



The non-governmental organization Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe

EC MA ND RYSHE

## URBANISM WATCH

Urbanism of Prizren under

constant Watch

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### Press Release

#### **The Municipality of Prizren has not implemented the Auditor's recommendation for the building permits**

The Municipality of Prizren has failed to establish effective controls and proper monitoring during the treatment of construction cases, and the recommendation given by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) on this issue is left unaddressed. In the last Auditor Report that was published months before, became known that the recommendation for the building permits presented last year has not been implemented by the Municipality of Prizren.

The auditor last year had recommended that the Mayor should ensure that a sufficient number of staff individuals are employed in the Department of Urbanism and also to handle on time and with competence all applications for building permits. "Controls and monitoring in this process should be strengthened to prevent the unauthorized constructions and over constructions, and if necessary, apply the penalties provided by law," according to the last year report (the link to the report: [http://oag-rks.org/repository/docs/sq\\_Raporti\\_Final\\_Prizren\\_327559.pdf](http://oag-rks.org/repository/docs/sq_Raporti_Final_Prizren_327559.pdf)). This recommendation was given after OAG found out that "from the 784 requests made during the year, only 502 of them were approved, and that the requested documentation was not complete". "We have noticed that even those who are in possession of the building permits, do not comply with the criteria defined by urbanization. Furthermore, the Municipality has not taken adequate measures to stop this practice," was written in the last year report. According to the auditor "the low number of applications handling for building permits has a direct impact on reducing potential revenue from this source and enhancing the risk of increasing the number of illegal constructions. While the lack of controls and monitoring regarding the process of the issuance of construction permits, could result in violation of legal requirements and building standards". Whereas in the last report, the Auditor found out that in the Department of Urbanism, 12 officials are contracted for specific services with a duration of more than six months; while the recommendation of the last year for

building permits remained unaddressed (the link to the report [http://oag-rks.org/repository/docs/RaportiAuditimit\\_KPZ\\_2015\\_Shqip\\_550195.pdf](http://oag-rks.org/repository/docs/RaportiAuditimit_KPZ_2015_Shqip_550195.pdf)).

Based on this data, EC Ma Ndryshe repeats its evaluation given before that the Municipal Government has a serious problem regarding the establishment of urbanistic order in Prizren. While the presentation of recommendations for improvement in this area has now lost its meaning, since also the recommendations of the relevant state institutions are being ignored by this governance.

*Sincerely,*

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