



**Non-governmental Organisation Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe
EC MA NDRYSHE**

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PRESS RELEASE

Investments of the municipality in the house of Shuaip Pasha, without an elaborated planning

Within the project of monitoring the work of Prizren's municipal executive, EC Ma Ndryshe, past few months, has considered the issue of reconstruction of Shuaip Pashë Spahiu's House with the funds outlaid from the municipal budget.

The research of EC Ma Ndryshe has revealed the fact that municipal government, respectively the Directorate of Urbanism and Spatial Planning has begun the implementation of the project without fully clarifying property disputes between the legitimate owners of this building; meanwhile, there was no clear plan or final designation of this house, that once has used to represent an exceptional value of Prizren's urban architecture.

Through the request submitted for access to public documents EC Ma Ndryshe has sought from the DUSP the complete file on the implementation of reconstruction project of, as well as the information on the amount of the investments, the contract between the municipality and the owners of the building and the building's final designation.

In the response issued by the DUSP it is stated that, "... the building in question has not been completed with additional procedures yet due to legal ownership issues with the owners of this building (several owners), and no compensation agreement between the owners has been reached hitherto". The DUSP has not given a clear answer on the end-purpose (designation) of the building after the investment of funds from the municipal budget. "In addition, the second phase of the works shall continue after the closure of the contract in the first phase and the end-purpose of the building will be designated subsequently after the actions of the parties listed above are completed." The total amount on the fulfilment of the contract "Reconstruction of Shuaip Pashë Spahiu's House in Prizren" entered with the respective economic operator is EUR 112,920.

EC Ma Ndryshe has obtained from the Directorate of Budget and Finance the analytical card of payments on the reconstruction of this house, in which appears that the municipality has paid EUR 107, 773 for the realization of the first phase of construction works.

Moreover, while the second phase of the project have come to a stall, a request was submitted to the municipal bodies of Prizren from the Diplomatic Academy of Kosova for this building be granted for utilization purposes to this institution. During the debate on the Policy and Finance Committee of the Municipal Assembly it was said that Prizren Municipality has invested money from public funds in a project without a clear end-use. The chairman of the Municipal Assembly has assessed the current state of the building as "debased".

The members of the Municipal Assembly, at the meeting held on 23 May 2013, have rendered two decisions in this regard. The first decision was on the announcement of a general interest

which foresees the expropriation and compensation to the owners and the second decision on granting for utilization purposes of the building for the needs of the Diplomatic Academy of Kosova.

EC Ma Ndryshe deems that such manner of planning and project implementation does not comply with the standards of good governance. The investment of over EUR 100,000 of Prizren taxpayers' money in a project subject to property disputes and without a clear plan for its final designation shows the local government's irresponsibility towards the principle of good management with public money.

EC Ma Ndryshe considers that prior to the reconstruction of this building the municipality of Prizren should have reached an agreement with the owners and had a clear plan for the end-purpose of this building.

EC Ma Ndryshe recommends the municipality of Prizren not to invest public money in projects subject to property disputes and without a thorough elaboration of the functionality and the benefit for the citizens of Prizren.

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

Thank you for your cooperation,

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