



Belgrade, July 16, 2013.

PRESS RELEASE

MEDIA RESPONSIBILITY

Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights is calling on competent authorities to take all the necessary measures to hold responsible media "Pečat" for causing a wave of hate speech against Nataša Kandić, by publishing obvious false information, which jeopardized the reputation of this human right defender.

Before the enormous amount of semi-information, unchecked articles and imputations, it is unacceptable that this completely false news remains unpunished like many other similar affairs. This undermines the reputation of all the media, and offenders are getting the clear message that publishing false information is allowed with complete impunity.

It is not just a question of small circulation and little impact of this newspaper, because the false information broadcast by "Pečat" has spread on a great amount of portals, serious media and social networks. It caused higher public concern as well as open threats and hatred.

As an organization that has always been supporting freedom of expression and freedom of the press, we are asking for answers to the following questions:

- Is the prosecutor's office going to react to this and to many similar other cases, in which the media directly persecute citizens and violate their rights?
- Will the Council for Press follow high standards and clearly censure the publication of lies?
- Is the Ministry of Culture and Information going to react to this and to many similar other cases, in which the media directly persecute citizens and promote hate speech?



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