidary society for anyone,
- respect of antifascism as the inheritance of the modern worlds, and affirmation and nourishing tradition of antifascism on the basis of which the modern Europe is founded,
- improvement of the quality of human lives in cooperation with male and female social democrats of all over the world,
- establishment of social, economics and political basis for decentralization, improvement of local self-governance and proper regional development,
- environment protection, nature protection and human health.

ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN THE SOCIETY

Active involvement of youth in decision making processes and activities at local, republic, and state levels is of key importance if we want to develop more democratic, compact and developed society. Involvement in democratic life of any community means more than voting and supporting elections. Involvement and civil activity mean that one has right, tools, space and opportunity, when needed, and support for the involvement in decision making process, and moreover be involved in the activities which built up better society.

Unfortunately, majority of young people want to leave our country and to live in some developed European country.

We want to support young people to show initiative and interest in resolving their social problems on their own.

Young Socialdemocrats know and have solutions for problems of youth.

We which and we can be a progressive strength, engine of the idea of young people in creating better future for themselves and better living condition for our population. We shall fight for more active role of young people in political life, work of organizational, student and non/governmental organizations.

In order to increase involvement of young people to get more actively involved in resolving their problems, we shall fight for the following:

- *implementation and program objectives and tasks, and action plans of Youth politics of the RS, and documents of EU such as Charter of youth involvement at local and regional level, White Book of EC, etc.*
- *establishing a budget for youth at local and higher levels with the objective of implementing youth programs,*
- *determining clear criteria for allocation of funds of these budgets and involvement of youth into the process of decision making,*
- *mandatory involvement of youth representatives into assemblies and advisory boards and committees for youth,*
- *annual survey on the needs and position of youth,*
- *support programs which have the objective to work with rural youth,*
- *support to local youth organizations, with support to youth committees in all cities and municipalities,*
- *give the opportunity to handicapped people to have access to education, cultural institutions and sports facilities,*
- *making the law on voluntarism and promotion of voluntarily work,*
- *initiating young people to work on voluntarily basis,*
- *construction or adaptation of multipurpose buildings for youth in urban areas,*
- *adaptation of multipurpose buildings or local community buildings in rural areas to the needs of youth.*

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

In the situation of limited resources it is needed to provide such development of community infrastructure, which will not be limiting factor of implementation of other targeted objectives, and at the same time it will enable improvement of quality of life in a new, European level.

Normally, investing into capital infrastructure is huge expenditure, but at the same time it is the chance for faster development. It practically means that philosophy of thinking in different way needs to be applied, which will remain that development of infrastructure in a community means that with limited resources, than basic local infrastructure may be resolved, and thus they will generate better and faster development of the community because modern infrastructure is a generator on its own for development of the community, and it will influence the quality of life in them, health of people and satisfaction of citizens.

Our mission is to create modern, efficient and democratic local self governance:

- *we shall intend to initiate involvement of the citizens into the process of decision making,*
- *we shall fight for affirmation of the local community bodies elected on the basis of the law, by democratic means, including suggestions and proposals of those ones who are ready to devote their time and work and efforts for the benefit of their community,*
- *by using internet and media , we shall try to make local authorities inform citizens on their activities, as well as to respect the proposals and suggestions of the citizens, when the quality of life comes into the question,*
- *we shall intent to ensure to make those who are elected into local communities are really doing their tasks and duties and to represent the interests of the ones that have elected them.*

EDUCATION

Education is the process where some habits, skills and practical knowledge needed for performing some activities. By the process of education, some values are also transferred as well as norms which are the precondition for the socialization process and personality creation. Finally, education influences the culture of the society and society in a whole.

In order to make the RS and BiH the equal partner in the Europe and member of the European associations, it is needed to make change in education system. Currently, situation in elementary, secondary and higher education in the RS is very difficult and complex. Aiming to make education system the comprehensive, more prosperity and compatible with modern trends (in the region and Europe), and our local communities (i.e. their representatives), may and must, according to their authorities and capabilities make effects and contribute to that.

It is needed to create quality strategic basis which will lead to many individual projects to solve some problems in our education system such as: lack of information on further education (secondary and high) within the RS and abroad, weak linkages of the education system and labor market, lack of interactive methodology in our educational institutions, lack of more intensive involvement of children with specific needs into all levels of education, inadequate training of trainers, insufficient education of youth on the basic sociopathological problems (drugs, alcoholism...) and work on the prevention of them, lack of the sexual education system in schools, presence of material and immaterial corruption in the education system.

We should not forget that the knowledge of the foreign languages and modern IT technologies, as well as access to the Internet, huge problem of many young people.

Therefore, we shall fight for the following measures that need to be taken:

- *initiate education of young people to get educated at the level of elementary and secondary schools, which will be able to contribute to their own education,*
- *involvement of secondary school students and faculty students into the process of decision making,*
- *increase number of non school and non lesson activities (sections) as a form of no formal education,*
- *initiate young people (specifically elementary school students) to make greater contribution, personally, to prevent sociopathological problems through the education of young population on those problems,*
- *support projects of the foreign language courses free of charge, and specially, English language as a predominant language in XXI century, as well as informatics skills in order to make them available to all pupils and students,*
- *respect the needs of young people for resolving an issue of informatics centers with permanent access to the internet in all municipalities where needed,*
- *improve the scientific research work in the faculties through improvement of financial support,*
- *respond to the projects of the facilitating the involvement of the children with specific needs into regular school activities,*
- *introduce proper and comprehensive ways of information distribution to young people on the opportunities for further education locally and abroad,*
- *establish better linkage and cooperation between enterprises that need the qualified workers and schools that educate further workers to meet the needs of both, students and enterprises, when it comes to professional education and training,*
- *support the programs of pre qualification of youth with secondary education, whose knowledge is not needed by the labor market and programs of upgrading the young people with elementary level of education.*

We shall fight for greater investment into the science and application of the science results in all municipalities. We shall support the programs that support programs of education of our young experts abroad, stimulate them and request them to return to their

home country in order to apply the lessons learned to the improvement of the socioeconomic situation of our society.

STUDENT STANDARD

It is important to improve position of the students in order to improve motivation of young people and increase number of the enrolled students to faculties. The importance of the scholarship is obvious in many ways. From one side, scholarships are the incentive and the prize to specially gifted students, on the other hand, scholarships may be a decisive factor whether the young person is to enroll the faculty or not, or whether the one that is already is a student, continue its studies.

We, Young Socialdemocrats think that students need the following:

- *legal framework which would enable student to work while studying through more flexible work contract and in that way, by using the Budget subsidy proceeds, they would be able to support themselves,*
- *support to programs and projects of facilitating transition from the high educational system to labor market (students practice, etc.),*
- *interest rate subsidy program of the RS Government Budget which should enable students to take better credits from financial and other institutions for their studies,*
- *increase funds for projects proposed by the students representation bodies of the University, in order to provide IT literacy, foreign language trainings, recreation, cultural and other activities of the students which will enable them to spend much more quality free time while studying,*
- *increase funds for operations of the student standard facilities (student homes), and accommodation in the student homes should be provided to the best students by following the right and fer criteria,*
- *support student exchange programs and support programs of students abroad.*

In many countries, the state (or municipality), through scholarship programs influence young people to enroll faculties which are not so attractive (taking into account number of enrollments per year), and for which there is a need on the labor market. Through good scholarship program, better access to high education is provided and it leads to increased number of highly educated people.

Scholarships may be provided by many different organizations and institutions from the whole society sectors. Scholarship program enable better cooperation between the university and representatives of governmental, non governmental, and private sector, which again contribute to better linkages between the university and wider society.

Moreover, scholarships are the factor that contributes to the mobility of the students, which is one of the main objectives of Bologna declaration. Students exchange programs enable better national and international cooperation between different universities, as well as cooperation between the universities and other institutions. Current conditions in

the RS, leaving abroad for studies (for one semester or entire study) are just a dream that doesn't come true. Good scholarship program would make it possible for students. Student exchange programs would create better linkage between cities and municipalities where our students would go. Some students, future entrepreneurs, would make good relationships, future business partners, which proved to be good practice in some countries.

The basis for distribution of scholarships would be the Rule books on scholarships which should include clear and precise terms and conditions for subsidies for all students equally. Scholarships provided by state institutions should be transparent, should improve studying conditions and living standards of the students and to make studying accessible by as many potential students as possible.

When making Rule books for scholarship programs it would be useful to follow the experiences of other countries that have resolved this issue successfully. Most cities and countries in the region, are making the difference between the following three types of students:

- *exceptionally gifted full time students,*
- *full time students, studying in order to meet the needs of labor market demands,*
- *socially endangered full time students.*

After making these three categories of students, it is important to make general conditions for scholarships, and specific criteria depending on the type of the scholarship. The terms and conditions need to be reviewed every year in order to make them accessible by as many students as possible.

- *all our elected representatives shall fight for modern and fer scholarship program. We shall fight that the Republic, cities, municipalities, public enterprises and interested private companies and NGOs invest into students more,*
- *we shall support programs that would enable our young experts to study abroad, by stimulating them and requesting them to return in order to support their economic social ambience development.*

EMPLOYMENT

Greater access of young population to labor market means establishment of social stability and economic development of the country. Having a job means self-respect, economic independence and opportunity for implementation of individual interests, due to that unemployment may be characterized as violating the human rights of youth. Authorities, by their work and coordination should offer platforms for resolving all society problems, and specifically those ones that would make permanent problems for entire society, and they have to have a strategic approach to this problem of youth employment after completion of the education.

When talking about employment problems, we must refer to differences between the rural and urban area.

Rural area – Youth in rural areas have great social difficulties. No access to information, media, education, both formal and informal, caused apathy of young people in rural areas. Their wish to leave to cities is obvious with almost 100% and it causes one of the greatest problems of the society as a whole - ageing of the villages. In addition to lack of modern communication, there is the factor of lack of economic opportunities and investments for development of non agricultural enterprise models, and investments into small and medium enterprises in small communities.

Urban area - There is social and economic factors highlighted, social factors are personal perception of any individual person, their conscious, as well as factors influencing their opinion, living standards. The overall apathy is expressed widely together with associative behavior, xenophobia and ruined system of value of the individual in an urban area. Moral degradation becomes the disease of young people. All sociological factors may be linked to economic factors in the society.

The basic right of young people is to enable them, before real employment, to acquire proper knowledge and skills in order to be competent in their future jobs which they will select – freedom to select knowledge and skills. Education should be accessible to any young person, it should be access to education that opens up the opportunities. Knowledge must be applicable in the labor market and it has to be in compliance with the needs of the society. Education system must be permanently supervised.

Formal education institutions must provide theoretical basis with practical application of knowledge and skills. Formal education need not be based on inapplicable knowledge and skills neither on tight profession, so not to allow further upgrading in wanted fields. Youth should be given the opportunity to get the skill of life long learning which will enable them to adopt their knowledge to the needs of labor market, which was not the case so far.

Social processes are moving forward and change the needs of the society all the time. Partly, scientific disciplines are dying, while new ones, based on new theories are born daily. Formal education changes slowly according to the needs of the society and that is

the basic weakness of formal education. Due to lack of efficient models of flexible formal education, informal education is the main factor in over bridging the hole between the existing and needed education, scientific disciplines and wishes of young people.

In order to make young people skilled and to respond to labor market needs, it is needed to make reform of formal and informal education in the following way:

Reform of formal education

The following needs to be revised:

- *teaching – scientific staff- introduce clear criteria of selection of teaching staff, reorganize control bodies,*
- *curricula – at high level education – highlight Bologna process, and at secondary level – take the best practices of European countries (introduce new subjects, more practice, title and practice of entrepreneurship...)*
- *enrolment policies – collect the data on labor market needs, and create enrolment policy accordingly,*
- *scholarship policies for pupils and students.*

Reform of informal education

The types of informal education should be standardized and defined, and thus:

- *establish centers for informal education,*
- *find out the ways for financing centers for prequalification, upgrading, the existing model of financing the projects for support to employment, and develop the function of intermediating in employing people through enabling mobility of labor.*

In order to use human resources, skilled and qualified young labor, which is major unemployed, it is important to create good ambient for economy development i.e. strengthen the institutions of the legal country and political stability. Something that may address the poor economic situation together with unemployment, and to improve them, is the chances that are opening up for some local communities to their specific position (geostrategic, political and economical center, educational and health center), economy tradition, and culture. Sport, increasing local energy and motivating, entrepreneurship infrastructure, IT technology, integration processes (EU and regional) and available development funds.

Main problems that young people are faced with may be presented in the following way:

- *high unemployment rate, several times higher within the youth than within the medium and elderly population,*
- *great share of youth employed in grey economy without basic rights,*
- *no skills for looking for a job, especially within the low level educated youth,*
- *youth has highly negative views toward private sector,*
- *educational system is oriented toward theoretical knowledge, with no practical component,*
- *schools have old curricula's which are not in compliance with labor markets,*

- *no professional orientation programs and carrier guidelines,*
- *no entrepreneurship subject in schools,*
- *no adequate policy or employment action plan for youth,*
- *no system that would accept youth after completion of education to advise them and provide them guidance,*
- *no information on labor market,*
- *intermediating between the demand and offer on labor market, and it is not sufficiently implemented by Public Employment Service,*
- *poor design and targeted measures of the Public Employment Service, with very few or no influence on youth unemployment factors,*
- *no support to youth entrepreneurship.*

However, having in mind the analysis of the problems that young population is faced with, when trying to get employed, we tried to locate possible directions of actions aiming to resolve them as follows:

- *discuss about introduction of different types of labor contracts when youth employment is concerned, which would lead to greater flexibility and mobility of labor,*
- *increase the enrolment rate of youth in secondary and higher level education institutions – final goal – mandatory secondary education,*
- *adjust the course of study in order to increase the number of occupations available to young women,*
- *improve the quality of formal education and its response to changes in the labor market,*
- *introduce professional orientation and counseling in the education system,*
- *pay special attention to providing additional training to young people without qualifications or those with bad qualifications,*
- *increase the inclusion of non-governmental youth organizations into the problems which relate to the labor market of young people,*
- *improve the access of young people to information about the labor market;*
- *improve the skills of young people for looking for work,*
- *secure funds from the budget of local communities and the Republic for:*
 - *projects of additional education as support in employing young people,*
 - *projects of support to employing of young people through the introduction of easing or stimulation for companies which employ young people, with a special accent on employment of young people with special needs, young people which come from socially endangered families and young people without parental care,*
 - *projects of connecting schools, faculties and employers.*
- *make entrepreneurship a sustainable option for young people through:*
 - *introduction of entrepreneurship into the teaching curriculum,*
 - *creating of a network of entrepreneurship incubators and technological parks,*

- *securing of incentives on a grant basis for opening of a business through a choice of the best business ideas,*
- *encouraging the starting and the founding of clusters,*
- *creation of guarantee funds which will ease the securing of more favorable financial funds (securing of risk) especially for “start up” businesses,*
- *securing of favorable financial funds and professional assistance in the process of initiating the manufacturing of food for young people in the countryside.*
- *prevention of the black market, securing and respecting of all other rights of young workers from the field of labor legislature and protection at work, and educate young people so that they know how to fight for their rights through organizing through labor unions.*

Having in mind all of the above mentioned, we initiated an initiative in which we will persevere, that the Republic of Srpska gets a Youth employment strategy. The mentioned strategy would be made after conducting a big research and it should offer all the needed measures and reforms that are needed to decrease the rate of unemployment in young people, and to create a system where everyone that wants to learn and work can find a job.

SCIENCE

Science is a group of all methodically collected and systematically regulated knowledge, including those general and those in a specific area or aspect of reality. Science is a blend of findings and proofs, methods and systems, research and facts. Science is objectively, logically with arguments systemized knowledge of legalities, facts, causes, and occurrences in reality, acquired and checked with careful monitoring, repeated experiments and valid thinking.

Science and technology in the next five to ten years could become one of the basic factors of economic development of the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina. That way we could become competitive with products which contain a lot of knowledge and innovations, and can successfully be exported to a global market in order to decrease the big trade imbalance.

It is necessary that local communities, in its policy of long term development, lean on the following factors of development: level of education, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovativeness. We think that there is a need to:

- *increase allocation of funds from the budget for science and university education up to a level of at least 1,5% of the national income,*
- *encourage applied and development research through cooperation of academies and universities, as well as through connecting research and businesses,*
- *make integral research and development programs which would connect fundamental, development and applied research,*

- *strengthen the quality of work of scientific-research and educational institutions for the purpose of better coordination and cooperation with the European Commission and other European agencies in the area of educational and scientific-technical cooperation,*
- *strengthening of capacities of university level institutions and research units in the Republic of Srpska for the purpose of better use of EU funds available for education and scientific-technical cooperation,*
- *scientists should be directed into areas which are of significance for the development of the country, by supporting projects from the applied and development scientific areas. It is necessary to transfer technological development from scientific and university environments into the industry. This environment must bring with it technological development, with the direct support of the Republic. In this way we need to connect the academic environment with the business world,*
- *create a network of young researchers and scientists in the country and those that live and work abroad, at prestige universities and research centers, for the purpose of including domestic strengths into great and significant research projects, exchange of knowledge and information.*

AN INFORMATION SOCIETY

An information society is a society in which knowledge and timely, all-inclusive and correct information are the basic managing resources which insure progress and a future to its citizens. Today, the difference in the development of states, social groups or individuals is in direct proportion with the difference in the degree of application of information communication technologies (digital divide).

We, the Young Socialdemocrats think that the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina must actively and quickly act in the direction of decrease of the technological development variance, because the process of transfer from the industrial into the informational society in developed countries is already in an advanced phase.

By following the relevant European and world initiatives such as:

- Government on-line initiative (group G7, 1995),
- eEurope Action Plan (Feira 2000), made on the basis of conclusions of the presidents of governments of the European Union, from the meeting in Lisbon,
- Plan eEurope+ for the informatization of countries that are candidates for becoming members of the European Union,
- Global world initiative for the development of the information society under the sponsorship of the United Nations, etc.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has expressed readiness and willingness to realize obligations and concrete actions for mass use of information-communication technologies which come from:

- *agendas for the development of the information society (October 2007 in Sarajevo) adopted by countries of the Southeastern Europe, which represents a global action plan for a harmonized informatization into a fast development of the region,*
- *strategy of development and decrease of poverty in Bosnia and Herzegovina (PRSP),*
- *by adopting the Policy, the Strategy and the Action plan of development of the information society in Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the December of 2004.*

The goals of development of the information society of the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina, by wide application of the information and communication technologies (IKT) and the Internet in all segments of society should be the following:

- *the increase of knowledge and abilities of citizens to work and live in an information society, development of e-Education, and the development of the IT infrastructure in educational institutions,*
- *the creation of a new market ambient, new business processes, knowledge and adequate ways of organizing,*
- *increase of profitability, competitiveness, quantity and quality of services and products, application of innovations in the economy, administration and other areas,*
- *increase of investments and employment,*
- *development of the industry of information and communication technologies (software, engineering, hardware, consulting),*
- *development of small and medium companies,*
- *reaching of a sustainable economic development with the protection of the environment,*
- *increase of standard of citizens,*
- *balanced development of the information society, including rural areas,*
- *increase of gross national income,*
- *reaching of conditions for European and regional integrations.*

Following experiences of countries in the region in the process of transition, and adoption of regulations of the legal system of the European union, the Republic of Srpska, in a desire to become a technologically aware and developed region must create the necessary preconditions for such development.

Municipalities and cities must improve the existing level of services through the application of contemporary information-technology solutions, and to build a necessary infrastructure which will be able to support the application of new technologies, information networking of institutions and the creation of a unique MIS (management information system).

HOUSING CARE

The housing policy is a sensitive segment of the policy of local communities and the Republic. Residing and building of apartments represent one of the most important components of economic and social development of a society, organization and spatial planning, lifting of the living standard of the population, and the preserving of the medium layer of the population as the main precondition for a long term development and preservation of vitality of a society.

We, the Young Socialdemocrats think that state institutions on all levels of authority must effect the processes in housing construction so that every individual would achieve the right to own house.

In the period of transition market competitiveness in this area did not give the wanted results. Besides the fact that the prices of a housing square too high and non-harmonized with the value and number of executed works in apartment building, we can and we must be unsatisfied with the participation of this sector in the GDP, with the quality of built buildings, and the way of organization of construction companies.

Great demand for residential units on the market caused an enormous growth in prices. Because of such a situation on the market and the possibility of big profit making we have a number of investments in apartment building, but not the fall of prices and the increase of the quality of the residential square.

The following question is posed: how can state institutions do anything in relation to the matter of apartment building having in mind that very important processes depend on the price of solving the residential-housing matter such as: the keeping of young people in this territory, the birth rate and the planning of family?!

The question is whether limitations and directing in residential apartment building necessarily lead to voluntarism, as an ideology and practice of communism, or can be in the form of thought out interventionism and regulatory directing and system of monitoring in the conditions of the market way of doing business?!

In order for the Republic of Srpska to have effect on the decrease of construction margins it must offer priority groups cheaper apartments and that way decrease demand for apartments on the market, and therefore the price. When state institutions, together with local communities, realize the construction of residential units per realistic prices, must be found such a way of project financing and paying off which would with less than 50% burden the average salary in Republic of Srpska. In this way open will be a new market, improved will be the area of the economy which for the most part uses domestic resources, and it will effect the creation of new work places.

We think that the biggest part of funds envisaged as part of the measure “The creation of more favorable conditions for housing care of special groups of the population”, which has been presented in the strategy IRB RS, should be used for the project of residential apartment building (Development program of RS 2007 – 2010) so that those funds are invested into the construction of apartments for young people. Construction companies in

those projects would appear in tenders only as contractors, along with limiting of profit making to a rate of up to 15%.

Local communities should secure significant pieces of regulated land development for mutual investments with IRB RS because long term development directly depends on the possibility of young people to secure their housing space.

It must be taken care of that the construction of new apartments is in the function of reaching of acceptable conditions of living which would satisfy contemporary standards from that area, and contribute the improvement of the quality of life in them.

In addition to the state interventionism in building of residential apartments, we think that there should be a continuation of the policy of subvention of the interest rate from the budget of RS, and to increase the subvention from year to year, so that we could also help those young people which want to chose by themselves the location of residence.

With the wish that the foundation of preserving of the Republic of Srpska is its long term development, we think that there is no more time left for waiting for a better future, for the development of the economy and the creation of new work places, for a place for a dignified life and having of a family, that we should act immediately!

SOCIAL POLICY

Social policy means social activity whose contents is totality of living, working and social conditions in which the process of social development is going on. It contributes to establishment of aims with respect to position of a man, its overall development, provision of social safety, humanization of social work and human relations. Social policy is direct care for a man, for its existence, possibility to work taking care of its needs, neutralizing negative consequences of existential uncertainty, improvement of living and work conditions and protection of persons affected by bad social position.

We, the Young Socialdemocrats think that social policy should guarantee social justice and guarantee social security to all members of society. For that purpose, we`ll strive for:

- *adoption of positive, stimulative legislation from the domain of fiscal policy aimed at stimulation of employers to employ the young with special needs,*
- *seminally employment of the young with special needs in public institutions as an example of social responsibility,*
- *allocation of larger funds at the level of municipalities and cities for financing of education of socially endangered children and young people, in accordance with specially determined strategy. We must not allow to any young man to fail to build its future due to the fact that he was born in a poor family,*
- *paying larger attention to education and later employment of children without parental care,*
- *larger setting aside from the budget to the funds for assistance to the families having more children aimed at increase of birth rate,*

- *larger support to youth, humanitarian and nongovernmental organizations and institutions dealing with socially endangered children and youth,*
- *increase of money that the parent get by birth of a child, with parental package for new-borns, and adequate refund of parental leave to the employers from Health Insurance Fund.*

We will fight for the society in which everyone has equal possibilities for success.

CULTURE

Culture is a mode of living, prerequisite and expression of progress and creative force. Cultural values relate to those consumer values that transfer ideas, symbols and mode of living. This gives them social and essential value that cannot be easily expressed by market price. They also inform, entertain and contribute to construction of collective identity, national cohesion and social identity, influencing cultural practice. Their consummation generates a large number of important results.

We, the Young Socialdemocrats, think that professional training of a large number of people, especially young ones, for taking part in culture of today as well as equal and tolerant improvement of different modes of creativity is very important for general advancement of society and individuals. This is not possible to accomplish without democratization of culture that is directed toward the rights of co-decisionmaking of all cultural employees and without cultural democracy which ensures space for cultural satisfaction of different social groups and in different social areas. Everyone has the right to culture and right to enjoy and develop cultural identity.

We, the Young Socialdemocrats, strive for:

- *availability of cultural values to everyone,*
- *legislative and financial support to independent cultural scene,*
- *larger participation of the young in cultural life and creation of cultural policy at all levels,*
- *availability of conditions for work such as premises, equipment and other conditions,*
- *larger possibilities of providing scholarships to young artists,*
- *providing support to self-taught young artists,*
- *maximal protection of cultural values as well as social care about cultural, institutions of national and world significance,*
- *exchange of the young and multilateral contacts between the young,*
- *providing of possibility and conditions to the young in expression and practicing of creative capabilities,*
- *projects aimed at training and cultural expression of the young in the domain of music, media and arts.*

Special emphasis should be placed on development of urban culture being the holder of cultural development and advancement in modern society.

THE STATE OF LAW

The state of law reflects the state, in which formal and juridical rights of citizens are secured, where the democratically chosen government is restricted and controlled by the law, where no one is allowed to jeopardize democratic rights and freedom of the citizens, in which presumption for functioning of civil society is secured, autonomous from the state in frame of which can freely act individuals and groups that are positioned immediately out of domain of state authorities, and which is domain of establishment and development of democratization of society and the state as well as domain of establishment and development of human rights.

Young socialdemocrats are aware that only successive, state of law, in which laws are obeyed and in which those who do not obey the law are punished based on impartial legal procedure, can secure stable and safe future for our generation and to the generations to come. Because of that, we are ready in any moment to help those forces in society that are pleading in favor of functioning of the state of law, restoration of legal stability and rule of law, and for efficient and independent justice. Under that we allude on efficiency increase of the courts, decrease in the number of unsolved and limited legal proceedings, shortening the deadlines in decision-making and especially in implementation of court decisions. It is necessary to give special emphasis on processing economic crime and crime activities in privatization. Young Socialdemocrats strongly support activities of the Commission for Revision of Privatization and activities of Special Prosecutors Office for organized and most serious forms of economic crime.

Young Socialdemocrats recognize corruption as an illness of the modern society and plead for introduction of powerful measures for the fight against corruption. Society in which corruption became the way of life cannot ever make progress with optimal pace therefore, today the fight against corruption in RS and BiH should be one of main priorities.

Justice must be available to the citizens. Justice must be within everyone's reach regardless to his/hers material position. Especially, in numerous cases of workers rights violation, justice is too slow and too expensive. We plead for expansion of the right for free legal help for poor people. Justice must be fast. Trial within reasonable period is constitutional right of citizens. Personnel, legal and technical condition should be secured, so that citizens do not have to wait a decade or more for court decisions. Decisions concerning especially endangered categories of the citizens, including the children, should pass within reasonable period.

Young Socialdemocrats plead for enacting the Law on assessing the property acquisition, so that the burden of proof of the property origin shall be on the person for which is established disproportion between legal acquired many and property, according to European Convention against organized crime and UN "Palermo" Convention.

SPORT

Sport should represent basis for creation of healthy society, people and nation. Wish for success and the love for our cause make us towards fulfillment of our goals. In relation to this, any support is welcome. Narrow road to success often is paved with broad paths of thorns and abyss. What is needed is lot of patience to final triumph.

Local communities, unfortunately, are not identified enough with sports spirit. Taking into account available human resources, natural and financial resources, as well as bright tradition, it is possible in close future to transform sport from the user of the budget funds into one noticeable source of income, and to complete even more the tourist offer of municipalities, cities and of the Republic. Sport life must be enriched and sports culture and healthy way of life should rapidly claim to the top in the system of social values. To succeed at that we should put an accent on to young population.

In our primary and secondary schools, physical culture should hold more distinct place, which means and resolving the problem of investing in sports gear and sports instruments necessary for quality fulfilling of given programs. Young people should be stimulated more to engage in sports activities as well as recognize adequately those young people who are making distinct sport results.

Focus should be on making mass sport competitions, including the broader circle of the youth into sport activities and development of existing competitions on the level of the primary, secondary schools and universities. It is necessary to perform certain dislocation of different sport activities according to rural area and to pay attention to the phenomenon of extremely low interest in female population pursuing the sport.

Sports recreation on the level of local communities should be revived and existent sports infrastructure noticeably refreshed.

In the area of the sport, we will plead especially for:

- *creation and realization of the program which will encourage young population to engage in sport,*
- *resolving the problem of deficiency in sports objects, especially for the water sports but the sport halls as well,*
- *building the sport stadiums with all necessary equipment at the rural areas and stimulation for reviving sports life in this areas,*
- *support in foundation and existence of sports collectives which are engaging in sports that are not in our region still acquainted enough and developed, but can attract significant number of young people,*
- *better promotion of amateur sport and recreation, and producing areal conditions for development of mass and recreational sport,*

- *better promotion of amateur sport and within its frame we will pay special attention to increased participation of female sport,*
- *providing scholarships for young and talented athletes which is one of preconditions for accomplishing supreme results,*
- *ensuring steady financial support for young athletes international competitions,*
- *continuous increasing the quality of organization and mass (in number of sports and in number of participants) school competitions,*
- *regional cooperation of young athletes.*

HEALTH OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Health of the young people is connected to socio-economic development of society, and with individual development as well. Young are, more than any population group, liable to fast changes in physical, emotional, psychological, social and spiritual development that is necessary to have in mind when creating the measures for higher level of young people's health.

Drug abuse, alcoholism, smoking, infective and sexually transmitted diseases (AIDS, hepatitis B, hepatitis C), diseases connected to unbalanced nutrition, pollution of physical and social environment, inefficient health protection and unawareness of health risks are integral part of surroundings in which young population lives in RS and BiH, and it poses great threat for preservation of the health of every individual.

To improve the situation in this field it is necessary to pay special attention to educational programs and informing the young people on mass non-ineffective diseases, addiction diseases, risk behavior which are endangering reproductive health as well as how to lead healthy life, protect and improve your health.

Attention should be paid to rehabilitation programs, improvement of legislation, development of primary health protection, stimulating of amateur sport and promotion of healthy life styles amongst young people, as well as enacting, and full by the letter implementation of the Strategy of the young people's health of RS.

Young Socialdemocrats pay attention especially to individuals with difficulties in psychological development. Their integration in society, creation of conditions that will meet their demands and the respect for special manner in meeting their demands, in health care as well as in other aspects of life, must be one of the pillars of modern society in RS and BiH.

We plead for complete health protection of the individual, regardless to gender, nation, religion or race. It is necessary to create and to realize preventive programs for the diseases that influence mostly young population (addiction diseases, sexually transmitted diseases) and programs of health protection as to reduce morbidity rate amongst young population.

Young Socialdemocrats support:

- *programs that have for its goal prevention and reduction of alcoholism, drug abuse and smoking amongst young people,*
- *programs that have for its goal uplifting of reproductive health of young people and prevention of spreading of sexually transmitted diseases,*
- *programs that have for its goal prevention of mass non-infective diseases,*
- *programs for drug detoxication without moral judgments and segregation,*
- *programs that are securing provision of advisory and informative help to young people who are affected by addiction related problems,*
- *expansion of the health protection for drug addicts, mental patients and AIDS infected individuals, and forming adequate units for their treatment,*
- *special measures of training of social and medical workers, volunteers and organizations which are dealing with prevention, rehabilitation and resocialization of young addicts,*
- *programs that have for its goal protection of mental health of young people,*
- *preventive programs that directly or indirectly reduce violence between young people.*

We support health and sexual education in schools in the framework of special school subjects, and creation the center for family planning, with the participation of young people in planning and assessing the project and activities that those institutions will be dealing with.

Young Socialdemocrats believe that:

- *every citizen of RS and BiH has to have right to free primary health protection and they plead for investment and implementation of measures that would as final outcome have strengthening and free primary health protection for everyone,*
- *state has to take care of health of its citizens, and health services under equal conditions have to accessible to all citizens.*

If the health policy is not social and solidary, there is no health policy at all.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

On the basis of a range of technological inventions, in the past two centuries, development of industry and mass use of particular resources started. For less than two hundred years, population of Europe increased by 12 times along with unprecedented increase of material wealth. New technological inventions turned the economy against the nature. Uncontrolled passion for wealth led to accelerated and excessive of exhaustion of nature and its excessive pollution. Sustainable development means the willingness to satisfy the needs of today's generations in a way not to decrease the possibilities of satisfaction of those needs to the generations to come. In its basic content, it is the willingness to accomplish current economic and social development in such way and to the level that endangers the nature.

We do not want our ecological environment to be endangered by pollution, wild city dumps and uncontrolled exploitation of natural wealth.

We want establishment of stronger control mechanism by the state in order to prevent endangerment of living environment.

- *we will ask for better implementation of adopted legal provisions from the domain of environment and adoption of new sub-legal deeds for arrangement of condition in many domains, by improving inspection supervision,*
- *we will require larger allocations from the budget for the Fund for Environment, Protection through which those that carry out the activities aimed at environment protection will be motivated,*
- *we will strive for more rational organization of city dumps system in RS, and for stimulation of separation of communal waste at its source,*
- *aimed at environment protection, we pay special attention to raising of level of ecological consciousness, education of the young (children of pre-school, elementary school and secondary school age) through formal and informal scopes of education,*
- *out of municipalities, cities and Republic, we will ask to support the realization of the projects from the domain of environment protection,*
- *we will organize ecological activities (cleaning of public areas, rivers etc.),*
- *we will support affirmation of youth work from the domain of ecology through media and organizing of local and international ecological camps,*
- *we will affirm tourist centres that are adapted to the needs of the young as well as preparation and distribution of promotion material for informing wider public about youth tourist centers.*

President of Executive Board of YSD

Srdjan Mazalica, B.E.E.