

building of democratic institutions in our country. We were very interested in the Canadian Government efforts to include the public in creating foreign policy. That's one of the main tasks of CCFPD with whose representatives we met next. In that meeting we gave our ideas and suggestions to the Director of the CCFPD for Canadian future projects in our countries. And we also agreed that we will stay in close contact.

#### Day 7

The Saturday started with very good NDI presentation by Karen and Sarah to the bi-annual Liberal Convention. The time NDI had was too short for answering all the questions of people present there. The audience in general was very supportive of NDI's work and curious to find out more about it.

We also met with Liberal Party Organizing Director who gave us a detailed explanation of Liberal Party organization. This was most interesting and very helpful. He explained the procedure of electing party representatives to the National and Provincial level. He also gave us a detailed explanation of how the bi-annual convention functions and what it takes to organize it.

#### Day 8

On the day of our departure, we met with Mr. Stephen Dion, Minister for Canada. His priority is Quebec. His mission is to persuade people from Quebec that Canada is their country and that they can practice all their individual rights within Canadian Federation. He is also trying to explain to them the problems that might appear if Quebec separates.

Our last meeting was with Lord Alderdice, president of the Alliance in Northern Ireland and the vice-president of Liberal International. We had a briefing about Liberal party in Canada and the situation in Northern Ireland.

#### Individual Comments by members of the Delegation on their experiences, observations and reflections on their trip to Ottawa

**Tanja Kremenović, [Banja Luka, BiH]:**

*Block Québécois seems to be very frivolous because the words they use so often – "challenge" and "hope" aren't words that should be used in questions related to state and nation.*

**Zdeslav Matačić Croatian Social Liberal Party(HSL) Šibenik, Croatia**

*The meeting with External Affairs showed me the great level of interest of the Canadian Government in Croatia. I was particularly interested in the Canadian Government's idea to help remove land mines in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, because I live in a city located near former front line.*

*During our visit we had an interesting conversation with the representative of the Bloc Québécois who advocates the independence of the Quebec province. His views were very interesting since I noticed that they were facing many dilemmas, similar to those the Croatian politics faced in the former Yugoslavia during its*