



Statement from Gibanje Svoboda Mladi regarding parliamentary election results in Slovenia

Dear European friends!

Last Sunday, parliamentary elections were held in Slovenia. After 99,96% of the ballots counted, we are pleased to announce that our mother party **Gibanje Svoboda won the election with 28,62% support**, beating the Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) led by the right-wing populist Janez Janša with a slim margin. SDS received 27.95% of the vote, followed by New Slovenia – Christian Democrats (9.29%), Social Democrats (6.70%) and Democrats of Anže Logar (6.70%). The Left and Resnica.ca (The Truth) also passed the threshold, receiving 5,58% and 5,53% respectively.

The projected distribution of seats in the National Assembly indicates complicated and long negotiations for coalition formation. Our party has successfully concluded a 4-year term, leading the government in coalition with Social Democrats and the Left. There were many accomplishments, among others **raising the minimum wage above the poverty line** for the first time in our country's history, **addressing the housing crisis** by starting to build public rental apartments and **starting the complex but much needed healthcare reform** by clearly separating public and private healthcare.

Unfortunately, the election campaign was not focused on assessing the success of the previous government and vision for the country but turned out very dirty – from the right-wing side. They kept trying to invent scandals, activated “independent” social media influencers to attack the government coalition, with everything culminating in the Israeli spying scandal. As Slovenian NGOs uncovered and was later confirmed by the Slovenian intelligence agency, the Israeli private intelligence company Black Cube interfered in the election campaign on the behalf of Janša by spying and leaking private phone calls and video recording of influential people, which were supposed to uncover the corruption of government officials.

The reforms started in the recently completed term would require at least another 4-year mandate to be completed. Yet, the coalition parties now do not have enough seats to form a majority and will need to add at least one additional partner. SDS also cannot get a majority with parties that are willing to cooperate with Janša. A lot of options at play right now, with possibilities of negotiating with center right parties to enter a coalition with existing members of government.

Nonetheless, in Gibanje Svoboda Mladi we are proud and satisfied with the election results that showed that liberalism in Slovenia stands strong and right-wing populism was once more defeated. The youth wing of the party was very actively involved in the campaign, as staff, as volunteers and as MP candidates.

Winning the election is a great sign of support from the people for us to continue our path of leading a free and successful Slovenia.