



**Non-governmental Organisation Emancipimi Civil Ma  
Ndryshe**

14 June 2012, Prizren

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Poor management of the school budget and flawed healthcare services**

Ec Ma Ndryshe continued with the oversight of executive branch of Prizren Municipality in May as well. What is worth pointing out is that the decisions (conclusions) of the Mayor of Prizren Municipality, brought in May 2012, have not been released on the municipal website. This fact clearly indicates the lack of transparency of municipal executive in relation to citizens. EC Ma Ndryshe requires from the Mayor of Prizren Municipality that the doors of his meetings with the directors of directorates (Board) be open for civil society and the media, in order to increase transparency in decision-making by the municipal executive.

In addition, the monitors have had numerous meetings with the school directors and teaching staff. According to the Law on Public Procurement of Kosovo, the contracting authority shall simultaneously send a written request for price quotations to at least three (3) economic operators and, to the extent practicable, to as many additional economic operators as is necessary to ensure that effective competition for the concerned contract is not impaired. The directors do not adhere to this legal provision; moreover, the directors, from their side, require from a company to provide other bids in order to cover the requirements on paper procedures. Directors have also confirmed they do not have proper expertise to successfully manage with the budget, emphasizing the lack of a financial officer of a school.

EC Ma Ndryshe, herein, expresses concern on the manner of financial management by the school directors which leads to the vast room for incompetent management and misappropriation of public funds. Therefore, we require the MDE to put more effective control upon school directors in terms of financial management and to continue with training the directors in the matters of financial management.

During this period of monitoring a poor quality in capital investment in schools was noted. Some of the school facilities that were recently built are not of proper quality. Cracks on the walls of the schools, collapse of sanitary nodes in school facilities, etc. are among remaining issues that follow the investments in this area. The lack of accountability and technical acceptances without any requirement by the oversight authority (municipality) *versus* economic operators investing in school facilities indicates possible abuses by local government officials. EC Ma Ndryshe

expresses its concern on how such occurrences are being accepted by the relevant institutions, and, therefore, requires the investigation of each and every case, thus to bound EOs in remediation of such rapid breakdowns of school facilities.

Another segment monitored – the healthcare service delivery – shows the lack of quality of these services delivered to the citizens of Prizren. Extended lunch breaks of medical staff, the requirement for an appointment for blood tests (two or three days in advance) and the lack of essential drugs list are ample evidence showing that the level of primary healthcare is ailing. Therefore, local government, together with the managing staff of the primary health institutions, should take immediate steps to remedy this situation in the provision of medical services to the citizens of Prizren.

The project of EC Ma Ndryshe for monitoring the transparency of the executive branch shall keep on publicizing the monitoring findings through regular press releases and, starting from June, through the project's website, where the findings shall be posted directly from the monitors. Commencing from 18 June 2012, all the monitoring findings, including regular press releases and many other information relative to local government of Prizren, will be regularly published on the website of the project: [www.online-transparency.org](http://www.online-transparency.org).

The two new segments of the oversight under this project are the urban planning and the culture. EC Ma Ndryshe's monitors are in the stage of data and evidence collection regarding the constructions out of the urban planning requirements that have recently taken place in the Historic Centre of Prizren. Parallel to this, the monitoring process is ongoing on local cultural policies, with particular emphasis on the manner of allocation and the expenditure of the budget for culture. Ec Ma Ndryshe shall come up with new press releases on specific data and tangible results in these two fields in the second half of the June. The same findings will be published in the project's website.

Thank you for your cooperation,

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*The "Online Transparency of Prizren Municipality" project is financially supported by the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society*

**SOROS**  
Fondacioni i Kosovës për Shoqëri të Hapur  
Kosovo Foundation for Open Society  
Kosovska Fondacija za Otvoreno Društvo