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“We should be humble in listening and bold in implementing”

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Conference on the future of Europe is an unprecedented process of public consultations.

We all focus on the potential outcome of the Conference which is fundamental for our future but there is a real value added also in the process itself.

EU is a well-established representative democracy.

Now it has a chance to be enriched by a refreshing element of direct democracy. Citizens will take stock of what we have done for their security, prosperity and quality of their life and look together with us toward the future.

The success of this joint undertaking will depend on the intensification of the citizens’ interest in the future of Europe and their trust in sharing with us, politicians and institutions, their worries and their hopes.

We must not disappoint them with insufficient follow up actions.

I am confident there are ways to get citizens on board for the implementation stage, in particular when it comes to such challenges as climate or, indeed, democracy.

I would encourage all of us that we are humble in listening to each other and bold in implementing what we arrive at, in the spirit of participation.