DRAGANASOTIROVSKI–NEW
MAYOR
August 21, 2020
The members of the City of Nis Assembly elected Mrs. Dragana

project “Establishing Housing and Financial Autonomy of Roma
Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons through Cooperation
ontheLocalLevel”fundedbytheEuropeanUnion,and
implemented by the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, the
Roma League and the City of Niska Banja. During her visit to
Niška Banja, the Roma Policy Coordinator and Project Manager
got acquainted with the project and the results achieved, but
also visited three families from the readmission group. She
ended her visit with a visit to the first Roma Cultural Center
in the Balkans, which opened in May this year. “There is a lot
of work being done to integrate Roma through the documents,
but it is very important to know the situation in the field.
My general impression after today is that there are many more
problems and needs, but I will leave with the impression that
there are people here in the political sphere and in the donor
community who are willing to help and that there is real
potentialintheRomacommunity,”saidEuropeanCommission
RomaPolicyCoordinatorMartaGarciaFidalgo.European
Commission Roma Policy Coordinator Marta Garcia Fidalgo added
thattheyhavebeenworkingalotonthesituationof
minorities, and especially with regard to the Roma minority.
They want Roma integration to become an important part of the
political agenda. “In the political sphere, we can make a
connection between Roma integration and EU accession because
we want those politicians who are not very interested in the
Roma issue but are in favor of EU accession to understand that
Roma integration is one of the conditions for this”, said
Fidalgo.

ROMA
October 23
The City of Niš, within the framework of the Program “Support
to EU Roma Inclusion – Empowering Local Communities for Roma
Inclusion”, implements the project “Nis Employment Action for
Roma – NEAR”. Multiple forms of social exclusion of Roma are
one of the most important issues for the Republic of Serbia on
its path to the EU and sustainable economic development. Roma,
women and men, experience severe poverty and social exclusion.
Lowlevelsofeducationandskills,accompaniedby
discrimination, have led to long-term unemployment for Roma. A
direct obstacle to Roma inclusion in the formal labor mar/湲t
 and pratocpcation ffadisa. theRomaunemployment hns tt ppMucation ve⁲agm,n inwome form and nemploe⁥a. The foy implemensingi(dvdedmal⤲㠵㔴⠀ ⁭va(srees⤲㠵㔴⠀  within⤲㠵㔴⠀ ⁴(tt⤲㠵㔴⠀ ⁭most framework wits the lever to thdio mnocpcation in the ivedes of

THE CITY OF NIS
October 21

The workshop on open data and innovation was held at the
CenterforInnovativeEntrepreneurshipofYouth.Assistant
Mayor Goran Milosavljevic spoke about the importance of open
data in the context of the activities with which the City of
Nis this year marked European Week of Local Democracy, with
the desire to build standards in establishing, functioning,
assessing and protecting the level of government closest to
citizensandthusensuringeffectiveparticipationofthe
members of the local communities in deciding about things that
are of concern for their everyday life. The value of opening
data when it comes to quality decision-making and data-driven
planning, as well as activating the vast practical, economic
andcreativepotentialofopeningupawiderangeof
information and diverse data that the public sector collects
and which in some ways has been “captured”, was highlighted.
Now,thisdataisavailableinmachine-readableformto
citizensandthebusinesscommunityforthepurposeof
creating new opportunities for the development of the startup
community, the economy and employment, as well as new values
through new information, analysis and services. The workshop
discussed the concept of open data as well as examples of
theiruseandgoodpracticeinSerbiaandworldwide.The
participants were also presented the results of the project
that was implemented by the City of Nis Office for Local
EconomicDevelopmentandProjectsincooperationwiththe
organization Palgo Smart within the framework of the national
projectOpenData–OpenOpportunities.TheCityofNis
published a large number of data sets on the national open
data portal. In the practical part of the workshop, through
teamwork, new solutions to specific problems and challenges
were devised based on the use of open data. The data opening

in the City of Nis is supported by y the United Nations
DevelopmentProgramandtheRSOfficeofInformation
TechnologyandElectronicAdministration,withfinancial
support of by the United Kingdom Good Governance Fund (GGF)
and the World Bank.
THECONCERTBYSVERDLOVSK
STATE CHILDRENS’ PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA IN NIS
October 21
Russian choir Chapel of Boys and Young Men of the Sverdlovsk
StateChildren’sPhilharmonicOrchestrafromYekateCER〠呲⁂吠㐲⸵㈰‴⠀䵲dlovsk⤠崠告†䕔⁑ੂ吠〮㈷㔲〠㘵㈮㈹㈠洠椀愀⁔爠䉔‴㈮㔲〠㐰㠮㤷ㄠ呤†〮㌴㠠㐀⁔爲㤲⁭⁩a 呲‰㠮㤷ㄠ呤†〮㌴樮㌸㠮㝣hoir6㐀琀攀搀 fr6㐀琀攀搀rat

Podkoritova,DeputyDirectoroftheSverdlovskChildren’s
Philharmonic. Alexei Chernikov addressed the audience on the
behalf of the NIS Company. “It is a great honor and pleasure
to welcome you on behalf of NIS Company, which made this
concert possible. Tonight’s concert is our gift to you all. We
are glad that you can attend something that none of us have
the opportunity to hear every day, “Chernikov said.
FAIROFTHEYOUTH
ASSOCIATIONS HELD
October 21

whichtheyarefacesinpracticeandtooffertheir
suggestions for some new solutions and directions in which the
youth sector in the City should develop in the future. The
Youth Associations Fair is the final event in celebration of
the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) organized by the City
of Nis Mayor’s Office and the Youth Office of the Secretariat
forYouthandSport.Sincetherightofcitizensto
participate in the conduct of public affairs at local level is
enshrined in the preamble of the European Charter of Local
Self-Governmentof1985,anddetailedinitsAdditional
Protocol of 2009, it is fundamental for an established
and functioning local democracy to promote education
for democratic citizenship among young people and children.
Moreover, by engaging children and youth, local
authorities will understand better their needs and will
be able to develop more targeted responses for and with
theyoungergeneration,thusbuildingamoreinclusive
democratic local community.