

Non-Governmental Organization Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe EC Ma Ndryshe

URBANISM WATCH

15 March 2016, Prizren

REACTION Another cultural heritage monument damaged by fire

Protected facilities of cultural heritage within the Historic Centre of Prizren continue to be destroyed, whereas the responsible institutions still did not find appropriate methods for their preservation.

On Tuesday, a facility which is an asset included in the List of Cultural Heritage under Temporary Protection of MCYS, as part of the Complex of the Catholic Church, Lady Helper, was caught on fire and emergency and safety institutions still did not provide the official version of what caused this event. Recently this facility was given for use to the Catholic Church in Kosovo by local government of Prizren.

The fire that was caused on this object requires immediate and detailed investigation by the investigation authorities.

NGO EC Ma Ndryshe last week estimated that the institutions responsible for preservation of the Historic Centre of Prizren, did not establish a proper system of coordinating the tasks between them, and the lack of cooperation between them is affecting the degradation.

The last case proves that institutional negligence generated another failure in relation to the preservation of protected objects within the Historic Centre of Prizren.

The issue becomes more alerting, due to the fact that it's been two years since the establishment of the Task Force for the Historic Centre of Prizren, and the damage caused to these facilities in this zone is not stopping.

Due to this reason, NGO EC Ma Ndryshe calls on the local and central authorities to undertake appropriate actions in accordance with their legal responsibilities to prevent the occurrence of such scenarios in other parts of the Historic Centre of Prizren, and at the same time calls on the investigation authorities to enlighten the case in entirety.

In July 2013, NGO EC Ma Ndryshe began implementing the project "Urbanism of Prizren under Constant Watch", which is financially supported by the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS). The project will continue monitoring and publishing the findings from the sector of urbanism and spatial planning, as well as addressing the institutional responsibility.

Sincerely,
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