

## CASE STUDY: CITIZENS OFFERED VOTES IN EXCHANGE „FOR ASPHALT“

**I: INTRODUCTION:** On the eve of parliamentary elections 2016, the media published several articles in which citizens made public accusations that streets were being rehabilitated only to the voters of the ruling party, and that some citizens had offered votes in exchange "for asphalt".



**II: 30 VOTES OFFERED FOR A STREET RECONSTRUCTION:** A resident of a suburban settlement in Budoska Street, during the election campaign, promised in public to provide 30 votes to that political group which "brings asphalt" to their homes.<sup>1</sup>

The statement was quoted by the media. The resident claimed that the local government in Nikšić had been promising to implement the rehabilitation project of Budoska Street, which caused them to have problems throughout the year, due to dust, and because of the rain and snow, for 20 years. He pointed out that even before the referendum on Montenegro had been promised that the machines would come and pave the road, but it did not happen. Therefore, he publicly offered to provide the 30 votes to that political group which paves the street to their house.

Media article: "30 votes to that who paves the road "

**III: CITIZENS CLAIMED THAT ROADS WERE PAVED TO THE VOTERS OF THE RULLING PARTY:** Locals in the suburbs of Podgorica,<sup>2</sup> Kolasin<sup>3</sup> and Gusinje<sup>4</sup> have claimed that the roads in some areas are only paved for the voters of the Democratic Party of Socialists. Residents of Golubovci in the Municipality of Podgorica accused the head of the Urban Municipality Golubovci of paving only the streets occupied by the voters of the ruling party.<sup>5</sup>



Media article: "Paving roads to reliable voters"

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<sup>1</sup> Article of the daily "Vijesti", "30 votes to that who paves the road", 31 August 2016, <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/ko-asfaltira-put-dobija-30-glasova-901791>.

<sup>2</sup> Article of the daily "Dan", "Asphalt over asphalt for DPS voters", 11 October 2016, [www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Podgoricom&datum=2016-10-11&clanak=567959&naslov=Asfalt%20preko%20asfalta%20za%20glasa%E8e%20DPS-a](http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Podgoricom&datum=2016-10-11&clanak=567959&naslov=Asfalt%20preko%20asfalta%20za%20glasa%E8e%20DPS-a).

<sup>3</sup> Article of the daily "Vijesti", "Agreement between the director of "Putevi" and the locals: €20,000 to be invested in Lijeva Rijeka", 7 September 2016, <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/dogovor-direktorice-puteva-i-mjestana-u-lijevu-rijeku-ulazu-20000-eura-902663>.

<sup>4</sup> Article of the daily "Dan", "Paving roads to reliable voters", 3 October 2016, [www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Regioni&clanak=566741&datum=2016-10-03&naslov=Asfaltiraju%20dosigurnih%20glasa%E8a](http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Regioni&clanak=566741&datum=2016-10-03&naslov=Asfaltiraju%20dosigurnih%20glasa%E8a).

<sup>5</sup> "Dan", "Migo to come and soil his shoes", 30 August 2016, [www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Podgoricom&clanak=562213&datum=2016-08-30&naslov=Migo%20da%20do%F0e%20daisprlja%20cipele](http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Podgoricom&clanak=562213&datum=2016-08-30&naslov=Migo%20da%20do%F0e%20daisprlja%20cipele).