

PUBLIC PETITION UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ARTICLE 265° OF THE CRP- RESIDENTS OF  
VILA DA LUZ

To the Members of the Lagos Municipal Assembly  
To the Executive Members of the Lagos City Hall

Considering that Vila da Luz is a village that live essentially from tourism and from the foreign owners that bought properties to benefit from the natural beauty offered by the panoramic views over the coastline, which is visible from every point of the village, especially from the Western side.

Considering that the infrastructures of the Village are old and insufficient which is known by the municipal bodies that these are obsolete all around the Village are not fit to provide minimum conditions to satisfy the collective needs, namely electricity infrastructures, water supply, telecommunications and transport roads;

Considering that during the winter the Village has an excess of empty beds and during the summer has excess of population;

Considering that the construction of lower density would bring more benefits as they are the most adequate to attract foreign investment throughout the year, being an evidence that Vila da Luz, even during the summer has beds to fill, being the demand lower than the offer, and even though the infrastructures burst for not being able to support the sudden increase of population during the summer;

Therefore it is evident that the construction on the hillside in front of Urbanização St. James is potentially hazardous to the environment and to private owners that own properties in the Vila.

And that will not bring anything in return to the economical development of the Vila, being that it will injure an irrecoverable damage, being that the irreversible destruction of the natural beauty will bring negative effects to the tourism in the future and will eliminate the related current attraction with the fruition of the views by all the current and future users, in all the North and West areas of the Vila up to Espiche and Montinhos da Luz.

Therefore, it is not conceivable that the panoramic views are continuously eliminated as previously, by the tall buildings that have been already built, and that did not bring any advantage that other

more sustainable projects would not bring if such sustainable projects would have been taken in consideration.

Buildings such as St. James, Estrela da Luz, Ocean Club and others are empty during winters and are not completely full during the summer, being that lots of these have already been an attack to Praia da Luz natural beauty.

Vila da Luz needs ample green spaces in the vila center and not small pedestrian paths along the coast that have been considered enough for the resident and visiting population benefits of the coast natural beauty.

Such paths do not even have access conditions nor are fit to attract visitors.

The lost of Praia da Luz natural beauty will exclude tourism at a medium term, devaluing properties, driving away tourism.

There cannot be doubts over the damages that will be done.

For all the above we appeal to the executive members that undertake the necessary measures over the panoramic coast view that is being continuously objects of attacks to its existence without studying the possibilities or technically fundamentals why the reason of the destruction.

These measures shall go through immediate approval of plans of landscape classification as protected area under the terms of the article 15<sup>o</sup> of the Decreto de Lei 142/2008 and through the issue of any unfavorable decision to the approval of the construction on the land.

The destruction of the landscape beauty of Vila da Luz will be a crime against nature and will constitute a violation of the state of the fulfillment of its obligations of environmental protection and of the well being of the citizens and of the landscape enrichment and will be null and subject of compensation to whom feels harmed.

There shall be adopted also provisory measures under the terms of the article 33<sup>o</sup> under the Law of Cultural Heritage, providing this to be classified as place under the terms of this Law, as per **“Convention For The Protection Of The World Cultural and Natural Heritage” and its article 1<sup>o</sup>** that qualifies cultural heritage: the areas with an extraordinary universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnologic or anthropologic point of view as well as the natural heritage with natural beauty;

There shall be adopted measures in accordance with the EURPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION to protect the landscape in Vila da Luz which is of vital interest in cultural, ecological, social and economic interest.

There shall also be adopted other adequate measures to preserve the landscape and defend the panoramic view over the coastline of Praia da Luz by all the residents and users under the same state that is today.

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