

# OPEN PARLIAMENT



Center for Democratic Transition



Parliament of Montenegro



European Union

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## FOREWORD

*Dear readers,*

You are reading the most important information about the activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 31 December, which is, in the form of monthly bulletin "Open Parliament", prepared by the Center for Democratic Transition (CDT) and the Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro.

This edition of the bulletin focusses on the overview of the most recent developments introduced in the work of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2011.

With regard to regular parliamentary activities, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted 16 laws in December. In addition, we would also like to note that parliamentary committees deliberated 21 law proposals.

Through the exercise of its oversight function, parliamentary Committee for Security and Defence considered and supported the Report on the work of the Police Directorate and security situation in 2010; Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget considered financial plans with work plans of the six independent regulatory bodies; Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms considered and adopted the Report of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights.

In addition, the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms of the Parliament of Montenegro held a consultative hearing on the "Overview of Models of Organization, Function and Manner of Allocation of Funds of the Fund for Minorities," while the Committee for Security and Defence held a control hearing of the Director of Police Directorate, Director of the National Security Agency and Special Prosecutor for Combating Organized Crime.

The bulletin "Open Parliament" is published monthly as a part of the project "Open Institutions", funded by the European Union through the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro.

I would like to send you the warmest greetings until the next edition of the bulletin while waiting for your opinions, criticisms and suggestions to make this bulletin even better and more interesting.

*Respectfully,  
Dragan Koprivica,  
CDT Executive Director*



## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

**During December, the Parliament adopted 16 laws.**

**At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Regular Session, in 2011 the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the following laws:**

The Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and Croatia on Mutual Enforcement of Court Decisions in Criminal Matters, the Law on Ratification of Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for Child Protection, Law on the Ratification of the Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in the field of International Adoption, the Law on Ratification of the Protocol of 1988 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974, the Law on Ratification of the Protocol of 1988 of the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, the Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and the European Union establishing a framework for the participation of Montenegro in the European Union operations in crisis management, the Law Amending the Law on Detective Activity, Law Amending the Law on Planting Material; the Law Amending Law on the Seeds of Agricultural Plants, the Law Amending the Law on Excise Tax, the Law on the Treatment of Juveniles in Criminal proceedings, the Law on Public Enforcement Officers; the Law on Waste Management; the Law on Public Peace and Order, the Law on Budget of Montenegro for 2012 and the Law Amending the Law on Financing Political Parties.



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Law proposals considered before committees:

- **Proposal for a Law on Medicines** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
- **Proposal for a Law on Budget of Montenegro for 2012** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Health, Labour and Welfare, Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms, Committee on Gender Equality, Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Political system, Judiciary and Administration. The said committees proposed the leading Committee to support the Proposal for a Law on Budget of Montenegro in 2012.
- **Proposal for a Law on Waste Management** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Securities** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Central Bank of Montenegro** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Electronic Communications** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on State Audit Institution** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Local Self-Government** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Energy Law** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Civil Servants** discussed and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and by the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Conflict of Interests** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Insurance** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition and Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in the field of international adoption** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on the Treatment of Juveniles in Criminal Proceedings** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, and the Committee for Human Rights and freedoms.
- **Proposal for a Law on Public Enforcement Officers** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, and the Committee on the Political System, Justice and Administration, and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and Croatia on mutual execution of court decisions in criminal matters** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Public Peace and Order** discussed and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Communal Activities** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Financing Political Parties** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Customs Tariffs** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Decision on the number of Deputies of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro** considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.



## OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY



- The Committee on Security and Defence considered and adopted the Report on the work of the Police Directorate and the state of security in 2010. At the committee's invitation, the Director of the Police Directorate, Veselin Veljovic; Head of Criminal Police Department, Milan Tomic, Head of Human Resources, Legal Affairs, Telecommunications and Information Systems Department, Vladimir Minic and Head of Planning, Development and Analytics Department, Radovan Ljumović attended the meeting.

Having in mind the obligations under the European integration process, the Committee considers that the Police Directorate, within its jurisdiction, in cooperation with other relevant institutions, should achieve the required level of efficiency in the fight against organized crime and corruption at all levels.

The Committee insists on a permanent strengthening of the Police Directorate's capacity to combat organized crime and corruption and highlights that a durable development and strengthening of these structures is a priority goal in the process of European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, which are defined as strategic orientation of Montenegro.

- At its meeting, the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget considered financial plans accompanied by the work plans of six independent regulatory bodies.

The Committee decided to propose to the Parliament to adopt five proposals of financial plans with the work plans of independent regulatory bodies for 2012, namely: the Energy Regulatory Agency, the Agency for Insurance Supervision, Commission for Securities, Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices, Agency for Electronic Media. The Committee did not support the Financial Plan with the Work Plan of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services for 2012.

- Members of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, after hearing the candidate for non-resident Ambassador of Montenegro to the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Bahrain, Aleksandar Erakovic, issued an unreserved opinion, based on his professional, business and professional skills that recommend him for that function, of which the Committee will notify the President of Montenegro.

- Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms of the Parliament of Montenegro held a consultative hearing on the "Review of Models of Organization, Function and Manner of Allocation of Funds of the Fund for Minorities."

The committee by majority vote (six "for" and one "abstain") adopted, as an interim solution that should enable the work of the Fund for Minorities, the Proposal for a Decision Amending the Decision on Establishing the Fund for Minorities submitted by MPs Rifat Rastoder, Ljerka Dragicevic, Hidajeta Bajramspahic, Djordje Pinjatic and Dr Halil Dukovic and decided to recommend the Parliament to adopt the Proposal for a Decision Amending the Decision on Establishing the Fund for Minorities.

- At its meeting, the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms considered and adopted the Report of the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

The Committee considered the Report of the Ministry for Human and Minority related to the Committee's Conclusions from the control hearing of the Minister for Human and Minority Rights, Ferhat Dinosh, which was held at the continuation of the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 24 October 2011 and amendments (two) to the Proposal for the Decision Amending the Decision establishing the Fund for Minorities, which was submitted by MPs Rifat Rastoder, Hidajeta Bajramspahic and Ljerka Dragicevic.

- The Committee on Security and Defence held a control hearing of the Director of the Police Directorate, Director of the National Security Agency and the Special Prosecutor for Combating Organized Crime.

At the Committee's invitation, Director of Police Directorate, Veselin Veljovic, Head of Criminal, Police Milan Tomic, Director of the Agency for National Security, Vladan Jokovic and Special State Prosecutor for Combating Organized Crime, Djurdjina Nina Ivanovic attended the meeting of the Committee on Security and Defence and introduced the Committee members with the information held in connection with the "affairs listing" in the cases "Keljmendi" and "Saric".

Upon the completion of the hearing, the Committee adopted the Conclusions that the Chairman of the Committee, Mevludin Nuhodzic presented to the media representatives.



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## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



### *Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms Took Part in the Campaign „Let's Teach them Something Else!“*

The Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms of the Montenegrin Parliament is involved in the second part of the Campaign 'Let's Teach them Something Else!' conducted by the institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro in cooperation with Ombudsmen from the countries from the region, with the support of the Save the Children from Norway.

The launch event of the Campaign "Let's Teach them Something Else!" is marked by placing billboards and development of promotional materials, while all future activities will focus on raising awareness about the importance of understanding, repression, prevention and resolution of problems of child begging on the territory of Montenegro. The goal of the Campaign 'Let's Teach them

Something Else!' is to increase people's awareness and to appeal to all social entities not to give the money to the children in the street, but to reallocate it to other activities, primarily educational, recreational and sports-cultural, which will improve their socio-economic situation and create conditions for general social development.

The Parliament of Montenegro through the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms, with the support of the Secretary General of the Parliament, funded the installation of a billboard, which is to contribute to raising awareness of professional and general public, especially children, on begging hazards of, to protect themselves from the risk of becoming victims of human trafficking and economic and social exploitation.

### *Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro Took Part in the Joint Parliamentary Meeting in Brussels*

The Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro took part in the Joint Parliamentary Meeting organized by the European Parliament within the Polish Presidency over the European Union, in Brussels, on 5 and 6 December. The meeting focussed on the Social cohesion in the European Union, issues related to demographic development in the time of economic and financial crisis and the EU regional policies after 2013.

Among others, the President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek and Marshals of the Sejm and the Senate of the Republic of Poland, Ewa Kopacz and Bogdan Borusewicz spoke at the meeting.

The MP and Chairperson of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, Branka Tanasijevic and the Committee member, Hidajeta Bajramspahic represented the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro at this meeting.

### *Exhibition of Political Cartoons from 13 to 30 December*

The exhibition of about 50 works, portraits and cartoons of the famous Montenegrin political cartoonist, Darko Drljevića, winner of over 100 awards in national and international cartoons' competitions was organized in the Hall of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The exhibition was opened by the President of the Parliament, Ranko Krivokapic, who said that a cartoon is a valuable form of artistic expression, which "us, politicians, levels down to a true measure, as we are often inclined to exaggerate on our own im-

portance, role and contents."

Besides MPs, the opening was attended by numerous guests, including some representatives of foreign embassies in Montenegro. Among others, the Head of EU Delegation in Podgorica, Leopold Maurer, the German Ambassador, Pius Fischer, the American Ambassador, Sue Brown, the British Ambassador, Catherine Knight Sands, Slovak Ambassador, Frantisek Lipka, Ambassador of Serbia, Zoran Lutovac, Ambassador of Croatia, Petar Turcinovic and others.



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### ***Thematic Meeting of the Committee on Gender Equality***

The Committee on Gender Equality of the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with the Office for Combating Human Trafficking, held a thematic session dedicated to the Council of Europe's Convention against trafficking in human beings, on the occasion of "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence", which was further discussed by the Chairperson of the Committee on Gender Equality, Nada Drobnjak. She urged all to assist in eliminating a global problem of trafficking, especially through the promotion of the Convention and preventive action.

In addition to Nada Drobnjak, a member of the

The Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), Davor Derenčinović, who presented the content of the Convention and the requirements that it places on member states also spoke at the meeting, along with the Head of the Office for Combating Trafficking in Persons, Zoran Ulama, who talked about the mechanisms of the Government of Montenegro to combat human trafficking, and finally the Director of NGO "Montenegrin Women's Lobby," Aida Petrovic, who has transferred the experience in assisting victims of human trafficking.

### ***Seminar "Democratic Control of Armed Forces and Application of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security"***

The Committee on Security and Defence of the Parliament of Montenegro and the OSCE Mission to Montenegro organized a seminar on "Democratic Control of Armed Forces and the Application of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security". The seminar was held at the hotel "Maestral" in Budva, on Friday 16th December 2011.

The seminar was organized with the support of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre from Vienna (CPC) and the Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces Geneva (DCAF), to promote the most recent developments and practices regarding the full implementation of the obligations of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military aspects of Security.

Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Rifat Rastoder, Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Ambassador Sarunas Adomavicius and Chairman of the Committee on Security and Defence, Mevludin Nuhodžić opened the event. In ad-

dition to members of the Committee on Security and Defence of the Parliament and representatives of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the seminar was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Defence and the Army of Montenegro, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Police Directorate, the Agency for National Security, the Council for Civilian Control of Police, the EU Delegation to Montenegro, UNDP Office in Podgorica, as well as representatives of NGOs and independent experts, whose work tackles defence and security issues.

The seminar is aimed at encouraging cooperation between the Parliament, agencies and institutions in the sector of defence and security, as well as representatives of NGOs, especially in the field of democratic control of armed forces as an essential element for the stability and prosperity of any society.

### ***Round Table "The Parliament of Montenegro in the Process of European Integration - Active Participant or Observer"***

The Committee on International Relations and European Integration of the Parliament of Montenegro and NGO "Institute Alternative" organized a round table to present the Research on the role of the Parliament and the National Council for European Integration (NCEI) in the process of European integration.

The participants exchanged views regarding the definition of different models of positioning of the National Council for European Integration in Montenegro's integration process, then, the legal status and potential powers of this body, the composition and responsibilities as well as, generally speaking, the positioning of the working bodies of the Parliament of Montenegro in the process, with an emphasis on the Committee on International Relations and European Integration. In partic-

ular, the importance of the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in the negotiation process, as well as the contribution made by the Parliament so far has provided and will provide in the future.

Participants agreed that they exchanged useful information in relation to the current discussion that took place in the Parliament regarding the positioning of the National Council for EU Integration, the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and other working bodies in the negotiation process, and that the structures of the Parliament of Montenegro, were responsible for these issues and would attempt to establish a sustainable system in the upcoming, highly demanding period of Montenegro's integration process into the European Union.



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## *President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic Presented Annual Rewards to the Best Staff Persons*

President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic presented the awards to the best staff persons during this year. Awards were given to the Secretary of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation, Snežana Kaludjerovic, Secretary of the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms, Slava Buric, and the Head of Human Resources Department of the Parliament, Drazen Malovic. Suitable gifts were pre-

sented to the staff persons who went into retirement.

At the traditional concert organized on this occasion, the soprano, Aleksandra Vojvodić – Jovovich, the winner of numerous awards, who has had a large number of solo concerts at home and abroad, presented herself. She performed a part of the repertoire of the CD "Roots", which includes processing traditional Montenegrin songs.

## IN FOCUS



### *Developments in 2011*

- In February, the Parliament adopted Calendar of Activities of the Parliament of Montenegro for the period until the end the spring session, i.e., the end of July. In September, the calendar was adopted for the period from 1 September - 31 December 2011.
- All committees adopted work plans for 2011, and annual reports on their activities for 2010.
- The practice was introduced for committee secretaries to prepare briefings for each item of the committee meeting agenda. In addition, Guidelines on the preparation and contents of briefings was also adopted.
- The Parliamentary Service developed a system of monthly reporting, which enables better insight into the work of organizational units and, at the same time, facilitates the development of semi-annual and annual reports at the level of the Parliament.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Parliament of Montenegro and the Network of Civil Society Organizations for Democracy and Human Rights was signed on 30th March. Simultaneously with the signing of the Memorandum, a Form for the submission of the views of representatives of civil society was posted on the website of the Parliament.
- Parliamentary Service created all necessary pre-conditions for the introduction of Broadcast Service of the Parliament of Montenegro, i.e. a notification system via short text messages, which are forwarded to mobile phones. The system should replace the current system of notification through written notifications / telegrams.
- The Rules of Procedure of the Department for Analysis, Documentation, Research and Library was adopted, as well as the Rules for Submission of Requests and Development of Parliamentary Research papers, together with the Request Form.
- The Human Resource Development Strategy was adopted. Additionally to the Strategy, Strategic Plan and Training Plan were also adopted.
- The EPA Registry and EPA records were established and have been applied in the Parliamentary Service of the Parliament of Montenegro as of the beginning of 2011.
- Publishing of the monthly bulletin "Open Parliament" has started in cooperation of the Parliament of Montenegro and the Centre for Democratic Transition, supported by the European Commission via the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro.
- In July, the Parliament adopted the Decision Amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro. The amendments primarily relate to the compensations of employees in the Parliamentary Service aimed at strengthening the autonomy of the Parliament, i.e., strengthening its administrative capacity.
- Semi-annual Performance Report (for the period 1 January - June 30) was published in July with the Information on the legislative and oversight activities of the Parliament of Montenegro until the end of the spring session in 2011.
- The live broadcast via Internet of parliamentary sittings was enabled from the press facilities in the Parliamentary building.
- In cooperation with the EU Delegation in Podgorica, a project in the area of harmonization and regulatory impact assessment of legislation has been launched.
- Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the West Minster Foundation for Democracy and the British Council through March 2013, during which, the support will be provided in several areas of parliamentary life.
- In November, the web site of the Parliament of Montenegro started publishing the results of MPs' voting.



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# CALENDAR



## 1 December

- Members of the Committee on Security and Defence visited the Border Police Department and Sea Security Department in Bar.
- Representatives of the Montenegrin Association of Students of Political Science visited the Parliament of Montenegro.

## 2 December

- Members of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ervin Spahic and Aleksandar Damjanovic, participated, as members, in the VIII session of the National Commission for the implementation of the Strategy for the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, during his visit to the United States, had a series of high-level meetings in the House and Senate, Congress, where he met with: the Chairman of the U.S. Senate, Daniel Inoj, Senator and Republican presidential candidate on the previous presidential election, John McCain, President of the Subcommittee on Defence, Congressman, Bill Young, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Europe and Asia, Congressman, Den Burton, Congressmen, Elsie Hastings and Michael Mikudom, and Senator, Susan Collins.

## 3 December

- A one-day seminar for parliamentarians on "Strengthening the role of Parliament in the Oversight of the Budget."
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, during his visit to Washington, met with the State Department Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Philip Rucker. The meeting particularly focused on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro as one of the key foreign policy priorities.

## 6 December

- Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro participated in the Joint Parliamentary Meeting organized by the European Parliament and the Polish Presidency of the EU in Brussels

## 8 December

- In Brussels, in the framework of an official visit to Belgium, held a meeting of members of the National Council for European Integration with Belgian parliamentarians. During the meeting, highlighted was the support of Belgium in connection with the policy of EU enlargement to Western Balkan countries, as well as the evaluation of progress of individual countries on the integration path. In this regard, it was assessed that Montenegro is a stable state, which serves as a good example of the region.



- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, on the occasion of the Day of the Danilovgrad Municipality - 9 December, sent a telegram of congratulation to the Mayor, Branislav Djuranovic, President of the Municipal Parliament, Dr Miodrag Djurovic, councilors of the local parliament and citizens.

## 9 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic received, in Villa "Gorica," Prime Minister of Ukraine, Mikola Azarov, who is in his two-day official visit to Montenegro. In a long conversation, they pointed out to the history of close ties between our people.
- Completed a three-day seminar on "Regulatory Impact Assessment - RIA" for civil servants. The training aimed to make civil servants able to perform independent impact assessment of legislation and to present the findings of the assessment in a form of a report.

## 12 December

- Head of the Montenegrin Parliamentary Delegation to the Parliament of the Council of Europe (PACE), Valentina Radulovic-Scepanovic, met with the Amba-



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sador of Ukraine, Oksana Slyusarenko. During the discussion, she pointed out to the importance of strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation between friendship groups of national parliaments and the importance of cooperation between delegations of the national parliaments of Montenegro and Ukraine in the PACE.

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapic, received a delegation of the Albanian Academy of Sciences, headed by Vice President of the Academy, Muzaffer Korkuti. The meeting was attended by the delegation of the Doclean Academy of Arts and Sciences (DAAS), led by President of DAAS, Bozidar Nikolic.

## 13 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, met with the Director General for Enlargement of the European Commission, Stefano Sanino. The interlocutors jointly assessed that the results so far achieved in the process of European integration, were a good foundation for further success on Montenegro's European path.



## 15 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, at the invitation of the President of the Swedish Parliament and Government, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Sweden. During the visit, President Krivokapic met with the President of the Swedish Riksdag, Per Westerberg, Minister for EU Affairs of Sweden, Ms Birgitta Ohlsson, members of the Committee for Industry and Commerce and the Committee on International Relations of the Swedish Riksdag and the members of the Committee on International Relations of the Swedish Riksdag.

## 16 December

- Deputy of the Parliament of Montenegro, Rifat Rasotoder, received the Chairman of the House of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr Denis Becirovic and his associates. It was concluded that intensive and demanding future efforts stayed before Montenegro on its way towards the EU and that the experience of Montenegro would be of great benefit to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## 18 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, sent a telegram of congratulations, on the occasion of the Day of Podgorica - 19 December, to the Mayor of Podgorica, Miomir Mugosa, President and councillors of the City Parliament and the citizens of Podgorica.

## 20 December

- Ambassador of Ukraine to Montenegro, HE Oksana Sliusarenko, presented the awards to the Chairperson and members of the Friendship Group of the Parliament of Montenegro and the Parliament of Ukraine, who have contributed to the improvement of relations between Montenegro and Ukraine.

## 22 December

- Members of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration met with the delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, led by the Head of the European Union Department, Amer Kapetanovic. The interlocutors concluded that the parliamentary knowledge and experience that Montenegro has gained in the process the integration into the European Union, was of great importance for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that the same may be applicable in its further stages of integration.



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### 26 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, received newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Montenegro, Grazina Sikorski. During the meeting, they expressed the hope that, within the overall bilateral cooperation between Montenegro and the Republic of Poland, as well as the cooperation of Montenegro and the Polish Parliament in the coming period would be intensified, which is particularly important given the responsibilities that lie before the Parliament of Montenegro, especially in the area of the European integration.
- Members of the Committee on Security and Defence participated in the roundtable "The First Year of Implementation of the Parliamentary Oversight of Security and Defence." The roundtable was organized by the "Institute Alternativa" with the support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.
- President of the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatization Process, Andrija Mandic, held a meeting with a representative of the former Foundry workers, Angelina Musikic. During the conversation, Mandic stressed the need to appeal to the Government of Montenegro which earlier made an agreement with foundry workers.

### 27 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, sent a telegram of congratulations to the President of the Croatian Parliament, Boris Sprem, upon the election to the office.
- Committee on International Relations and European Integration of the Parliament and NGO "Institute alternativa" organized a round table, at which they presented the research on the role of the Parliament and NCEI in the European integration process.

### 28 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic presented annual rewards to the best staff persons for their service.

## FROM PARLIAMENTARY GALLERY

### *Savo Radulović: "Montenegrin", 1961 oil on canvass, 138 x 135 cm*

Sixties of the twentieth century, in the art collection of the Parliament of Montenegro, are also presented by a piece of art of Savo Radulovic (Montenegrin). Radulovic was born in Gornje Polje, near Niksic in 1911, and died in Dubrovnik 1992. As a child, he went with his father to the U.S.A, where, as a young man of sixteen, worked in the mine, drew and painted. After he completed St. Louis School of Fine Arts, he went to Washington, then to Harvard University. He also studied in Rome.

In his initial phase of the work of art, Radulovic was inspired by his old mother town and folk songs, which was followed by a period of profound artist's realistic approach to the world. From almost classical realism, where the colors are complementary, harmonious, he transferred to the area of almost abstract, without distancing himself from the reality, which earned him a considerable reputation in the U.S.A.



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# FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



## DECREE OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ON THE PROHIBITION OF BEGGING

24 January/5 February 1883

### MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

No. 77  
Cetinje, 24 January 1883

Mr. Captain,

It was noticed that there were many souls in Montenegro begging, particularly in villages, on the roads, where they disturb passengers by begging, especially foreigners, who later spread the bad word around world about a beautiful Montenegro.

It may no longer be that way. Begging is a shameful thing, particularly for those given the health by God, so that they can earn for living.

For these reasons, I hereby order you to watch for it carefully as of today and to announce that the begging is prohibited.

If there is in your area a person, who is sick or disabled, and thus unable to work, and if he/she has no family, nor relatives to support him/her, you are to inform me immediately of such a case, for begging will be allowed to him/her.

Apart from the above mentioned, anyone caught to begging, shall be fined, if he/she has anything, if not, to punish him/her in the dungeon and to put him/her to work for wages so that he/she gets used to the work.

If a child is caught in begging on the roads, where they disturb passengers, their parents shall be punished the same way as proclaimed above. If the same child is caught in begging twice, the fine should be doubled.

**President of the State Council,  
Minister of Interior,  
Bozo Petrovic**

*Montenegrin Codes, II, eds. B. Pavicevic, R. Raspopovic, Podgorica 1998, 77*

## PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

**POLITICAL PROCESS**<sup>1</sup> is most often understood as a way of making decisions that resolve conflict of interest in social institutions and groups, especially as a way of making decisions, which are important for balance, performance and development of a political system. The political system is characterized as a set of political processes.

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Encyclopedia of Political Culture (Enciklopedija političke kulture)*, Savremena administracija, Beograd, 1993.



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