

What must be changed as soon as possible ?

- a) The Zoo of Split is not able to meet requirements given by the European Association of Zoo and Aquaria (**EAZA**). On 17 pages there are given the Minimum Standards for The Accomodation and Care of Animals in Zoos and Aquaria.  
**The Zoo of Split will never be able to follow these standards.** That means:
  - b) The Zoo has to be **closed !!!**
  - c) **All animals have to be removed to better places.**
  - d) The most important are the ones which **suffer most** : especially the **monkies, the bears, the wolf** and the tiger.
  - e) The Dalmatian Greens and me will **help to find the right places** for them in **Croatia** or somewhere else in **Europe**.
- f) For being able to do all these changes there is a **need of people who are willing and competent to decide and act properly**. In no way we can wait longer. During the last 9 years it didn't happen what it should have happened. When I came in 2005 for the 1<sup>st</sup> time I found a disastrous place with highly suffering animals. We informed the City Council and the newspapers. Nothing happened neither 2006, nor 2008. Again lots of conferences with everybody. The Zoodirektor, Mr Zvrnja, got requirements from the Officer of Culture, Mrs Tamara Viscovic, not to buy new animals, remove the exotic ones and much more. He didn't follow. That means: **a new director is needed who is willing, able and competent to run such a place.**
- g) After the yesterday meeting with the Vice Lord Major Goran Kovacevic and the Officer of Culture Mr. Sinisa Kuko I am very **optimistic** that we will go now in the right direction. Both men understood our statements very well and **promised to act very soon.**

## Visit of the Zoo of Split in February 2014-02-05

The first thing I did after arriving to Split was climbing up the Marjan to look at the animals conditions at the Zoo.

Since 2008 s.th. has become better, that is:

- a) more personal
- b) better hygiene
- c) less species
- d) less animals inside the enclosures, except the donkies (9) living together with domestic sheep (3) on a very small place. They can't move enough and eat together at the same time. ( Sheep are standing behind the donkies while they are eating )  
and also the Guinea pigs, which are too many.
- e) signs on every cage (unfortunately only in Croatian language ), so that at least Croatian visitors can get informed.

But I am shocked of the keeping of :

- a) The bear(s)? It is the same disastrous, old cage which it has been since the beginning. ( In the years 1800 bears were capt in such a manner. For sure that is not the way of today. These animals suffer the whole day. No water for having a bath or only fun, nothing to climb at, no space to move, no occupation at all, nothing to play. He is weaving what is a great behavioural disorder. His soul is broken. The female I couldn't see.  
There is a high place behind their cage which is not used for anything. Why that place has not to been included, if the keeping of bears must be.
- b) The monkeys. There are 3 primates, 2 of them are listed on the Red List of endangered animals: the mandril (*mandrillus sphinx*) and the mangabej (*Lophocebus albigena*), the 3<sup>rd</sup> one is a medvejadi makaki (*macaca arctoides*).  
There had been a 4<sup>th</sup> monkey. Where is he, dead ???  
The keeping of these animals is an enormous torture. Primates are highly social. They are living in packs (families) of 20 to sometimes 100 animals. Keeping them alone creates fear because of the missing protection by the pack. Being alone it means being in live danger. What a stress for them 24 hours a day. And they are frightened by the visitors knocking at the windows....
- c) The lonely wolf: There had been 4 wolves, 3 males and 1 female on an extremely small place. For sure they injured each other. Now the last male wolf (are the other 3 wolves dead ? ) has a bigger place as the 4 had together before, but he is so scared. Also this species is living in packs and need lots of squarekilometers to move. He tries to escape from the visitors views, to hide himself.
- d) The guanaco. Also he is lonely now. As well these animals live in packs.
- e) The tiger: He got a bigger place. 2008 there were 2. Where is the 2<sup>nd</sup> tiger? Why is this one without water for having a bath or any occupation at all. Cats like playing, it is so easy to find s.th. he can play with.
- f) 4 vultures: 2 were trying to escape from their too small cage, flying against the fences. The best way of destroying themselves.
- g) And so much more !!!!
- e) This is the only Zoo in the world in which it is forbidden to make pictures. Why?