

Money's wasted, animals are mutilated

Orca is the most well-known organization that takes “care” about animals in Serbia. The president of Orca, Elvir Burazerović, unfinished veterinary student is also a director of Info Center project intentionally formed in order to receive a donation to the Orca. Elvir receives a monthly income of 900 € to remain silent about massive slaughter of innocent animals, which defines himself as a man who took an opportunity to make his living and secure his existence throughout dead animals.

Orca was a member of Alliance of Belgrade's animal protection societies with two other organizations: “SOS Animals”, whose president is famous movie director Goran Paskaljević and “Help Animals”, with Zlata Korjenić from “Riska” shelter as a president. “SOS Animals” and “Help Animals” have recently left that alliance (<http://www.glas-javnosti.co.yu/clanak/glas-javnosti-05-01-2008/goran-paskaljevic-burazerovic-krije-istinu>).

Orca collaborates with famous worldwide organizations like WSPA and RSPCA, which have donated funds, professional help and supported Orca. In June 2007 a manager of RSPCA visited Orca and supported their program – a humane solution to problem of abandoned animals (<http://www.begrad.org.yu/cms/view.php?id=1280190>).

Do these worldwide animal protection organizations know what they actually support? Is the truth that this solution is anything but not humane hidden from them, or is it the very same program that they support?

Ovča dog-pound – behind the scene

Orca collaborates with local Belgrade's authorities also, as well as with Veterinary station “Beograd”¹ whose director Đordje Đokić (also known as “The Butcher” or “Kasapin”, in Serbian language) is, alongside Burazerovic, directly responsible for horrible condition in dog-pound Ovča.

Animals are brutally handled with before, during and after sterilization, as they are not provided neither with food or water nor with secure and warm place. Most recently (approximately 3 weeks ago), during the extremely cold weather (temperatures reaching below -5 degrees Celsius), an supply of electrical energy has been cut off from dog-pound for unknown reasons. The surgery is however still performed in cold and dark places and the animals are released to streets after a very short post operational care, which does not even include a necessary set of medications.

Puppies younger than 4 months are given 3-7 days grace period (usually 3 days). If they are not adopted by anyone, they are brutally murdered with T61 without even being put into general anesthesia. If given by a veterinarians who does not care (which is a case of most veterinarians working in Ovča dog-pound) or is a rookie in his job, T61 causes an agonizing death².

1 Veterinary station “Beograd” is undergoing into process of privatization.

2 T61 is a lethal injection. It is injected straight into the veins or the heart after the dog is under general anaesthesia. T61 can cause internal bleeding when injected into the veins; the animal will start bleeding from the nose and sometimes epileptic behaviour occurs. When injected straight into the heart it is imperative that the needle will go really into the heart, and not just graze the heart. If this injection is given imperfectly, the dog can suffer epileptic attacks and enormous cramps, will bite its tongue and lips between his teeth and scream terribly.

Another very annoying fact is that aside from inhumane sterilization, Ovča dog-pound places microchips implants into sterilized animals. Chipped animals are returned to the other parts of town, and not to the ones that they originate from, thus making an additional unnecessary problem of animals feeling endangered, which leads to possible attacks and territorial fights. It remains unclear why are these dogs receiving microchip implants if they are going to be put back onto the street. Also, it remains unclear why are some of these chipped animals recaptured from the streets again. It leads to a conclusion that Orca performs these activities without a central database of chipped animals which is absolutely necessary in order to achieve successful abandoned animal control. They have no excuses of type "we had no money to do that database" as they received a lot of financial support from the city authorities, as described before and later in this text.

During the last couple of decades over one and a half million dogs and cats have been brutally murdered in Ovča. Having that said, Ovča can be described as a mass-murder facility for abandoned animals.

Legal aspects

Local authorities are obliged by law to build non-killing shelters (shelters in which no animals shall be killed unless really necessary due to incurable illness), but, unfortunately, that did not happen yet. Criminal law of Republic of Serbia (from January 1st, 2006) provides sanctions for individuals that cause harm and murder animals. Orca's purpose is to protect animals, and not to provide them with T61 lethal injections and inhumane care. Many individuals and animal right activists have pointed to what is happening in Ovča dog-pound³ to authorities responsible for that matter, but no one has managed to raise legal accusations and successfully pursue Orca in the court of law. Why?

Where did the money go?

The city of Belgrade finances Orca's Info Center project (currently over 225.000 € has been invested), and provides them with exclusive business office space (Terazije 3/IX). Orca has used that money to buy high-end computers, technical equipment and arrange the office space in fancy manners. That shows how much they care about animals, for that money would served it's purpose much better if being involved in Ovča dog-pound. Animals need no fancy furniture, they need food, water, medical care and warm and secure place.

As an addition to this paradox, money that is assigned to solving a problem of abandoned animals is used for everything except for true help and protection of these animals. For example, the city of Belgrade has invested 1.155.000 € last year to support sterilization and vaccination, but only 131.000 € has been spent on those. What happened with the rest of the money?

What happened to the evidence?

Doctor of veterinarian medicine, Tamara Popić has, witnessed the crime that happened behind the closed door in Ovča dog-pound on a daily basis during 2006, while she was a volunteer member of Belgrade's Alliance. She has recorded that with the

³ Similar situation of inhumane animal care can be found in many dog-pounds and grace-period killing shelters in many other towns in Serbia.

camera and presented the evidence to Orca's president, Elvir Burazerović, in January 2007. Unfortunately, original documents and photos⁴ have never been given to Vladimir Marković, the member of the city hall and president of committee that resolves problems of abandoned animals. Original documents have been modified and new report, written personally by Elvir Burazerović, has been sent without original photos to Vladimir Marković. Why are they hiding the truth?

Press articles and threatening statement

Daily newspapers "Kurir" i "Glas javnosti" had enough courage and determination to write about lies and betrayals regarding Orca, Ovča dog-pound and Elvir Burazerović:

- <http://www.kurir-info.co.yu/clanak/kurir-29-11-2007/nehumano>
- <http://www.glas-javnosti.co.yu/clanak/glas-javnosti-17-12-2007/pse-ubijaju-bez-milosti>
- <http://www.glas-javnosti.co.yu/clanak/glas-javnosti-18-12-2007/milioni-su-utucani-psi-pobijeni>
- <http://www.glas-javnosti.co.yu/clanak/glas-javnosti-19-12-2007/tajno-ugovorena-likvidacija-12-000-pasa>
- <http://www.glas-javnosti.co.yu/clanak/glas-javnosti-20-12-2007/psi-umiru-u-mukama>

This articles have managed to start a public debate.

Shortly after that, Orca has released an official announcement, wickedly threatening anyone who have dared to criticise their work and maleficiencies:

- <http://www.orca.org.yu/vesti%20stav%20orca.htm>

Conclusion

A fact that this announcement is not an characteristic of democratic society is just a minor glitch if compared to a price that innocent animals had to pay with their lives. However, the truth must break the disguise, lies and betrayals of ethics and NOW it time for that to happen. Not for us who still believe in justice, but for animals who have died as martyrs and who have deserved that from us as one last goodbye. As a warning that this genocide should not be ever forgotten or repeated. And those who could forgive are not alive anymore.

4 Some of the "missing photos" are sent to you as a part of this document.

Missing photos

These are some of the photos that Tamara Popić has taken while being in Ovča. You can see the date and time in bottom right corner of these images. Notice: some pictures shows the absolute disrespect to animals – the dogs have been given a lethal injections and they die in the same room where other dogs are encaged.























