**02. 10. 2013**

***Announcement of the Congress of North American Bosniaks and the Institute for Research of Genocide Canada regarding many noticed irregularities reported at the beginning of the Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina***

The Congress of North American Bosniaks and the Institute for Research of Genocide in Canada from their monitors on the field in Bosnia and Herzegovina received a number of complaints regarding the manner of conducting the initial process of the Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The largest number of complaints in the process of the Census comes from the smaller entity.

Among the large number of complaints we specifically state that enumerators, mostly Serbian nationality insist that Bosniaks need to be present at the place of enumeration, which is directly contrary to the Law on Census and it represents a serious obstruction of implementation of the entire Census process as well as the privacy problem and storing the data.

According to informations from the field, the most pressing current problems of the Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina are in: Foca, Visegrad and Srebrenica, where enumerators were recorded completing Census ballots at a bar, as well as in Prnjavor, Mrkonjic Grad, and in some other places of the smaller entity. It prevents that one member of the household enroll the other household members, while holding all valid, the statutory data for listings.

Analyzing mentioned complaints regarding the process of Census we consider that the situation is alarming and very serious.

In this sense, we are requesting from the municipal commissions for the Census and entity statistics agencies to fix numerous irregularities without delay.

Otherwise, the validity of the Census will come into question.

We are asking for a better work coordination between the entity institutions and the Bureau for the Statistics in the Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is mostly responsible for the process of the Census.

Through our monitors on the field we’ll every day follow the course of the process of the Census, do the analysis and persist that these violations do get sanctioned and irregularities get corrected, and respond with all relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as in the U.S., Canada and the European Union.

On behalf of the American and Canadian Bosniaks we ask for immediate reaction of Bosnian political, academic and religious factors in terms of registered problems in the process of the Census.

Once again, we emphasize that the validity of the Census project is under a question mark.

About the complaints regarding the process of the Census, provided by our monitors we will keep informing U.S. and Canadian organizations for the protection of human rights and freedoms.

If the above mentioned problems in the process of Census urgently do not get eliminated in cooperation with the U.S. and Canadian organizations for the protection of human rights and freedoms we will ask for renewal of Census process and law-breakers to get punished according to law.

**The announcement issue:**

The Congress of North American Bosniaks

Institute for Research of Genocide Canada