

Kosovo's Culture, Youth and Sport

Bi-monthly newsletter of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport of Republic of Kosovo. No. 6. Year I.

NOV/DEC 2012

NEWSLETTER



Kosovo and Malta sign a Cooperation Agreement in the field of culture

The Republic of Kosovo and the Republic of Malta have signed a collaboration Agreement in the field of culture. The Agreement was signed in Valletta between Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Kosovo, Memli Krasniqi and Minister for Tourism, Culture and Environment

of Malta, Mario de Marco. Both countries, under this agreement agree to cooperate in different cultural initiatives in the future, support the promotion of artists from both countries, common cultural activities either in Kosovo or Malta, experience exchange and other aspects as well. Ministers

have appraised the signing of this agreement as an important step on deepening the relationships between the two countries, while expressing their belief that such cooperation will further enhance also in other fields.

Continued on page 3 ➔

SPORT

4-5

Kosovo is ready to apply for membership in the IOC



CULTURE

16-17

Inauguration of Guest House of Jashar Pasha



YOUTH

30-31

800 entrepreneurs finish trainings



Sinan Pasha Mosque - Prizren



Kosovo and Malta sign a Cooperation Agreement in the field of culture

In the meeting of Minister Krasniqi with Mario de Marco was discussed concerning concrete steps to be undertaken after the signing of the agreement. Minister Krasniqi expressed the full readiness of MCYS on having common initiatives and continuous contacts between the two ministries very soon. He notified Malta's minister with the achievements in the field of culture in Kosovo and the promotion that Kosovo artists have had in the most significant events of culture in the world, such as the Festival of Cannes, the Berlinale, Montreux Jazz Festival, Venice Biennale, etc.

Minister Krasniqi is visiting Malta with the invitation of his Malta counterpart and also with the invitation of the European Film Academy to participate in the European Film Awards for the second time.

In the meeting, minister Krasniqi said Kosovo has young and very talented artists who achieved many successes with their creativity, and who have the power will to work even harder.

One of the aspects of discussion between the two ministers has also been the field of cultural heritage. Minister Krasniqi, while emphasising the fact that Malta is one of the first countries in the list in terms of number of monuments under UNESCO's protection, said that Kosovo can benefit from Malta's



experiences on managing the field of heritage. Concerning this aspect, he asked from Minister De Marco Malta's assistance to Kosovo in this respect, while expressing the readiness to undertake concrete steps of cooperation very soon.

Meanwhile, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Environment of Malta, Mario de Marco, while expressing satisfaction for the agreement signing on cultural collaboration, showed the great will on undertaking concrete steps on bringing this agreement to life. He appreciated the achievements of Kosovo in general, especially in the field of culture. Malta's Minister expressed the readiness of Malta

on assisting Kosovo in the field of cultural heritage. He pleasantly accepted the invitation of Minister Krasniqi to visit Kosovo in order to closely see the developments in the country, as well as for marking the future steps of cooperation between the two countries.

This is the second cooperation agreement reached in the field of culture between the two countries, after the Agreement on Readmission of Persons Residing without Authorisation, which was signed on 21 November of this year by the Ambassadors of both countries in Austria.

During the stay in this country, in the frame of the European Film Awards, Minister Krasniqi also developed a meeting with Minister of Culture of Letonia, Zaneta Jaunzeme-Grende, with whom he discussed regarding the collaboration in the field of culture between the two countries. Both ministers appreciated the signing of the Agreement in the field of culture which was reached on Friday between the Foreign Ministers of Kosovo and Letonia as very significant step. Krasniqi and Jaunzeme -Grende agreed on undertaking concrete steps of collaboration between the two countries in the future. ■



Minister Krasniqi: Kosovo is ready to apply for membership in the International Olympic Committee



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has met the Head of the International Boxing Association, who also is the member of the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee, Ching Kuo Wu. This is the first visit of a senior official of the IOC in Kosova.

Minister Krasniqi thanked Mr. Wu for the support provided to Kosova in the field of sports, especially to the Boxing Federation, which has been accepted in AIBA this year. Minister also thanked WU for his continuous lobbying for Kosova in the International Olympic Committee. Wu during his visit in Kosova has attended the finale of boxing international tournament, 'Adem Jashari', as well as the basketball match between Prishtina and Peja which he attended together with minister Krasniqi last night. This proves that the IOC approach towards Kosova has changed, and it also shows their sincere interest in

our athletes said Minister.

Minister said Kosova is ready to apply for acceptance in the International Olympic Committee, while adding that this issue will be carried out very carefully.

"It is encouraging the fact that Kosova is already establishing an official communication with the International Olympic Committee and the visits of Mr. Wo and Mr. Pere Miro are strongly confirming



that our request to be an equal part of the international competitions is being very sincerely reviewed. We have reviewed the issue of Kosova application for membership in the International Olympic Committee for a long time and almost in every aspect and we already have much more clearly the path we will follow.

We have repeated several times that we will be careful in undertaking the steps, by following also the aspect of Kosova recognitions in general and as you already know the process of recognition has progressed. I believe that our application to be a member of IOC will happen very soon and we will receive a positive answer that all of us wish, and after this our athletes will have the doors open", said minister Krasniqi in the press conference after the meeting. On Sunday evening minister Krasniqi with collaborators and the head of KOC, Besim Hasanin had a working dinner with Mr. Wu, where they discussed issues related to the sports internationalization.

In his speech, in the press conference, the head of AIBA and also the member of the Executive Board of the Olympic Community, Ching Kuo Wu expressed his impressions on great work and will of athletes in Kosova. He congratulated minister Krasniqi in particular, with



whom he also met before, for the work carried out in the awareness of the issue of Kosova to the world sports community. Wu said AIBA has made a right decision when it has accepted Kosova.

"Next year it will take place a major event. I want to see your boxers present in the World Championship 2013 where the whole world could see the brilliant play of your boxers.

Two days ago I witnessed the very good quality of your boxers. So I instruct your boxers continue exercising and preparing for the major event of the next year. I take the opportunity to congratulate the Government, and Minister of Culture and Sport in particular. I absolutely think that minister is the proper individual to promote not only sport but also culture as you need significant

decision makers in order to be provided by this kind of support. I could say that I am ready, many others are ready and you should be ready as well facing many important events in order that Kosova be truly recognized", he said. Wu also expressed congratulations for the work carried out by the head of the Olympic Committee of Kosova, Besim Hasani for sports internationalization.

After the visit of Mr. Wu, also the director for relationship with national Committees within the frame of the International Olympic Committee, Pere Miro will stay in Kosova for two days. Both visits mark a significant step in the affirmation of Kosova sport to the world, with a special emphasis to the process of KOC membership to the IOC. ■



Minister Krasniqi: Kosovo athletes expect good news from the International Olympic Committee

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has welcomed in a meeting the Director on Relationships with National Olympic Committees in the frame of the International Olympic Committee, Pere Miro, who was also accompanied by his deputy Jerome Poivey, and they are staying in an official visit in Kosova in order to closely see the current situation of sport.

Minister Krasniqi thanked Mr. Miro for the visit and all the support provided to Kosova so far in the work concerning the internationalization of sport. Minister has informed him for the developments of Kosova sport, in every aspect. He said the mayor challenges are infrastructure, the increase of organization quality and internationalization as well. Concerning infrastructure, Minister Krasniqi said investments have been enhanced in the two last years, such as in the renovation of palaestra, stadiums as well as construction of other spaces for different Olympic sports and the non-Olympic ones. The support in this respect will increase in the future, said minister Krasniqi.

Minister also spoke regarding the process of federation organization and consolidation in Kosova in general, while stating that there have already been undertaken



the necessary steps in order that federation function conform rules which are foreseen by the international statutes.

A particular topic of the respective meeting has been the sport internationalization in Kosova, and as minister said this process is being isolated for 20 years. Nevertheless, added minister, Kosova will continue working towards the future with the aim of opening the doors to our athletes as soon as possible, who with a great passion and will are working in order to increase the quality in

competitions and one day to be equal with athletes from all over the world.

Kosova, said minister Krasniqi, is ready to proceed the request for acceptance in the International Olympic Committee very carefully and in coordination with all sports supporters of Kosova. Minister expressed confident that IOC will consider very seriously the request of Kosova, and will provide a positive response that will be one of the best news for thousands young athletes of Kosova.

From his side, Pere Miro said he really feels honored for his visit in Kosova, while expressing his satisfaction with the commitment and sports achievements. He congratulated minister Krasniqi for the great urge he has given to the sports internationalization, by promising even a greater support in the future. Miro said there are many things to report to IOC, while promising that contacts with Kosova will continue now on.

The visit of Mr. Miro and the member of the Executive Board of IOC, Ching Kuo Wu yesterday marks the visit of a senior delegation of IOC Kosova ever had. ■





Kosovo and Egypt agree to collaborate in drafting youth policies

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has been welcomed in Egypt by Minister on youth issues in Egypt, Osama Yassin Abdel Wahab. Memli Krasniqi thanked the Egypt minister for his warm welcoming and the readiness of Egypt for collaboration with Kosovo Institutions.

He notified his counterpart for general situation of youth in Kosova.

With a special emphasis, Minister Krasniqi dwelled on the question of legislation that regulates the field of youth, strategies, representative youth bodies and other forms of collaboration as well as youth support. On this occasion, minister expressed his readiness on exchanging the best experiences between Kosova and Egypt regarding legislation drafting and national youth strategies, by taking into account that MCYS has a contemporary legislation, and in conformity with international standards, that has been drafted in close collaboration with international organizations.

Minister Krasniqi also informed the Egypt minister for the overall political situation in Kosova, as well as achievements and challenges which are awaiting our country. He thanked the Egypt Government and people for the continuous support towards Kosova and its

citizens during war as well as after the war and he requested from him to use his influence for acceleration of Kosova recognition by Egypt.

From his side, Minister Yassin said Egypt should strengthen the support for Kosova and the collaboration between two states will be at state level and protocols, the same as with other independent states. He also expressed his will to minister Krasniqi for the recognition of Kosova by Egypt as soon as possible.

Both ministers agreed on exchanging youth programs and collaboration between two ministries on youth policies. It has been discussed the possibility of experi-

ence exchange and minister Yassin asked for the assistance of Kosova regarding legislation and youth field policies. Discussions between ministers will continue further on in a working dinner hosted in the honor of minister Krasniqi.

After the meeting with minister Yassin, the delegation from Kosova also visited the fortress of Saladin in Cairo, where they were welcomed by the officials of this important institution for cultural heritage of Egypt. The delegation has visited museums which are part of this complex, including also the mosque of Muhammad Ali Pasha, the Albanian, who founded the modern state of Egypt. ■





Minister Krasniqi: Egypt should support Kosovo sports internationally

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi during his visit in Egypt met the deputy minister of sport in Egypt Dr. Osama Ghoniem.

Minister Krasniqi thanked Mr. Ghoniem for the great contribution of Egypt towards people and the Government of Kosova in its most important phases. He appraised the communication level and cooperation with the institutions of Egypt, and he asked for the increase of such cooperation.

Once again, he asked from Egypt to undertake the steps for formal recognition of the Republic of Kosova soon. Minister Krasniqi notified the deputy minister Ghoniem for political developments, the achievement of progression as well as challenges in Kosova. He gave an overview regarding sport situation in Kosova, challenges, investments of MCYS in sports infrastructure as well as the need for support towards the path for sports internationalization, and on this occasion, minister asked for the support of Egypt on these issues.

Deputy Minister of sport in Egypt was satisfied with the visit of Minister Krasniqi in Egypt and he stressed that 'friendly relationships between people of Egypt and people of Kosova exist early on,

so we as a Ministry of sports are ready to deepen further on these relations through our institutions'.

He also notified Minister Krasniqi for the current situation of sport, sports infrastructure, as well as the challenges which Egypt is facing. He assured that Ministry of Sports in Egypt will support Kosova sport with all institutional capacities it possesses.

Both parties agreed on exchanging good sports experiences, especially in the most popular sports of both countries such as football, basketball and martial sports, as well as the exchange in the field of sports medicine.

A special emphasis was given to the sports draft agreement, proposed by Ministry of Culture, Youth

and Sports of Kosova. After the discussion of the respective draft agreement, the parties agreed on signing this collaboration agreement in a short term period.

Among others, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has visited the Union of Egypt journalists last night, and on this occasion he presented to the numerous representatives of media the political, cultural and social situation of Kosova in general, as well as he answered to many questions of journalists regarding Kosova. Minister Krasniqi tonight is expected to be a guest in the direct program of the most prestigious television of the Arab world Nile TV, respectively, in the Daily Debate Program. ■



Library of Alexandria willing to assist in the promotion of the Kosovo literature

During his visit in Egypt, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has also visited the Library of Alexandria, which is one of the world's greatest institutions of culture and library, and on this occasion Minister was welcomed by the heads of the respective institution.

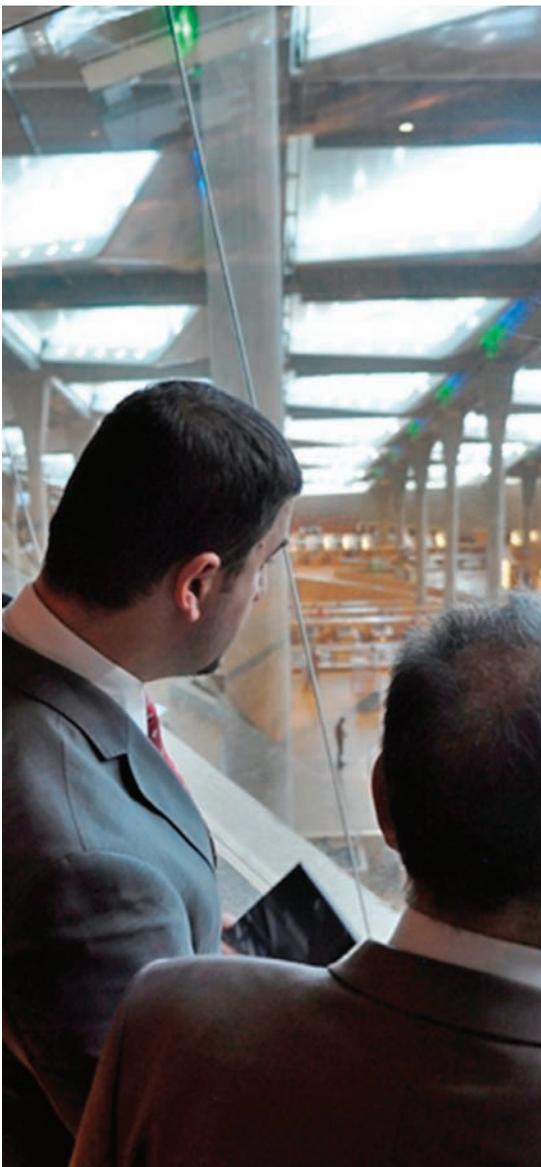
Minister Krasniqi thanked them for welcoming, and expressed the satisfaction for visiting this library, which is a valuable treasure of the whole world. Egypt, said minister Krasniqi, has tried hard for the world civilization and he highly appreciated the assistance of

Egypt people provided to people of Kosovo, while emphasizing the readiness of Kosovo institutions on enhancing the level of collaboration with the institutions of Egypt.

Minister, in the continuation of meeting has notified the heads of library with the developments of Kosovo in the field of culture, especially in the domain of books and librarianship. Minister informed them for current changes on supporting books, as well as reforms in the field of librarianship. Minister appraised that challenges in this respect still remain, and on this occasion he expressed the

willingness on having collaboration between two countries in this aspect, exchange of experiences, and especially the promotion of Kosovo literature in Egypt.

On the other hand, the heads of the Alexandria Library expressed the respect and high consideration for the sacrifice of Kosovo people for freedom and independence. They said the Library of Alexandria has a special interest on deepening further on the collaboration with the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo and they wish the presence of Kosovo in all significant activities of culture and books. ■



Minister Krasniqi: Contours of Contemporary Kosovo, is a good example how institutions and civil society should cooperate to promote art

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi, has opened the Festival 'Contours of Contemporary Kosovo', in Istanbul, where for three days in a row, from 27th up to 29th December Kosova artists will promote our cultural scene and the developments surrounding it. The festival is being organized under the auspices of MCYS and organized by NGO "The Exile". At the opening ceremony participated artists from Kosova and Turkey.

Minister Krasniqi appreciated this festival as one of the most creative ideas and well organized, and above all he assessed that this witnesses the contribution that institutions and civil society may provide to the benefit of artists' promotion and our cultural scene. "I would like to congratulate organization 'The Exile' for the work carried out. In MCYS, since we have discussed the idea of this project we have been quite committed to bring this initiative to life and not only that, but we aimed to make this initiative traditional as well, in order to promote our artists, our cultural scene also in other cities of the world. Therefore, the support of our Ministry will not lack" stated minister Krasniqi.

Also, minister appraised that year 2012 was the year of Kosova cultural scene promotion to the world. "During the year we are leaving behind, Kosova was present in Berlinale, in Cannes, in Montreux Jazz Festival, in Sundance Film Festival, in Venice Architecture Biennale, in the Book Fair in Frankfurt and in numerous other events while its presence in Istanbul recently marks a successful year". Minister of Culture, Memli Krasniqi said the festival 'Contours of Contemporary Kosova' is beginning in a beautiful city with an outstanding rich heritage, which is a model for



many other cities on how preserving the past and diversity".

He further said Kosova truly has talented people, who with their art are witnessing themselves all over the world while presenting our country's image and making all of us proud. Furthermore, minister assessed that through their work, it is not only promoted our culture abroad but it has been achieved the organization of important cultural activities where artists throughout the world present their art in our country. "Except expanding the map of our culture promotion we have become an important address for many artists of the world. This is proved with the fact that we have film festivals such as Doku Fest, PriFilmFest, Scenes, music festivals, exhibitions of photography and paintings with international features and many other activities," added among others minister Krasniqi.

Minister Krasniqi also expressed the gratitude to the authorities of Turkey while considering the latter as one of Kosova friendly countries that is providing considerable support for several years to our country, especially in the field of heritage and culture. The director of NGO 'The Exile', Ares Shporta expressed his grat-

itude to MCYS for the support provided on bringing this festival to life and above all for being under MCYS auspices. He also expressed a gratitude for all other sustainers as well as artists who found the readiness on contributing for a well progress of this festival.

Serhan Ada, who is the director of art and culture management department, as well as the director of energy museum and co-founder of Bilgi University, said it is important that such a festival is being initiated, and it enjoys the State support. This, he said, is an important element in order to develop and promote culture. He praised the organizer for the work carried out, while at the same time promising a continuous cooperation in order to expand this festival.

The opening of this festival was carried out with an exhibition of visual arts 'Sui Generis', which presents perceptions of Kosova artists for the period 1999-2008 of no defined status of Kosova. After the opening of the exhibition ceremony in Roxy Club will debut the new band - "The Cheerful Band" to subsequently give the floor to the singer Shpat Deda and his friends, while closing the first night with the band 'Luba's Mother'. ■



Petrit Halilaj will be the Artist of the Kosovo Pavillion at Venice Biennale; Kathrin Rhomberg the Curator

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has approved the proposal of Erzen Shkololli, the Commissioner of Kosovo Pavilion for the International Art Exhibition at Venice Biennale in 2013, to appoint Petrit Halilaj, the artist of Kosovo Pavilion, while Kathrin Rhomberg, the curator. Minister's decision has entered into force today.

Participation of Kosovo in the 55th International Art Exhibition marks the second presentation of Kosovo at Venice Biennale. The respective exhibition is the greatest world event. A few days ago, Minister received a positive response by the President of Biennale, Paulo Baratta, after the request of Minister to be presented in this event.

Biography of Halilaj and Rhomberg

Petrit Halilaj, was born in 1986, in Kostërc, Skenderaj and at present he works in Berlin, Kosovo and Italy. His artistic practice - sculpture, installation, drawing with pen or ink - has been build concerning his biography and life conditions. He questions social codes, beginning with the identity and integration in invisible borders between cultures and social groups. He uses simple materials

such as soil and wooden planks, as well as live chickens and found objects in the archives of extinct museums of Kosovo in order to construct / reconstruct places or objects dedicated to his memories, his family members or relatives.

His recent personal exhibitions include: "Who does the earth belong to while painting the wind?!", Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St. Gallen (2012); Art Basel Statements with Chert, Berlin (2011); Kunstraum Innsbruck, Innsbruck (2011); "Back to the Future", Station, Prishtinë (2009); Chert, Berlin (2009).

Some of the selected group exhibitions are the following: "New Public", Museion, Bolzano (2012); "30 Künstler 30 Räume", Kunstverein Nürnberg, Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft (2012); Temoraneao, Nomas Foundation, Romë (2011); "Ernste Tiere", Bonner Kunstverein, Bon (2011); "Ostalgia", New Museum, New York (2011); "STRUKTUR & ORGANISMUS", Marillenhof - DestillerieKausl, Austri (2011); and so many other works.

Kathrin Rhomberg studied History of Art and Archeology at Salzburg University. Since 1990-2001 she has been a curator and the leader of exhibitions in Se-cession, Vienna. In 1998 she was selected one of the international curators of Manifesto 3 - Contem-

porary Art Biennale, Ljubljana. She is a co-curator of the long-term research, education, exhibition and publication project FORMER WEST (2008-2013). Rhomberg was previously the director in Kölnischer Kunstverein, Köln from 2002 to 2007, while since 2002-2006 she was the artistic director of "Project Migration", an initiative of Cultural Federal Foundation in Germany. She is a co-author of the transit network, which supports the exchange and practice of contemporary art in Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Rumania. In 2009 she was the curator of the Czech and Slovakia Pavilion, Roman Ondák Loop, at the 53th Biennale of Vienna. Other recent curatorial projects include: Christoph Schlingensief. "Fear in the Core of Things", BAK, basis vdor actuele Kunst, Utrecht and Galerija Novi, Zagreb 2012 (personal exhibition), Berlin Biennale, Berlin, 2010 (personal exhibition); Ion Grigorescu: "In the Body of the Victim" 1969-2008, Modern Arts Museum in Warsaw, 2009 (retrospective); Sanja Iveković. "General Alert". Works engaged in from 1974 to 2007 (with Nataša Ilić), Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, 2007 (retrospective). Rhomberg lectures Art and the Theory of Art at Fine Arts Academy in Vienna. ■

Twelve personalities were solemnly awarded the National Prize for Lifetime Achievement in the field of theater

With a solemn ceremony, last night in the National Theater of Kosova, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports has awarded the National Prize on Life's Work to 12 prominent theater personalities of Kosova, who provided several year contribution in the promotion and progression of our theater and culture. These prizewinners were selected by the jury appointed by minister Krasniqi and the jury decided to award this prize to the following personalities: Hadi Shehu, Çun Lajqi, Safete Rogova, Leze Qena, Ahmet Spahiu, Rauf Dhomi, Sylejman Lokaj, Xhevat Qorraj, Adem Mikullovi, Dibran Tahiri, Hysen Binaku and Asllan Hyseni.

The famous actor Shehu was among the prizewinners who received the prize by Minister Krasniqi. Shehu said he feels honored that his work carried out so far is being respected. With emotions he said he will continue to give further contribution for theater. Among other personalities to be awarded the prize was also the actor Sylejman Lokaj who expressed that he feels honored to enjoy this respect while adding that he tried hard working for theater and the country for many decades. "I did not



have the opportunity to give my life to this country, either wealth in abundance, but I believe that I provided this country with good words on this theater's planks", he said.

Meanwhile, Ahmet Spahiu recalled that his carrier building has been also a contribution of many other art people, who will always enjoy our respect. Hysen Sadiku said that except the respect he is receiving for his work, he feels honored with the fact that at last there is an initiative which fosters the sense of respect for artists in general. Also other laureates with nostalgia recalled their work over decades, while saying that they will continue to give their best in order that new generations work with even a greater engagement.

Minister Krasniqi, who opened this solemn evening for the award of the respective prizes, said for him there would not be a better end of a working year than honoring these personalities. "We are honoring our artists, who provided to us culminating artistic values for many decades, while enriching our life with sublime values of scenic art. They helped us on experiencing a more beautiful life and full emotions. Actually, also nowadays, these respected artists continue providing beautiful experiences for us, as the genuine art is always actual and genuine artists always remain young. Therefore, let me express my highest respect and consideration, as well as the acknowledgement of the Government of the Republic of Kosova for long professional work of our laureates in promoting and progressing the art of theater in our country", he said. Minister Krasniqi expressed the respect for many other personalities of the field of theater and film who passed away. "We live with a memory of them and the values they bequeathed, so they will always be an inspiration for new coming generations".

In his speech, minister Krasniqi said that MCYS lacked the initiative of awarding such prizes for a long time. I am glad that Ministry is already developing a system of respecting values, and I will continue working even harder to provide a better environment to new generations for expressing their talent and passion, and as well as the evaluation of their work.

The national Prize on Life's Work will be awarded every year, based on a regulation that MCYS approved this year in October. This prize is 5 thousand euro worth, awarded by MCYS. Except



Hadi Shehu

this prize, next year will be awarded also other prizes for other categories foreseen by regulation.

The jury awarding last night prizes was composed by Basri Çapriqi, The President of Jury, and the

Jury's members: Ibrahim Kadriu, Haqif Mulliqi, Ag Apolloni and Kamuran Goranci. ■



Adem Mikullovcı



Ahmet Spahiu



Qun Lajçi



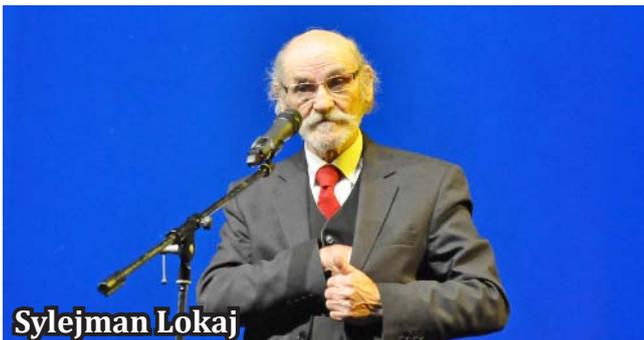
Asllan Hyseni



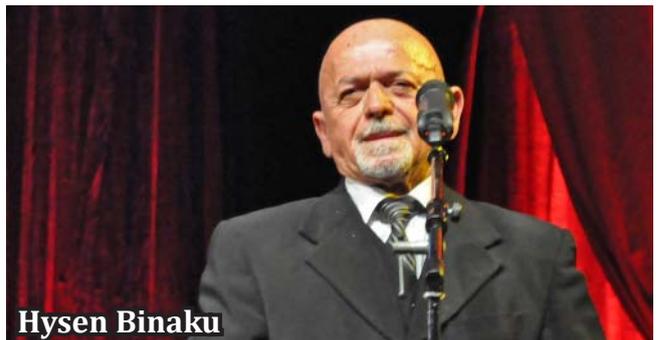
Safete Rugova



Dibran Tahiri



Sylejman Lokaj



Hysen Binaku



Rauf Dhomi



Leze Qena



Construction of six football pitches begins

In Drenas has begun the construction of six football pitches. The official ceremony of the beginning of the works was held in this city, which is one of the beneficiary municipalities by the donation of the European Commission.

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi, who was present at this ceremony, said this was one of his happiest moments among numerous activities he had in order to develop sport in Kosovo. He added that young generations of athletes will have greater and better spaces to develop their

talent, as well as develop quality competitions whether at local level. 'We are establishing conditions to reveal even more talents, who in the future will be our proud by representing us in the international competitions', he said, while thanking the European Commission for the support provided to MCYS, especially on sport. Minister Krasniqi said this is not the only good news our athletes have received this year.

"I enjoy the fact that the construction of these six pitches is being carried out along with reno-

vations which have begun in some existing football stadiums, in 11 of them, a million investments of MCYS and it happened for the first time. Together with the European Commission we have commenced another very important project for sport such as the construction of the Multidimensional Centre in Mitrovica, where there will be grounds for different sports, entire renovation of Minatori palestra as well as a business centre. This project reaches the amount over 20 million euro investment', he said. Minister also said investments in sports infrastructure will continue whether in renovation of stadiums as well as in construction of sports palaestra and polygons.

In his speech, the Operations' Chief of the European Commission, Christof Stock said he feels happy to already bringing to life this project.

"I am aware that minister Krasniqi himself was very interested in this project, as when I began the work last year in September, the first question I was asked by him has been concerning the project of



these stadiums”, he said, while saying that Kosovo has many talents in sports, especially in football. Stock said this pitch in Drenas, as well as others in five other municipalities present one more opportunity for many sports activities. He said he believes that also women’s soccer will develop further on.

Present at this ceremony has been also the President of Football Federation of Kosovo, Fadil Vokrri, who appraised this project as a new era for the football of Kosovo.

“Construction of these grounds is the best news of the current year, and it occurred before December the 14th, the day when we expect Kosovo to have eventually the doors open towards the development of the international friendly matches, in accordance to FIFA’s decision. The beginning of these football grounds construction marks a new era in terms of infrastructure. This would not either occur or implemented without utmost engagement and outstanding commitment of Mr. Memli Krasniqi, who achieved to convince and to get the support of the European Commission to construct these six football grounds



by their means. Therefore, FFK expresses the gratitude for Mr. Krasniqi, whose assistance for football of Kosovo has never lacked and it was provided in continuity. I believe, this is the first step among others in improving infrastructure and I believe that except EU there will be found also other investors who will express their interest for construction of new grounds or for the improvement of the existing ones”, he said.

On the other hand, the major of

Drenas thanked MCYS and the European Commission for the initiative to construct the respective stadium in Drenas, while saying that such space will be open also for other youngsters and football clubs from other municipalities around.

The construction of six pitches in Drenas, Gjakovë, Pejë, Gjilan, Mitrovicë and Ferizaj is 3.5 million euro worth. They will be constructed according to the highest UEFA and FIFA’s standards. ■

Minister Krasniqi met the best ten Kosovo talents of ‘Milan Junior Camp’

Ten children from Kosovo who have been selected from two editions of ‘Milan Junior Camp’ to participate in ‘Milan Week’ at San Siro stadium, have been welcomed by Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi. In a friendly meeting, Minister Krasniqi has congratulated children for their will and great passion they have shown for football to Italian coaches. He wished them success in Milan, while evaluating them as the future of Kosovo football, and no doubt as part of football National Team of Kosovo one day.

‘Milan Junior Camp’ has been organized in Prishtina and Mitrovica by the support of MCYS, Taçi Oil and Milan Italian team. Ten



children from Kosovo will leave for Milan tomorrow. Each of them has received from Minister Krasniqi the flannel of football National Team of Kosovo.

Minister appreciated this activity as very significant for the affirmation of young talents in

football and enabling them to have more opportunities to present their skills abroad.

‘It is already shown that Kosovo has many football talents, and this is witnessed by many football players from Kosovo who are already a part of the European great teams, said Minister.

On the other hand, Bul Salihu the representative of Taçi Oil in Kosovo thanked MCYS on the support provided to Milan Junior Camp, by enabling the youngsters of Kosovo to represent the flag of their State and be an equal part of thousands youngsters in the frame of ‘Milan Week’, where the selection of talents will take place with the aim of joining different ages of Milan’s team. ■



Ground-breaking of new works and inaugurations of completed projects in Deçan and Peja

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has inaugurated the sports Palestra in village Strellec of Deçani, has laid the foundation stone of 'Bedri Pejani' Gymnasium Palestra in Pejë, has closely seen the works of the other sports Palestra in Deçan, and has also inaugurated restorations in the Guest House of Jashar Pasha in Peja. MCYS has made investments for such projects, by participation of municipalities of Peja and Deçani as well.

In his visit in Deçan and Peja, minister Krasniqi has initially met

the mayor of Deçani, Rasim Selmanaj, in the Municipality's headquarters, with whom he discussed regarding projects implemented during these two years in sport, culture and heritage of this city. Minister Krasniqi said Deçani has been one of the municipalities where MCYS has made much investment in the restoration of monuments, buildings of sports palaestra, as well as other different cultural projects.

From his side, the mayor Selmanaj thanked minister Krasniqi for the support provided, while prom-

ising that the municipality will further on have the field of sport, culture and heritage its priority, and there will be further allocation of its budget for other investments.

After the meeting, minister Krasniqi and the mayor Selmanaj have closely seen the works in the sports Palestra of the city. Minister Krasniqi asked the employers to add the intensity of work with the aim of having it available for youngsters as soon as possible.

He also said that work should be carried out very carefully and he asked the supervisors of the works to continuously oversee the work.

The sports hall in Strellec

While a palestra in Deçan, an investment of MCYS is being built, another one in village Strellec of Deçani, an investment of MCYS as well, has already been concluded and it has been inaugurated today.

At the inaugurating ceremony was present Minister Krasniqi, the mayor of Deçani, Rasim Selmanaj, deputies of this area, Safete Hadergjonaj, and Armend Zemaj, as well as the residents of village. Minister Krasniqi said the respec-



tive object will serve the community a lot. He said Deçani has tried hard for Kosova, and for this reason and other reasons as well, it deserves a special attention.

“Let me notify you since now that Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports will invest in building a football stadium in your city the following next year that no doubt is a very significant step for all athletes of this city and for the whole Kosova as well. This will not be the only project, as MCYS in collaboration with municipality of Deçan will also implement joint projects related to culture and cultural heritage.

I would like to express the commitment of the Government of the Republic of Kosova on increasing investments in your municipality further on in every segment of life”, said Minister Krasniqi on this occasion. The mayor of Deçani, Rasim Selmanaj said this Palestra will be the space where many youngsters will have the opportunity to develop their talent and it will assist the addition of sports activities and the achievement of greater results. He thanked MCYS for the investment, while pointing out that many projects implemented these two years in sport, culture and heritage enabled a better life in Deçan.

Gymnasium ‘Bedri Pejani’ with a sports hall soon

Pupils of Gymnasium ‘Bedri Pejani’ in Pejë will have a palestra very



soon, and they will be able to develop different sports activities there. Minister Krasniqi, after his visit in Deçan, left for Peja, where together with mayor, Ali Berisha and deputies of this area has laid the foundation stone of the sports palestra of the Gymnasium ‘Bedri Pejani’. This is a joint investment between MCYS and municipality of Peja. Minister Krasniqi, in his speech before pupils said Peja is a city from where many champion athletes come from, who made proud Peja and the whole Kosova as well.

He added that the Gymnasium ‘Bedri Pejani’ is one of the best schools in Kosova, from where many generations which provided a considerable contribution for Kosova emerged. For this reason, the respective school deserves a particular attention, he said. Minister Krasniqi said Peja has been one

of municipalities where MCYS has invested a lot in these two years in the field of sport, culture and heritage as well, and such support will continue in the following next years as well, he said.

On the other hand, the mayor of Peja, Ali Berisha said this school deserved such an investment and many investments which were carried out in the past and will be carried out in the future said the mayor Berisha in his speech.

Restorations inaugurated in the Guest House of Jashar Pasha

Except investments in the field of sport in Peja, the priority of MCYS has been also the preservation and protection of cultural heritage of this city. The Guest House of Jashar Pasha among others is another evidence for such investments, where Minister Krasniqi has inaugurated the restorations of the respective monument today. Minister Krasniqi said this monument is a part of a valuable treasure of cultural heritage of Kosova and its restoration is a significant step.

He appreciated the work carried out in restoration by expressing his will that such monument will truly be the space where many different activities which promote culture and heritage will take place. The restoration of this monument was carried out by the support of MCYS.

Heritage, said Minister Krasniqi will be a priority of MCYS in the following next year as well. ■



European Film Week - a significant activity for the public

The European Film Week is a good opportunity that enables filmmakers as well as all film fans of Kosovo to view the new European production which has been appraised in prestigious festivals.

So said Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi at the press conference held together with the Director of the French Alliance, Marlene Pouliquen, on the occasion of opening the European Film Week in Kosovo, which is being organized for the first time by the French Embassy in Prishtina in collaboration with MCYS. During this week there will be displayed 11 movies from 9 countries such as France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Turkey, Belgium, Austria, Finland and Sweden.

"This week presents one more opportunity for our filmmakers, especially the young ones to view the new creativity of the European cinematography and learn even more for this field. Movies which will be displayed during this week are from nine countries and they are appraised in many festivals, and this fact I believe shows their quality as well", said minister while expressing the hope that such ini-

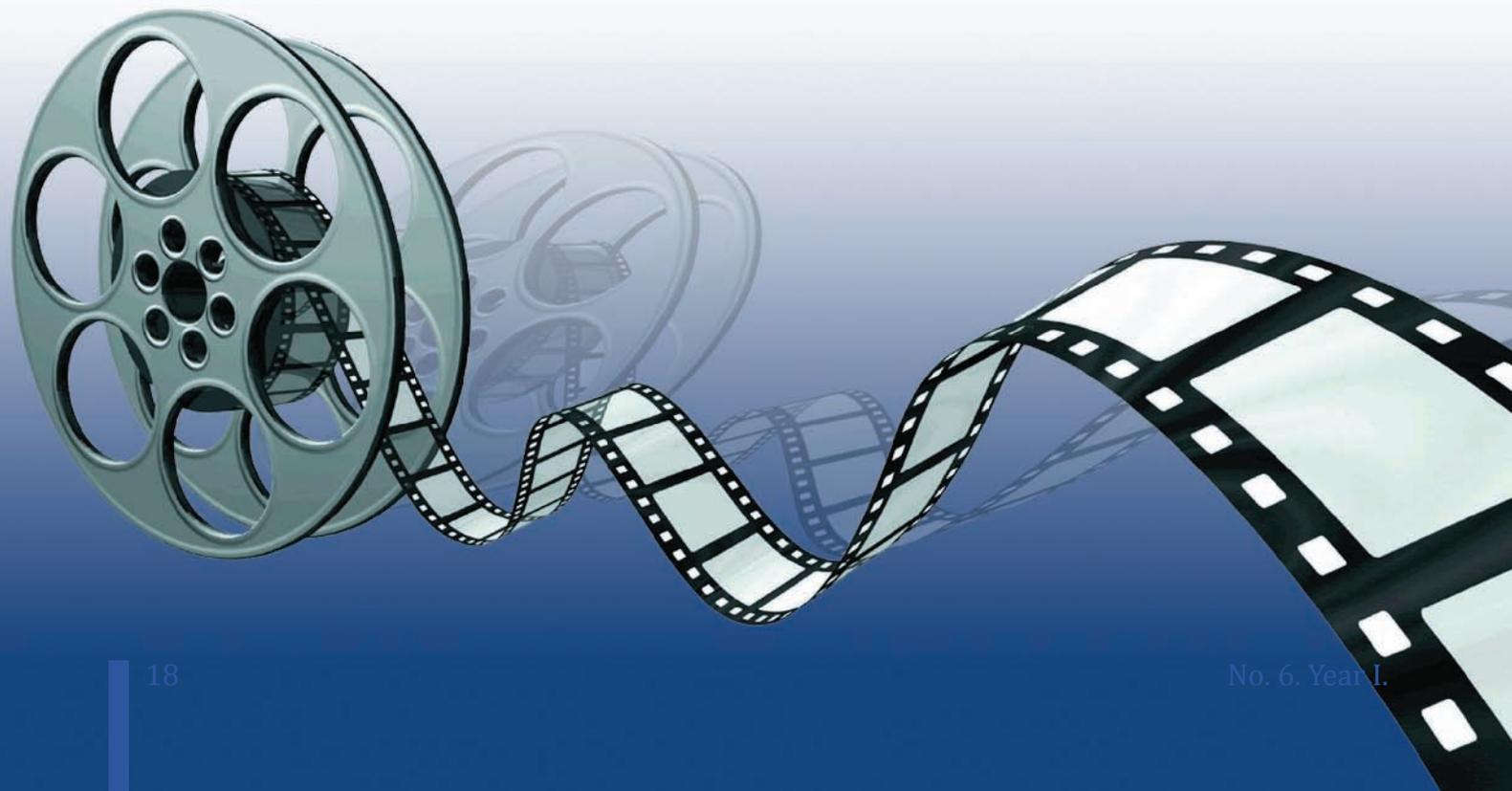
tiative will be traditional.

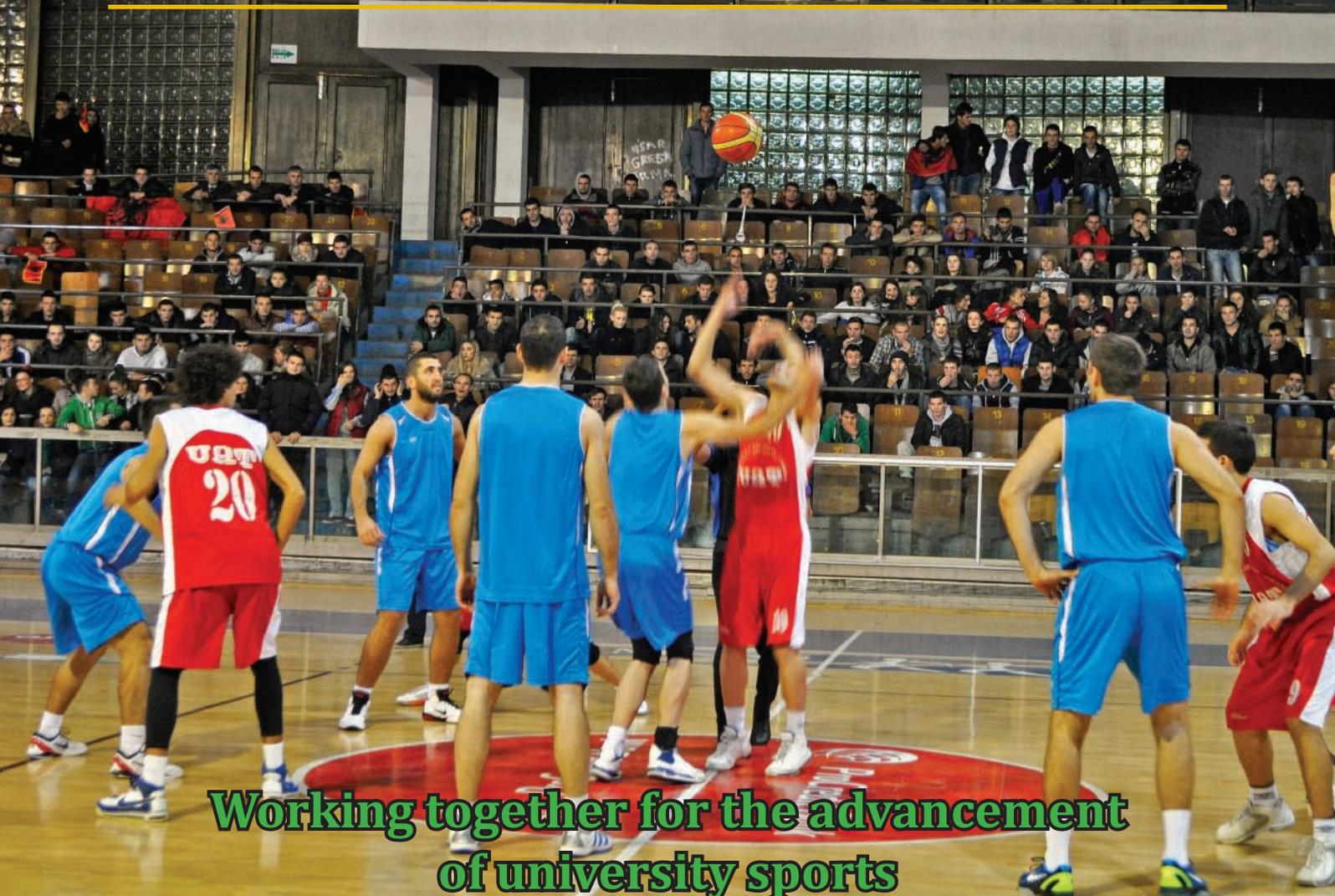
Minister Krasniqi said cinematography in Kosovo has taken positive steps, especially in the aspect of production. Minister mentioned the successes of some movies from Kosovo such as 'The return' and 'Columns' in significant world festivals.

Minister notified that as it also happened in the last two years, in the following next year it is planned the increase of budget on supporting movies through the

Cinematography Centre of Kosova.

From her side, Marlene Pouliquen, the director of the French Alliance in Prishtina thanked MCYS for the cooperation provided on organizing this week. She has announced the agenda for the whole European Film Week. Movies, she said, have been translated into Albanian language and there will not be any financial costs for watching them. Movies will be displayed in the National Theater of Kosova, from tomorrow. ■





Working together for the advancement of university sports

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi said in this activity that sport has been one of the spheres, which has always united Albanians and successes did never lack. He delivered a speech at the opening of basketball

competitions of the Nationwide University Games in the honor of 100th Anniversary of the Albanian Independence, the host of which was University 'Hasan Prishtina' in Prishtinë, concretely, the Faculty of Sports Sciences. Present in this event were also Minister of Edu-

cation, Science and Technology, Ramë Buja, the Chancellor of University 'Hasan Prishtina', Ibrahim Gashi, as well as representatives of other institutions.

Different sports competitions such as football, volleyball and other sports were held and will be held in other universities as well, in regions where the Albanians live.

Minister Krasniqi said Albanians have many well known names in different sports that developed and are still developing their carrier in international arena. He added that activities such as university games are one more contribution for the affirmation of young talents.

University sport, said minister Krasniqi, has been and it still one of MCYS priorities, as in this way, the affirmation of talents will take place and we will have a massive sport.

Greeting speeches have been delivered also by Minister Buja and the Chancellor Gashi. ■



Minister Krasniqi welcomed the selectors of the Berlinale Festival for movies from Balkans

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has met two selectors of Berlin Film Festival, Nikolaj Nikitin and Bernd Buder, who are staying in Kosovo to select movies from the Balkans in the pre-selective phase for the Berlinale. The selection of movies from the Balkans in Kosovo was heralded during the current year Berlinale, and on this occasion minister Krasniqi has met many filmmakers and organisers of this festival. In this meeting also participated the Director of CCK, Fatos Berisha as well as the Head of the Board Arben Zharku.

Minister Krasniqi assessed that the development of the pre-selective phase in Kosovo is a significant step for the cinematography in our country, and he thanked the representatives of the Berlinale for the cooperation provided. He expressed the commitment on enhancing the cooperation between culture institutions of Kosovo and the Berlinale.

Minister also expressed his belief that movies from Kosovo will be in the official competition of this festival, and also other festivals very soon. While discussing regarding situation of cinematogra-



phy in the country, minister added that in the last two years there was noticed a progression in terms of the support of MCYS provided to CCK as well as the engagement of CCK itself to be present in great cinematography events of the world, and the establishment of cooperation as well. Minister said Kosovo has many talents and enthusiasts in the field of cinematography. He notified the guests that the support towards film by the State will increase in the following next year as well.

Coproduction, said minister, is one of the best forms in order to have a qualitative work in film production.

On the other hand, Nikolaj Nikitin estimated the progression he is seeing in Kosovo in the field of cinematography, and above everything he appraised the energy and youngsters who are working in this respect. He congratulated minister Krasniqi for many significant steps that MCYS has undertaken in this respect, while emphasising that Kosovo truly has numerous talents in cinematography and they deserve to have a priority.

Nikitin, expressed the will on enhancing the collaboration and he said Kosovo from now on will be one of reference centres of the Balkans for cinematography. ■



MCYS and the British Embassy provide support to Kosovo Air Cadets



The support to Kosova Air Cadets and to civil aviation in general is an innovative step that above everything will assist the progression of youth but also the economic development and promotion of Kosova values throughout the globe.

So, said Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi during the meeting with the Ambassador of Great Britain in Prishtina, Ian Cliff and Veton Breznicën, the Executive Chief of the organization 'Kosova Air Cadets'.

In the joint meeting it was discussed regarding the membership of Kosova to IACEA, which is a global aviation organisation and it consists of the air forces, aeronautics federations / of air sports, organisations of air cadets as well as organisations of air space of 20 States of the world.

Except this it was also discussed for the opening of a School of Air Cadets, which is an initiative of the British Embassy in Kosova. "We have had communication and cooperation with the organisation of Kosova Air Cadets also in the past and today I take the opportunity together with the ambassador Cliff

to congratulate Veton for the membership of Kosova organisation of the Air Cadets to the respective international organisation constituent part of which are the majority of States.

"Although Kosova Air Cadets are engaged into an activity which does not have a long tradition in our country, I consider this activity very significant and no doubt it will be expanded in the future and the support of Ministry that commenced last months will also remain in the future. I take the opportunity on congratulating the British Embassy for the assistance provided to this significant project and I also ask along other institutions and our international partners to assist the development of Kosova Air Cadets", said Minister.

The Ambassador Ian Cliff thanked Minister on the support and he expressed the support of the British Embassy to the air cadets, while evaluating this activity as very important. "The air cadets have a long tradition in the history of Great Britain, and this is a manner of youth engagement to do something that is adventures and enforces their leadership skills.

We believe that aviation learning is valuable and useful for the economic interest of the country. Kosova should also join these types of activities where youngsters are able to gain experience, and expand their horizons on other issues related to their country as well", he said.

While the executive Chief of Kosova Air Cadets, Veton Breznica said for them it was very important the support they were provided with. "I would like to thank Minister and the Ambassador for their support so far. For us, this is a very significant and crucial support in order to lay the foundations of the School of Air Cadets.

One of the principal goals for the establishment of this school is the existing need in Kosova for future generation of the professional aviators, promotion of the air space and civil aviation in Kosova as well as offering to youth a training or education program in civil aviation which would also provide them with an alternative or something else they would be able to be engaged in", he said. ■





Minister Krasniqi commended judokas Kelmendi, Morina, Gjakova and Krasniqi

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi, welcomed in a meeting Kosova judoists who were the participants and also the winners in the European Championship for judoists up to 23 years old.

Judoists, Majlinda Kelmendi, Korab Morina, Nora Gjakova and Distira Krasniqi, with their coach Driton Kuka, informed minister for the success of our judoists in the championship which was held in Prague of the Czech Republic, where Majlinda Kelmendi won the gold medal and the 16 years old judoka Distira Krasniqi, who although went there with the aim

of gaining experience she returned with a medal.

Minister Memli Krasniqi was satisfied for the achievement of our judoists success in this championship and he emphasized that personally and as MCYS will continue supporting judoists and sport in general. He said Majlinda, Nora, and many other judoists are the best example to breakthrough into the international arena and to show their talents by self-abnegation. He said Kosova is already developing numerous talents who are making the name and good reputation of Kosova into the international arena, as well as they are

developing a team with the aim of presenting our State in Rio Summer Olympic Games 2016.

Minister said it is encouraging the fact that sport in Kosova is already breaking the isolation and in the future there will be very good news in this respect.

The coach Kuka, except providing information regarding the successes of our judoists, thanked minister Krasniqi for the support. He said that the achievement of numerous successes are an additional motivation for them in order to continue working further on for bringing to light young talents and increasing the quality of this sport. ■

ASAMBLEJA E VI ZGJEDHORE E KOK

Prishtinë, 24 Nëntor 2012



Minister Krasniqi: Sports community should work even harder, in order to be ready for equal participation in the international arena

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has greeted the holding of the VI Election Assembly of the Olympic Committee of Kosova, which is being held in Prishtina tonight.

On a speech of the occasion minister Krasniqi wished a fortunate work to the delegates, while expressing the belief on a very democratic process of the elections. Minister also spoke regarding the sports developments in Kosova in general, while appraising that there was a great progress, but he also added that many challenges still remain ahead of us.

Minister Krasniqi said the visit of the two senior officials of the International Olympic Committee a few days ago constitutes the powerful evidence for the achievements of Kosova and the good news Kosova expects to hear hereafter.

"They closely looked at sport, met many athletes and many others among you and it has been a really good feeling to hear from them saying very good words on our work, as well as for the support they will provide to our very fair efforts to be an equal part in the sports international arena", said Minister.

While speaking for the process of internationalisation, minister said Kosova is very near breaking the whole isolation it had over the years.

"As you already know we have accomplished the technical criteria for application of the Olympic Committee of Kosova to the International Olympic Committee, and above everything we have established the official communication with this mechanism. These steps

are truly fundamental and they give us an additional motivation to successfully pass the last steps.

"As I have already said we are ready to very carefully proceed in this very final process. Today, honored delegates, each request of us for acceptance in a federation is much more seriously reviewed. Football, which is one of the most popular sports, is one of the examples that prove this, and in December it expects to receive the confirmation on developing friendly matches in the international arena. There are also other numerous examples of progression, and except being a result of our work, they also are an incomparable merit of the will of our young athletes, and on this occasion I want to mention our champion Majlinda Kelmendi, who now is also a delegate of this Assembly with the aim of working and achieving great results, while having always in mind and heart the representation of the State", said minister Krasniqi.

Sports infrastructure, said minister Krasniqi is the area where there were undertaken concrete steps in the last two years. He said MCYS has made multi-thousand investments in building palaestra, sports polygons and football stadiums, as well as establishment of great centres with numerous sports grounds such as the Multimedia Centre in Mitrovica, which is an investment of over 20 million Euros, where there will be sports grounds for many sports.

"There are 11 stadiums which have begun to be renovated this year while others will be planned

for the following next year. Except this, for the first time we have thought to set sport in the agenda of our international partners here in Kosova. There are 6 subsidiary football stadiums which will commence to be built on December the 6th, in the frame of the donation that MCYS received from the European Commission.

In Mitrovica has already begun the building of the Multifunctional Centre where there will be grounds for different sports such as judo, ping-pong, half-Olympic pool and other spaces. This is an investment of over 20 million Euros and it is being made by MCYS and the European Commission", he said while ensuring that investments will further increase in the future.

Minister Krasniqi appealed to delegates of federations on working even harder in order to enhance the quality in organising competitions.

"I am confident that also your commitment for more qualitative competitions will be greater, and by following the best European practices. This is an aspect each of you should work hard on so that when the international community fully opens the doors to us we will really be a good example and ready to be represented with dignity", said Minister.

The respective Assembly was also greeted by the Secretary of the Albanian National Olympic Committee, Stavri Bello, who once again offered the support of ANOC for any sport in Kosova. In this context, he said that the cooperation between two communities will more and more increase. ■

Minister Krasniqi asked for a more active role of the Kosovo Olympic Committee in 2013

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi welcomed in a meeting today the new composition of the Executive Olympic Committee of Kosovo, lead by the President Besim Hasani, with whom he discussed regarding the work carried out in 2012 in Kosova sports development, especially in internationalization process.

Minister Krasniqi while congratulating them on the positions received congratulated them for the contribution provided by being engaged in Kosova sport development and internationalization. He assessed that the current year brought quite good news for sport, especially in the aspect of infrastructure improvements as well as lobbying on breaking long isolation.

In the coming year, said minister Krasniqi there will be investments in sport infrastructure again, such as stadiums, palestra, sports polygons, etc. He also expressed to the heads of the Committee his full readiness to further working for Kosova sport internationalization. In this respect, he asked from them



to be even more engaged. Also, he expressed his support on working together with the Olympic Committee on internal sport organization. Minister Krasniqi said he is convinced that by a greater commitment of us all, in year 2013 there will be milestone decisions for Kosova sport.

On the other hand, the President of Kosova Olympic Committee, Besim Hasani, thanked minister Krasniqi for the support provided to

Kosova sport during year 2012. He also assessed that this year marked numerous achievements in internationalization plan, as well as in internal sport development.

Hasani expressed the will that with the new Presidency, there will be a more active role in every aspect, in order that this mechanism and federations in general truly be functional, with the aim of ensuring more qualitative competitions and dignified presentation. ■



The Office on Copyright

The Office on Copyright and Related Rights is showing success towards implementation of its duties, the feasibility study drafted by the European Commission has highly evaluated the accomplishment of the Office's tasks. Evaluations have been provided regarding the compilation of the Law on Copyright and Related Rights, licensing of associations for collective administration, approval of the Strategy against forgery and piracy, launch of public awareness campaign. Also, it should be emphasised that it has also been highly appraised the international cooperation that the Office on Copyright and Related Rights has established with the respective Offices in different countries.

The Office on Copyright and Related Rights during these months has developed activities on strengthening the system of copyright in the Republic of Kosova.

A significant step was undertaken by the compilation of the Regulation on Mediation, which aims to determine mediation procedures in the field of copyright and related rights, in terms of disputes arising during the process of defining general tariffs between associations on collective administration of copyright and the representatives of right users. Such tariffs should be paid by the side of rights users.

After defining mediators based on the regulation on mediation, the Office shall organise for the first time training for selected mediators. Training will be held by an international expert in order to increase knowledge for different practices related to mediation.

In the aspect of promoting activities implementation with the aim of further affirmation of copyright, the Office has initiated the preparation of a magazine with information-scientific character, which is planned to be published on periodical basis.

Based on actual circumstances, copyright in our country is estimated to be in its initial development phase, so the wide opinion has the lack of information regarding this important segment of intellectual property. In this context, we considered to be extremely important to formalise this continuous information through publication of the abovementioned magazine. We strongly believe that through magazine publication, we will ensure respective information regarding copyright in the Republic of Kosova and its overall development will contribute positively on enhancing the citizens' awareness on this issue.

In this respect, magazine will contain written articles by the carriers of institutions dealing with implementation of copyright and related rights, as well as by prominent local and international professors who have knowledge and experience in the field of intellectual property, especially in the field of copyright. These articles will treat every copyright element, especially relevant topics related to general information on copyright,

as well as the works which are protected and criteria for protection of respective works.

Substantial information incorporated in this magazine will also address the rights' carriers and other categories such as lawyers, judges, police, whose work is directly related to protection of Copyright, as well as students who need such information materials with the aim of implementing scientific-research activities.

In this view, we determined topics connected with the interest of all these categories. Among principal topics which the magazine articles will consist of are the challenges which the copyright system encounters in the Republic of Kosova, one of them is also piracy which is in a high level, therefore different measures are being undertaken in order to prevent it. So concerning this, it will be treated as a topic the Strategy against forgery and piracy.

Collective associations will also take place in this magazine, which are an integral part of copyright system, respectively, challenges of the established and licensed associations in the Republic of Kosova will be treated, as well as associations for collective administration in Europe.

Except the Office on Copyright and Related Rights, the development of copyright depends also by other factors, and other institutions which play strong role on copyright, functioning like a chain where each link should function well in order to have success.

Taking into account this view magazine will separately treat the role of these institutions in terms of copyright as well such as the State Customs, the National Intellectual Property Council, the Police of Kosova, and the Independent Media Commission.

The magazine will also consist of several interviews with persons discussing for their experience related to copyright in the Republic of Kosova. ■



Deputy Minister Abazi welcomed the Vice President of the World Chess Federation, Boris Kutin

Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Hajdin Abazi has welcomed in a meeting the Vice President of the World Chess Federation, Boris Kutin, who is staying in an official visit in Kosovo in order to closely see the developments of Kosova sport.

Deputy Minister Abazi has informed Mr. Kutin on the achievements and challenges of Kosova sport. He said that it has been marked a progression on breaking the international isolation, as well as on improving the sports infrastructure. Abazi has thanked Kutin on the interest shown to visit Kosova, while appreciating his contribution provided to the chess-players of Kosova. Deputy Minister Abazi asked from Mr. Kutin on continuing promotion and offering greater possibilities for the affirmation of our chess-players by the World Chess Federation. He once again confirmed that MCYS will



continue to increase the support for Kosova sport.

From his side Mr. Kutin expressed his gratitude on welcoming and congratulated Minister for the achievements of results

and the work being carried out in sport in Kosova, except numerous challenges. He said that he will continue lobbying for Kosova athletes, in order to also they have equal opportunities. ■

The third Rolling Film Festival begins

At the National Theatre of Kosova was carried out the opening of the third film festival dedicated to Rom community "Rolling Film Festival". At the opening of this festival which will last for a week and where there will be displayed 47 different local and international films, participated the deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS), Gani Elshani.

Deputy Minister Elshani, on the behalf of the Ministry thanked and congratulated the organisers of this festival and he promised that MCYS will support this activity also in the future which is culminating for Roma community. "On the behalf of MCYS and on my personal behalf I congratulate the organisers of NGO 'Romanwood' and the NGO 'Balkans Sunflower'

from Kosova for the work carried out for this festival. MCYS will provide contribution also for other future editions of the "Rolling Film Festival" in the field of art and culture and traditions of this community', emphasised deputy minister Gani Elshani.

This cultural activity is the only organisation in the Republic of Kosova on films produced by members of Roma community. In the festival there will be displayed feature films of prominent world producers, who present different aspects of this community's life in the field of culture, their history and difficulties they face. There will also be displayed short films realised by young filmmakers.

In this third edition lasting for a week will be displayed 47 best films selected during a year and there will be participants from Bulgaria, Hungary and also local filmmakers. ■



Culture is a significant part of Kosovo integration process in Europe



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has held a speech in Berlin, in the 11th session of the European Cultural Parliament on the following topic "The role of Kosova culture in the European integrations". In this meeting, he has had participated a numerous personalities from the field of culture and policy of the Europe.

In his speech Minister said the path of Kosova to the European perspective no doubt encompasses also culture, which was given a particular attention in the last two years by the State, especially in the aspect of promoting cultural values and its diversity.

"In the last two years, for the first time, culture has become one of country's priorities, and it has been treated not as an amenity or luxury, but as a need. As a result of this, also at the time of economic global crises, we have achieved to increase the budget for Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, by even duplicating it. Therefore this had an impact on enhancing budget for culture institutions on projects of the so called independent culture but no doubt also in the investments of cultural infrastructure", said Minister. He also mentioned that there was a really tangible increase in cultural heritage as well, and it was given a particular emphasis to legal infrastructure, while harmonizing it with the best EU practices, and also by always considering the situation in the field. In this context, he mentioned that the legal and financial status of artists have already been regulated, while ensuring a greater autonomy for them.

"A great progression was noticed especially in copyrights, always referring to the Progress Report for Kosova this year", said Minister. What Minister evaluated as very significant and quite vital for the country, and that is not happening yet, is introduction of Kosova in cultural programs of the European Union. He mentioned that none of Kosova artists unfortunately benefit from these valuable programs, and this happened because of political reasons and the lack of EU consensus regarding the status of Kosova, said Minister. Minister expressed the hope that the dialog for Stabilization and Association Agreement will lead Kosova towards being introduced into all programs of the European Union. He added that Kosova will have culture its priority, while working even harder for much greater and free space for artists, who are ready to give more to the comprehensive culture of Europe.

In terms of cooperation in the field of culture with different countries of the world, Minister mentioned that several cultural agreements have already been signed such as: with Germany, Latvia and Malta. He also said that directly the Ministry as well as culture institutions such as Theater, Philharmonics, Ballet and other Institutions has established a deep cooperation with cultural institutions from Balkans countries, Macedonia, Albania, Bosnia etc. Culture, said Minister Memli Krasniqi, has been a good aspect which Kosova used for lobbying and being recognized by five European Union countries that have not recognized Kosova yet. There were

many artists from Kosova who performed in different events of these five countries, and they have been presented as artists of Kosova.

Focusing on cultural life, Minister Krasniqi said Prishtina is an important film and music center of the Balkans as it has several prestigious international festivals, which have brought to Prishtina artists from all over the world. This enabled the deepening of contacts between our artists and those from the world, in order to have concrete forms of cooperation as well.

Another aspect which Minister has focused on was also the presentation of culture in the world, at great cultural events. He mentioned with a particular emphasis the presentation of Kosova for the first time this year in the most important cultural events of the world such as Film Festival in Berlinale of Germany, the one in Cannes of France, Venice Biennale in Italy, Montreux Jazz Festival of Switzerland, and other important events. These presentations have assisted our artists, said Minister Krasniqi, while adding that he feels satisfied that the forms of cooperation have already been initiated. He also mentioned the fact of pre-selection phase for Balkans films entering into competition at the Berlinale that was held in Prishtina.

After his speech, Minister Krasniqi had a meeting with the heads of ECP, Mr. Par Stenback, President of ECP Senate and Mr. Karl –Eric Norman, a secretary. Minister Krasniqi has thanked the heads of ECP for the cooperation provided, while also expressing the will on enhancing this cooperation. He said Kosova would be quite honored if one of ECP sessions would be held in Prishtina. The heads of ECP welcomed this and they promised that they will have continuous contacts with MCYS and other cultural institutions in Kosova, in order to enhance cooperation.

The European Cultural Parliament is a forum of different culture personalities from Europe, aiming to increase cultural cooperation in Europe. ■

Minister Krasniqi visited the children of SOS Village in Pristina

On the Eve of Christmas and New Year, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi shared gifts to 74 children of different ages of SOS Village in Prishtinë today. The gifts were mainly with sports requisites such as flannels, balls for different sports, toys, notebooks, etc. Minister Krasniqi, while congratulating the children on the eve of Christmas and New Year, promised that he will always be ready to assist their development in their passion for sport, art or other fields. He congratulated the staff of SOS Village on the hard work for several years in child care. Minister said the support for this institution by the side of MCYS will further continue in the future. "I wished to share a few moments with the children and the heads of SOS Villages today, who worked hard for several years to provide to these children education and love. I also wished to confirm the readiness of MCYS on assisting SOS Villages", he said, while adding that it is an obligation of the whole society to care



for these children, and he stated that institutions in general will be more engaged in this respect. On the other hand, the director of SOS Villages, Nizahat Salihu while thanking minister for the

support provided to SOS Villages, said their commitment for these children is utmost. She expressed the hope that institutional support for these children will further increase in the future. ■



The Law on Cinematography to be based on the best European practices

Kosova should have a Law on Cinematography that addresses the requirements of the artistic community, the true situation in the ground and it is in compliance with the best regional and European practices as well.

So said Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports in the workshop organized by CCK and MCYS for the amendment of the Law on Cinematography, where Thierry Baujard, who is the expert on cinematography field, will give his recommendations.

In these meetings, which have begun yesterday and will continue tomorrow as well are participating also the creators of cinematography field in Kosova.

Minister invited the artistic community of the country to give their recommendations, which afterwards will be a part of discussions in the public hearings that will be organized in December and January.

Minister Krasniqi thanked the working group on amending the Law, for the hard work carried out so far and he also thanked the European Commission for the support provided, by bringing to Kosova experts who will help in the remaining phases of the Law amendment, as was required by MCYS. "Like we also tried during these two years to have individuals of the relevant field to be engaged as the key actors in every process, also now I do not want to give evaluations and opinions on how the amendments would be like. Our vision was and it still remains that culture, in this case cinematography should be in the



hands of the professionals, those who best know to manage it, and this happened. What I would really like to express today is my support in all your engagements in order to amend this Law and the field of cinematography in general.

For us as a Ministry is important to have an applicable Law, based on the requirements of the community, best international practices, clarified and which regulates this entire field accurately.

This working philosophy will certainly bring even a greater progress in cinematography, by increasing film production and quality, and by having the principal goal the direction of production towards the project realization in cooperation with different film houses from all over the world", stated minister. He evaluated that the cinematography of Kosova has already made a significant progress, especially in the promotion and establishment of contacts with creators from all over the world.

"The cinematography of Kosova was present in the greatest world events such as Cannes and the Berlinale. This path will continue in the future as well, like it will also continue to increase the budgetary support for CCK. The support will be enhanced in every sphere of culture and I really expect even more successes and the development of culture by the community itself".

On the other hand, the French expert Thierry Baujard said the purpose of his work is to provide his recommendations in order to issue a Law which is applicable and which identifies the clear path Kosova should follow, consisting of distinctive elements from other countries, and in such a way it will be attractive for many film producers and directors from the whole world.

After these three days hearing, also in December will take place the development of similar debates with foreign experts. These discussions will also continue in January so the issued draft will appear in the public hearing afterwards. ■





Minister Krasniqi handed out the certificates to 800 young entrepreneurs

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi at a ceremony held at hotel Grand in Prishtinë, handed out the certificates to 400 youngsters who have completed a training on entrepreneurship and business in the frame of the Project on youth development in Kosova, implemented by MCYS and the World Bank.

In his speech, minister Krasniqi, expressed that since today Kosova has more cadre who are able to provide innovative ideas to the society on business, taking

into account that economy consists of the key challenges, priorities and opportunities of the country. "Your experience gained in these trainings does not only serve to the goal of bringing new business ideas, but it is very helpful for the existing businesses as well in order to better developing and managing them. Except these, what it is worth emphasizing is the fact that you are even more ready for the labor market in Kosova, which needs a deep knowledge concerning management and operation. Since

today you can expand your ideas for new businesses which will be sustained by the Project on youth development in Kosova. Provision of grants for young entrepreneurs is one of the components of this project and it is 2.8 million American dollars worth. I encourage you on developing ideas and benefit from this support, which will be provided in continuity.

Also, the phase of the trainings has not concluded yet, there will be trainings for other youngsters as well and I expect a greater enthusiasm in this respect", said minister Krasniqi.

He added that he has in continuity followed the implementation of the project and he expressed that it was quite encouraging the fact that it has been a lot of interest as well as quality in trainings. He thanked the World Bank and other partners who helped and are still helping the development and empowerment of our youth.

While evaluating the fact that Kosova has a new population, an inspiring and vigorous youth, minister Krasniqi ensured that youth will always have the support of the



State Institutions. "This is in fact one of the priorities of the Government and it has been witnessed by the fact that many youngsters today chair important institutions and sectors of the society and of course the opportunities for youth in order to prove themselves as the leaders of the Institutions will further increase. Let me assure that the support for youth, like in these two last years, will also continue in the coming years, by supporting our youth in different activities, which aim the promotion of genuine values, democracy and encourage sound debate in the society. Also, the support of MCYS through various grants for youth centers and different youth organizations will increase, and I encourage our youth to really give the best of them in order to develop a really qualified initiative for the benefit of the society", said minister Krasniqi.

On the other hand, the representative of the World Bank, Jan Peter Olters, organizing this project in collaboration with the Youth Department of MCYS, emphasized that the report 'Doing Business' of the World Bank has placed Kosovo 28 countries above, and the dynamism and the efforts for reforms has prevented Kosovo on closing the gaps with neighbors and approximated it with EU. "Compared with the countries of the region, even with other EU countries, Kosovo is standing well with the control of public finances and the bank sector is fundamentally sound. Kosovo has made a considerable progress in facing the construction licenses, while protecting the earned income in other fields of the reform program of the business environment. The gaps of a particular importance for young entrepreneurs are the improvement in administration of land and cadastre, and municipal officials. The implementation of this training is a process that needs to be further developed, so I expect from you to show success and represent yourselves as skillful entrepreneurs", he said.

Also, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Memli Krasniqi has

handed out the certificates for 400 youngsters trained in professional fields, within the frame of the Project on Kosova youth development. Trainings has been held in the fields such as: Child Care Educators, IT Networking, Electric installations, Bookkeeping and accounting, welder, trade agents, food processing, web-page designing, central heating, graphic design, water supplying, pipe assemblage and assemblage, as well as the maintenance and repair of escalators and elevators. This is the second group of trainees, after 400 youngsters trained on entrepreneurship.

Minister Krasniqi in his speech said these gained skills in trainings are an important step that each certified individual has made in order to enhance his/her professional skills and skills for labor market. He evaluated that both training phases consist of a proper combination or the development and starting new businesses by these youngsters. "A unification of strengths and knowledge of a new entrepreneur like you, who learnt on how to prepare a business plan, how to manage and promote it, and the one like you trained in professional fields such as Information technology, education and child care, electric installation, graphic design, welder, trade agent, accountant etc, would be a formulae of success for starting new businesses and what is most important for their sustainability

as well. Therefore I encourage you to follow this formula and also believe in the values you possess" said Minister. Minister said that by these trainings it does not conclude the Project on youth development, as all youngsters who attended the trainings on entrepreneurship and professional fields as well have another opportunity to bring to life their ideas on business.

"Grants awarding for new businesses is one of the components of the respective project which is 2.8 million dollars worth. I encourage you on developing your ideas and benefit from this support which will be provided in continuity". Minister thanked the World Bank for the support provided to this project and other projects as well, and he also thanked other partners contributing on youth empowerment in Kosovo. In the case of starting new businesses, minister said Kosovo has carried out deep reforms in this respect, while facilitating the procedures for obtaining necessary documentation in order to start a new business. He said reforms will further continue in the future as well, while also the support and engagement of youth will enhance.

The project was highly appraised by the officials of the World Bank, who said that youth are establishing more potential in order to be part of the labor market. Trainings of these fields were provided by Don Bosko and ITED. ■



Minister Krasniqi: Year 2012 was a year of culture promotion and investments in sport

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS), Memli Krasniqi, has held the end of year press conference where he presented the achievements of the year we are leaving behind in the field of culture, youth, sport and heritage as well as several plans for the following next year.

Minister Krasniqi considered that although there are many challenges awaiting us, the year 2012 has brought very good news for all sectors covered by MCYS, where it was promoted culture, was invested as never before in sport, were undertaken concrete steps on preserving and promoting heritage as well as were implemented projects on increasing youth support.

He mentioned some of the developments and activities which followed Ministry while emphasizing that the budget increase for 30% for culture institutions impacted a denser calendar of events organized in the country and abroad. He also mentioned the aspect of increased support for cultural activities, especially those which are already traditional in Kosovo, such as different film and music festivals.

Minister Krasniqi assessed that this year's principal priority has been the cultural diplomacy, and he emphasized that in this respect the promotion as well as culture and artists' communication with



those throughout the world was quite intense.

"For the first time Kosovo, our cultural scene was presented in the most important events of the world, such as the Film Festival in Cannes, and in the Berlinale. Kosovo had its own rock music evening in the greatest music festival, in the Montreux Jazz Festival. Our country also was presented for the first time in the Venice Biennale, respectively, the Architecture Biennale".

Minister pointed out also the fact of changing the form of book support, where except press support, it will also be applied the form of books purchase and their donation to municipal libraries.

This year MCYS has increased the collaboration with different

European countries, while signing collaboration agreements in the field of culture with Malta, Germany, Latvia and it is expected signing of respective agreements with Turkey, Macedonia, Bulgaria and other countries very soon.

In the field of culture, Minister Krasniqi mentioned the great progression marked also in the Report of Feasibility Study for Kosovo, in copyright. This issue was evaluated by this report as one of greatest achievements and minister announced that in January will be founded the Task Force against piracy and forgery and there will be more concrete steps in fighting these phenomena.

In the field of sport Minister emphasized that this year has





marked the greatest investments being ever made in sports infrastructure, as well as the active role of MCYS, Olympic Committee and federations in the internationalization process. "I remember a title in one of our newspapers which was more or less as follows 'what has been achieved in sport this year was not achieved for ten years'. I am glad to hear such evaluations as this year has been the central priority of MCYS and it has truly been the year of sport in the development plan in country as well as in the process of internationalization, and it will continue also in the future", emphasized among others Minister of sport, Memli Krasniqi. He mentioned the fact that this year Kosovo accomplished the criteria to apply in the International Olympic Committee (IOC), while also senior officials

of this institution have visited our country, AIBA's President and the member of the Executive Board of the Olympic Committee, Ching Kuo Wu as well as the Director for Relationships with National Olympic Committees, Pere Miro.

Also, minister Krasniqi, mentioned that MCYS has allocated over 1 million euro for renovation of 11 sports football grounds as well as the allocation of means for palaestra and sports polygons throughout Kosovo, investments which include million euro figures. As an example he mentioned the initiative and investment of MCYS for Palestra 1 Tetori in Prishtina which will be functioning also for sports activities. "It has commenced the construction of a giant sport project, the Multifunctional Center in Mitrovica, where MCYS has allocated 8 million euro. As

you know there will be different sports grounds, including a half-Olympic pool, and as you already know it has commenced the construction of six subsidiary stadiums with high international standards," he emphasized.

Meanwhile, regarding heritage and youth, minister Krasniqi assessed that MCYS has implemented the plan and important projects in the aspect of emergent intervention in over 30 objects and monuments of heritage in our country. It has also been updated the List for temporary protection and there have been undertaken concrete initiatives on heritage preservation and promotion.

"We have commenced the work and we are close to the completion of project for renovation of the Archeological Park in Prishtina, which will be an informing and promoting center of Kosova heritage".

Concerning youth, except the support of non-governmental youth organizations through announcements, there were marked significant steps that empower youth role in the society and create more opportunities for them.

"We have completed the national strategy on youth empowerment 2013-2017, then it has began the implementation of project with the World Bank, which is 2.8 million dollars worth and which includes grants for youth businesses, and it was conducted the training and certification of 800 youngsters in professional fields and continuous counseling for the management of existing businesses," stated Minister Krasniqi.

While for year 2013, minister of MCYS, Memli Krasniqi, said there is another budgetary increase, so in the coming year there will be a budget over 19 million euro while after the process of review minister ensured that the budget for MCYS will be 20 million euro. The respective budget will have impact on culture institutions, there will be further support of MCYS, and there will be renovation of other stadiums, gyms and other constructions of youth centers as well. ■



Ulpiana - Pristina