

## **The correction of CIN's database "Open Public Procurement" and a story "Private Interests Stronger than Laws"**

**Date: April 1, 2019**

On April 3, 2015, the Center for Investigative Reporting (CIN) in Sarajevo published a piece of information in a database "Open Public Procurement" stating that a Mostar firm RDS PROM concluded a contract worth 162,539.60 KM with Brown Coal Mine Zenica LLC in June 2011 and another one worth 59,658.39 KM in October 2014.

Ramiz Šemić, a co-owner of RDS PROM, called the CIN newsroom to report that some records in the database in connection to the contracts with the procuring party Brown Coal Mine Zenica LLC were incorrect.

CIN has made a correction of the errors in its database because the above mentioned contracts went to a Konjic firm Real-Kem LLC.

Also, in a CIN story "Private Interests Stronger than Laws" from July 8, 2016, the following text was published:

*"Some legislators are safe as long as they don't manage their firms: Prijedor-based Bisprom, owned by Miladin Stanić from the Serb Democratic Party; Oktan Promet in Bijeljina owned by Vojin Mitrović from SNSD; Zvornik-based Obuća owned by Vladimir Mijatović from the Socialist Party; and RDS PROM from Mostar, co-owned by Ramiz Šemić from the Party for Democratic Action (SDA).*

*According to BiH Official Gazette records, these firms have concluded public procurement contracts worth around 864,000 KM over five years.*

*The RDS PROM's contract was more than half that total. A co-owner Šemić told CIN that he's a legislator with the East Mostar Municipal Council, while his wife founded the company. He said that his office and political affiliation were not relevant to the company's success.*

*"I wish I had connections so that I did not have to work and get up every morning at 3 a.m", he said.*

The statement in the story that the above mentioned firms concluded public procurement contracts worth around 864,000 KM over five years is also incorrect. Since RDS PROM has not concluded the two contracts, the aggregate value of procurement for these firms is just above 640,000 KM.

CIN apologizes to both the owners of firms RDS PROM and "Real-Kem" and the readers for the above mentioned errors.