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The President of Estonia described Saudi Arabia as a petrol country and we are a Petrol country. But I assure you, Mr. President, that we pose no threat to Europe and that we are also a developing country. And a developing country that has much to do whether in terms of human rights, political development, social development or economic development.

When I was growing up I was sent by my father to the USA for my education because he thought that was where I would learn how to deal with the world. Many of my compatriots were also sent to abroad whether to the US or Europe, rather the US than Europe, to acquire their skills and know-how, to meet the challenges of the world. Because the US and Europe, when I was growing up, were the model, the examples for developing countries to seek knowledge and experience.

I must say, and the last few week particularly have shown, that these examples have not reached our expectations whether in the economic, political or social development. And it has been a growing disappointment from the view of someone like me, who grew up in the West, in the value system if you like, that this model made the west what it is today.

When the issues of economics, politics and social development are considered, we see a lot of double standards being applied throughout the world.

During the post world war era, when the west and the Soviet Union were in contention, there was pretty much consideration by both sides for smaller countries like Saudi Arabia. As the Prime minister of Kenya said, things or considerations of governance, dictatorship or other authoritarian aspects were overlooked in that competition to seek support from the smaller countries.

But with the fall of Soviet Union, a new order took place. America adopted an Interventionist Policy, a unilateralist policy that became official US policy and begun an experience and, if you like, an attempt to mould the world in its own image whether in Afghanistan or in Iraq since that time. After September 11th, there has been a return to consideration of that unilateral policy and as Mr. de Montbrial mentioned in his opening remarks, the theory of the end of History has been revised now.

And coming from the developing world, I agree with Mr. Hoagland that we need to seek new ways and new means to go on and meet the challenges of 21st century. Those challenges in my view are the following: ideological competition for the minds and hearts of the young people, particularly in the Arab and Muslim world where we have the extremist interpretations of Islam being proposed and posed as an alternative to the middle way or the way that countries seek to develop themselves.

And that is very much linked, in my view, to the actions and policies of the developed world particularly the USA when it comes to the double standards I referred to. That double standards include issues of politics in the middle east whether it's the Palestine and Israeli issue, whether it is the Atomic development in Iran and the way that for example America is dealing with India which is a non signatory to the non proliferation treaty and the way of dealing with Iran which is a signatory to the non proliferation treaty. Europe as well has been dealing in the same manner with that issue.

For us from Saudi Arabia, we would like to see the whole area out of the nuclear armament threat. But that should not be just Iran considered in that context. But the countries like Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Israel which already has nuclear weapons should also be included in that factor.

On economics of course which is what everybody is concerned about today, the failure of the economic system in America, which now seems to be spreading into Europe as well, makes us pose, in our part of the world, to see

whether the systems and means that we want to adopt should be based on European and American standards of economics. It just doesn't make sense to see a system that is failing adopted for a future development in the country like Saudi Arabia. We need to sit down together with the Europeans and the Americans particularly and debate ways to meet this failure that is taking place.

Energy is an important issue between us as the developing countries and other countries that have, as the President of Estonia said, this petro-addiction. We have to sit down and talk with the Europeans and the Americans and the rest of the world community how to overcome this very vital and very important problem that faces the world; not just ecologically but even economically.

The high price of oil, from the view of Saudi Arabia, does not serve well the purposes of the poor countries. Countries like Kenya have to pay a very high price for the energy and they don't have the resources to do that. America and Europe are much richer and, if I may say, many European countries actually make more money out of our oil than we do because of the taxes that they put on energy and oil. But it doesn't make sense for countries like the USA or Europe in general to consider that, in us and them fashion, rather let us come together and look upon this issue globally so that if there are going to be alternative uses or alternative resources of energy, we should be considering them with coal, oil, other accepted means and gas for providing energy.

I would say that in context, Europe as the President of European Parliament said, and the Arab and Muslim world also have to come closer; because each of them affects the other directly. We have seen an engagement of the exchange of goods and services between Europe, Arab and Muslim world but nothing at all about the exchange of human beings between Europe, Arab and Muslim world and what should be addressed is the problem that Europe faces, and we of course, on the other side of Mediterranean, also, face with Europeans.

One statistic, I think, that many of you don't realize and have not heard before, is that the standard aid or aim of aid proposed by the United Nations for the rich countries is that they should give aid in the proportion of 0.4% of their GDP for the rest of the poor countries. Saudi Arabia over the last 30 years in particular has given in terms of aid, 4% not 0,4 % of its GDP. And things like that they are needed and required by the world community to meet the poor countries' requirement.