

**URBANISM WATCH**

Prizren Urban Planning under  
Constant Watch

15 April 2015, Prizren

Press release #21

**PRESS RELEASE**

**DUSP not to hurry in issuing new construction permit for the library**

Over the recent days, EC Ma Ndryshe continued to attentively follow the developments related to the library construction project in the vicinity of the old "Ryzhdije" School.

On the project implementation site, the Directorate of Urban and Spatial Planning (DUSP) posted the decision of 8 April 2015 for the revocation of library construction permit due to procedural shortcomings.

DUSP explained that acting in compliance with the recommendation of the MESP dated 7 April 2014, takes the decision to revoke Construction Permit No.: 04-353-21169, of 9 February 2015, through which Department of Culture, Youth and Sports (DCYS) was allowed to construct the Municipal Library in "Suzi Qelebi" st., Cadastral Plot No. 2858.

This Decision indicates that in the implementation of future procedures DUSP shall act in full compliance with articles 17 and 18 of the Law on Construction, so that after the rectification of procedural shortcoming, procedures for the issuance of construction permit for the applicant – DCYS could continue.

Based on information obtained from the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, as well as from the Regional Cultural Heritage Centre, EC Ma Ndryshe came to conclusion that Municipality of Prizren laid the foundation of the library in this site without having the MCYS approval (press release link: [http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/Komunikate\\_UW\\_21012015.pdf](http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/Komunikate_UW_21012015.pdf)) and that the works are proceeding without adherence to legal procedures (press release link: [http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/UW\\_Komunikate\\_20.pdf](http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/UW_Komunikate_20.pdf)).

EC Ma Ndryshe reminds once again that the former Ryzhdije School is cultural heritage protected site, placed in the Temporary Protection List of MCYS, and as such deserves more attention by the authorities.

This is the reason why EC Ma Ndryshe considers that revocation of construction permit for the library is a step in right direction by the DUSP. At the same time, this Decision may serve as a new momentum for the Municipality of Prizren, in order to rectify procedural shortcomings,

but also to take concrete actions in reaching out to neighborhood residents and taking their remarks and proposals, as well as to discuss with the wide spectrum of professionals, so that a project in line with the architectural values of Prizren could be implemented.

Therefore, we recommend the DUSP not to hurry in issuing the construction permit without detailed discussion with the above actors.

EC Ma Ndryshe calls upon the line ministries of the Government of Kosovo to give their contribution so that the values of this area with several cultural heritage sites could be preserved and promoted.

*Kindly yours,*

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