**Honour, decency – good manners and character cannot be bought…**

**Honour**, **decency and character are the categories that are closely linked to the personality of each person**. They are connected with his upbringing, education, formation of a worldview, a way of life, personal morals and daily behaviour and actions. We are creating our honour, decency and character since birth, they are shaped by the world around us and they cannot be obtained (bought) in a day.

These are the categories, which set us apart from the animals and provide us with a prerequisite not to live under the motto “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. We, as human beings, are able to tackle situations and resolve conflicts in a civilized manner. We follow the rules that we have set.

**Being honest means choosing to live in accordance with the best moral standards and values.** It requires a certain level of responsibility, discipline, the ability to deny ourselves things, resist the temptations that come at us from the materialistic world. Above all, to have arranged life values and priorities in line with the moral principles. A human being is confronted with a gap between ideal image of what should exist and a real situation. Human decision-making process goes through a serious endurance test in today’s materialistic world. It is fully up to us whether we save our face and preserve our honour when making decisions.

**Decency can be defined as a personal quality manifested through adherence to and compliance with the rules of social behaviour**. One is not born polite, but rather becomes polite during the years of his life. Decency has been shaped through the process of upbringing and education, as well as by the world around us. Outward expression of politeness is called courtesy. Decency and courtesy belong inseparably into our daily lives. They help to achieve harmony in human relations. We have to learn how to behave politely and constantly level up this personal quality.

**Character is a summary of permanent psychological characteristics of humans** that depend on their innate abilities and that are manifested under living conditions and with their influence. Knowing the nature of a person, we can predict how he will behave in certain situations, and therefore assume his actions. Character is reflected in human's relationship to himself and to other people, to work that one performs, to things. A part of the character of a person is his personal morality. Decent people are those who do the proper things, stand up for others, help, and are honest, trustworthy, polite...

**"Money does not smell**" a statement of an emperor Vespasian has remained unequalled. Money can reveal human nature in all its nakedness. Financial incentives are often becoming the driving force of an action, which is in many ways incompatible with the individual "moral" code. People are in the habit of abandoning themselves to the ideal of prosperity, although the need for material security is absolutely natural. Whoever has money, he can get the things that increase his welfare. To have money is the precondition for participation in the social life. Money has become a kind of ticket for social integration, and to have them has become an absolute necessity. This can explain strong ties to money with those people who do not have it. **In this existential distress, they fear disruption or even losing their own identity**. An insufficient financial security may also be translated into unequal opportunities.

What motivates a person to give a bribe? What is money? And why is it so enticing? It is very simple. It is necessary to tell the essential fact. Money is the measure of social power. He who has the money has the power.

At present, a plurality of worldviews is a characteristic feature and, at the same time, individuals are guaranteed the right to life on their own terms. In this context, it is not about the morals of the society, rather about the morality of an individual. For centuries Western civilization has been appreciative of the idea that there are some objective eternal rules of what is good or bad, by which our individual morals and secular law may be measured.

**Morality is also closely related to police work** - both on the side of the police and on the part of perpetrators. We can say that where crimes are committed, it is a failure of morality - moral and social standards. Motives can be different of course, but none of them justifies breaking the law. People are trying to justify their illegal conduct by such moral justifications as: you can hurt someone if he defames your family, or they refer to the motto “an of eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”, transfer their responsibility (other people were also doing such things...), trivialize the consequences of their actions (because nothing serious happened...), or lay the blame on others. From the criminal point of view, such excuses do not apply.

**Today, we face great moral dilemmas, for example, in addressing the situation arising out of the influx of migrants**. In addition to the practical side related to satisfying of their basic needs (housing, food, health care), Europe has got into a confrontation with arrival of the representatives of different cultures and religions. We wonder how the great numbers of migrants will affect our lives. Will they be benefit or risk for us? Will they put our lives, assets, and standard of living at risk? We fear the unknown, it is a natural human trait. But, nevertheless, we should not forget our human nature, morality, and the fact that just morality is the aspect that distinguishes us from the animal kingdom and the law of survival.

The issue of migrants gets into a confrontation our life conformity with the willingness to give it up in order to help other people. And this testifies to the internal value system of an individual. Which option should be given preference in this case? On one side, our convenience and the standard of living, and on the other one, the value of human life itself? Should we give the migrants a helping hand, or should we pretend that their fate does not concern us - after all, this is happening beyond our borders. Let's try to put ourselves to the shoes of a migrant who decided to leave his home, country, the homeland. He packed a few things, took his children up in his arms and left for "a better life". He is responsible for the lives of his children, and he believes that in another part of the world he will find happiness and peace. **We can say that our generation is facing one of the biggest moral challenges. It is also a challenge posed to our honour, decency and character, both as for an individual and for the country.**

Decency, honour and character are the most affordable asset, yet the most precious.