

## **Response regarding the accusations addressed to the Chairperson of the Central Election Commission, Mrs. Valdete Daka**

We, Civil Society Organizations, call on the political parties to put an end to the pressure and attacks on the Institution of the Central Election Commission (CEC), and ensure that the CEC is free to conduct its work in line with the legal and constitutional provisions. CEC implements the law, and any person who is not satisfied should pursue legal action against its decisions, rather than resort to pressure through public statements.

CEC takes its decisions in a collegium of all members. The collegium consists of the Chair and ten members, six coming from largest Assembly Caucuses, and four representing smaller communities in Kosovo. The Central Election Commission (CEC) was established in accordance with Article 139 of the Constitution of Kosovo, and is a permanent independent body. As an institution, CEC exercises its functions and duties in accordance with Law No. 03/L-073 on General Elections in the Republic of Kosovo, and the Law No. 03/L-072 on Local Elections in the Republic of Kosovo, as well as election rules of the Central Election Commission, approved on 02.07.2013.

Hence, these are not individual decisions of the CEC Chairperson, Mrs. Valdete Daka. CEC has submitted the lists of candidates of political entities to the Kosovo Judicial Council, for checks by this institution for persons who have been found guilty of a criminal offense, with a final court decision, in the last three (3) years, in accordance with Article 29 of the Election Law.

Ultimately, the CEC is yet to take decision, which is why this is construed as undue pressure to influence the decision-making of the institution.

Therefore, the undersigned organizations call on political parties to put a stop to the pressures and language that can lead to threats and attacks against independent constitutional bodies and their heads.

Democracy for Development (D4D)  
Democracy Plus(D+)  
Kosova Democratic Institute / Transparency International Kosova  
FOL Movement  
Humanitarian Law Center Kosovo  
Kosovo Stability Initiative - IKS  
Initiative for Progress - INPO  
Institute for Development Policy (INDEP)  
Riinvest Institute  
Policy and Advocacy Center (QPA)  
Kosova Women's Network  
Organizata Çohu / Preportr  
EC Ma Ndryshe  
ADMOVERE  
Cel Kosovo  
OJQ Plejada

sbunker

Debate Center

Group for Legal and Political Studies

Kosovar Gender Studies Center

Youth Initiative for Human Rights - Kosovo (YIHR KS)

Shqipe Gjocaj – Civil Society Activist

Krenar Shala – Civil Society Activist