Subject: Citizens' Initiative - Request for international attention and support regarding systemic risks to the rule of law, transparency and public interest in the implementation of the law on the implementation of the EXPO BELGRADE 2027 project

Sender: Citizens' initiative for the protection of public interest in the EXPO BELGRADE 2027

project

Date: 13.10.2025. **Attachments:**

A. Draft law on the ratification of the <u>Agreement between the Republic of Serbia</u> and the International Bureau of Exhibitions (BIE) on the privileges and benefits necessary for participation in the internationally recognized exhibition Expo 2027 <u>Belgrade Serbia</u>, submitted by the Government:

- 1. Analytical structured proposal report
- 2. Consolidated list of risks, weaknesses and deficiencies with recommendations for their elimination (Draft Law on the Ratification of the Agreement between the Republic of Serbia and the International Exhibitions Bureau on Privileges and Benefits for EXPO 2027 Belgrade)
- 3. Alert Memorandum Regarding Proposal
- 4. The proposer's hidden intentions
- 5. Proposed amendment to the proposal
- **B.** Draft Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Special Procedures for the Implementation of EXPO BELGRADE 2027 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 92/2023), submitted by the Government>
 - Analytical structured proposal report
 - Alert Memorandum Regarding Proposal
 - The proposer's hidden intentions
 - Proposed amendment to the proposal

Dear Sir/Madam,

We hereby address your institution with deep concern regarding the legal and institutional framework within which the EXPO BELGRADE 2027 project is being implemented.

Although the project itself has potential for international cooperation and economic development, the adopted laws and agreements for its implementation have created a parallel legal regime that deviates from the Serbian Constitution, undermines the rule of law, and threatens the principles of transparency, equality, and public accountability.

Our analytical reports (attached) document:

- **Deviation from applicable domestic laws** (on public procurement, public property, budget system, environmental protection);
- Transfer of public resources to non-transparent entities that are exempt from the control of state auditors and the National Assembly;

- The absence of environmental impact assessment studies and the exclusion of citizens and local governments from the procedures;
- Fiscal and tax incentives that reduce public revenues and violate market equality;
- **Risks of Serbia's non-compliance** with obligations under the UNCAC, ECHR, the European legal framework and the Aarhus Convention.

These findings show that **EXPO 2027** is being implemented outside the regular legal and institutional system of the Republic of Serbia, which creates systemic risks for both the internal order and the international credibility of Serbia.

Therefore, we are addressing your institution with the following requests:

- 1. To consider the information from the attached reports as an official civil warning;
- 2. **To include** the case of EXPO BELGRADE 2027 in relevant monitoring mechanisms and reports (rule of law, fight against corruption, environmental protection, management of public funds);
- 3. **To encourage dialogue** with the authorities in Serbia to align the legal framework with constitutional, environmental and anti-corruption standards;
- 4. **To provide technical and advisory support** in introducing transparent and accountable procedures in projects of special national importance.

This initiative is not directed against the idea of the EXPO exhibition, but in favor of **its legality, transparency and benefits for citizens**, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and the international obligations assumed by the state.

We remain at your disposal for any additional information, documentation and meetings, and express our willingness to cooperate with all domestic and international partners in good faith.

Respectfully,

<u>Civic Initiative for the Protection of Public Interest in the EXPO BELGRADE 2027 Project</u>
Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

Additional attachment: The link to the folder with additional materials regarding the above topic in Serbian and English is [link]