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NEW FACTORY IN NIŠ

South Korean Company Yura opened new factory Shin Won for the production of car cables. 500 people will be employed at this new factory.



New Production Facility

On the occasion of new factory official opening Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović handed over the use permit to the Yura Corporation president Mr. Woo. Mayor Simonović expressed his pleasure that this city government managed to keep the promises it made and that factories like Shin Won were the best examples of the achieved objectives to which they were striving.

"It is extremely important that foreign investors showed that they trusted the City of Niš. New investments bring new jobs and that is one of the preconditions for creating the future for the citizens of Niš" said Mayor Simonović.

Mr. Woo said that he was sure that Yura Corporation made a good decision and in right time when deciding to invest in Niš.

Official opening was attended by RS Government Vice President Verica Kalanović and Serbian National Parliament Member Mladjan Dinkić, South Korean Ambassador in Belgrade H.E. Mr. Kim and SIEPA representatives.

Vice president Kalanović said on this occasion that she recognized at the right moment the intention of Niš city management to establish industrial zone in Donje Medjurovo and that she supported it. Opening of another factory here in Donje Medjurovo proved that having the right vision could bring multiple benefits.

NEW RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL COMPLEX

Niš City Council decided to announce public call for disposing infrastructurally equipped public land property at the location of ex military barracks Bubanjski heroji.

Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović said that finding best use for 15 hectares of land property would be one of the biggest investments in Niš for last twenty years. New residential and commercial complex is planned to be built on this location. 21% of total residential area (about 200 flats) will be handed over to RS Ministry of Defense.

The cooperation between Serbian Army - RS Ministry of Defense and the City of Niš is exemplary cooperation between one ministry and a local self government. All around Serbia, the military is spending money to maintain bases that no longer have any strategic purpose. At the same time, municipalities keen on attracting investment are looking at these

bases as potential sites for Brownfield investments. The national Defense System Reform Strategy passed in 2004 recognized this issue and defined the legal framework which would allow for auctioning off surplus military property. Local governments were given preemptive rights. The Master Plan adopted in June 2006 established the procedure for the conversion of property for commercial purposes and how the military could utilize the resources it receives as compensation. The City of Niš with its projects of converting military property for civil uses is the example of good practice in the cooperation with Serbian government.



Niš City Council Session

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

RS Ministry of Education Zarko Obradovic and Niš City Mayor Milos Simonovic together with Andreas Beikos, the Head of EIB Regional Office for Serbia, opened newly built separate department of primary school Ivo Andric in the settlement of Branko Bjegovic.

This is the third Niš settlement with new school after the ones built in the settlements of Pasi Poljana and Brzi Brod. The school is built with the support of EIB loan through the School Modernization programme which supports the public educational priority established by the Ministry. This operation represents a continuation of EIB's support to Serbia's primary and secondary education sector, following the successful implementation of the first EIB EUR 25 million loan extended in 2005 and is fully in line with the EIB's lending priorities for the strengthening and development of activities in support of the Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries.

Mayor Simonovic said that the construction of this school was another indicator that this city management succeeds in completion of the initiated projects according to the planned dynamics. "We do not start any job unless we have fulfilled all the necessary preconditions."

Minister Obradovic pointed out the importance of the good cooperation between the ministry and a local self government which resulted in the implementation of the project such as building of this school.

Newly built premises of Ivo Andric Primary School together with gym cover the area of 3350m². 500 new pupils will find their classrooms in these newly built premises.



New primary school Ivo Andric

SOUTH EAST SERBIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The constitutional session of the first Regional Development Council in Serbia was held in Niš.



First Regional Development Council Constitution Session

Nis City Mayor Miloš Simonović was elected the Council President. The Council was established by Republic of Serbia Government. It is constituted of 17 members, out of whom 11 are the municipality presidents and city mayors from the region of South and East Serbia.

“Regional Development Council will enable us to define the system of regional priorities and the project which should be financed by state or by the region or by cities and municipalities themselves. It will also direct us towards expected results in the years to come. We will keep transforming the problems into opportunities. We must use every given chance and we must prepare ourselves. It is also necessary to have ready projects. This is the beginning of the work where it will be upon us to take care of our priorities. We must join forces, forget selfish interest and think regionally and work on creating the identity for this region and greater visibility for this region”, said Mayor Simonovic.

RS Ministry of Economy and Regional Development State Secretary Mrs. Dragijana Radonjic Petrovic pointed out on this occasion that there were greater available funds for the projects prepared jointly by several cities and municipalities. “The role of this Council will be to guide the regional development strategy, the programmes for regional development financing. It will also form working groups on particular issues of importance for future development of this region”, said Mrs. Dragijana Radonjic Petrovic.

The first meeting of the RDC for South and East Serbia was focused on forming the working group for the preparation of regional strategy which envisaged the socio economic analyses, analyses of regional potentials and advantages. The beginning of next year should bring first regional plan for the benefit of all municipalities in this region.

NIŠ CITY AT OPEN DAYS IN BRUSSELS

Between 10 and 13 October 2011, the Committee of the Regions (CoR) and the European Commission's Regional Policy DG (DG REGIO) organised the 9th OPEN DAYS - European Week of Regions and Cities.



For 2011, CoR and DG REGIO have teamed up with 206 regions and cities from 35 countries - organised in 23 geographical and thematic partnerships - as well as with financial institutions, European associations and companies. Some 6 000 politicians, regional and local experts and academics participated at about 100 seminars and debates in Brussels. In addition, between September and November, more than 200 local events all over Europe will attract an audience of 25 000 people to seminars in 35 countries, which will be branded Europe in my Region/City.

Nis City was represented by Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic within OPEN DAYS at the Adriatic Ionian Macro - region Debate: From Efficient Cooperation to Institutional Recognition. This is the first time that City of Niš participated at this event ever since Serbia became the member. Thanks to Nis City Representative Office in Brussels Nis City got a chance to present itself and its projects and business partnerships with the partners from Adriatic Ionian Macro - region as well as its suggestions as to the directions into which this macro-region could evolve into future.

OPEN DAYS IN NIS

Regional Development Association „South” and the City of Nis organized the local event within the OPEN DAYS 2011, named „Synergy between Local Self-governments, University of Nis and Private Sector - Public Private Partnerships (PPP) - Best Practices.

Within the period of October 10-13, 2011, 9th European Week of Regions and Cities OPEN DAYS 2011 was held in the organization of the EU Committee of the Regions and the Directorate General for Regional Policy of the European Commission in Brussels. In addition to the representatives of the City of Nis and Regional Development Association „South”, a number of decision makers at national, regional and local levels from all over Europe took part at this event, together with representatives from business sector, civil society and investors. The aim of the local event was sharing experiences and best practices, as well as creating opportunities for presenting new possibilities and ideas in the field of public-private partnerships.

Nis City Mayor Simonovic in his welcoming speech expressed his expectations that new legal regulations related to PPP would remove all the ambiguities and would enable better conditions for development.

Magdalena Chawula Cosuri, the director of Polish Region Silesia Representative Office in Brussels presented the experience of this region in the area of public private partnership.

The experience in the area of public private partnerships were presented by the representatives Nis City, Nis University, Regional Development Association South, guests from regions and regional agencies in Serbia and abroad, as well as representatives of public and private sectors.



Open Days Local Event

FACILITATING THE WORK OF NIS CITY REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

The first meetings of the working groups within USAID Sustainable Local Development Project (USAID SLD Project) focused on the facilitation of Nis City Representative Office in Brussels were held at Nis City Hall.

These working groups are working on the establishment of the joint office in Belgrade for the municipalities and cities from this region which joined USAID SLD Project. The objective of the Belgrade Inter-municipal Office would be the promotion of the potentials, attracting investments and advocating the interests for further development of the communities and business in South East Serbia. Both Offices, Nis City Representative Office in Brussels and Belgrade Inter-Municipal Office will have the task to present to national and European institutions the projects and economic potentials of South East Serbia. Both offices will be a service to local self-governments and enterprises

from the region in order to facilitate easier and faster access to available funds and potential investors. The offices will also create electronic data bases on the region and its potentials and prepared projects.

Establishing Nis City Representative Office in Brussels was the first step for the City of Nis to European integrations and a chance to have better access to European funds. By establishing inter-municipal partnerships between the City of Nis and Cities of Leskovac and Vranje and Municipalities of Merosina, Doljevac, Gadžin Han, Bujanovac, Presevo and Vladicin Han within USAID SLD project, Nis City initiative spread onto whole region of South East Serbia.

The efforts made by City of Nis are being supported by ALDA and Regional Development Association South. The office operations will be also supported by RS Ministry of Exterior, RS Government's Office for European Integration, Center for Development of Jablanica and Pcinja Districts and USAID SLD Project which will assist in the preparation of annual and five-year action and operational plan and in international promotion of South East Serbia region.

EUROPEAN LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK

City of Nis - Office of the Mayor, Metropolitan University, NGO Youth Educational Center, Media Center Nis and Local Democracy Center - LDA organised the Week of Local Democracy Week from October 10 to October 16.

The European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) is an annual event in Europe which fosters local and national participation in promoting the knowledge of local democracy and the idea of democratic participation at a local level. ELDW is a joint initiative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the European Committee on Local and Regional Democracy. Overall ELDW seeks to emphasize the importance of local democracy in constructing a democratic Europe and to inform the public and elected representatives how crucial their participation in local affairs is in maintaining a strong local democracy.

This year slogan is "Human rights? What about your backyard?" highlighting the human rights as a fundamental component of local democracy and nurturing culture of respect for human rights throughout local communities in Europe. Democracy and human rights are interdependent. Democracy cannot exist without an unconditional respect for human rights.

The organised activities in Nis included painting workshop with special focus on the students with special education needs. The institutions Children's Center, Day Care for Children and Youth with Disabilities Mara and Secondary School Bora Stankovic took active part in those activities.

Two public debates on the issue of respect for human rights with special attention being paid to minority groups such as Roma people, women, homophobia and students with disabilities were held.

Vlajko Senic and Miladin Kovacevic from Belgrade University Faculty of Economics presented internet portal Fiscal Monitor which enabled the citizens to follow and monitor how local self government spent their budgets. Also, the citizens had the chance to learn more about the institution of local ombudsman and its jurisdiction.



Discussion with Local Ombudsman

University Metropolitan organised the contest for the best photo on the subject of Human Rights through the Lens of Citizens. The best photo was selected at the exhibition of the art work from painting workshops which was held at European Corner.

University Metropolitan students, Nis City and Medijana City Municipality representatives, Faculty of Occupational Safety Student Parliament representatives and numerous citizens took part in the final ELDW activities on clearing away the wild landfills along the banks of the River Nisava.



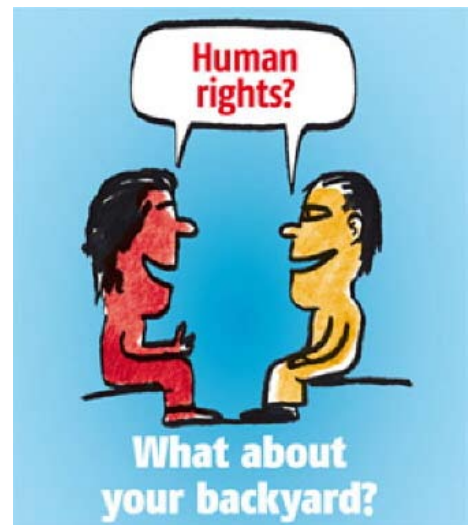
Painting Workshop



Human Rights Debate



Painting Workshop



REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN CENTER FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Ivica Dacic and Russian Minister for Emergency Situations Sergei Shoigu signed the documents on establishment of Regional Humanitarian Center for Emergency Response in Niš.

These documents are the plan of joint action for the deployment of the Regional humanitarian centre in Nis and the Protocol on the transfer and use of Russian material resources for this centre. Serbian Minister of the Foreign Affairs Vuk Jeremic, Russian Ambassador to Serbia Alexander Konuzin, Nis City Mayor Milos Simionovic attended the official ceremony held at the Nis City airport Constantine the Great.

On this occasion Dacic confirmed that in the next few months all formal preconditions would be fulfilled, which would enable the opening of the centre. Shoigu underlined that the new centre will be an addition to the emergency response system in EU which will contribute to more efficient reaction in emergency situations throughout Europe.

Dacic and Shoigu visited the warehouse and the premises intended for the centre headquarters where the plaque inscribed with the name of the centre was symbolically unveiled. Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations provided 35 tons of supplies such as tents, blankets and power generators intended for the joint centre for the prevention and elimination of consequences of emergency situations.



Dacic and Shoigu Unveiling Plaque

Minister Jeremic stated that the opening of the centre in Nis is of strategic importance for the relations between Serbia and Russia. These kind of humanitarian centers play important role in helping relieve consequences of natural disasters, he stated, and highlighted that in the future Nis would be the centre for monitoring and natural disasters relief on the Balkans. The whole region will be a safer place to live and I expect our neighbours to take part in this project, Jeremic said.

Mayor Simonovic said that opening of the center was of utmost importance for the whole region. The center will enhance the administrative capacities of Nis City administration and it will contribute to better positioning of the city.

SUPPORT TO DISABLED AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE

City of Nis and City Municipality Palilula initiated the cooperation with German Organization Internationaler Bund which has been providing services to people with disabilities for more than 30 years.



Internationaler Bund Delegation in Nis

The delegation from this organisation led by Mr. Norman Diessner, the member of the Hessen Province Regional Parliament in charge of social policies, visited the City Municipality of Palilula and met with municipality president Igor Novakovic and municipality assembly president Milan Djurdjevic. The German delegation had a chance to learn about the activities of the municipality in the project Exchange 3 which was focused on providing support to people with disabilities and socially vulnerable citizens.

"This is the third visit by Internationaler Bund Organisation to Nis. They have already visited the social care institutions in the city in order to find out about the scope and levels of the services that these institutions provide. Also, our experts from these institutions had a chance to learn about the German institutions of the same kind on the study tour in August this year", said Zorica Stojilkjovic, Nis City Municipality Palilula Council Member.

DAYS OF POLISH MOVIES

An exceptional programme of contemporary Polish movies at Nis Cultural Center was organised by Embassy of Poland in Serbia and Nis Cultural Center from October 20 till October 26.

The programme included seven full length movies and seven short animated movies shot in the period between 2002 and 2011. This festival is part of the cultural activities that Embassy of Poland is going to organise in Serbia during its EU presidency.

MEN'S EHF EURO 2012 COUNTDOWN CLOCK STARTED TICKING

100 days before the beginning of MEN'S EHF EURO 2012 Championship the countdown clock started ticking.

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic pressed the button and officially set the clock in motion. According to the draw, Germany, Sweden, Czech Republic will be joining FYROM within GROUP B for the matches at Niš Arena Čair in January 2012. Mayor Simonovic invited the fans of the national teams playing in Nis to come and participate in this ultimate sports event. Mayor Simonovic said that he was sure that Nis would prove to be worthy of the trust given when choosing Nis as one of the MEN'S EHF EURO 2012 Championship venues. According to



Countdown Clock Started Ticking

Serbian Handball Federation, the City of Nis has been reliable partner so far.

NIS LEXICON PROMOTION AT BOOK FAIR IN BELGRADE

Nis City Lexicon, the project initiated by Official Gazette Lexicography Department, was presented at 56th International Belgrade Book Fair.

"This is one of the most important cultural events for the City of Nis over the last three years. More than a hundred associates were involved in the preparation of this lexicon and the result of that hard work is comprehensive publication in the form of the lexicon which portrays the history and culture of the city manifested in its everyday life.

Contemporary phenomena are rooted in the city history and tradition and the lexicon will help with getting to know the contemporary Nis better", said Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic.

According to Dragica Jevtic, Nis Lexicon editor, the City of Nis started this project in April 2009. The editing board was established in May and the work on the lexicon itself started in June that year. The citizens of Nis were involved from the very beginning with their own suggestions.



Nis City Lexicon

Nis City Lexicon was published within Serbian City Lexicon Edition comprising 25 publications representing all the cities in Serbia with official status of the city. "Nis City Lexicon may be the most important in our edition since it sets the limits of modern lexicography. It presents Nis as modern, contemporary city and at the same time it gives it historical genesis", said Slobodan Gavrilovic, the Official Gazette director.

NIMUS 2011 – JOIN US

This year NIŠ MUSIC FESTIVAL - NIMUS is held from October 20 till November 11. Nis Symphonic Orchestra performed at the festival opening night together with the conductor Azis Sadikovic from Austria and violin solo performance by Angelika Vimer.



NIMUS 2011 – JOIN US

This year the organizers of the festival are Niš Symphonic Orchestra and Niš Cultural Center.

Each year German Embassy from Belgrade organizes festive events in different cities in Serbia in October and November celebrating German National Day and Fall of Berlin wall. This year they decided to organize this special event in Nis. The string quintet from Belgrade will perform on November 7 as the gift concert by German Embassy in Belgrade.

Also, the famous flute player from South Korea So Young Kim will perform together with Montenegrin pianist Ana Mihaljević at the gift concert by South Korean Embassy in Belgrade.

In cooperation with Serbian Council from Great Britain the concert entitled Roads of Constantine the Great will be held announcing the celebration of Edict of Milan 1700th anniversary.

Niš audience will also have the chance to enjoy the comic opera Mandragola.