



Новинари за човекови права | Journalists for Human Rights

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the wake of the 2017 Local Elections, NGO Human Rights Journalists, an organization that has been fighting for years for just access to water and sanitation for every citizen in Macedonia, encourages the following facts, requirements and disadvantages that relate to water and sanitation; to which we have come through self-evaluation for equitable access to water and sanitation, to predict in your electoral programs. If you have already done so, please inform us (with a link to the page, the program ...) to jointly promote the real values in solving the essential needs of the people of your municipality.

In Macedonia access to water and sanitation is guaranteed human right.

But only 18% of the territory of Macedonia has a sewerage network.

In Skopje, and in most cities there are no public toilets.

In rural areas water supply is a burning problem, and there is no sanitation.

City of Skopje does not have wastewater treatment plant, although it has more than 700,000 inhabitants.

Girls from rural areas do not go to school 5-7 days a week due to lack of conditions for management of menstrual hygiene, and girls from urban areas leave 2-3 days for the same reasons.

Journalists for Human Rights demand from future mayors within their programs to foresee:

- Census and renovation of all school toilets in primary and secondary schools;
- Ensure conditions for menstrual hygiene in schools and in public toilets;
- To provide toilets for children to all children's playgrounds with access and care for them;
- To provide toilets and access to all religious buildings (churches, mosques, etc.);
- Mark and protect all public fountains with drinking water symbols;
- To sanction the unreasonable consumption of potable water for other purposes (watering, washing vehicles, industry ...);
- Provide access to water and sanitation for persons with disabilities;
- Ensure fair access to water and sanitation for homeless people;
- To stimulate social tariff models for socially vulnerable groups.

We hope that our indications and your initiatives will find a common ground for fully fulfilling the basic human rights of every citizen, including the right access to water and sanitation.

Journalists for Human Rights

Skopje, September 20, 2017