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Former builders and constructors and now the poorest and discriminated pensioners

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It is a real fact that the generation of the current pensioners during their active productive life have created a lot of various facilities that are still available and successfully utilized for the benefits of citizens. Especially, in former socialist countries they created enormous amounts of facilities that later on during the privatization as a part of the transformation process from the former socialist command economy to current market economy have become the property of the foreign investors. In addition, many of those facilities built by the current pensioners have been still serving to all citizens especially those being less attractive for private investors like schools, kindergartens, hospitals and many other, especially also dwelling houses constructed as prefabricated panel houses that are still very popular because less expensive than modern

housing and most of the town people are still living in these relatively cheap dwelling houses from socialist era, etc.

However, what is the situation of all those who were building all those facilities i.e. those current pensioners? In spite of all those above achievements they have become the poorest and generally discriminated against part of the current society. Their main problems are as follows:

- Their pensions have been calculated on the basis of their former relatively low salaries that were paid during their active life so their pensions are very low in comparison with the current salaries that are somehow following the general development and inflation trends, etc.
- The pensions are also valorized, but according to the so called “pensioners inflation” what is popularly called as inflation based on the prices of bread and water so valorization is much lower than general inflation.
- As all other populations – also pensioners –not have special “pensioners prices”thus they need to purchase everything and pay for services like e.g. medicine. They have to pay the same prices as the general population whose salaries are growing according to the real inflations.
- There are still more and more so-called complaints not only in the media that there is an ever growing number of pensioners and still less and less young people who would be working for pensions of the current pensioners and so the pensioners are a real threat to state finances.
- There are also rising problems with the active people, especially the young generation. After finishing their studies they do not work in their countries. Instead, they leave and go to work in countries with higher living standards and salaries. These countries are the Western countries of the EU. This situation causes problems for the sending country's economy, pension disbursements, and pension systems.
- During the recent problems with the Covid pandemic there were even some indications especially in the media that perhaps it would be not so bad if the number of pensioners would be more negatively affected by that pandemic as older people are generally the victims of such health problems.

In general, the situation of pensioners is rather complex and complicated as their standard of living is much lower for the above mentioned and various other reasons. Definitely, they

would deserve for their former achievements much better treatment than to be on the periphery of interest and care by the state and society.

In our presentation we will present in more detail various aspects of this hard life of the current pensioners.