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SLS Vice Chairman Primož Jelševar: Is the state afraid of SAZAS?

Ljubljana, 24 November 2016 - "If the Intellectual Property Office (URSIL) of the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia has not carried out supervision and does not know or does not want to say how collective organizations in Slovenia distribute money, then leaders should be questioned on responsibility, " warns SLS vice-chairman Primož Jelševar who condemns the insidious actions of SAZAS, which, according to the media, allegedly transferred 20 million euros to a private association in Switzerland instead of to Slovenian authors.

Jelševar adds that the URSIL's instructions to the aggrieved authors to sue SAZAS for reimbursement sound like a mockery of Slovenian authors, as it is the URSIL's task to control the work of collecting societies: copyright refunds already can't buy a single coffee a day. Are those at URSIL afraid of collective organizations and the lobbies behind them? Is the state afraid of SAZAS? "

In the SLS, we expect explanations from the responsible minister Zdravko Počivalšek about the amount of damage caused to Slovenian authors due to the failure of URSIL control and how the injured authors will receive reimbursed money. At the same time, we call on the competent authorities to check whether the acts show indications of a crime and to take action against those responsible. The state must immediately establish full control over all collecting societies and the allocation of money. In the current chaotic state, Slovenian authors and the development of quality Slovenian music and audiovisual works suffer the most.

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