



Failing to resettle the citizens of Beli Briag

Olya Peneva 2 June 2023



BFBHR

BULGARIAN FOUNDATION FOR BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS



Summary of the case


- Maritsa Iztok is a national mining company
- Contributes to 45% of the power production
- In 2005 granted a concession to explore coal in Maritsa Iztok Complex
- Several villages have been impacted
- Since 2007 the citizens have been negotiating
- Resettlement plan
- In 2023 no agreement has been reached
- 40 people live now
- By end of 2023 to be resettled



Source: Maritsa Iztok



Key issues

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- Legislation gaps
 - EBRD and Social Policy
 - No support for the residents
 - Human rights violations
 - Environmental and land degradation
 - State in breach of IHRL



Stakeholders

- Rights-holders - Residents and mine workers
- Trade union
- The state and the company board
- Bankswatch and the For the Earth
- European Bank for Regional Development
- Municipality of Radnevo



Human rights violations


- Land: The right to own a land; the right to property; the right to adjacent land
- Economic loss: Right to work; right to earn a living
- Cultural heritage: Cemetery
- Environment: exposure to pollution, dust, and noise; lack of access to safe drinking water
- Infrastructure: No transport; theft and risks of fires;
- Health: Right to health and access to health services and mental health support





Solution

Human rights violations

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- Engage in meaningful discussion with rights-holders; transportation; psychosocial support; establish a grievance channel; collaborate with NGOs; provide adequate compensation for the harm suffered; relocate the cemetery; social support after the relocation based on individual needs; long term support;

Environmental impact

- EIA until resettlement and access to clean water and sanitation; access to health facilities;

Policy commitment to respect human rights and additional measures to respect human rights



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