



Non-governmental Organisation Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe  
EC MA NDRYSHE

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#### PRESS RELEASE

#### **As of next year the Sports Centre to prohibit the setting of the amusement park**

Within the project of overseeing the work of the municipal executive of Prizren, EC Ma Ndryshe, over the past weeks, has reviewed the issue of establishment of the amusement park ('Luna Park') at the yard of "Sezai Surroi" Sports Centre in Prizren.

Concerns about this issue have been raised by different groups of citizens at the meetings which EC Ma Ndryshe has held with various groups of society as part of the project "Inclusive City – Participatory planning for sustainable urban development in Prizren". Women and senior citizens living in the quarters nearby the Sports Centre have complained that the placement of an amusement park has violated the peace and quiet of residents living in these areas. They have pointed out for noise pollution going on far into the night and citizens are being denied from leisure time in the greenery of this Centre.

With regards to these concerns the monitoring staff of EC Ma Ndryshe began probing the case by requiring explanations from the municipal authorities and the management of the "Sezai Surroi" Sports Centre regarding procedures to be followed for the setting of the amusement park.

Municipal authorities have responded to the request submitted from EC Ma Ndryshe within legal deadlines, while the Sports Centre management has not provided any written response, despite the monitors' insistence regarding the procedures for the placement of amusement units in the Sports Centre's yard.

Directorate of Public Services (*hereafter DPS*) in its response to the request submitted by the monitoring staff has made clear that it has no access in terms of the setting up of the amusement park in the Sports Center since, "the space in question is managed by the respective Centre and DPS has not issued any document for its establishment therefore holds no responsibility."

Monitoring staff has contacted the manager of Sports Centre by email and phone. The manager has requested some time for his reply but has failed to do so in writing, even after a long wait. In the recent phone communication he told verbally that this is the last year the amusement park is set in the Sports Centre yard. In the meantime, after several weeks of its operation, the amusement park has been removed from the yard of the Sports Centre.

EC Ma Ndryshe considers that a higher level of accountability is needed as from the SC's management as well as from the municipality for matters related to the developments that affect the daily lives of residents living nearby. Sports Centre's management should take into consideration that the space it manages is public thus public interest must prevail over the

momentary financial gains of the Sports Centre no matter how necessary those are deemed for normal functioning of the Sports Centre.

On the other side, DPS cannot justify itself with the fact that bears no responsibility in this matter since it has not issued a permit. It must exercise its influence, as the body responsible for public services, for placing citizens' interests above certain groups of interest.

EC Ma Ndryshe herein recommends the management of "Sezai Surroi" Sports Centre to keep its promise given in the communication with the monitoring staff thus to not allow the setting of the amusement park that causes dissatisfaction among the residents of surrounding neighbourhoods because of the noise pollution and 'usurpation' of green spaces.

EC Ma Ndryshe calls on the DPS and municipal authorities to listen closely the concerns of citizens and exert their public influence public in order to establish a better living environment for them in each and every case.

EC Ma Ndryshe also recommends the Supervisory Board for the Management of Cultural and Sports Facilities in Prizren to consider the complaints expressed by the citizens and to not allow the setting of an amusement park in the yard of Sports Centre in the coming years.

Project of EC Ma Ndryshe for transparency oversight of the executive branch will continue on publicizing monitoring findings through regular press releases and project's website, where the findings will be posted directly by the monitors. So far, all the monitoring findings, including regular press releases and other information relative to local governments of Prizren and Mamuşa/Mamushë, are regularly published on the project's website: [www.online-transparency.org](http://www.online-transparency.org).

Thank you for your cooperation,

Elmedina Baxhaku, Monitoring Staff  
NGO EC Ma Ndryshe  
Saraqët Street 5, Prizren  
Zeki Shulemaja Street 2, Pristina  
[www.ecmandryshe.org](http://www.ecmandryshe.org) & [info@ecmandryshe.org](mailto:info@ecmandryshe.org)  
+381 38 224 967 & +381 29 222 771



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