

## Civil Society in Kosovo demands a debate between candidates for prime Minister

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The time has come for the candidates for Prime Minister of Kosovo to face each other in a debate where they present their political platforms and challenge those of their opponents.

It is now clear that the 2014 national election is focusing on the race between the candidates for Prime Minister. This race will determine the electoral results. For this reason, it is paramount that the candidates who strive to govern our country over the next four years finally face each other, stripped from the protection that various media often offers them when presenting their political platforms.

We ask the candidates for Prime Minister to participate in this debate - **#DebatPernime** – in order to expose their proposed policies to the scrutiny of their opponents and of the Kosovar public. This debate would help the voter better understand the political platforms of major political parties in Kosovo. As such, it represents the minimal necessary condition for the development of a democratic electoral process.

Therefore, we invite the candidates for Prime Minister of Kosovo from all parties, to a direct debate with one another about their political platforms.

We ask that the format of the debate follow some basic rules, in order to be informative for the public and respectable for the candidates. The model we suggest is the Anglo-Saxon model – similar to the presidential debates in the USA – with equal time set aside for answers and rebuttals of all candidates. In addition to the moderator, we ask for allotted time for questions from the civil society and citizens.

We ask for two debates – one at the start and one at the end of the electoral campaign. This would show the Kosovar electorate, as well as the international community, that the candidates are willing to have their political offers seriously challenged in order to best serve the public interest and the verdict of the electorate expressed by the vote on 8 June 2014.

For a Real Debate #DebatPernime:

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