

Janez Janša

SLOVENE NATIONAL THEATRE

/speech material for a number of performers /

The material for this performance is structured as a text for a theatre play, with characters, dialogues etc. All characters are real people with the same names and titles or functions and all have actually said what is written here. No words have been added, appropriated or changed. The text has not been (grammatically) proofread and the idea is that it stays this way. Some of the characters were impossible to identify so they are listed as »anonymous individuals«.

Characters (in the order of performing):

Šinkovec /Alojz Šinkovec, the president of the local community /

the locals, anonymous individuals

the locals, the crowd

Janez Janša (the Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia)

the Mayor /Jernej Lampret, Mayor of the Municipality of Ivančna Gorica /

the female journalist

the male journalist

journalists

Bojan Tudija, the vice-president of the Slovene Romani Association

Zoran Grm, Roma councillor for the town of Novo Mesto

Mate /Dragutin Mate, Slovenian Minister of Internal Affairs /

Mirko Strojan

Drnovšek /Janez Drnovšek, the President of the Republic of Slovenia/

Elka /Elka Strojan/

children

Gypsies, anonymous individuals

police

body guards

cameramen

01

The meeting of the local community: We demand eviction

Šinkovec, the locals, cameramen

ŠINKOVEC: We have specific proposals or rather a proposal we wish to introduce, so we can discuss it. At the meeting of the representatives of the local community it was agreed that there are three resolutions we need to ratify. And these resolutions are, of course provided you agree with it, after we discuss them and we can also amend or shorten these proposals, but the resolutions are: we demand that the institutions in this country who have the competence to order the move of the Roma family, relocate these Roma because of safety and environmental reasons...

THE LOCALS */applauding/*: Bravo, bravo... Yes, yes... Bravo

02

The meeting of the local community: the well = the toilet

Šinkovec, the locals, cameramen

LOCAL 1: Written: "Caution, water protected area! Disposal of waste and other harmful substances is forbidden and punishable by law." This is still written there for everyone to see, signed and authorized by the Municipality Authorities of Ivančna Gorica. But that is all they did, because not even 200 meters air distance we have our local drainage basin Globočec. These Roma, as I already mentioned, settled not even 200 meters above Globočec. In other words, they collect different things and stuff, chemical, organic and old stuff and I am convinced that this is harmful for the environment. But the Municipality Authorities do nothing. It's the same this as if a respected farmer, next to his farm and his house, builds a well with a toilet on top of it.

THE LOCALS */applauding/*: Yes, yes... Bravo, that's right...

LOCAL 2: Good evening everyone, especially the media and other journalists. If we are a country where law is to be respected, then everyone should enjoy the same rights, the civil

society as well as the Roma population. If, for example, I pay the taxes, then Gypsies should pay taxes as well. With this said, I also think that they should be educated to behave in a civilized way, they should also have equal opportunities, but if they don't respect the rights they have, they should be punished. And I am also going to give you some examples. Look, we all know that we are not allowed to burn cars because it is harmful to the environment. A Gypsy, I saw him with my own eyes when he parked a car somewhere in the forest next to the road, what do you think he did? He took a canister of gas and burned his car right there. I drove into smoke many times, sometimes I was driving passing by the village and the smoke was so thick, I couldn't see clearly.

LOCAL 3: We want to emphasize that we once more confirm the resolutions from a few years back because this time also the public and the media understand that we ...

THE LOCALS: Yes, yes...

ŠINKOVEC: OK, OK, let's vote. When you vote, you're voting for all three resolutions in a package. OK?

/applause/

ŠINKOVEC: I think everyone agrees.

/applause/

THE LOCALS: Yes...

/applauding, whistling /

ŠINKOVEC: Thank you.

03

Bloody demonstrations

the locals, police, cameramen

Let him come up.

They are coming up. Bastards.

Hey.

Hey.

Let them go.

Police. Hey.

Down with everyone.

Buuuuuhaaaa... Pikeys, Pikeys....

/Whistling/...

Aaaa...

Hey, hey...

Police, police.

Buuuhhhaaaa... Pikeys, Pikeys...

Buuuuuuu

Pikeys... buuuuu....

/Whistling/...

The state of law.

/Whistling/...

Hey, hey

Record this, record this

A shame

It's all black

Record this, shameful

Photograph this, photograph this

You can't see, hey...

Pikeys, Pikeys... Bloody bastard, protecting the Pikeys ...

Hay

Hay.

One, two
Let us go.
Hey, hey... hey... uaaa...
What do you want, fuck you
Pikeys... uaaa...
UAAAA
Kill. Kill
uaaa... Pikeys...
Police
Kill him, kill him
Bastards
Fuck off, beating up your own people
What the fuck, beating up the people
Fuck off
uuuuuaaaa.... Pikeys.... uaaaaa....
Record this
uuuuuaaaa.... hey.... uaaaaa....
We're here, we're here at ...
Wait a bit, wait a bit
Fuck
Hey, did you get ... Hey, fuck off...
/Whistling/...
Take a picture, for fuck's sake
Hey
You will defend me
Take a picture... Where is anyone, where is anyone
Take a picture
Anyway
Take a picture, fuck off
Fuck, the children...
Common, hey
Common, common, take a picture, shoot
Take a picture
Fuckin' shit

They are making us afraid

Hey, hey

Bastards

uaaa... bastards... aaaa... uuuuu... take a picture, take a picture... aaauuuuu... bastards...

kill.... Pikeys... kill...bastards...

/Whistling/...

Look over there

Go back, go back

Go back

Go back, get him

The state of law

uaaa... aaaa...buuuu...aaaa... bastards... aaaa... hey hey... go back ... bastards...

Fuck off everyone

Go back, go back

The police came

: We have to get away ... no... we have to get away... fuckin' shit ...

Disaster

Take a picture

We won't hurt him, we didn't hurt him, he's standing up that son of a bitch ... What's with the state of the law??... Fuck off ... Bastards... My children lived in fear, not yours ... Look at him, he is covered with blood ...

What... Fire?...

Hey, hey...

Call an ambulance

Take a picture of that guy

Take a picture, take a picture

Firemen

Firemen

Bitches

Take a picture, hey! Take a picture... Fucking bitches ... hey... Pikeys, Pikeys...

Shut up

Take a picture, look here... Look here..

Take a picture, take a picture, look here, take a picture

/Whistling/...

Hey, yes
Bastards
Fuck you
Fuck you
Down with Pikeys, fuck the bitches
To Ambrus
Listen all
Call an ambulance
Over there... get him, fuckin' bitches...
They took him away, for sure

/Comment: if the phrases above are not enough to reproduce this part, the performers can make up their own. Following is another series of phrases, just in case./

Noooooooooo, hey
Com'on
You are
Uaaaa
Pikeys, Pikeys
Heeey, heey,
Police
More
Pikey
Uaaaa
Pikeys
what
Fijuu
No one
Fijuuu
Hey record this, record this, record this
It's all black
Fuck, you're loaded
Take a picture
Bastards

Hello
You recorded this
Com'on
Aaaaa
Pikeys
Heeey
Kill him, kill him
What the fuck now
You're beating up people
Youuuu, youuu
Heeey,
Pikeys
What the fuck
Here, here
Record this
Heey, did you get this
Fuck off
What, why
Kill them
Get him over here
Take a picture
Fuck off
Take a picture
Where is anyone
Take a picture of this shit
Fuckin' shit
Com'on, com'on, blow the whistle
Take a picture
Pikeys
Heey, heeey
Heey
Oooo
Aaaaa
Take a picture, take a picture of these Pikeys

Uuuuuuuuuuu

Uuuuuuuuuuu

Uuuuuuuuu

Uuuuuuuuu

Ej

Fijuuu

Fijuuu

Kill

Kill

Kill them

Bastards

Oooh

Oooh

Police

Go back

Go back

Kiiiiiiiiiiiill

Pikeys

Ooooo

Oooo

Bastards

Bastards

Bastaaaaaaaaaards

We have to

Go fuck yourself

It's not worth it

Let the bastard stand still

We have the state of the law

Fuck you

My children lived in fear

He fell down

He's bloody all over

He's bloody all over

Hey

Hey
Take a picture
Take a picture
Take a picture of him
Fuckin' bastards
hey
hey
Take a picture of them
Take a picture of them
Fuckin' bitches
Police
fuck
son of a bitch
Gypsies, look, the gypsies
hey
hey
To Ambrus
Where
Can you fight

04

Damn the State of law

the locals, police, cameramen

A LOCAL, COVERED IN BLOOD: Damn the State of law. Let the ombudsman come here ... To assault the people like this, to beat them up with the baton... 35 years I'm paying... for this asphalt, for each policeman ... I'm paying for the pension and the kindergarten... and he will beat me up with the baton.

A LOCAL: Gypsies are there, look, over there.

A LOCAL: I came here ...

A LOCAL: There's a Gypsy. Look, over the fence

EVERYONE: Yeah, what, what

A LOCAL: Bravo, bravo.

EVERYONE: Silence. No, no. Hey.

A LOCAL: This is terrorizing

A LOCAL: Wasting taxpayers money. Shame on this land

A LOCAL: You punched the State of law

A LOCAL: Shame on you

To the barricades, from A to Z

the locals, the Mayor, a female journalist, a male journalist, journalists, cameramen

A LOCAL: We are going to the barricades, from A to Z.

EVERYONE: Yeah, that's right

A LOCAL: I'm ashamed, I'm ashamed, I will report them to the Athletic Association for the Long Running discipline.

A LOCAL: Ha, ha

A LOCAL: The order was issued to the state

EVERYONE: Yeah, that's right, yeeeeeeeahhh, bravo... */applauding/* ... If he doesn't have the balls to stand up, he should fuck off

A LOCAL: I think he fucked off

A LOCAL: He should step down and leave the government

A LOCAL: He did

A LOCAL: Yes, he did

A LOCAL: What kind of government is this, where a minister doesn't have

THE MAYOR: The talks, the talks can begin and do not necessarily have to end in the same room and in the same place.

A LOCAL: Here they will end

THE MAYOR: The talks should continue, the statement was communicated to higher levels

EVERYONE: They will end here, they will end here ...

A LOCAL: Aren't we worth enough for him to tell us the decision himself

A LOCAL: But the payment order they did send

THE REST: No, you're not worth anything, you're worth to suck your dick, you aren't worth shit, and you're worth something to them only as long as you pay taxes

THE MAYOR: They brought the commissionaires

A LOCAL: Maybe the POP TV channel broadcasted it, they should show it

EVERYONE: Bravooooo */applause, whistling/* ... bravooooo.... Toooooooo

THE MAYOR: I don't know that, I don't know that

A LOCAL: I saw it with my own eyes

THE MAYOR: I don't know how they drove and what happened down there, I don't know, but at these kind of gatherings of people, anything can happen, can, I say, can

THE REST: And it can happen again, more often, and it will happen more often

MAYOR: We should wait for the results of the findings and that will probably tell us, what should happen

A LOCAL: We have two dead people and two men in coma

A LOCAL: That's not enough, is that not enough, I wonder if it will be on Monday, when the Gypsies gather in front of the Parliament, will he run away like a chicken again, like he did today, I really want to see that

THE MAYOR: Back then, back then they had, those who said...

A LOCAL: I told you, you didn't ... Wait, shut up

THE MAYOR: ... that we are intolerant, no one back then said anything different. Look, the television, this is all they filmed

A LOCAL: Yeah, yeah...

A LOCAL: We're not TV journalists

THE MAYOR: And we were the ones who discriminate, we were a bunch of anonymous bullies and stuff ... and what he didn't do. That's it

EVERYONE: Yeah, right... that's it... hundred percent... yes... Are you brave enough to tell us your name ...

THE MAYOR: And the media, what do they do in moments like these? Now, and, and....

A LOCAL: POP TV reported

A LOCAL: They do as they please

A LOCAL: And the subscription fee gets higher all the time. POP TV is fuckin' shit!

A LOCAL: More than half of the subscribers to Delo daily stopped buying the newspaper

A LOCAL: And it will only get worse, they don't report anything relevant anymore

06

To the streets - Roška, Roška

the locals, a female journalist, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia Janez Janša ,
bodyguards, cameramen

THE LOCALS: */Whistling/*... To the streets, Roška, Roška, Roška ... uaaaaa....

Buuuuuuuuuu.... Dirty bitches ...Pikeys, Pikeys, Pikeys, Pikeys ...

A LOCAL: Yeah, then wanders in just like that... we didn't know

A LOCAL: Guys, you should be ashamed ...

A LOCAL: Through the village... damn bastards ...

A FEMALE JOURNALIST: Did you record everything? Did you catch the Prime Minister
Janša when ... Can you hear the screaming?

CAMERAMAN: When he left, you mean?

The Mayor refuses to give a statement

the locals, a local woman, the Mayor, the locals, a female journalist, a male journalist, cameramen

A LOCAL WOMAN: Down with the Mayor!

THE MAYOR: So, all there's left for me to do is to pass out

EVERYONE (*singing*): *Give me some loving, give me some loving...*

THE JOURNALISTS: What specifically did you agree on, you probably did reach some sort of an agreement?

THE MAYOR: We agreed that the government representatives will give a public statement

THE LOCALS: But surely...

THE MAYOR: I cannot, the rest are still inside, others are still inside

A LOCAL WOMAN: We will not let you go

A LOCAL: So, you are not allowed to give a statement

THE MAYOR: That's right, that's the agreement, the agreement is that a representative of the government gives a statement, if not right this minute then a bit later, I'm not sure when

A LOCAL: Chicken. He's afraid to lose his job

A FEMALE JOURNALIST: What's going to happen now with the people of Ambrus?

A LOCAL: Mister Mayor, do you understand me? Will you tell me what you people decided in there?

A LOCAL WOMAN: There's always something, but everything happens behind close doors, everyone lies and no one tells the truth. But now we've had it.

THE MAYOR: Look

A LOCAL WOMAN: We voted for this man to be our Mayor so that he will help us, not the Gypsies

THE MAYOR: Everything is out in the open and you know everything.

A LOCAL WOMAN: That's not true, that's not true!

A LOCAL: Yeah, right, we don't know

A LOCAL WOMAN: Then tell us, now, tell us, if you know what we know

A LOCAL: Innocent people got hurt today, again

A LOCAL WOMAN (*singing*): *Give me some loving, give me some loving ...*

A LOCAL: Innocent people. Why? Not one, three people

THE MAYOR: Look, you're not addressing your questions to the right person.

A LOCAL: Who should we address then?

THE MAYOR: I just came from Stična, I was at some cultural event ...

A LOCAL WOMAN: And I was at home

THE MAYOR: ...and you could have been there yourselves, but you didn't go there, you were somewhere else, but you could've been there instead, I have nothing else to tell you.

A LOCAL: The Prime Minister Janša should be here

THE MAYOR: The Municipality Authorities have the solution

A LOCAL: Tell us what you talked about

A LOCAL WOMAN: They are all the same, dirty bastards.

A LOCAL: What happened to the resolution of the Municipality Authorities regarding the Strojan family?

THE MAYOR: The resolutions are still in force.

A LOCAL WOMAN: That means, we cannot ...

THE MAYOR: The resolutions are still in force. You got them.

A LOCAL WOMAN: Resolutions, what resolutions?

A LOCAL: Which resolutions?

THE MAYOR: The resolutions the Municipality Authorities adopted. The resolutions are still in force, yes.

A LOCAL WOMAN: Which ones?

A LOCAL: Those, which say that the Gypsies cannot settle in Ambrus, not even in the area, if the resolutions are valid.

A LOCAL WOMAN: That's not true

A LOCAL: They were saying the same things 14 years ago

A LOCAL WOMAN: There weren't any.

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: How so, if... if...

A LOCAL WOMAN: So here's what, the police cannot keep 30 Gypsies away, instead they come to Ambrus and beat up the local people who pay taxes

EVERYONE: That's right... bravooooo...

A LOCAL: You have to tell someone

THE MAYOR: You cannot place the whole burden on the shoulders of one municipality, this issue is so huge that the government should handle it, but I cannot tell the minister what to do, I cannot tell the Prime Minister what to do

A LOCAL WOMAN: You're defending the government

THE MAYOR: I'm not defending anyone. I told you, you can go home now. No problem

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: We won't go anywhere, we won't go anywhere

THE MAYOR: Then don't go.

A LOCAL: No, we won't, we won't

THE MAYOR: Me neither

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: Where are the Gypsies now, where are all the Gypsies, the Roma as you call them, where are they?

THE MAYOR: I don't know, I don't know

A LOCAL: OK, that means we wait

THE MAYOR: OK, no problem, I can stay with you and we all wait

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: OK, then we all wait

THE MAYOR: OK, if you think that's better

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: If not, then later ... They will have to call special police forces from all over the country to hold us down... Yeaaaaaahhh.... If not, if not Where are we now, where are we now... Now, there is no way back... If there is no other way, then obviously we'll have to do it... We don't know what's going to happen now... Maybe special police forces will come back and we'll be the ones who'll get the beating. Like those three in Zagradec ... I don't know, I don't know ... There's no way back now

THE MAYOR: We don't know, I don't know! In Ivančna...

EVERYONE: Hey, hey

THE MAYOR: I don't know

EVERYONE: Tell us!

THE MAYOR: The government is looking for ...

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: In Ivančna Gorica. Why don't the government representatives want to talk to us?

THE MAYOR: Because there are new barricades being put up every day, all kinds of things, you have to know

A LOCAL WOMAN, A LOCAL: Yeah, yeah... then why...

08

In 10 days

the locals

Bojan Tudiija, the vice-president of the Slovene Romani Association

Zoran Grm, Roma councillor for the town of Novo Mesto

Alojz Šinkovec, the president of the local community

Cameramen

LOCALS: No, nooo

A LOCAL: Wait

A LOCAL: Right away

A LOCAL: Now

A LOCAL: Bring them to the empty military apartments in Ljubljana

A LOCAL: To the homeless centres at Celovška

A LOCAL: Military apartments are empty

A LOCAL: Move them in with the refugees

BOJAN TUDIJA: Respected residents of this town, I'm coming from Novo mesto and my name is Bojan Tudiija. Today, I would like to tell you what I heard from the Roma people who live amongst you. These are the Roma people who live with you ...

A LOCAL: Noooo, nooo... (*whistling*).... Buuuu... These are the Roma people, who threaten us

BOJAN TUDIJA: Let me tell you

A LOCAL: Nooo, nooo... (*whistling*).... Buuuu...

BOJAN TUDIJA: I would like to tell you what they told me and here's what they said: The Roma are willing to leave this place if the government will guarantee a location

A LOCAL: Yeah, right... bullshit

BOJAN TUDIJA: In 10 days, until then we can only promise you that there will be no violence on the part of the Roma people against you, no violence.

A LOCAL: How can we know?

BOJAN TUDIJA: The president of the local community will inform you on what happened. I think that in 10 days they will find a new location for the Roma.

A LOCAL: In the meantime take them home with you yourself. They can go where you live.

BOJAN TUDIJA: To school

A LOCAL: Buuuuuuuuu

BOJAN TUDIJA: Where ... To school

A LOCAL: Buuuuuuuuu

ZORAN GRM: Look, look, if you're going to act like this, then we won't tell you anything, but some of you know me already

A LOCAL: Buuuuuuuuu... (*whistling*)

ZORAN GRM: Look, if you go on like this, I will not be able to tell you anything, who, among Roma and other, nothing. In 10 days, I promise you, I, Zoran Grm, the Roma, the government and the Municipality Authorities will put pressure on the highest levels so that these Roma can get a new location and we will move them there, for sure.

A LOCAL: Where will they go?

A LOCAL: What do you think? Where? You should all go to Novo mesto

ZORAN GRM: I talked to the president of the local community, the two of us discussed this already ...

A LOCAL: All right then, OK

ZORAN GRM: We cannot, they have no place to go. They have small children

A LOCAL: It's a disgrace. Go home. Take them home. Take them home yourself.

ZORAN GRM: I cannot bring them home, I have no place for them, I have small children.

A LOCAL, A LOCAL: Why they had to leave this place. Because it was unbearable.

ZORAN GRM: I cannot

A LOCAL: But you do have a fancy car and a loan

ZORAN GRM: Yeah, sure I do

ŠINKOVEC: We agreed that most probably tonight, five or six people will sit together with Minister Podobnik, probably in the evening, either in Ivančna or somewhere else, precise location is still to be decided. Probably the Minister of Education Zver, the Minister of Internal Affairs Dragutin Mate, the Minister for Environmental Issues Podobnik, someone from the Ministry for Justice and maybe others will attend. That's all I can tell you about what we agreed on.

A LOCAL: That was not the point.

ŠINKOVEC: Because of safety and environmental reasons Roma cannot stay here.

THE REST: Finally you figured that out.

A LOCAL: Minister Mate should give a statement.

A LOCAL: And some people just wait here

ŠINKOVEC: Look, I won't, here now

A LOCAL: We know where and what ...

ŠINKOVEC: I will ask the minister to do something about it

A LOCAL: Yeah right ... fuck them, bastards

ŠINKOVEC: I cannot talk to the minister until you agree. But probably I can get him on the phone now, and as soon as we agree, I attended these talks and it's true, violence is not the solution.

A LOCAL: Yes it is, yes it is, it iiiiiiiiiiiisssssss... (*whistling*)

ŠINKOVEC: We should take a step back and wait for further talks. Look, I already suggested, we'll try to find someone to talk to

A LOCAL: 12 years

ŠINKOVEC: Who has the keys to the homeless centres in Ljubljana for these refugees here? We'll try to find out who is in charge of these shelters

A LOCAL: On Celovška

ŠINKOVEC: ...so that at least we move them in that direction

LOCALS: Buuuuuu

ŠINKOVEC: I will try to get some information on who is in charge of these shelters and we'll try to put pressure on them, so that they take these people at least for a while, until a new location is found

A LOCAL: That's Gypsy propaganda

ŠINKOVEC: I have to say that if we cannot come to an agreement, we'll have to... we'll have to be ready to find a compromise and stick to what is agreed. We'll find an agreement and be civilised about it.

A LOCAL: Lojz!

A BODYGUARD: Move, let's go back... Move, move away

MATE: Let's go somewhere else. I kindly like to ask you to let us pass through

The Roma are staying the night

Minister for Internal Affairs Dragutin Mate

the locals

the journalists

Alojz Šinkovec, the president of the local community

the police

bodyguards

cameramen

MATE: Good evening once again, I hope everyone can hear me.

THE LOCALS: Very badly, very badly, speak up

MATE: I would like to ask you to be quiet so everyone can hear what we agreed on. I explained the proposal to your representatives and the representatives of the Roma, I talked at some length to the leader of the local Roma community who lives here in this area. They accepted my proposal and I hope my offer will be acceptable for you as well so that we can end the trouble here and now. The Roma family stays for the night and will sleep here

EVERYONE: Noooooo, nooooo... */whistling/*...

Quiet, quiet...dirty bastards...

Noooo, nooooo, nooo...

Wait...

Shut up!...

Let him finish...

Are you animals or what are you...

Let him finish ...

MATE: Tomorrow morning... Can I, just a second, please, if you want to hear ...

EVERYONE: Let him finish

MATE: Tomorrow morning they will pack their things and leave this village. We'll find a temporary solution for them by tomorrow, for about three weeks and in the meantime the government will find a permanent solution and they will never come back to this village.

LOCALS: Yeaaaaaaah, yeaaaaaaah... */whistling/*

Mate... yeaaaaaaah, bravo, bravo...

Let's go...

MATE: Until tomorrow morning we have... can I finish... From this moment on until the morning, police will stay here ... just a second... and it will not be present in your municipality, after that they will come once more to take the stuff, which they cannot take with them tomorrow. And they will not live here anymore, they will live somewhere else. Other issues, such as their property and so on, the government will take care about that so that this will not be a problem for you anymore, Now I would like to ask one of your representatives to say a few words. Thank you very much.

THE LOCALS: Yeaaaaaaaah, bravooo... */applause/*

ŠINKOVEC: Please, honour this agreement and don't damage their property. Let's leave their property untouched, let's be civilised and go our separate ways now, let's go home, to the city hall in Ambrus, and let's discuss the details. So that we won't do any more stupid things here.

THE LOCALS: All right! Yeaaahhh, bravooo... *(applause)*

MATE: I would like to leave now. I hope you will, like your representative just said, go home and everything will go on as planned. Thank you and good night.

THE LOCALS: Thank you very much. Bravooo... */applause/*

We shook hands, as is their custom

Minister for Internal Affairs Dragutin Mate

the locals

the journalists

the police

bodyguards

cameramen

THE JOURNALISTS: Mister Minister, one statement please. Can you tell us once more what's the proposal?

MATE: Well, the proposal is quite simple, through different channels it was communicated to me that the Roma community desires to ...

THE LOCALS (sing the national anthem *Zdravljica*): ... *When o'er earth's habitations....*

MATE: ... leave this area because life for them has become unbearable here, and this is why the government came up with this proposal and then I came here and I'm trying to explain this proposal to everyone involved, and the proposal is such that all of you ... today he stays here ... sleeps the night and tomorrow morning they will pack their things and leave to another location ...

THE LOCALS (*applause*)

MATE: ... where they settle temporarily. In 40 days, the government will find a legal solution for their permanent settlement ...

MATE: ... which will be in a some other village, a bit isolated but close to a road, in a forest ...

MATE: ... so that they can live as they are used to live and practice their customs and habits.

MATE: The Roma accepted this solution and tomorrow morning this Roma family will leave this place and move to another location, which is in the town of Postojna ...

MATE: ... it's a former asylum seekers centre ...

MATE: ... it's not an illegal alien's centre, I really wish to be clear on that, they will live in a building, which is a former military complex that is situated on the left side of the road, it's when you drive on the old road, direction city centre ...

MATE: ... where still some people live who have an asylum seeker's status, dating back to the Balkan wars...

MATE: ... we will provide them with, I mean, we will put beds in there for them ...

MATE: ... they will get bedclothes and they will bring their personal belongings, which they can take with them. In two to three weeks we will find an appropriate solution. The committee ...

MATE: ... for the rights of the Roma, the Roma issues will ...

MATE: ... meet this Monday, lead by the Minister of Education Zver...

MATE: ... and they will try to find further and more elaborate...

MATE: ... solutions, which will be presented to the Roma community, who lived here ...

MATE:: ... and together, I hope, we will find in two to three weeks, a permanent solution and the will to follow up on agreements, so that in my opinion we have to a certain extent solved this problem in a civilised manner and both sides seem to be happy with this.

MATE:: The solution is not ideal...

MATE:: ... and of course, in the meantime we'll try to figure out what to do with their property, which stays here and we'll try to solve everything in a package.

THE JOURNALISTS: Mister Minister, are you afraid similar ... Aren't you afraid that this could encourage other local communities that they too, could ...

MATE: No, I don't think so because we handled this incident with extreme prudence...

MATE:: ... and we will ... here we have a very specific situation. Why we offered this kind of proposal. Not just because of the tension between the local community and, if you allow me ...

MATE: ... and the Roma community, this is about...

MATE: ... the problem of drinking water and the drainage basins of drinking water in this area and this is a very specific problem with a specific solution that we've come up with, and at the same time we have to take something else into account, which is just as important ...

MATE: ... namely, the Roma themselves expressed the desire ...

MATE: ... an interest to leave this place and to live in peace ...

MATE: ... somewhere where they can live the way they are used to live.

MATE: These are the two key reasons for this particular solution, but I do not want and I also hope that in the future this will not happen again, so that ...

MATE:: somewhere else people would try ...

MATE: ... even if they had different reasons, to impose such solution. Any kind of solution can only be reached by agreement and that is why I first presented the proposal to the representative and the negotiator of each side ...

MATE: ... then I talked first to the Roma community ...

MATE: ... and explained everything in detail, then they accepted it ...

MATE: ... we shook hands, as is their custom ...

MATE: ... and only then I presented this solution to the local community.

THE JOURNALISTS: One more question, will the police stay here?

MATE: Police will stay here in fewer numbers, a few units so that we can guarantee ...

MATE: ... and prevent the case ...

MATE:: ... where hotheads on either side would cause further trouble...

THE JOURNALISTS: They will stay here until tomorrow?

MATE: They will stay here, they agreed to take their property, the Roma who wish to do so, they can come with vehicles and police will accompany them ...

MATE: ... not because they would want to make it impossible for them to do something ...

MATE:: ... but first and foremost so that they can be brought to the new location, so that they can arrive there safely and be settled ...

MATE: ... and after that they can move around freely, of course ...

MATE: ... but some police units will stay of course, because we guaranteed ...

MATE: ... the Roma that...

MATE:: ... their property, which cannot be moved and stays here, will not be damaged, that's what I told to the locals as well ...

MATE: ... and they agree, their representatives said that ...

MATE: ... they will do everything they can, that's why they went back to the city hall now to hold further meetings so that they can make sure ...

MATE: ... that the property...

MATE: ...of the Roma family will not be destroyed, and later, when we find a permanent solution, and the Roma who used to live here ...

MATE: ...are moved to another location, they will come back here once more and take ...

MATE: ... all of the stuff that can be moved, to another location and if necessary, we will help them with this of course, and also resolve ...

MATE: ... the legal ownership issues so that no one will be ...

MATE: ... cheated out of what is rightfully theirs

MATE: ... I think that this proposal and this solution is such that the immobile property

MATE: ... on this location will become the property of the municipality, of the state or someone else so that a permanent guarantee can be offered...

MATE: ... and protect the permanence of the drainage basins, located in this area ...

A MALE JOURNALIST: ... You say you're convinced we won't witness any more pogroms, but according to the information I have, new incidents are being planned as we speak...

MATE: No, I didn't say I am convinced, I said I hope there won't be any more pogroms and there can't be any more.

MATE: We live in a democratic society and we should talk to each other.

MATE: The agreement we reached today was possible only because both sides agreed that ...

A MALE JOURNALIST: ... they were put under pressure

MATE: ... if they, if they... well, that is partly true, what you said, but ...

MATE: ... I think that ...

MATE: ... we found a solution, which could be permanent and it's first and foremost about ...

MATE: ... a problem, we have in this area is firstly due to the fact that we have a drainage basins for drinking water here...

MATE: ... and these basins are at risk because of different factors but also different lifestyles, which cohabitate in these territories. Other places don't have these drinking water drainage basins so ...

MATE: ...however, it would make absolutely no sense if someone tries, with the use of violence...

MATE: ... to pull off something similar. The Roma are...

VSI: ... the citizens of the Republic of Slovenia...

MATE: ...and they enjoy the same rights as all other citizens and the police will make sure of it...

MATE: But we have a lot of work to do, not only as far as police force is concerned, moreover, we are the last ...

MATE: ... instance and come only when the situation already exploded ...

MATE: ... but in the future, many other institutions in Slovenia will have to take much more decisive and relevant steps in order to establish conditions, in which local and Roma communities can live in mutual harmony.

MATE: Such cases already exist ...

MATE: ... in Prekmurje, and we could have more of such cases in other places if all institutions ...

MATE: ... are willing to work hard, even though the solution will not be found in one night...

MATE: It will not be possible to find it easily, it won't be possible to find it in half a year ...

MATE:: ...we will have to work strategically, deal with a lot of questions and as you know, the government ...

MATE: ... is working on the Law on Roma, which will be a step forward in the direction of solving these issues on an institutional level.

We are very happy, we couldn't be happier

the locals,
 the journalists,
 Šinkovec, the president of the local community
 cameramen

THE JOURNALISTS: Where are the representatives of these ...? Well, tell us, are you happy... Just a moment, can you please turn to the camera ... Are you happy with the solution?

ŠINKOVEC: Yes, if this solution is for real, then we are very happy, we couldn't be happier. We are really ... this is the solution we could only hope for, all this time when we were trying to get the Roma out, so they leave this place, this is the solution we were hoping for. And I would like to welcome this solution and thank Minister Mate who came up with the solution that seems to be acceptable also for the Roma.

THE JOURNALISTS: Can you tell us, what is the most important reason that you want the Roma to leave?

ŠINKOVEC: First of all, because they ... the safety reasons, they are dangerous people and they did things that were frightening us. Secondly, above the Globočec drainage basin, maybe you took the time to see it, around that area everything is burned because they were burning cars, tyres, while underneath the soil we have drinking water, a drainage basin of drinking water, which is supposed to provide drinking water for the whole of Suha Krajina region.

THE JOURNALISTS: Can you guarantee their property will not be destroyed once they leave? I heard yesterday or a few days ago, one of their huts was burned down?

ŠINKOVEC: Well, I will do everything I can so that everything stays as they left it. Just now I'm getting ready to go talk to the local people in Ambrus and I will warn them about this and I will make sure everything is done the way we agreed.

THE JOURNALISTS: So, you can guarantee you won't cause any more problems and you will leave now and there will be no more violence?

ŠINKOVEC: Of course, I'll be glad to, I dare say it and others will confirm what I say. We are not violent, we are not against the Roma people in general, we were against violence, against things like drinking water pollution and that's why we rebelled. But at a certain point

we had enough and we fought back. As you can see yourself, if you look back, the government found no solution until we put pressure on the government and then suddenly, the solution was found.

THE JOURNALISTS: Can you tell us your name, please?

ŠINKOVEC: Šinkovec Alojz.

THE JOURNALISTS: Alojz, the president of the local community.

THE JOURNALISTS: OK, thanks.

Yes, we are happy and we are not happy

the journalists

Mirko Strojan

cameramen

THE JOURNALISTS: Are you happy with the solution?

MIRKO STROJAN: Yes, we are happy, we are happy. Look, we weren't completely happy but we were forced to accept it.

THE JOURNALISTS: How many of you are here? How many people will have to move?

MIRKO STROJAN: About 20.

THE JOURNALISTS: Do you believe their promises, the government said it will find a solution for you in three weeks time?

MIRKO STROJAN: Yes, he said it and I believe him.

THE JOURNALISTS: Ehm, and if not? What happens if they leave you in the asylum seekers centre?

MIRKO STROJAN: If they leave us there, then we will leave that place anyway, we will wait for three weeks and then we'll see.

THE JOURNALISTS: And you'll come back here?

MIRKO STROJAN: Yes, if they won't find a solution, find another location, we will come back here.

THE JOURNALISTS: You will come back here even though the situation is so tense that it might lead to further conflicts with the local people?

MIRKO STROJAN: Yes, of course, this is our property, it's our land.

THE JOURNALISTS: OK. Anyone else? Right, no one is filming any more.

THE JOURNALISTS: You are Mirko Strojan.

MIRKO STROJAN: Mirko Strojan.

MIRKO STROJAN: I am forced to leave, you will go or not, but it's better to leave than end up dead or go to jail for 30 years.

Hello, little heroes

Janez Drnovšek, the President of the Republic of Slovenia

Elka Strojan,

the children,

the Roma family members,

anonymous individuals

bodyguards

cameramen

ELKA: You know how it is, with children, alone

DRNOVŠEK: Yes, I know, it must be really hard

ELKA: ...your child, no one knows

STROJANOVA: Com'on

DRNOVŠEK: It's OK, good things will happen also and it will help, you'll see

ELKA: You can see for yourself what's happening here, I lost my husband, you see, I lived here alone, on my land, I was living on my land, it was mine. The Mayor did this, he didn't have the courage to do it earlier, in the winter, I told him, you can do this in the spring...

Hello ...

DRNOVŠEK: This makes no sense

ELKA: ... you see what is happening here ...

DRNOVŠEK: They are bringing mobile homes for you to stay in, as we speak

ELKA: This is really hard for me ... We said, we will make the sacrifice and we see that ... How can we enjoy the holidays, we can't.

DRNOVŠEK: We'll try to make things better for you, at least a little bit, you'll see. It will get better, sometimes things turn really ugly, so bad it can't get worse.

ELKA: You know, he said to me that they won't destroy our barracks

DRAŽEN: Hello, hi there.

STROJANOVA: Shake hands with the President, com'on.

ELKA: I'm in the barracks

DRNOVŠEK: Hello

STROJANOVA: Did you ask?

DRNOVŠEK: Little heroes

STROJANOVA (*talking to someone in the background*)

ELKA: First he said that they will not destroy the barracks, that the children can stay there, and then the houses

DRNOVŠEK: Yes...

ELKA: When they destroyed the barracks, when they tore them down, people asked if they can, and I asked them to leave it alone, for us, that I'm staying in the barracks, and then they treated us badly but they didn't let the journalists come to see it

STROJANOVA: ... Hunters are hunters. ... Look what the President brought you. I'll give this to mama, yes.

DRNOVŠEK: They are offering you a house near Ljubljana?

STROJANOVA: Wait, wait... wait a minute

STROJANOVA: Ta, ta... Wait

STROJANOVA: Are they in the room?

ELKA, STROJANOVA: Where, where?

DRNOVŠEK: We will solve this. And here is a gas cooker

ELKA: Yes, yes..

DRNOVŠEK: ... and a petroleum light, and candles, and other stuff...

ELKA: Thank you, thank you, thank you

STROJANOVA: I'll take it there

DRNOVŠEK: Marjan will put it together and show you

ELKA: But, wait, the police should ...

STROJANOVA *talking to someone in the background*

ELKA: ... why do police do nothing, police is here to. ... Sandi

DRNOVŠEK: Let's go together

ELKA: Yes, you go, but the guys stay here ... Anyway... They will go in the mobile homes, yes ...

Are you human?

the locals,

anonymous individuals

Janez Drnovšek, the President of the Republic of Slovenia

bodyguards

cameramen

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Well, you finally came to see the local people.

DRNOVŠEK: Are you going to beat me as well?

LOCAL 1: Who was beating whom?

LOCAL 2: Wait! No civilian did

LOCAL 1: The most civilised...

LOCAL 2: Will you hit us as well?

LOCAL 1: Shame on you, Drnovšek.

LOCAL 2: Shame on you Drnovšek shame on you.

DRNOVŠEK: You want them to freeze to death, women and children?

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: They have, they have, in Postojna they have... How come you cannot order someone and say OK, we'll put them here

DRNOVŠEK: But would you prefer they slowly freeze to death?

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Let them, let them. It's not true, they are blackmailing ...

DRNOVŠEK: Nonsense

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: It's true, they are blackmailing, it's not true!

DRNOVŠEK: For Christmas, just for now, it's Christmas.

LOCAL 1: I'll have a nervous breakdown.

DRNOVŠEK: But they will freeze to death if you leave them there like that.

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Why didn't you do something until now? You've had enough time, you've been in power long enough, you are the President and you didn't solve anything. You brought mobile homes for them, is that the solution?

DRNOVŠEK: Oh, people...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: The man is still in the hospital, in a coma. You are the problem, because you didn't come up with a solution. For 12 years this is going on and nobody ...

DRNOVŠEK: Criminals are criminals, no one is defending them ...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Why, what then? You are defending them, everyone is defending them, yes they do...

DRNOVŠEK: They should be arrested

LOCAL 1: Look Drnovšek, one example...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Two and a half years, he was shot on the 15th of May ...

DRNOVŠEK: But not women and children.

LOCAL 2: Did you take care of them?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Two and a half years passed since May 15th, when that man was shot, the bullet is still inside his body, he was only brought for questioning, there was no trial whatsoever ...

DRNOVŠEK: That's absolutely bad and I agree ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: That's right

DRNOVŠEK: This is not the way.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: And then we've had it.

DRNOVŠEK: But women and children cannot be blamed for this.

LOCAL 1: They are exploiting the children ...

LOCAL 2: We are not social services.

LOCAL 1: ... for political reasons.

LOCAL 2: They rape...

LOCAL 1: Mister Drnovšek...

DRNOVŠEK: That's not true

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: They rape their children. They rape them.

LOCAL 2: Don't they have a better location now?

LOCAL 1: Is this the solution? Is this the solution?

LOCAL 1: Do they have a better one?

DRNOVŠEK: Look, look...

LOCAL 2: Not like those burned on the stake.

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Why is it necessary that they do this, right above the drinking water drainage basin

DRNOVŠEK: Listen, look, yesterday I sent some of my staff and they talked with Mother Strojjan for quite a while and tried to persuade her to go back to Postojna...

LOCAL 2: See, why can't we talk like this?

DRNOVŠEK: And they didn't succeed. Then I said to them, put her on the phone, I'll talk to her. And I talked to her, for a long time to persuade her to go back to Postojna because right now she has no choice. But she said, I rather die here and I'm not going anywhere, over my dead body. They will have to carry me away. And I talked to her for quite a while and I tried again just now, but she refuses

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Then they should stay in the container

DRNOVŠEK: But, but look, if the situation is as it is, I said to myself, for Christmas, for New Year's, we can't

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: No, nooo

DRNOVŠEK: ... we can't let them...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: No, nooo

DRNOVŠEK: ... freeze to death in the cold, outside. That's why we should let them see ... as people

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: There were other Christmases, we wish them a merry Christmas

DRNOVŠEK: ... Are you human or what are you?

LOCAL 1: Can I speak?

LOCAL 2: Wait a minute...

DRNOVŠEK: Are you human?

LOCAL 2: Listen ... hussshhhh...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: Minister Podobnik said very clearly that it is allowed, that it's agreed that they stay in the asylum seekers centre in Postojna until spring, why don't they go there? They are stubborn and they are blackmailing us. Why don't they go there?

DRNOVŠEK: OK, but why destroy their homes right before Christmas?

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: This is going on for 12 years already!

DRNOVŠEK: But why was this necessary now?

LOCAL 2: Twelve years, com'on now!

DRNOVŠEK: But it's right before Christmas, it's freezing cold, and this ...

LOCAL 1: Twelve other Christmases passed by already

DRNOVŠEK: Well OK, this ... happened...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: We are on edge for two months now. Well, anyway ...

DRNOVŠEK: But, but...

LOCAL 1: It's not happening here

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: You should persuade them to go to Postojna for Christmas, they have a nice place, it's warm there.

DRNOVŠEK: I tried, but I didn't succeed.

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: OK, that means they are bad people. We have six cases, two people died and there were no legal consequences ...

DRNOVŠEK: Look, look, those criminals there ...

LOCAL 1, LOCAL 2: You cannot change our minds, you cannot change our minds. Take a walk around here, go over there and see all the trash. You talk about water all the time, water, water ...

LOCAL 1: Look, she said on TV that she will sacrifice one of her sons if he shoots one of ours. He said Zagradec will burn, Ambrus will burn and no one said a thing.

LOCAL 2: You should be aware of the fact that Elka exploits and rapes her children in order to achieve certain goals.

LOCAL 1: Political goals.

LOCAL 2: Political goals.

LOCAL 1: Exactly.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Elka is exploiting them, her own children and she's willing ...

LOCAL 1: Why don't social services take the children away?

DRNOVŠEK: Be serious. This is nonsense. This is not true.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: This no nonsense. This no nonsense. THIS is nonsense. THIS is big nonsense.

DRNOVŠEK: Are you human?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are.

DRNOVŠEK: Really?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are honest people, hardworking, honest.

DRNOVŠEK: Right... and you will leave the children and this woman outside in the cold to freeze to death ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are honest taxpayers, we are paying you as well.

DRNOVŠEK: Yeah, right

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are honest taxpayers, we are paying you as well.

DRNOVŠEK: Ok, right, you're right...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are paying you and you will work for us.

DRNOVŠEK: ... aren't you worried, the whole country is watching you

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Of course

DRNOVŠEK: Yes

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Of course they are

DRNOVŠEK: Yes

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: And I hope they are. There is no other way.

DRNOVŠEK: You come and take it

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: There's no other way, there's no other way

DRNOVŠEK: Take it, take it, you have the power.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We pay for it, we pay for you, so you can be the government. It's true, no fucking around, until now only some of us suffered, we tried to be tactical, we believed things will get better, sorry, and now we are blamed ...

DRNOVŠEK: But you don't let them stay in these mobile homes at least during the holidays, for Christmas and New Year ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: No, no, we wish them well, but they should go away... They have a place where they can go... they have a house

DRNOVŠEK: But they don't want to. She says, she'll rather die.

LOCAL 1: They are stubborn.

DRNOVŠEK: And now the whole country and the whole world can see you rather let them freeze to death for Christmas and New Year.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Christmas is no excuse. There will be a lot more Christmases, and so far we didn't profit from it

DRNOVŠEK: It's Christmas now.

LOCAL 2: Look, mister Drnovšek, here's the thing, two people...

DRNOVŠEK: What do you think, what do you think...

LOCAL 2: ... have died already

DRNOVŠEK: what do you think...

LOCAL 2: ... if another one dies, what are we going to do then?

DRNOVŠEK: ... Jesus would say if he heard you right now.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Don't talk about Jesus.

LOCAL 1: He defended the criminals. You know it too.

DRNOVŠEK: So you are against Jesus?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are very Christian people

DRNOVŠEK: I doubt it, I doubt it...

LOCAL 2: We are not scoundrels

DRNOVŠEK: I doubt it.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are not Buddhist either

DRNOVŠEK: I doubt it.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Very Christian.

DRNOVŠEK: Far from it. You are all talk...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Well OK...

DRNOVŠEK: ... but your heart is not in it.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: ... then these mobile homes will not pass by here ...

LOCAL 1: Take them back where you came from

DRNOVŠEK: Yes, of course, you have the power here, right?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Yes, yes

DRNOVŠEK: Yes, to the street, to the street ... What will others say to this

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Then others will say...

DRNOVŠEK: If people take the power into their own hands...

LOCAL 1: ...To the street

DRNOVŠEK: ... we'll start killing each other.

LOCAL 1: The street happened because the State of law doesn't function. Including you.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We were forced to do it. We were forced to do it. We suffered 12 years long. That's why there's so many of them. That's why this is happening. The State of law collapsed back then already, not now. The street happened because of you.

DRNOVŠEK: But they, they won't ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We told you our demands. We didn't come here to chase them around, is that what you're saying?

DRNOVŠEK: But they won't...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We demanded that you come and react to what is happening ...

DRNOVŠEK: But they won't come back

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: ...we want you to do something...

DRNOVŠEK: ... but...

LOCAL 2: How so, you're bringing mobile homes for them???

DRNOVŠEK: So that now, in this cold they can ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Noo, noooo!!! Get them out of here! Otherwise things will blow up. Take them to Postojna and that's that.

DRNOVŠEK: So you don't mind being responsible for what happens to them.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Mister Drnovšek, let Ms. Cerar take them, if she is so eager to defend them.

LOCAL 1: Let me tell you something...

DRNOVŠEK: You, people who live here, you're responsible for what happens to them.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: What will happen??

DRNOVŠEK: If something happens to them...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: What will happen?

DRNOVŠEK: If they get ill...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: ... we won't hurt anyone!

DRNOVŠEK: If someone dies...

LOCAL 1: No one will get ill because of us.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: They will get ill because of you!

LOCAL 2: 12 years! 12 years!

DRNOVŠEK: You will have to justify your actions elsewhere.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: They have a warm place. Seven of our people are in the hospital.

DRNOVŠEK: You will justify your actions there.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: I'm willing to justify my actions by being raised as a Christian. For these sins I'm willing to stand trial.

DRNOVŠEK: Your Christianity is worth nothing.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Yes it is, more than yours.

DRNOVŠEK: It doesn't exist, it doesn't exist!

LOCAL 2: Believe me

DRNOVŠEK: It's all talk. All talk

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Believe me, more than yours. If you really wanted to solve this situation, you would do it in a different way, not only as a Christian but take legal actions.

You're provoking the street to happen.

DRNOVŠEK: At this moment...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: You're provoking the street

DRNOVŠEK: Only as human, as Christians you can either help or you don't help.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: When did you come to see us? When did you come to ask us what we think, when? Where were you when the first one died?

DRNOVŠEK: Now, when it's almost Christmas

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: It was Christmas a lot of times, enough, 12 years!

DRNOVŠEK: Now... you say you're Christians...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: We are! Don't worry, we are. And honest. We didn't hurt a fly.

DRNOVŠEK: No, you aren't

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Not once.

DRNOVŠEK: No, you aren't

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Two were killed, six people wounded, one is still in the hospital ...

DRNOVŠEK: No, you aren't

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: ... and we Christians have to suffer.

DRNOVŠEK: No, you aren't

LOCAL 1: OK, did you go see Jože ...?

DRNOVŠEK: And what if you make one gesture of goodwill?

LOCAL 1: Did you go see Jože in the hospital?

LOCAL 2: We already made a lot of gestures of goodwill.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: 12 years, and more! In '94 we wrote...

DRNOVŠEK: Couldn't you make another gesture of goodwill?

LOCAL 1: Mister Drnovšek, did you by any chance visit the person who is in the hospital with a smashed head?

LOCAL 2: He didn't, no one.

DRNOVŠEK: Couldn't you make one more gesture of goodwill?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: I'll ask you honestly, I will seriously ask you: do you really want to do good for these people?

DRNOVŠEK: Of course

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Then do what we tell you. Because right now this is the best solution. They have heating, a roof over their head ...

DRNOVŠEK: I tried to persuade them...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: You do that

DRNOVŠEK: ... but I couldn't.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Keep trying

DRNOVŠEK: I couldn't

LOCAL 2: Believe me, this is not the way. Believe me. You can respect me or whatever, as a Christian or an anti-Christ, but believe me, this is not the way. You should ask the people here first, if they agree with this solution before you come here with the truck.

DRNOVŠEK: But how are you going to...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: And then you say The Street!

DRNOVŠEK: How would you help them right now?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Postojna! Move them to Postojna!

LOCAL 2: I would give them a roof over their head, and food for what they earn.

LOCAL 1: Postojna!

LOCAL 2: That's what I would give them.

DRNOVŠEK: Exactly.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: That's what I would give them. Amen

DRNOVŠEK: But they don't accept that.

LOCAL 1: They don't accept what is offered to them.

LOCAL 2: But the laws are the same for everyone. On this location, all expert committees agreed, they cannot reside here.

DRNOVŠEK: But can you offer some help right now?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Nothing!!!! What, how can we help them?

LOCAL 1: Please, with what? We helped enough, we even gave them the military barracks.

LOCAL 2: You cannot let us be together, to come together with them.

LOCAL 1: Because more people will land in the hospital and ...

LOCAL 2: That's not the solution, can't you see that?

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: How can you not see that this is not the solution, how can you not understand this?

LOCAL 1: Damn bastard...

DRNOVŠEK: They won't go anywhere for the holidays

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Take this back. This is not the solution! It's not the solution.

LOCAL 1: This is a non-solution...

LOCAL 2: A solution should be found for them.

LOCAL 1: Maybe we could take better care...

LOCAL 2: We took better care for these children than Elka.

LOCAL 1: Believe me, better care.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: The best Christmas for the children would be if they go to Postojna.

LOCAL 1: Believe me, I care more for those children ...

LOCAL 2: Ask the children where they want to go

LOCAL 1: Ask the children, don't ask Elka.

LOCAL 2: I wasn't just saying what I said for no reason, they are raped, but not by us.

LOCAL 1: Each of you should take one and problem solved.

LOCAL 2: Think about who's really raping these children.

LOCAL 1: Look, in the newspaper...

LOCAL 2: She's exploiting them. That's the reason we cannot accept this, competent institutions, how should I put it, that's why this isn't solved.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Drnovšek was here 12 years and he didn't do anything while he was in power, 12 years he was fucking around with us ... Wait, let's calm down ... You cannot say this...

LOCAL 1: Listen, look, in the newspaper they wrote, a 14 year old girl was raped, and the suspect was we know who, but in the end it was written that it was Čmak who did it, while Čmak wasn't even there when this incident occurred. Now Čmak is blamed for everything.

LOCAL 2: These are details, OK, OK ...

LOCAL 1: What, what, that's how it is ...

LOCAL 2: ... this is the situation, the details. I asked you nicely: do you really want to help these children? What I think...

LOCAL 1: And the locals as well.

LOCAL 2: ... while these people are the only ones who wish the best for these children, but others don't. That's why I said, the politics ...

DRNOVŠEK: look...

LOCAL 2: The politics.

DRNOVŠEK: Let's find a solution together

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: I don't know, what you have right now ...

DRNOVŠEK: Well, I don't know either...

LOCAL 2: But I'm saying, that's why I said politics...

DRNOVŠEK: I don't have... This isn't politics.

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Yes it is, it was. It is, it is.

DRNOVŠEK: Not with me.

LOCAL 2: I believe you. And because I believe you, you should try to solve things the way these things should be solved. Don't let them rape these children. Look, in 20 years these children will also be criminals.

LOCAL 1: Only, there will be even more of them.

LOCAL 2: We made a mistake, the government and us, because we allowed this to happen, 15 years ago, and now we have criminals.

DRNOVŠEK: Yes.

LOCAL 2: And we'll have criminals again

LOCAL 1: Even bigger ones.

LOCAL 2: Is this child rape or not? Tell me, is it or isn't it?

DRNOVŠEK: Look, there are places where the Roma integrated very well in the society ...

LOCAL 2, LOCAL 1: Thank God for that, but we talk, we are talking about the Strojan family and not about Roma people in general, we have nothing against the Roma, we are saying this over and over again.

DRNOVŠEK: The problem lies mainly with you.

LOCAL 1: Look, they beat up...

LOCAL 2: We have the Strojan family...

LOCAL 1: ... one of them, he was 10 years old, and because he was a child, he was not punished in court, and he was kicking a man who lied on the ground and he was barely 10 years old and this goes on with no end in sight.

LOCAL 2: There is no other way.

LOCAL 1: And now...

LOCAL 2: What else can he be than a criminal ...

LOCAL 1: ... the whole world is upside down, because of one woman.

DRNOVŠEK: But these children are innocent.

LOCAL 2: That's right, they are raped, they are raped!

DRAŽEN, LOCAL 1: We should take care of them first.

LOCAL 1: From this day on, he is a Pikey for me

You see, staying here is not a good idea

anonymous individuals

Janez Drnovšek, the President of the Republic of Slovenia

Elka Strojjan

the children

members of the Roma family

a journalist

bodyguards

cameramen

ELKA: What's going to happen now?

DRNOVŠEK: Well, we couldn't get it through. And to use force, well ...

ELKA: Eehm... and where, the police will come, will the police come, to the village?

DRNOVŠEK: No, this is not possible, it's not possible to involve everyone. It's not possible...

ELKA: It's not possible? And where do we go now, will we stay here? We'll have nothing left and that's it.

DRNOVŠEK: I still suggest, as I said yesterday already, I would ...

ELKA: Look...

DRNOVŠEK: ... ask you to ...

ELKA: ... we will wait ... You can see yourself, what happens, everywhere we go, nothing is possible.

DRNOVŠEK: But you will...

ELKA: You see what's happening over and over again. The police should come here and the locals should let this pass through, so that we ...

DRNOVŠEK: Look, this is how it is here right now, the tension is so high that they will not calm down. That's what I saw.

ELKA: I cannot do anything about it.

DRNOVŠEK: But the house they are offering you right now, it's not so bad I heard, it's OK.

ELKA: Ehhh... where?

DRNOVŠEK: It's a great location, near Ljubljana.

ELKA: In Ljubljana it's also not possible. I know, when we went to see it and what the people did.

DRNOVŠEK: Well, something...

ELKA: I said already, if we get a location, someone should make a call if it's possible for us to go there and we go immediately. But you see yourself what happens every time. This is really....

DRNOVŠEK: Yes, I agree, it isn't possible this way, but...

ELKA: I don't know what we'll do....

DRNOVŠEK: Look, I'll talk to the government to ... and I'll talk to Minister Zver about all of this, I heard there's a possibility you move in there very soon.

ELKA: Where? Where will they...?

DRNOVŠEK: Well, he will tell us where this is ... Well, I'm sorry, I tried everything I could, but I cannot go around and allow for more violence to happen because I think this would only make matters worse.

ELKA: I find it strange... Well, well... Look, wherever we go, nothing is possible.

NOVINAR: You don't have to take pictures of this.

ELKA: We'll just freeze to death right here

ROMI: Ay ay ay ay...

DRNOVŠEK: You cannot stay here like this, to stay here is not a good idea, you know.

ELKA: I know, I see, but wherever we go, the same thing will happen.

DRNOVŠEK: No, no, not everywhere, you know...

ELKA: Ehmm... the same thing happened in Ljubljana, the same thing happened in Ig, they thought, the Roma is coming and they will....

DRNOVŠEK: But Miss Elka, you know yourself that you and your boys have done things that made the people here very very ...

ELKA: Look, those who did something bad, those are

DRNOVŠEK: Now it has to be done as soon as possible, it has to happen immediately...

ELKA: The winter is coming, I don't know where, I don't know where... This, if they want, where, it's not possible ...

DRNOVŠEK: But it will be possible, he will tell us where this location is... Someone will come today and tell ...

ELKA: Look, even the lawyer told me that the place ...

DRNOVŠEK: You know, you cannot afford to be choosy ...

ELKA: Yes, you're right, we could go see the place ...

DRNOVŠEK: You know, but really, you know, staying here is not possible, that's what I saw when I came.

17

Pikeys

Šinkovec, the locals, the Prime Minister Janez Janša, the Mayor, the journalists, Bojan Tudiija, Zoran Grm, Mate, Mirko Strojan, Drnovšek, Elka, the children, the Roma, the police, bodyguards, cameramen

EVERYONE: Pikeys, Pikeys, Pikeys, Pikeys, Pikeys ...