

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:** FW: Corruption of the Serbian officials - building of highway interchange Petlovo Brdo (part of Belgrade Bypass on Corridor X)  
**Date:** Thursday 11 April 2013 17:20:41  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

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**From:**  
**Date:** 21 March 2013 17:27:26 CET  
**To:** <[investigations@eib.org](mailto:investigations@eib.org)>, <[a.beikos@eib.org](mailto:a.beikos@eib.org)>  
**Cc:** <[w.hoyer@eib.org](mailto:w.hoyer@eib.org)>, <[j.taylor@eib.org](mailto:j.taylor@eib.org)>, <[r.willis@eib.org](mailto:r.willis@eib.org)>  
**Subject:** Corruption of the Serbian officials - building of highway interchange Petlovo Brdo (part of Belgrade Bypass on Corridor X)

Dear Sirs,

Two anniversaries make this day a very remarkable one  
The (truly civilised) world celebrates the Forest Day, and the World Poetry Day.  
On behalf of dwellers of our settlement 'Petlovo brdo' we seek your attention in efforts to protect our park forest from unnecessary devastation.

We hope that the following EIB presidential statement from September 2012. is still valid:

*"The EIB, together with the other European institutions, strongly supports Serbia in its path towards the EU", stated the EIB President Philippe Maystadt, "Infrastructures are essential to the modernisation process of the country and the Belgrade bypass represents a fundamental junction of Corridor X".*

We believe that your corporate reputation is impeccable, and we want to help you to keep it that way and avoid compromising it.

Since the Western Balkans EIB office started operation, EIB signed several contracts with four Serbian officials of the highest rank. So far three of them have attracted attention of the Serbian State Attorney for their alleged involvement in numerous criminal activities and corruption.

We are asking you to apply an extra caution in all your present dealings with 'developers' of the Serbian state road infrastructure.

On January 31, 2013, our representative attended public consultations conducted by Public Enterprise 'Roads of Serbia'. The gathering was an open call for public comments towards closing the 'Environmental Management Framework' document for submission to the World Bank as the major investor in Rehabilitation and Maintenance of State Roads in Serbia. One of the authors of the draft document, and the moderator of the event, Mr. Igor Radovic expressed his firmest determination to applying the highest standards imposed by the World Bank towards preserving the natural environment. He admitted that this was not a common practice of how the Serbian roads had been built in the past.

We were saddened by how the proclaimed values are in severe clash with our realm. At the same time we were excited to learn that WB envisages 'special remedies' to prevent the most severe and irreparable threats to the environment. The EIB, as a principal investor in development of our local section of the Belgrade Bypass, could definitely impose a hold on the proposed project. This was exactly what our local municipal power holders falsely promised a year ago, until a revised and fair technical solution is found.

Despite our collective decennial efforts to build and protect the forest around our settlement, the local municipal, city and state authorities have shown a constant lack of will to address the issue and our claims. This kind of unspoken institutional support helped 'developers' to be successful in bypassing the true will and the genuine need of local population. Finally, on January 29, 2013, PE 'Roads of Serbia' announced a tender for building two new highway interchanges: 'Orlovaca' (cemetery) and 'Petlovo brdo' (settlement). The closing day for bids is March 26, 2013. It sadly and cynically coincides with the first day of Spring and the World Forestry Day.

The two photos are attached to tell the story that requires no words.

We are asking for the opportunity to meet with you.  
If necessary we are ready submit a formal report of improper activities of the Serbian officials and organisations. Our common sense proposals will show how easy it is to accommodate the local road improvement with preserving the natural habitat of Petlovo brdo settlement.

We hope that you are in a position to effectively help the right cause of allowing the 'argument of force' give way to the 'force of arguments'. It seems that your understanding is our last resort!

Sincerely

the NGO 'Green settlement - Rooster Hill'

