

Viola von Cramon-Taubadel, MEP



Mr. Muharrem Nitaj
Minister of Economy and Environment
Republic of Kosovo

Mr Blendi Klosi
Minister of Tourism and Environment
Republic of Albania

Brussels, 08 February 2021

Dear Mr. Nitaj,
Dear Mr. Klosi

I am writing to you regarding the case of a lion who has been held illegally in Gjilan. As you might be aware of the situation of a lion, who is still in extremely dire situation. Animal rights organisations have been trying to rescue the animal, the court has ruled the detention illegal and NGOs made it possible to arrange a transport to a sanctuary outside of Kosovo where he can stay in good conditions.

However, I was informed, that there are still problems with necessary paperwork to allow the transport from Kosovo to Albania, from where the lion would be transferred further. I would like to ask you for some clarification on that issue since the animal does suffer already for more than 14 months. Maybe you could explain, what exactly the obstacles are, which make it impossible to transfer the lion through Albania? Is there any way to make authorisation processes faster in order to make sure the animal has to get into a safe place as soon as possible?

Looking forward your answers,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Viola von Cramon-Taubadel".

Viola von Cramon-Taubadel

Member of the European Parliament