



First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic said today, after the murder of Marko Ivkovic, on Friday in Istanbul, that Turkey should investigate and condemn this crime.

Turkey, says Minister Dacic, made a mistake in terms of risk assessment, and did not even have a proper police force in place for the security of the Red Star - Galatasaray basketball game.

“We as a country reacted in a way each country would react to protect its own interests”, he said, appealing to sports clubs that, when they have information that the fans will travel away from home to watch matches, they should notify the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs. “It is necessary so that we could talk to people along those lines, in order to possibly prevent causing such incidents”, said Minister Dacic on TV Pink, and added that it was a fact from the very beginning that the organization of this sporting event in Turkey was bad. “We warned the police and other authorities of possible incidents. And, this tragic event happened” he said. Previously, the Minister said, Serbia expressed dissatisfaction with the treatment of the Red Star fans, bearing in mind that the Turkish Besiktas fans were here recently, and that they then enjoyed full protection and there were no incidents.

The Serbian Foreign Minister expects that his Turkish counterpart would inform him in a day or two about the new information on the investigation. “What is important is that the investigation is carried through, and thus show the position of the Turkish authorities that should most strongly condemn the case”, concluded Minister Dacic.