



A good plan must be also feasible

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The Iniciativa Kosovare per Stabilitet (ESI) considers that a city that today has around 220.000 inhabitants, and which might increase to 250.000 inhabitants by 2020, has different needs when it comes to investments and infrastructure

The Kosovar Stability Initiative (ESI) in a debate organized in Prishtina on 'Utopian Visions – Governance failures in Kosovo's capital' presented its vision how Prishtina should be developed and constructed as a capital city. This research by ESI has been made possible with the support of the 'Balkan Trust for Democracy' and the 'Austrian Erste Bank Privatstiftung'. In this debate were also present Ardian Gjini, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, and Ismet Beqiri, mayor of Prishtina municipality.

ESI officials said it is crucial that a good plan also be one that can be implemented. This requires close cooperation between different municipal directorates, municipal and central institutions, and other organizations still under the KTA, as it is the case with public service providers.

Officials of the Initiative point out that this kind of cooperation has been missing until now. Effective implementation of a plan also requires realistic budgets, which concentrate on real priorities.

The analysis of the current socio-economic situation, according to ESI, is based on actual research. ESI considers that a city that today has around 220.000 inhabitants, and which might increase to 250.000 inhabitants by 2020, has different investments and infrastructure needs than a city of 650.000 inhabitants. A city where about 12.000 cars enter every day does not need traffic crossings with capacities for more than 70,000 cars.

ESI officials emphasise that 'a good plan must address the actual problems of current citizens, and not those of an imaginary utopian city in the distant future'. Equally, officials said that the majority of families that will live in Prishtina by the year 2020 are already living here today and that a good plan would need to take account of their needs. These needs naturally differ from one another, so ESI officials believe, depending on where these citizens live, in neighbourhoods Arberia or Kodra e Trimave, Kalabria or Ulpiana.