

**Program**  
**for**  
**PREVENTION OF JUVENILE ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR AGAINST TRAIN**  
**COMPOSITIONS AT THE TERRITORY OF SLATINA DISTRICT AND SOFIA**  
**MUNICIPALITY**  
**2008**

The Program for Prevention of Juvenile Antisocial Behavior was developed as a result of written demand for assistance by the Executive Director of the Bulgarian State Railways Company for cessation of antisocial behavior against train compositions.

The program includes a series of active and preventive activities, discussed and approved at two round tables held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008 for train compositions, passing through the districts of Slatina, Poduene and Iskar and on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008 for the Districts of Iskar, Slatina, Poduene, Serdika, Nadezhda, Ilinden, Vrabnitza, Krasna Polyana and Ovcha Kupel.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in Sofia Municipality a round table was held on the issue of prevention of antisocial behavior, related to the case of broken windows of train compositions, passing through the districts of Iskar, Slatina, Poduene, Serdika, Nadezhda, Ilinden, Vrabnitza, Krasna Polyana and Ovcha Kupel. The event was attended by representatives of the Bulgarian State Railways Company, Transport Police, the Juvenile Delinquency Commission, the State Agency for Child Protection, Commission for Youth and Sport, Sofia Municipality, local commissions for fight against juvenile antisocial behavior from the districts the train compositions pass through.

The participants agreed to implement in their districts the preventive and active measures, proposed by the District of Slatina. As a result of the joint efforts of all participants in the event the cases of antisocial behavior against train compositions have been reduced with 20% (data, provided by Transport Police for 2008).

Both round tables were initiated by the Mayor of the District of Slatina Ms. Antoaneta Apostolova and the program was developed by the Local Commission for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior of the District of Slatina.

The main goal of the program is cessation of juvenile antisocial behavior in the Districts the train compositions pass through.

### **I. Background of the problem**

In April 2008 the Executive Director of the Bulgarian State Railways Company informed in written the Mayor of Slatina District for cases of antisocial behavior against train compositions No. 10116

carried out on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and asked for assistance for taking joint preventive measures.

In connection with this event, on the grounds of the *Agreement for cooperation with the Ministry of Interior – Police, close to society*, the Local Commission for Public Order and Security of Slatina District developed some measures for fight against antisocial behavior aimed at putting an end to robberies and violations against train compositions.

In the Local Commission for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior of Slatina District, a representative of Transport Police was included and representatives of the Bulgarian State Railways Company were invited to the sessions of the Commission.

## **II. Actions of the Program for Joint Preventive Activity**

The participants in the round tables came to the conclusion that effective preventive measures could be taken only through joint efforts of the law enforcement agencies, local administration, Bulgarian State Railways Company and social institutions. The program consists of adoption and implementation of the following preventive measures, separated into two forms:

### **a) preventive measures**

#### **b) active measures**

### **1. Preventive measures (constant):**

1.1. Coordination of the activity of Transport Police, Juvenile Delinquency Commission, Bulgarian State Railways Company and the Local Commission for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior /hereinafter referred to as Local Commission/ for timely warning for cases of antisocial behavior and full cooperation for effective implementation of the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior in the following actions:

- providing written information to the Chairman or Secretary of the Local Commission for each particular act performed, accompanied by a proposal for the formation of educational case - implementation - Transport Police, Juvenile Delinquency Commission, Police Department, Bulgarian State Railways Company;

- Organizing, scheduling and consideration of disciplinary cases against minors who have committed acts against train compositions, under the requirements of Article 16, paragraph 1 of the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior and call for participation in the case to representatives authorized by Transport Police - implementation - Secretary of the Local Commission;

1.2. Coordination of the efforts of the institutions for purposeful and lawful application of Article 15, para. 1 - 7 of the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior in the following actions:

- Imposition of disciplinary measures (unremunerated labor) under the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior to the parents of the perpetrators of antisocial behavior - implementation – The Local Commission;

- Organization of the working activity of parents with measures for socially useful labor imposed by The Local Commission in the local divisions of the Railways (as required by Article 16, para. 3 of the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior) for partial reimbursement of damage caused by

the act and eliminating the sense of impunity - implementation – Bulgarian State Railways Company in its local departments;

- Organizing and conducting special lectures and consultations on education and the nature of the antisocial behavior for the parents of the perpetrators in accordance with Article 15, Paragraph 1, Section 3 of the Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior - implementation - interaction between The Local Commission, Juvenile Delinquency Commission and Bulgarian State Railways Company;

- Organizing and conducting educational activities, consultations and trainings to overcome the lapses in the behavior of minors and to explain the nature of antisocial behavior by the perpetrators (as required by Article 13, paragraph 1, Section 3 of Law for Fight Against Juvenile Antisocial Behavior) - implementation - interaction between The Local Commission, Juvenile Delinquency Commission and Bulgarian State Railways Company;

1.3. Preparation of a list of minors who have committed antisocial behavior, or potential perpetrators in the regions through which the train passes, for their inclusion in the educational program. Possible forms of the program may be:

- Educating and explaining the damage caused by the act and the dangers arising from the placement of objects on the tracks, breaking glasses, etc;

- Acquaintance with the train, how it is constructed, what its purpose is and how it works – visiting the site and getting acquainted with the difficulties of its renovation – implementation – Bulgarian State Railways Company under a separate program;

- Organizing a summer "scout" camp for the perpetrators aimed at their educating, training and diverting from the opportunity to engage in antisocial behavior - implementation - interaction between Bulgarian State Railways Company and the Local Commission.

## **2. Active measures:**

2.1. Dissemination in schools of a brochure, developed by Transport Police, illustrating the damage caused by antisocial behavior and explaining the danger for passengers and employees of the Railways - implementation – Secretaries of the Local Commissions in cooperation with local committees on prevention in schools and school managements. Deadline - September 2008, with the beginning of the school year.

2.2. Conducting joint lectures in the schools of representatives from the Juvenile Delinquency Commission and Transport Police (introduction of "a class of Transport Police in school") to explain the safety measures and the consequences of playing in areas of stations, crossings and track - implementation - Transport Police - deadline - permanent.

2.3. Making a movie about the results of antisocial behavior against train compositions and its dissemination in schools and involvement of national television in its broadcasting – implementation Bulgarian State Railways Company, if necessary, assistance from the Local Commission – deadline – the end of the year

2.4. Organization of summer vacation program for students (including perpetrators) from the school of Slatina District including football, volleyball and other sports in order to make use of their free time and focus attention of the perpetrators on sport – implementation- Local Commission of Slatina District- deadline - August 2008

2.5. Meetings and talks with Roma leaders in the District of Slatina in order to explain the great public importance of antisocial behavior against train compositions in order to help their cessation - implementation - Deputy Mayor of Slatina District, Milen Milanov - deadline - August - September 2008

2.6. Verification of existing crossings, overpasses and underpasses in the area. If necessary, preparation of a proposal to Sofia Municipality for their restraint.

2.7. Verification of purchasing stations for ferrous and non-ferrous metals in the areas near the railway track, their existence and lawful activity. In the event of violations of the existing law - notifying Sofia Municipality for taking adequate measures - implementation - specialists in the Districts of Slatina, Poduene and Iskar.

2.8. Proposal to the Deputy Mayor of Sofia municipality Julia Nenkova to conduct "round table" in August 2008 with representatives of the Bulgarian State Railways Company, Transport Police, the Juvenile Delinquency Commission, the Agency for Child Protection, Commission for Youth and Sport, Sofia Municipality and local commissions of the districts the train passes through. The proposal for a "round table" stems from the belief of those present that the measures taken to discourage antisocial behavior would not be effective enough if their planning, organization and implementation do not involve experts from all relevant areas, institutions, and Sofia Municipality which, by their knowledge, skills and experience would contribute to further coordinate the collective efforts and to stop such antisocial behavior.

**Sanimir Chernev**

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Antisocial Behavior