

Dević: I will inform the European Union about the Prosecutor's acts

NOVI SAD-

Ilija Dević, the investor of *Autotransport Company (ATC) Vojvodina* from Novi Sad, has announced today that he will inform the European Commission about the acts of the Basic Public Prosecutor from Novi Sad, who dismissed his criminal charges relating the scandal about building of the intercity bus station in that city.

“As for the filed criminal charges, the way of their dismissal, actions of the Prosecutor which are totally opposite to the Law, the competent authorities in European Commission as well as the agencies which will, on behalf of that institution, check up the work of the judicial authorities when opening the Chapters 23 and 24 for joining the European Union will be informed about them,” Dević said in his press release.

He has said that the Prosecution in Serbia is "open wound of Serbian society", because they are still working "under the pressure of tycoons, powerful people, criminal groups and all that with the aim to be liked by the politicians".

On 20 January this year, The Basic Public Prosecution in Novi Sad dismissed Dević's criminal charges against ex Mayor of Novi Sad Maja Gojković, ex Director of the Institute for the City Development Igor Mirović and eight more persons because of the suspicion that they had inflicted the damage to the City of Novi Sad in the amount of 400 million dinars and that had been proved by the final executive court judgement. The City of Novi Sad payed the damage compensation to *ATP Vojvodina* afterwards.

Dević accused the Higher Public Prosecution in Novi Sad of "without any reason and with the intention to thwart launching of the criminal proceedings, motivated by the fact that the persons included in the charges are high officials of the Serbian Progressive Party and state officials, forwarding the criminal charges to the Basic Public Prosecutor in Novi Sad, although the charges were in competence of the Higher Public Prosecution."

" By such an illegal acting, the Prosecution works in favour of the defendants and the current Mayor of the City of Novi Sad, Miloš Vučević, who has neither initiated a recourse lawsuit within the period of six months from the moment of the damage payment against the responsible persons who inflicted the damage to the City of Novi Sad, nor any criminal charges, although the amount of 400.000.000 dinars was taken from the account of the City of Novi Sad," Dević said.

The European Union already put the scandal about *ATP Vojvodina* on the list of 24 compromised privatizations in Serbia as the only case in which the investor is the damaged party.

In May, 2014, Ilija Dević demanded from the Serbian Prime Minister, Aleksandar Vučić, to finally investigate the scandal relating building of the intercity bus station in Novi Sad.

He gave his opinion that "political and criminal group wanted to destroy him" and he reminded the public that the court case against the City of Novi Sad had been solved in his favour, and that after that the Prosecution filed "fabricated" criminal charges against him and ordered the custody.

The Special Prosecutor, Miljko Radisavljević, said in early February last year that the custody was ordered to Dević after he had been heard within the investigation of ATP Vojvodina privatization and he precisely said that he was suspected for tax evasion and abuse of office.

Dević asked what happened with the criminal charges he used to file from 2007 till nowadays.

In 2006, Dević concluded the contract with that time Mayor of Novi Sad, Maja Gojković, on building of the new bus station. The station was completed, but the city has never redirected the bus traffic to the new location.

Due to the installment loans, *ATP Vojvodina* went to bankruptcy and Dević filed the charges for the damage compensation. The City of Novi Sad was convicted of paying the damage in amount of 300 million dinars with the interest to Dević.

The opposition in Novi Sad has several times condemned high officials of the Serbia Progressive Party, Maja Gojković and Igor Mirović, because of the scandal with *ATP Vojvodina*.