

To:

Mayor Željko Turk

President of Association of Cities of the Republic of Croatia

Mayor Martin Baričević

President of Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Croatia

Dear colleagues,

At the end of this challenging, not only for each one of us and for our organization year, but also for the entire humanity, I would like to wish you good health, strength and energy. I hope that the difficulties will not break our will and we will remain devoted to our mission.

Time also brings us wise lessons. The difficulties have taught us to value health and care, to respect the work and efforts of people who are willing to help, to believe that everyone can count on the support of the society, local authorities and partners. May these important lessons continue to guide our thoughts and deeds in the future.

Dear friends from Croatia,

On this New Year's Eve, we will all be with you in our thoughts and wishes. I express my and all my colleagues' most sincere condolences to the families and relatives of the victims of the natural disaster. I believe in the strength of our Balkan origins, in the ability of the authorities to deal with the disaster and to support everyone in need.

In moments like this, the spirit of solidarity of our organization - the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe NALAS - is directed at each one of you. None of our members will be left alone in the disaster.

As President of NALAS, I express our readiness to cooperate with everything we can to support the local authorities in the affected areas for a faster recovery to the normal rhythm of life, to provide home and warmth for everyone.

As a mayor, a person and a professional, I declare my commitment and readiness to personally participate in the expert assistance offered by our country to assess the damage from the earthquake. I will do it with the same conviction and devotion with which I did it, together with my fellow citizens, when the Bulgarian municipalities - Harmanli and Veliko Tarnovo were affected by natural disasters.

Dear colleagues,

I wish you all full of hope and peaceful New Year holidays!

Let us look to the New 2021 with the expectation of stability, peace and understanding.

On this eve, let each one of us embrace deeply in our hearts the hopes of the Croatian families from the affected areas.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emanunil Manolov'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Emanunil Manolov

NALAS President

Mayor of Pavlikeni Municipality

Member of NAMRB

Cc: Ms. Nives Kopajtich-Skrlec

Association of Cities of the Republic of Croatia

Mayor Mato Cicak, Secretary General

Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Croatia

Mr. Mladen Puskaric, Executive Director

Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Croatia