



To: Mrs. Albulena Haxhiu, Minister of Justice
Mr. Agim Veliu, Minister of Internal Affairs
Mr. Aleksandër Lumezi, Chief State Prosecutor
Mr. Bahri Hyseni, Chair of Prosecutor Council
Mr. Burim Berisha, Mayor, Fushë Kosovë
Mr. Shpend Ahmeti, Mayor, Prishtinë

From: Coalition of NGOs for Child Protection

Subject: Request for action

Date: 24 February 2020

The Coalition of NGOs Child Protection, which represents 29 non-governmental organizations, through this letter expresses its deep indignation regarding the actions of the prosecution and the poor performance of the entire protection system, in dealing with cases where children are victims of various forms of abuse and sexual violence.

The last case published in the media that painfully proves the failure of the system to guarantee protection for children victims of abuse, concerns a 12-year-old child who has been sexually abused and systematically maltreated. The main suspect for abuse of the child is known to the prosecution. The child was assessed without parental care and was therefore taken into the care of public institutions.

It is extremely disturbing that even during the time when the child without parental care was under the protection of public institutions, the child is suspected of being abused and mistreated again by the suspect.

In this case, the first criminal complaint for trafficking was dismissed, the second report for rape and sexual abuse is in regular procedure.

Although there are reasonable suspicions that against children, have been committed criminal offenses against life and body - sexual harassment, criminal offenses against human rights and freedoms - photographs and other unauthorized recordings - as well as criminal offenses against sexual integrity – sexual abuse have been systematically committed against the child, sexual assault, degradation of sexual integrity and child abuse in pornography, the main suspect for all these offenses has been released by the prosecution for protection in liberty.

Another similar case and already known to the public happened last year, when the prosecution released in a regular procedure the suspect for sexual abuse of a minor child, a case which ended with the macabre murder of the child K.V. from Fushë Kosova.

We are shocked by the fact that the tragic case of K.V. from Fushë Kosova, has not affected at all the reflection, mobilization or increase of the level of responsibility of the entire child protection system, especially the prosecution.



All the facts mentioned above make these cases intolerable and scandalous. Based on this, we demand that the institutional approach be effective and do not result in murder and other victims of abuse!

We, Coalition of NGOs for Child Protection, request from the state:

- To demand criminal responsibility from all parties of the protection system who failed to exercise the legal obligation of child protection (K.V) from Fushë Kosova, by imposing the deserved punishments.
 - o We request the resumption of the investigation of the case management system of the victim K.V., the imposition of deserved punishments for the persons responsible for action or inaction in providing protection.
 - o We demand full transparency of the above process.
- Urgently send the suspect to custody for the criminal offenses of the current case (12-year-old child), as well as to review the entire course of procedural actions taken by the responsible persons within the institutions.
- To demand criminal responsibility from the prosecutors of both cases for their actions.
- To demand an increase in internal accountability and to implement the obligation to respect the laws within the responsible institutions.
- Ensure adequate protection of all children and victims of abuse and ill-treatment.

We remain waiting for urgent actions of the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo in relation to the case.

Donjetë Kelmendi
Executive Director - KOMF

Sincerely,

KOMF members organizations: Association for Social Training, Research and Advocacy – ASTRA, Action for Mothers and Children, Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, Childproof / CIPOF, Education Comes First – ECF, Iniciativa 6, Organizata Rinore Akti – ORA, Organization for Children without Parental Care– OFAP, OPFAKOS , Civil Rights Program in Kosovo – CRP/ K, PL4Y International, Kosovo Education Center – KEC, Day Care Center - PEMA, Center for Protection of Victims and Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings - PVPT, FIT Center for Advanced Studies – FIT, Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims – KRCT, Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages in Kosovo, Shpresa dhe Shtëpi për Fëmijët në Kosovë – SDSF, Patients' Rights Association Kosovo – PRAK, Association of Children Paraplegics and Paralysis in Kosovo – HANDIKOS, Terre des hommes, The Ideas Partnership, VoRAE, World Vision, Public Organization for Local Initiatives and Supports – POLIS, Network of Peace Movement – NOPM, SOS Kindergarten and Nevo Koncepti.