

Solomon Passy: Bulgaria should seek support from the U.S. for Schengen, OECD and G-20

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Former Foreign Minister Mr. Solomon Passy thinks the areas where Bulgaria has unused potential with the United States are too many. In his opinion Bulgaria can seek support from the U.S. for its membership in Schengen zone, OECD and G-20 and to develop common projects including in the area of space technology.

“I believe that the experience we have gives us a good reason to propose our cooperation to the United States in numerous innovative areas like space technologies, cyber defense or the development of the F-35 stealth fighter”, the president of the Atlantic Club said before the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency.

As far as Mr. Passy is concerned, during the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton two days ago the issue about U.S. support for Bulgarian membership in the Schengen zone was not discussed.

“The governments that led the negotiations for Bulgarian EU membership know very well the powerful support from the United States in the different stages of our negotiations with the EU. I believe that now we are in condition to ask for such support but this time for Schengen zone membership bearing in mind the special relations between the Netherlands and the USA on one hand and the praise from Mrs. Clinton for our fight against international traffic on the other“, Solomon Passy said.

In his opinion we can ask from the United States support for other national priorities as well, if they are properly formulated.

“For example, I have always thought that Bulgaria should join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) – the club of the best 40 economies in the world and if we formulate such a priority, it could easily ask for support from the USA”, Mr. Passy said.

“Of course, with bigger imagination we could set as a next goal in the future Bulgaria’s membership in G-20. However for this goal will be needed a really great imagination and huge political will invested by several political generations ahead”, Solomon Passy said.

According to Mr. Passy’s words it is quite normal for us to ask the U.S. to reconsider the issue concerning Bulgarian visa on the grounds of the fact that Bulgaria is very close ally of the United States and that’s why it is normal principle exceptions to be made for close allies.