



Reconstruction Implementation Commission  
for Orthodox Religious Sites in Kosovo

## **PRESS RELEASE – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

### **THE R.I.C. ANNOUNCES THE START OF RECONSTRUCTION IN PRIZREN, SKENDERAJ/SRBICA AND PRISTINA**

The process of reconstruction has begun to the churches of St Nicholas, Pristina; Episcopal Church of St George, Prizren; and to the Monastery of Joanikje at Devic and it is anticipated that the works will be completed by the end of December 2006.

The Commission will meet later this week to evaluate the third round of tenders which involves reconstruction works in Vushtrri/Vucitrn, Pristina, Prizren, Skenderaj/Srbica, Belo Polje/Bellopole, and Prizren and it is anticipated that works will begin in these areas towards the end of September.

Following the theft of the lead roof from the Church of the Holy Virgin Ljeviska towards the end of last year, the works to repair the Church roofs has now been successfully completed. Further works will be carried out to the belfry of Ljeviska as part of the next phase of reconstruction.

September marks the opening of the European Heritage Days at which the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports is participating. A leaflet has been prepared by the RIC's Technical Unit with the support of the Council of Europe to inform the public of the works of the Commission and increase awareness of rehabilitating Europe's common heritage.

The ongoing work of the Reconstruction Implementation Commission is strongly supported by the European Commission, Council of Europe, PISG and UNMIK and has been given the additional support of the European Agency for Reconstruction.

