



Romani CRISS
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Press Release

In regard to the Bucharest District 1 Mayoralty's Press release of 25.01.2006, Romani CRISS states the following.

Romani CRISS considers the District 1 Mayoralty's action to demolish the houses in Chitila neighbourhood on 24.01.2006 as illegal, based on the following arguments:

Although lawsuits regarding the property right upon the lands and houses in question were on trial before the Court of Law District 1, the District 1 Mayoralty ignored the authority of the Court of Law and executed the action of demolishing the houses.

The process-verbals of 20.12.2005 informed about the destruction of the houses that was to take place until 03.01.2006. Inexplicably, the process-verbals were communicated on 16.01.2006, almost two weeks after the date mentioned as the houses demolition date. In two days since the Roma have been informed about the demolition, they appealed the process-verbals in question, contestation registration no. 1567/18.01.2006 submitted to the District 1 Mayoralty. We believe that the District 1 Mayoralty misinformed the public opinion when stating there had been no appeal to the process-verbals.

Moreover, the Roma houses were destroyed without any official communicate of the Mayor, therefore, with no possibilities of a judicial control to take place.

In regard to the Mayoralty's intention to continue the demolishing actions, Romani CRISS requests it publicly to respect, in the future, the current national and international legislation. Also, we signal that our organisation will report all cases of law violations to the courts of law.

We must ad that a policy of excluding Roma people at local level is spreading, in terms of moving the Roma from the centre or from within the localities to the outskirts, in isolated areas, thus resulting in residential segregation on ethnical grounds.

In many cases, this physical separation goes along with the violation of the property right, environmental racism (see the case in Miercurea Ciuc), inadequate living conditions and limitation of the freedom of movement.

The violation of the housing rights has major collateral effects. The right to education, the access to employment, right to health and private life are severely affected.

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