

Tzvetan Vassilev Asked the EU for More Solidarity towards Bulgaria

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"I do not think that Bulgarian or Romanian immigrants present the biggest challenge for Europe. If Bulgaria and Romania had received the same financing from Brussels as Spain, Portugal, and Greece did, they would have done a much better job. I find this unequal treatment rather unjust," said Tzvetan Vassilev before Handelsblatt. He emphasized that at the moment Bulgaria receives less financing from Europe, compared to the amount Bulgaria contributes to EU's budget. He also shared his concern about the growing social divergence between the rich and the poor countries within the European Union in the last few years.

"During the last thirty years mostly German and French companies started operating in Eastern Europe. This happened freely and they did not have any real competition. In exchange, we needed real help to make our economy more competitive but that never happened," Vassilev commented.

According to him, Europe needs to learn how to show more solidarity and tolerance in order for Member States to help each other and to get along better. *"Everyone on the continent depends on one another. That is why it is extremely important to settle any misunderstandings," Vassilev added.*

Tzvetan Vassilev's interview for *Handelsblatt* could be found below:

- The Bulgarian version, translated by the [Presa newspaper](#);

- The [German](#) original version of the interview;
- The [English](#) summary of the interview.