

Conference Report:
Socio-Economic Profiles of the Municipalities
of the Ferizaj Region
Ferizaj, October 6th, 2018

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Introduction

On October 6th, 2018, in Ferizaj took place the Regional Conference on the topic “Socio-Economic Profiles of the Municipalities of the Region of Ferizaj,” organized by the Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development (KIPRED) with the representatives of the leaderships of the municipal assemblies, as well as with the NGO’s of this region. In this Conference the findings of the work of KIPRED, “The Municipalities of the Region of Ferizaj: The Socio-Economic Profiles”¹ were presented, which were aiming to be used as an incentive for opening the public debate, and to help the municipal and national decision-makers in the formulation and implementation of the policies that will address the needs of the youth, and particularly of the age group 15–29 years. From the findings of the work and discussions of the conference the following issues were identified that require urgent treatment by the municipal and national authorities:

- a) The change of legal regulations on subsidizing youth, cultural and sport activities by municipalities, which foresee the amount of only 5 Euros per inhabitant, given that for smaller municipalities this amount is too small for increasing the quality of these activities at the municipal level;
- b) Poor, or inexistent, infrastructure for youth, cultural and sport activities in the municipalities Kaçanik, Hani i Elezit, Shtime and Shtërpçe, should be addressed urgently by the Kosovo Government, given that with their modest budgets the municipal governments will not have any possibility to improve it considerably in the medium term;
- c) The design of local policies by local governments for strengthening the youth, cultural and sport activities, in cooperation with youth communities in the urban and rural parts of the respective municipalities of the Ferizaj Region;

¹ *Komunat e Rajonit të Ferizajit: Profili Socio-Ekonomik*, KIPRED, Tetor 2018.
(http://www.kipred.org/repository/docs/Profili_Socio-Ekonomik_-_Rajoni_i_Ferizajit_19397.pdf)

- d) Generation of statistical data by municipal administrations on employment, labor and business sector at the local level for following the economic trends and for preparation of policies for local development, including the employment of the youth;
- e) Regular periodic and annual reporting at the Municipal Councils for Security in the Community before Municipal Assemblies, on the condition of security in respective municipalities, including the level and types of criminality, the use of drugs, as well as on violent extremism;
- f) Given the dilemmas and misunderstandings at the local level, it is necessary for the Security Council of Kosovo to clarify the legal terminology for the following concepts:
 - 1. Foreign terrorist fighters;
 - 2. Persons who were stopped before they have gone in war theaters in Syria and Iraq;
 - 3. Persons who were planning and who have attempted to conduct terrorist acts in Kosovo, in support of ISIS, Al Nusra, Al Qaeda, and other terrorist groups in Syria and Iraq;
 - 4. Persons who have incited and planned the departure of individuals from Kosovo to war theaters in Syria and Iraq;
- g) Non-inclusion of the Municipality of Kaçanik in the Prishtina-Skopje highway will have long-term consequences in the development of this municipality, given its isolation from modern traffic infrastructure, which will have impact in the prospects of the youth of this city.

For having an even closer connection between the presented work and the discussions that were made in the Conference, we will summarize that according to the respective municipalities of the region of Ferizaj.

The Municipality of Ferizaj

The Chair of the Municipal Council of Ferizaj, Mrs. Kristina Gashi, stressed that at the pre-school level in the Municipality of Ferizaj there are 1,545 children, at the medium-low level 8,462, and at the medium-high level are 8,521 pupils. The Municipality of Ferizaj has 49 schools, 39 out of which are elementary, eight are high schools, and two kindergardens, as well as several non-public kindergardens. These institutions have 1,852 employees, which number includes educational, administrative, technical and supporting staff.

As far as youth and culture are concerned, according to Gashi, the Municipality of Ferizaj has one public library, "Sadik Tafarshiku," the intermunicipal library "Anton Çetta," four public libraries in the villages, the professional theater "Adriana Abdullahu," as well as a theater festival, in which three premieres, theatrical performances, are introduced each year. As far as the sport is concerned, this Municipality has a sport center which has the name of the former American President, Bill Clinton, the stadium "Dardania," meanwhile, the municipality stadium "Ismet Shabani" is being repaired. According to Gashi, in the Municipality there are 42 active sport clubs in several fields, such as kick-box, football, karate, judo, etc. Also, she added, that the Municipality of Ferizaj has a 95% spread of information technology, with the exception of several villages such as Dardania and Zllatar, in which the network is weaker.

According to Gashi, regarding to the structure of religious affiliation, 99% of the population of the Municipality of Ferizaj are of Islamic religion, meanwhile, 1% are of Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant religion. As far as religious facilities are concerned, according to data that the Municipality has received from the Islamic Community, the Municipality of Ferizaj has 47 active and 4 inactive mosques, one Catholic church, and

six Orthodox churches. Regarding the religious clerics, there are 47 Muslim imams, one Catholic priest, one Orthodox priest, and one Protestant priest.

On the issue of the level of criminality, Gashi stressed that the Council on the Security in the Community was formed during this governmental mandate, and that this Council is holding regular meetings, and she also added that until now there were no evidences of cases of violent extremism.

From the economic pointview, according to Gashi, Ferizaj is an important business center in Kosovo. The Municipality of Ferizaj is the second municipality, behind Prishtina, in terms of economic development, and even today the previous factories are still functioning, and these represent the foundation of the economic development of the municipality.

As far as the municipal budget and the support for youth activities are concerned, according to Gashi, the Municipality in continuity upholds these activities. Furthermore, according to her, the municipal leaders participate almost on daily basis in these activities, which are supported both, morally and financially, and annually the municipality provides a budget of around 10 thousand Euros for youth activities, which are means out of the planned municipal budget.

Ali Halimi, Adviser from the Vetëvendosje Movement in the Municipal Council of Ferizaj, stressed the need for treating the problem of the use of drugs by the members of the age group from 15 up to 29 years, an extremely disturbing phenomenon, which he illustrated with the case of the use of drugs by the pupils of elementary schools. According to him, in the garden of the school "Gjon Sereçi," which is actually the largest school in Kosovo with more than 2,500 pupils, even during the day young people can be seen consuming drugs.

Arian Imeri, Advisor of the Democratic Party of Kosovo in the Municipal Council of Ferizaj, stressed that the individuals who have gone to war theaters in Syria and Iraq, did not understand that they are going into a terrorist war; instead, they were thinking that that was a liberation war, so, they were driven from the sense to help other people. According to him, the state should utilize a strategy for helping religious communities, in order to enable them to organize themselves for the activities with youth, given that, as he emphasized, there is no bad religion. Furthermore, Gashi recommendee that the Department of Youth, with different experts and youth organizations, should select the issues that will be treated during a given year, and then, the organizations should apply with projects, in order to select those which will have the biggest impact on young people. If this will be the course of activities, according to her, these activities will have impact on youth despite a modest financial amount that is dedicated from the Municipal Council.

Xhavit Zariqi, Adviser in the Municipal Council from AAK, and Deputy Minister for Economic Development, contested the official data of the Kosovo Agency for Statistics regarding the unemployment, by stressing that in the Municipality of Ferizaj it is very difficult to find unemployed persons. Furthermore, he stressed that a large majority of businesses in the Municipality of Ferizaj are seeking for workers, so, the problem might not be in unemployment, but rather on the fact that there are many people who are not interested to work. Zariqi also contested the data of the Kosovo Agency of Statistics regarding the rural and urban population, by stressing that the proportion is not 60% to 40%, but approximately 50% to 50%, given that the difference in the voting lists is about 200-300 voters. He also expressed his disagreement with the expression "Foreign Terrorist Fighters" for individuals from Kosovo who have gone to war theaters in Syria and Iraq.

Fatlume Rexhepi, from the NGO Vizionida in Ferizaj, stressed that the small municipalities in the region of Ferizaj have an overwhelming administrations, in which up to 62% of the means are used for salaries and daily fees. According to her, if only 1% of the budget of the Municipality of Kaçanik, which means 27 thousand Euros, was used for investments, this would not be a small amount for subsidizing one sport club. Also, according to Rexhepi, the ratio between the number of mosques to the number of educational institutions is worrisome. She mentioned the example of the Municipality of Hani i Elezit, which has seven educational institutions and ten mosques. Therefore, she added, it can be concluded that the religious infrastructure of the Kosovo Islamic Community is proving itself as stronger than that of the state educational institutions.

The Municipality of Shtime

The Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Shtime, Mr. Rrahman Jakupi, at the beginning stressed that the Municipality of Shtime is actually in the proces of compiling of different documents, such as the one on the strategy for economic development, and other documents and plans, and that in the process of their compilation the findings presented in “The Socio-Economic Profile of the Municipalities of the Region of Ferizaj” will certainly be taken into the consideration.

As far as violent extremism is concerned, the Deputy Mayor Jakupi made several remarks regarding the data of Kosovo Police, which has reported on two cases of departure of individuals from the Municipality of Shtime, despite of the fact that there was only one person who has achieved to go to Syria, meanwhile, the second did make it only to the International Airport “Adem Jashari” in Prishtina, where he was not allowed to continue further, and he was returned by the Kosovo Police. According to him, the departure of individuals to Syria and Iraq has damaged seriously the image of several municipalities in Kosovo, and particularly of those of the Region of Ferizaj, and this is a reason why investors are abandoning this place. He stressed further that the Municipal Council of Shtime did not treat so far, the extremism as a separate issue, but he added that during the last year the Municipal Council for Security in the Community was more active than previously, and that, fortunatelly, during the years 2017 and 2018, there were no cases of departures to the war theaters in Syria and Iraq of individuals from the Municipality of Shtime.

Ruzhdi Jashari, Municipal Adviser from the Vetëvendosje Movement, stressed that until 2009, in the Municipality of Shtime there were schools in the villages which were inhabited, but today, in some from them doesn't live anyone. Jashari ilustrated this phenomenon of demographic shifts with the example of the village Llanishte, which has

a very small number of inhabitants, and the school in this location was closed. He also mentioned the villages Topilla and Ranca, which have remained without inhabitants altogether, as well as the village Karaqica which is being completely depopulated. Furthermore, he stressed, these locations are depopulated because of lack of economic development, by suggesting that rural development should have a particular attention in order to change the direction of these demographic shifts.

Jashari then stressed that with genuine economic development, and with more active cultural life, the Municipality of Shtime will become more sustainable, that the condition of stability will improve, and that, consequently, the causes of radicalization will be cut into their roots. From this pointview, according to him, the quality of the distribution of financial means from the municipal budget is in the hands of municipal advisors and of the people who take part in the decision-making, and he appealed for higher civic activism in the issues of planning and distribution of budgetary means.

The Municipality of Kaçanik

The Mayor of the Municipality of Kaçanik, Mr. Besim Ilazi, stressed that the municipal budget is a budget of survival, and that the possibilities of the municipalities are very small, given that the determined governmental allocations are insufficient for the citizens' needs and requirements. He further stressed that it was requested through the organizations that function within the Municipality of Kaçanik, to exercise a kind of pressure at the central level, for the necessary investments, and particularly for those that are focused on youth. The Municipality of Kaçanik does not have even a single sport facility, meanwhile, as far as subsidies are concerned, he added that it is the Municipal leadership which is the major criticizer of the municipal budget, given that the governmental budgetary regulation determines the subsidies in the amount of five Euros per capita. Therefore, the Municipality of Kaçanik, which has 34,000 inhabitants, has at its disposal 170,000 Euros for subsidies, that are dedicated for agriculture, youth and sports.

Regarding the criminal, or penal, deeds, Mayor Ilazi signified that an increase in their number was recorded, because of the works that Bechtel-Enka has conducted, and that 60% of these penal deeds have to do with the works conducted by this corporation.

Regarding the extremism and radicalism, the Mayor Ilazi stressed that Kaçanik was wrongly labeled with such a term. Official data presented in the report of KIPRED, according to him are fair, but there are several factors that reflect the opposite. For instance, the territory of Kaçanik was not used as a territory for training, there were no arrested or investigated imams, and, virtually, Kaçanik did not have any single element, except for the juveniles who have gone in the theaters of conflict in the Middle East. Furthermore, he stressed that Kaçanik can not be identified as a capitol of jihadism, but the media are giving too much publicity to this issue.

On the other hand, according to Mayor Ilazi, as a result of the joint activity that the Municipality has had with the Council for Security in the Community, as well as the work which was worth of praise of the Head of Islamic Community of Kosovo and the Commander of the Police in Kaçanik, for increasing the citizens' awareness, fortunately, in the last four years there were no attempts for departures in the war theaters in the Middle East. These results, according to him, can be considered as very positive, but the central level should find out which was the inspiration and motivation of juveniles for leaving in the conflict zones in the Middle East earlier, and here, economic factors, as well as other ones, should not be excluded. This would enable the municipalities to prevent this phenomenon. Nevertheless, according to him, the absence of cases of violent extremism during the last four years, does not mean that they will not be repeated in the future.

In the continuation, the Mayor Ilazi requested the NGO-s to exercise pressure at the central level for economic development of this municipality, by stressing that the existing economic condition cannot be changed immediately, but with the capacities that it has, the central level can at least provide for the settings for different sport and cultural activities. Together with central level, these costs can be afforded, and this would provide juveniles a little bit of opportunities which will help them to direct their focus elsewhere.

The Municipality of Kaçanik, according to Mayor Ilazi, does not have administrative overload, given that the Municipality as a budgetary organization actually has 798 workers, including the activities of health, education and of administration. Kaçanik has a lack of health and administrative workers, but, on the other hand, it has excess of educational workers, given that the budget is allocated per pupil, and cannot be changed by the Municipality. He stressed the fact that in the places with high over-sea

altitude there are 21.3 pupils per teacher, meanwhile, in the places with low over-sea altitude this ratio is 14.8 pupils per teacher. Given that Kaçanik has a rough geographical terrain, with villages with high over-sea altitude, according to him, in these locations there are classes with only 2 pupils. As long as the Government of Republic of Kosovo doesn't take a decision similar to that of the Republic of Albania, in which since September 1st, 2018, the teaching is combined, and the pupils will be transported with a transport organized by the municipality, according to him, the situation will continue to be as it was. If the Government of Kosovo takes such a decision, this, according to Mayor Ilazi, will ease a lot the actual condition, given that 55 educational workers in the Municipality of Kaçanik are a surplus, and this would create an opportunity for them to be transferred into other working places. Nevertheless, even such an action, according to him, would not enable any solution related to subsidies, given that the regulation foresees the value of only five Euros per capita, and, as such, does not increase the number of subventions. The request of Mayor Ilazi is for increasing subsidies, for, even if the amount for salaries of teachers in excess were taken away, the Municipality cannot reallocate them into the means for subsidies because of legal limitations which are related to municipal budgets.

Shpend Krusha, Adviser of the Municipal Council from the Vetëvendosje Movement, stressed that the Municipality of Kaçanik is among the weakest economies in Kosovo, However, the town of Kaçanik is also identified as a historical place at the national level, and not only of Kosovo. According to him, the problem of the religious extremism in the Municipality of Kaçanik was blown by the media much more than it was in reality. Thus, a conviction was created that in Kaçanik is a dangerous situation, and this has had an impact in economic situation as well. Krusha illustrated this with his personal experience, with a case in which he had gone to get commodity supplies by a certain company, and its owners were thinking that Kaçanik is a place where the Sharia

Law is being applied, and similar things that have not to do with the reality of Kaçanik, but are, instead, a consequence of the image that was projected on it.

In continuation Krusha stressed that the youth in the Municipality of Kaçanik is in an extremely unenviable position not only regarding religious extremism, but also regarding the phenomenon of drugs, and that these are consequences of the economic crisis in the municipality. On the other hand, except for the building of sport infrastructure which is insufficient, he requested that different sport leagues should be organized institutionally, given that no one can say that investments were made for the youth if ten sport facilities were build, without doing anything for organizing the sport life. This, according to him, is necessary to enable young people not to deviate, not only in the direction of religious extremism, but also in the direction of other negative phenomenons.

After all this he added his disturbance for the non-inclusion of the Municipality of Kaçanik in the highway Prishtina-Skopje. In its penultimate session of the July 2018, the Municipal Council of Kaçanik has made a unanimously voted request to the Ministry of Infrastructure, for connection to the nations highway which is six kilometers away from Kaçanik, given that with the recent plan two thirds of the population of the municipality cannot use this highway in the relation Kaçanik-Hani i Elezit. This is also a strategic interest of the municipality which will influence economy as well, given that, if this is not done, Kaçanik will virtually remain isolated both, geographically, and infrastructurally. According to him, Kaçanik needs connection through the highway with Ferizaj, Han i Elezit and Skopje, given that family and businesses of the citizens of the Municipality of Kaçanik are focused predominantly in these three places. On the other hand, the visitors that in the future would like to go to Kaçanik, will need to move for additional 30 kilometers for arriving there. Such a connection, according to Krusha,

is vital as well for economic future, given that the approach to highway in the section Kaçanik–Hani i Elezit would help both municipalities which are very poor, and if this approach to highway is not created, the poverty in these two municipalities will continue to increase.

The Municipality of Hani i Elezit

The Mayor of the Municipality of Hani i Elezit, Mr. Rufki Suma, initially stressed that Hani i Elezit is a new border and rural municipality, and that this Municipality is at the same time an industrial center, despite of the fact that it is not as much so as it was before the war. Economic decline, according to him, has occurred for numerous reasons, among other, for privatizations which were made with, either just, or unjust decisions, the closure of the factories, such as was the case of the asbestos factory which was ascertained as carcinogen, and is now being used as a customs terminal, then the case of the factory of styrofoam, which was once a profitable factory, but now it can be freely called a family factory, etc.

Among other things, Mayor Suma discussed the developments and problems with which the Municipality of Hani i Elezit is confronted in the field of education. This Municipality has one high school, which doesn't fulfill the conditions, and for this reason the pupils in the fields of crafts and different professional profiles follow their courses in other places, mostly in Kaçanik. As far as elementary schools are concerned, according to him, in Hani i Elezit and in its villages, these schools are in a very good condition and supplied with the means of information technology. However, in the Municipality of Hani i Elezit there are no kindergardens, and not because the municipality did not have possibilities to built them, but because there was no property on which to built them. After the return of the properties of the former Yugoslav Army into the proprietorship of the Municipality, now one kindergarden is build, however, according to Mayor Suma, unfortunately, the permission for its functionalization was not provided by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. He notified that the request has been made to functionalize this kindergarden, at least with the budget of the year 2019, and he added that if the permit is not provided, this will remain an

unused facility. Mayor Suma stressed that a particular problem in the Municipality is the quality of education, given that there are cases when certain persons who are not able to finish even the high-school for many years, and latter we hear that the same ones have finished the bachelor, and in some cases, the master studies. This, according to him, is a consequence of the transformation of education into a business, and of the creation of a situation in which who has money, he gets diplomas. The Municipal Government, according to him, is doing everything that is within its competencies, but, as far as the general condition of education is concerned, it doesn't have any essential impact.

Mayor Suma further stressed that sport and culture were supported with those little means that the Municipality has had in its disposal, by mentioning that in this Municipality there is no village, or school, which doesn't have a sport field. Also, for the next year, the Municipality has foreseen to orient 300 thousand Euros for sport terrains and for building one Culture House.

However, according to Mayor Suma, a disturbing fact is the one that Hani i Elezit has had sport terraines, but the Ministry of Environment and of Spatial Planning, on behalf of the elimination of asbestos, has damaged almost completely the football field of the Municipality. The Ministry of Environment and of Spatial Planning has given over 1.3 million Euros for cleaning and eliminating asbestos, but, not only that the asbestos was not cleaned, furthermore, it has leaked and remained on the surface by endangering the lives of citizens. Police is now dealing with this issue, and the Municipality of Hani i Elezit has filed charges against the Ministry of Environment and of Spatial Planning.

As far as the field of health is concerned, Mayor Suma stressed that Hani i Elezit has only one Family Medicine Center, by adding that the Municipality has made efforts to provide its citizens with medical treatments and services. This was done, not only for

the inhabitants of Hani i Elezit, but also for those of the boundary village of Bllace, so that they could receive all the health services, or even the educational ones, in Hani i Elezit. Nevertheless, for more than a month, house visits were halted and the number of health employees was reduced, given that the Government of Kosovo does not allow the needed number of health workers. During the last 4-5 years, according to Mayor Suma, they have kept workers with contracts on works, or through the contracts with Caritas, but, since this year, the Government has not allowed the continuation of the cooperation with this organization, and it was evaluated that the Municipality is acting illegally. As a consequence, the Municipality was forced to remove from work those health workers. However, he adds, not it has become clear that in several municipalities, the centers of family medicine continue to be supported through Caritas, and it is well known that this depends on the interests and supports from the central level, at the time when the Municipality of Hani i Elezit is forced to halt house visits exactly because of the lack of health workers.

Speaking on extremism, Mayor Suma said that Kosova was incriminated unduly for it, despite of the fact that it cannot be said that there were such acts. However, according to him, this issue is more specific one, and, as such, it should be treated more specifically. In this pointview, he expressed his non-agreement with the policies applied by donors. According to him, donors give numerous donations for fighting extremism, but, when it comes to benefits to municipalities from these donations, then we find out that it is exactly the minicipalities which did not have any case of violent extremism which receive mostly from those donations, at the time when the municipalities that are incriminated most for extremism do not receive even a single project, with an exception of some training or conference, or of some round tables, which end up with some useless conclusions which doesn't have to do anything with the reality. Thus, according to Mayor Suma, when it comes to benefiting, it is other municipalities which doesn't

have to do with extremism which benefit, and when it comes to accusations, it is the Municipality of Kaçanik or of Hani i Elezit, or some other municipality, which are incriminated. Furthermore, he stressed that there are cases when organizations come in the Municipality, but they provide means only for repairment, but not for building new infrastructure. This, according to him, presents only a deception, and it is a wrong polity which enables different organizations to enrich themselves by taking thousands and millions of Euros on behalf of fighting extremism.

In addition, Mayor Suma expressed his disagreement with the terminology that is being used for persons who have departed for Iraq and Syria. According to him, it should not be allowed to call them terrorists or extremists because of the fact that some case might have happened, given that, after all, there was not even a single terrorist attack in Kosovo. He justifies this with cases when in other European countries terrorist attacks occur in which 30-50 or even more people are killed, and those places are not called as cities if jihadism, and, meanwhile, in the case of Kosovo, where 250 or 300 persons have joined the conflict in the Middle East, it is considered as a country which has most extremism at the regional level. In addition, Mayor Suma stressed the fact that there are over 250 persons who have returned from Syria and Iraq, which makes it clear that they did not concur with the war there. Also, according to him, when the war in Syria and Iraq started, our institutions did have a different attitude, but now, the Presidency, the Islamic Community in Kosovo, and the Government, have withdraw from their previous attitude. In the same manner as other countries, Kosovo has called for fighting Assad. He thinks that, having into the consideration that we were in the war as well, and that we were supported by the foreigners as well, a part of those who have gone to Syria were thinking that they are helping the people of that country, who were being oppressed by the regime. However, at the moment when they have arrived there, and when they understood that the war being conducted there was not just, but fratricidal,

most of them have returned, and for this reason we shouldn't call all of those who have returned as terrorists.

For this reason, according to Mayor Suma, this should not have been accepted by Kosovo institutions, as well as everyone else, and they should not have been called Foreign Terrorist Fighters, given that one should not be called terrorist only because one has gone in a state in which war was being waged. According to him, one can be called terrorist if it is proved that has committed that has committed terrorist acts, and not because one has gone and participated in this war. He further stressed that if this issue is analyzed in detail, it can be said that for us a Foreign Terrorist Fighter can be an american, german, or italian, who comes and fights in our place, because he is foreign. However, according to him, a citizen of Kosovo who participates, and who is inhabitant of Kosovo, cannot be foreign, and, for this reason, this is a particular issue which has to be dealt with by the respective institutions.

As far as the generation of employment statistics is concerned, Mayor Suma asserted that the Municipality of Hani i Elezit can create them. However, he mentioned that there are certain obstacles here. For instance, he mentioned that the Municipality knows exactly when a certain person dies, given that it pays for the expenses of the funeral, but, despite of the fact that the Municipality sends the data to respective authorities, the persons who have died are not removed from the lists of voters, given that in future elections they "should vote as well." According to him, a similar behavior exists regarding the violent extremism, given that when the fact is mentioned that during the last three years there was no one who has departed to Syria, the politics of Kosovo attempts to retreat by saying that "we have no cases." He further stressed that about two years ago a person was punished for terrorism, and the media were reporting that he was planning to kill the Pope, at the same time when another person arrested in Italy

was freed within a day, given that Italian authorities had ascertained that there are no tangible evidences against him. According to Mayor Suma, the person who was arrested in Kosovo was declared to be a terrorist, and was punished with 7 months of imprisonment, meanwhile, after he filed a complained, his punishment was increased to 17 months, despite of the fact that during the last three years we have had no cases of joining the violent extremism.

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