My message to you is conditioned by a sequence of events which took place since July 17, 2016 in a country where, already for 25 years, no government is able to create living conditions for 85% of the population ensuring the vital activity of people above the limits of their biological survival.

There is no need to appeal to the examples confirming this thesis.

Hopelessness and lack of prospects of the current life conditions for the majority of the population are confirmed by such basic demographic indicators as birth and mortality rate, "ageing" rate of the society, as well as by the increasing flow of emigration, etc.

But the tragedy of our people is in the fact that the current conditions of life cultivate extreme radicalism in the society.

All the levels of government simulate by presenting the processes in the society as a transitory phenomena.

Official calls to build an independent, democratic and a social-legitimate state are perceived by the majority of the population as humiliation, because they constantly see and feel the falsity of those calls in everyday life.

We face a situation in which moral and ethical qualities of the representatives of the country's socio-political and spiritual-cultural ruling elite have become alien to the goals and ideals of the wider masses.

Sadly enough, it should be stated that the 15% of our population forming the state and socio-political "elite" with its servants, are very greedy and insatiable in their pursuit for enrichment, you will not be able to improve the current situation by shifting persons engaged in internal and external policy of the country.

Our country needs a qualitatively new paradigm of ideology which will promote the development of the society.

The mental set, which is typical for the ruling elite and justifying the course of actions such "all for myself" through all available means (especially by personal example), is cultivated in our society, disavowing the majority of our population's historically formed spiritual and cultural values and goals, by transforming us to a community of subjects, guided by the ideology "war of all against all".

Being descendants of one of the ancient civilizations (we love to talk about it often), in the course of our independence we weren't able to implement such a "social contract" that would contribute to the establishment and strengthening of trust between the ruling class and the people.

The authorities must consolidate the society by their ideology and legitimacy. They must show in practice the legal order which can't be broken in favour of individuals or groups.

However, since the 90s of the last century, the elite didn't want and wasn't able to form an ideology which would outline the values and goals of the society at least in the medium term perspective, instead it imitates "feverish work" by solving emerging operative challenges, while not forgetting to satisfy its mercenary interests.

Regardless of its party affiliation, the ruling elite, which is limited by family-clannish and corporate interests, doesn't "see" the national values and goals and isn't able to withstand internal and external ideological, socio-economic and military-political challenges because of its provincialism.

Mr. President, I have carefully gone through your speech in front of the representatives of state structures and the spiritual-cultural community regarding the events of July 17, 2016 and afterwards.

Your speech can be described as a "toast" and not as a speech of the leader of the state, who had to explain the people the reasons and motives of the existing national and possibly regional crisis.

You didn't even deign to indicate the next steps of the state governance system for overcoming this crisis to the people of Armenia and the entire nation.

Your speech didn't become the mobilizing and consolidating tool for the wider layers of the population, the tool which should protect and strengthen the bases of our independence.

I think there is a lot our national ruling elite have to think about. Our country simply will not overcome another shock.

Levon Nersisyan

Executive Director of the "A.D.Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Centre" NGO

08.08.2016