



**UDRUŽENJE GRAĐANA ZA POVRAT STARE
DEVIZNE ŠTEDNJE U BiH i DIJASPORI**

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THE STEERING COMMITTEE

No: 1461/09

Banja Luka, 24nd January 2009.

Addressed to:

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

71 000 Sarajevo, Alipašina ulica 41.

Attn. Mr. Vjekoslav Bevanda, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister

Subject: Prolongation of the foreign currency savings verification - Mr. Vjekoslav Bevanda's statement official denial

Mister Bevanda,

Though the most used phrase in our association of citizens for return of foreign currency savings in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Diaspora regarding the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina is "**nothing can surprise us**", we acknowledge you that we were suprised with your statement regarding the certificates issuing for the old foreign currency savings and prolongation of its verification. This statement was published on 22nd, January 2009. in *Dnevni Avaz* and *Oslobođenje*. In the statement you mentioned, "**and as a part of the citizens believed in some associations, they did not verified their old foreign currency savings...**"

Mister Bevanda, we want to emphasize that the association of citizens for return of foreign currency savings in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Diaspora was, is and will always be against the verification of old foreign currency savings and to remind you that the above mentioned association is the biggest non-government organization in BiH, according to the number if its members. We proudly emphasize as well that this is a truly multiethnic association of the three constitutional peoples and ethnic minorities alike, which corresponds to the national composition. We operate through our main office situated in Banja Luka, and many other branch offices in BiH and Diaspora (Germany, Serbia, Austria, France, Switzerland, Sweden). The association of citizens for return of foreign currency savings in BiH and Diaspora was originally established by the owners and the owners' inheritors with one and the only mission to return the money to its owners as soon as possible, undependable on the fact in which of the four banks they invested their money, or where the owners currently live. The association is registered at the Ministry of Justice of BiH from 2004. During the fullfilment of our main mission, to legally amend the owners of the foreign currency savings, we expanded our operation towards supressing the foreign currency savings malversation, legally condemning those who deprived the owners of their financial property, campaign against criminal and corruption of all kinds, raising a civil society, rule of the law and democracy.

If you were true and honest, at least for a moment, you would confess and set forth your reasons why the verification of the old foreign currency savings is absurd, unnecessary, expensive and, in fact, an activity useful only to criminals and the ones that do malversations with the old foreign currency savings. Nevertheless, if you were true and honest, then you would not be Vjekoslav Bevanda.

A banking system operates in our country but for the benefit of the individuals, the verification of the old foreign currency savings is imposed in some kind of agencies. Does that represent the verification?

The Law, like nowhere in the world, anticipates the deduction of the rate of interests. Does that represent the verification?

Conversions of US Dollar, British Pound, Swiss Frank, Swedish Krona into KM represent a verification for you?

Does the renunciation of the right of action represent the verification for you?

Do you ponder about how to verify the foreign currency owners' sufferings and pain and all that they went through during the last eighteen years?

Are you acquainted with the way how the Republic of Croatia returned the old foreign currency savings to its owners, even to the owners in Bosnia and Herzegovina?

Did they verify it?

Be brave Mister Bevanda and speak what the justice should be, according to you. Do not use the term "some" for those who have been trying to get their financial property back for the last eighteen years. The above mentioned term will be assigned to those who will be remembered on the basis of their shameful solutions, even if "some" ministers are being concerned.

Are you acquainted with the fact that the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina refused to debate the claim for evaluating the constitutionality of the regulations regarding the verification in the Law on Regulation the Liabilities on the Basis of Foreign Currency Savings of Citizens because the verification has ended?

Mister Bevanda, do you know that only 3% of old foreign currency saving was verified and that this percentage would hardly ever be changed??? According to this, do not call 97 % with the term "some". Will there be the possibility to cancel the verified savings? Do you know how many of the robbed ones want to cancel it?

Why would you not make a campaign for the right to access the documentation, certificate issuing and the duplicates of the foreign currency savings books for those whose books got burned or disappeared in the war?

Yours APIFs and AFIPs threatened 4000 accusations applicants to verify their savings or else they would be considered to give up on accusation requests. You spent your paper in vain. We are not afraid of you and other criminals. With the help from the Council of Europe and International Court of Justice, we will regain our property.

We will not appeal to your honesty, since you do not have it, but think about all of it, for you knew what was good for you and bad for the others. You are truly wrong now.

Truthfully yours,

The president of the steering committee,

Svetozar Nisic

Delivered to:

1. Terry Davis, the Secretary General of the European Council
2. Tomas Hamerberger, the Commissar of Human Rights at the European Council
3. Jan-Paul Costa, the President of the European Court of Human Rights
4. Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. Government of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
6. OHR
7. Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina
8. Media