

REGIONALISM IS NOT SEPARATISM

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According to the Director of the Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE), Mr. Franz Schausberger, Vojvodina should have more competencies, however, instead of returning to Tito's time, when as per the Constitution of 1974, APV had jurisdiction, legislative and executive power, new solutions should be sought.

In his discussion with journalists from Vojvodina, at the heart of that Institute in the Austrian region and town of Salzburg, Mr. Schausberger said that IRE supports the idea of regionalism, decentralization and subsidiarity, and emphasized that those three principles are contrary to separatism.

- When talking about regionalism, decentralization and subsidiarity, one immediately thinks of separatism. On the one hand, I understand that from the experiences with Kosovo and Montenegro. On the other hand, those principles are the most important pillars of the EU and are contrary to separatism. Thus, there is no need for fear – said Mr. Schausberger to the journalists, who visited Salzburg in the organization of the Office for European Affairs of the Executive Council of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina.

- We support regions, such as Vojvodina, firstly, to enable the establishment contacts with western regions, regions of EU member states and those which still have not become one, and exchange of experiences, so that Vojvodina could meet other regions and vice versa. In addition, it contributes to economic relations, for new investment opportunities are created – said Mr. Schausberger.

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by Snežana Nikolić