

*Martti Ahtisaari*

Dear Guests,

I am happy to send my greetings from Finland at this historical moment to the opening ceremony of the Mosaic Art Exhibition of Ritva Luukkanen in Kosovo Art Gallery. I address you with this message from Helsinki and I regret that I cannot be with you today in Pristina.

Ritva Luukkanen's exhibition is the first international exhibition in the independent Kosovo. I am pleased that Finnish Art can bring the message of beauty and strength to Kosovo today as these features are important when building a new state.

My warmest congratulations to an independent Kosovo. I hope that cultural exchange between Finland and Kosovo will continue and I wish you the best of success.

Martti Ahtisaari

Former President of Finland

Former Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the future status process for Kosovo