## KEYNOTE ADDRESS OF H.E. DR. ROBERT FICO, PRIME MINISTER OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIK

## Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great privilege and honor for me to be today in Ljubljana where we are celebrating introduction euro in Slovenia. Slovenia, which was able as the first country from the group entering in to EU in 2004 to adopt euro currency stays as a positive example also for Slovakia. We appreciate professionalism and ability of Slovenians to fulfill all difficult euro criteria.

I am saying this as a Prime minister country which consider adoption of euro as one of its main priority. I hope that we will be to enter into euro-zone in 2009 and bring euro-currency to the Slovaks. We see euro together with the abolition of Schengen controls as a real and tangible proof for our people that we are full-fledged member of the EU.

Let's hope that we will see the next time in Bratislava in 2009 during the celebration of introduction euro in Slovakia.

Thank you for your attention.