



**Non-Governmental Organization Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe
EC MA NDYSHE**

14 August, Prizren

PRESS RELEASE

Let's Return the Cobblestone!

The initiative "Let's Return the Cobblestone" conceived by participants of the School of Urban Activism within the project "Reclaiming the City" was conducted. During this initiative, symbolically the cobblestone fragments have been placed on the road "Adem Jashari", calling for a public discourse to return the cobblestone to this street.

Prizren, as an urban center for centuries, is distinguished by its architectural features associated with the application of traditional materials. Among them the cobblestone is part of the historical identity of its streets and alleys. As such, the cobblestone has given a character and charm to the squares and the streets of Prizren in the past, and continues to do so to this day in the remaining parts. In the postwar years, in some central streets of Prizren, the cobblestone is removed and replaced with asphalt. In this way, one of the elements of the historic identity of the city is sacrificed for the purpose of facilitating the road traffic of vehicles.

Since the cobblestone is a symbol of the city of Prizren, the young people attending the Urban Activism School have proposed that through such an initiative to send the message for returning the cobblestone on this path. The applied paving forms have a temporary character and tend that through getting back to times when this road was cobbled to make a call to the authorities to discuss options of returning the cobblestone where it is still available.

The idea for this public performance which serves as a call to restore the cobblestone was provided during Module 1 of the School of Urban Activism, held in April - May of this year, during which young participants of the school have had the opportunity to be trained in the principles of urban activism. This initiative will be followed by the next initiatives designed within the School of Urban Activism. Proposed actions address certain community issues in the city, and fall into different areas of focus on public spaces.

The Urban Activism School is part of the 'Reclaiming the City' project that specifically aims to advocate for the full enjoyment of the right over the city through a variety of activism platforms.

Through the Urban Activism School, the project offers a platform for civic education and civic activism by

transforming high school students into politically and socially active citizens.

The project "Reclaiming the City - The Right to the City for Underrepresented Groups in Prizren" is financially supported by the National Endowment for Democracy.

NGO EC Ma Ndryshe

St. Saraqët, Nr. 5 - Prizren

Mother Theresa Boulevard, H 30 B1 Nr. 5, Prishtina

www.ecmandryshe.org & info@ecmandryshe.org