

# 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 29 February, which is, in the form of monthly bulletin "Open Parliament", prepared by the Center for Democratic Transition (CDT).

The column "In Focus" presents you with the information on the 13<sup>th</sup> Cetinje Parliamentary Forum entitled "Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development", which was held on 2 and 3 February. Cetinje Parliamentary Forum is an autochthonous regional initiative of parliamentary cooperation of the Southeast Europe countries on their path towards the EU.

With regard to parliamentary activities in February 2012, the Parliament adopted 12 laws, while parliamentary committees deliberated on 21 law proposals.

Within the exercise of its oversight function, the Parliament considered a Motion of no confidence in the Government of Montenegro, which was proposed by a group of MPs, and which did not get a required support. In addition, parliamentary Security and Defence Committee conducted two oversight and two legislative hearings, while the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatization Procedure adopted a Proposal for Conclusions related to the control of the privatization procedure of the Aluminum Plant of Podgorica (KAP).

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 February, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted 12 laws.**

**At the Sitting of the Second Extraordinary Session in 2012, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the following laws:**

The Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, the Law on Salaries of Civil Servants and Employees, the Law Amending the Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, the Law Amending the Law on Tax on Profit of Legal Persons, the Law Amending the Law on Personal Income Tax, the Law Amending the Law on Compulsory Social Insurance, the Law Amending the Law on Defence, the Law Amending the Law on Voluntary Work, the Law on Audit of the Funds from the European Union, the Law on Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of Ukraine, the Law on Ratification of the Protocol on the Accession of Montenegro to the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization and the Law Amending the Law on Health Insurance.

In addition, at the Sitting of the Second Extraordinary Session, the Parliament adopted the Opinion to appoint Mr Boro Vucinic as the Director of the National Security Agency, and approved the resignations of the following MPs: Miomir Mugoša, Aleksandar Bogdanovic, Dragan Djurovic, Nebojsa Kavarić i Miloje Pupovic.

**At the Sitting of the Third Extraordinary Session in 2012,** the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision To Open a Parliamentary Inquiry and Establish an Inquiry Committee to Gather Information and Facts about the Corruption in the Privatization of Telekom Montenegro, and the Decision to Establish an Inquiry Committee for Gathering Information and Fact about the Corruption in the Privatization of Telekom Montenegro.



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**At the Sitting of the Fourth Extraordinary Session in 2012**, the Parliament of Montenegro confirmed the Decision Declaring a State of Emergency in the Territory of Montenegro, which was adopted by the Defense and Security Council.

**At the Sitting of the Fifth Extraordinary Session in 2012**, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision on the Subsequent Confirmation of the Decision on Taking Over a Debt of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica (KAP) to the Deutsche Bank, along with the proposed conclusions.

**At the Sitting of the Seventh Extraordinary Session in 2012**, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision on Termination of the State of Emergency in Montenegro.

#### Law proposals considered before committees:

- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Health Insurance** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Voluntary Work** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Internal Affairs** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation. The Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration considered the law proposal and did not take a position thereof.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Auditing of the Funds from the European Union** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation as well as by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Personal Income Tax** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Tax on Profit of Legal Persons** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of Ukraine** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Protocol on the Accession of Montenegro to the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Salaries of Civil Servants and Employees** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Defence** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation as well as the Committee Security and Defence.
- **Proposal for a Law on Official Statistics and the Official Statistics System** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Chemicals** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, in relation to Biomedical Research (CETS no. 195)** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine in relation to Genetic Testing for Health purposes (CETS no. 203)** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the International Convention on Salvage of 1989** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic Slovenia** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro, on the one hand, and the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union, on the other hand on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Com-



mittee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

- **Proposal for a Law on Publishing Activities** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Mediation** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

### *Proposals of other legal acts considered before committees:*

- **Decision Declaring a State of Emergency in the Territory of Montenegro** considered and proposed to the Parliament for confirmation the Security and Defense Committee, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- **Proposal for a Decision to Open a Parliamentary Inquiry and Establish a Committee of Inquiry to**

**Gather Information and Facts about the Corruption in the Privatization of Telekom Montenegro** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation. The Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration considered the proposed decision and did not take a position thereof.

- **Proposal for a Decision on the Subsequent Confirmation of the Decision on Taking Over a Debt of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica to the Deutsche Bank, along with proposed conclusions** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation as well as the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Decision on Termination of the State of Emergency in the Territory of Montenegro** considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Security and Defense Committee, as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

## OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY



- At the Sitting of the Sixth Extraordinary Session in 2012, the Parliament considered a Motion for a vote of no confidence in the Government of Montenegro, which was proposed by a group of MPs. The proposal did not receive the required majority.
- The Security and Defence Committee held a meeting on 6 February, at which it conducted a control hearing of the Director of the National Security Agency Vladan Jokovic, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Milan Rocen, concerning assessments from the NATO report on Montenegro's progress in participation in the Membership Action Plan for 2010 - 2011, after which the Parliament was submitted a report thereof.
- At its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 10 February, the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatization Procedure adopted the Proposal for Conclusions related to the control of the privatization procedure of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica.
- At its meeting held on 14 February, the Security and Defence Committee conducted a control hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor Ranka Carapic and Director for the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism Predrag Mitrovic on the topic: "The activities of public authorities, carried out in connection with the examination of allegations of possible corrupt practices during and after the process of privatization of Telekom". Following the meeting, the Committee adopted the report.
- At the meeting of the Security and Defence Committee held on 24 February, the Parliament of Montenegro

conducted a legislative hearing of the diplomatic representative of Montenegro, Lieutenant General, Ljubisa Jokic, who was appointed a military attache and military representative to the OSCE mission in the Republic of Austria, on a residential basis, as well as a military attache in the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic on a non-residential basis, before taking the office. After a comprehensive discussion, the Committee gave support to the activities that Lt. Gen. Ljubisa Jokic presented to be a priority for the military and diplomatic cooperation between Montenegro and the Republic of Austria, the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic, with the assessment that these are issues of great importance in the field of military diplomacy. Also, the Committee adopted the Annual Performance Report for 2011, which it submits it to the Parliament for consideration in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Field of Security and Defence, and established the Parliamentary Oversight Plan for 2012.

- At its meeting of 29 February, the Security and Defence Committee considered a Proposal of the Prime Minister of Montenegro for the appointment of the Director of the National Security Agency. At the invitation of the Committee, a candidate for the Director of the Agency, Mr Boro Vucinic, a former defence minister attended the committee meeting. Following the hearing, the Security and Defence Committee, by a majority vote, adopted a report proposing to the Parliament to refer the Opinion appoint Boro Vucinic as the Director of the National Security Agency.



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## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



### *Delegation of Ambassadors of NATO Member Countries Visited the Parliament of Montenegro*

The delegation of ambassadors of NATO member states paid an official visit to Montenegro in the period from 9 to 10 February 2012.

The ambassadors met with the members of the Security and Defence Committee and on that occasion the Chairman of the Committee, Mevludin Nuhodzic, introduced the guests to the previous committee activities. The Chairman Nuhodzic particularly emphasized the importance of the adoption and implementation of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Field of Security and Defense.

Representatives of the NATO member states pointed to the important role of the Security and Defence Committee in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration, as well as the importance of achieving a high quality cooperation with the Ministry of Defence and the Army of Montenegro, especially in regard to sending troops to international missions.

Ambassadors of NATO member states also met with the members of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration. At that meeting, they talked about Montenegro's accomplishments to-

wards European and Euro-Atlantic integration, regional cooperation, but also about the support of these processes by political parties of different political ideologies. The Committee members pointed out that, particularly in relation to European integration, there was a full consensus among parliamentary parties. When it comes to the Euro-Atlantic integration, which does not enjoy the support of all political parties, the committee emphasized an obvious increase in public support for Montenegro's integration into NATO.

Ambassadors also met with the President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapic. During the meeting, the President Krivokapic said that for a small country such as Montenegro, it was very important to be a part of the large security systems such as NATO. In this regard, he reiterated a continuing commitment of Montenegro towards Euro-Atlantic integration process, which was brokered by the significant results achieved on Montenegro's path to NATO.

Ambassadors of NATO member states congratulated to the Parliament of Montenegro on its efforts and overall contribution on the road to the integration.

### *Members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget in a Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

From 19 to 25 February, members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget participated in a study visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The visit was organized by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy in cooperation with the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The purpose of the study visit was to consider the most important issues dedicated to issue of financial oversight. During their stay, the delegation met with many representatives of relevant institutions in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The delegation had the opportunity to become acquainted with the history of the National Audit Office, its jurisdiction, the relationship with the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament and its role in the control of public finances. Also, the delegation got introduced to the work of the Scrutiny Unit of the House of Commons. In the afternoon, the delegation attended the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee. On the second day, after a series of meetings

with MPs, the delegation had the opportunity to follow the sitting of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom.

Following the said meetings, the Committee members traveled to Edinburgh, where they continued their activities under the program of cooperation between the Committee and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy. During the two-day visit to Edinburgh, the delegation of the Committee got acquainted with competences of the Parliament of Scotland, in particular with the work of the Finance Committee and the Public Audit Committee. Members of the delegation visited the Information Center of the Parliament of Scotland, and were able to follow the "First Minister's Question Time".

The delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro was composed of MPs: Aleksandar Damjanovic, Veljko Zarubica, Dragoljub Scekcic, Rasko Konjevic, Radojica Zivkovic, Kemal Purisic and Zarija Pejovic, as well as representatives of the Parliamentary Service.



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## *The Eleventh Winter Meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe*

The Eleventh Winter Meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA) was held on 23 and 24 February 2012. MPs Aleksandar Bogdanovic and Goran Danilovic participated in the meeting as permanent members of the OSCE PA delegation from the Parliament of Montenegro.

This year's winter meeting of the OSCE PA, which was held in Vienna, gathered over 200 parliamentarians from over 50 countries to debate arms control, prison reform, anti-terrorism and the global economic crisis.

The two-day meeting began with a panel discussion at the Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs on the judicial system and prison reform. Following the meeting of the Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, a joint session of the three general committees was held, where parliamentarians had a chance to hear the speech of the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Petros Efthymiou, and President of the National Council of the Parliament of Austria, Barbara Prammer, and the OSCE Secretary General, Lamberto Zannier.

The global financial crisis was discussed at the

meeting of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment, while the parliamentarians of the Committee on Political Affairs and Security discussed the fight against terrorism and crime.

The second and last day of the Winter Meeting of the OSCE PA began with a meeting of the Standing Committee, which was attended by MP Aleksandar Bogdanovic. At the meeting, reports were presented on the recent election observation missions in Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tunisia, as well as the reports of the Parliamentary Assembly President Petros Efthymiou, the Treasurer Roberto Batelli, and Secretary General of the OSCE PA, Oliver Spencer.

A joint session of the three general committees was also held, where MPs had a chance to hear the report of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Ambassador Knut Vollebaek, report of the representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Minister for European Affairs of Ireland, Lucinda Creighton, as well as the report of the OSCE PA Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry. The introductory part was followed by a special discussion on "The Future of Conventional Arms Control in the OSCE Area".

## *President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapic Received the Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans in the European External Action Service Miroslav Lajcak*

The President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received the Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans in the European External Action Service Miroslav Lajcak on 24 February 2012. President Krivokapic informed the guest about the plans of the Parliament, which would significantly improve the participation of the main legislative body in the process of negotiations and with the willingness for further improvement of the capacity, necessary for the full harmonization of Montenegrin legislation with the EU acquis.

The interlocutors unanimously agreed in their as-

essment that Montenegro needed to be fully focused on the process of the European integration and that this issue should continue to be the subject of the attention of all political actors.

During the meeting, they discussed the political situation in the region, and to that end, Montenegro was assessed to play a prominent and constructive role, and that it could serve as an incentive for its neighbouring countries. The interlocutors agreed that the cooperation between the countries of the Western Balkans contributed to faster movement towards the EU membership of the entire region.

## *Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro Met with EU Rule of Law Expert Luca Perilli*

The Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro met with the EU rule of law expert Luca Perilli, on the occasion of the current situation with regard to ongoing constitutional reform, which aims to implement the recommendations of the Venice Commission. At the meeting held on 28 February, the participants discussed the proposals and recommendations of the Venice Commission and their adjustment and incorporation in the proposed amendments to the Constitu-

tion of Montenegro.

The delegation of the Montenegrin Parliament was composed of MPs: Luidj Skrelja, Velizar Kaludjerovic, and Ervin Spahic, Secretary General Damir Davidovic, representatives of the Parliamentary Service of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation, and parliamentary staff member of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.



## IN FOCUS



### *XIII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum*

**C**etinje Parliamentary Forum is an autochthonous regional initiative of parliamentary cooperation of the Southeast Europe countries on their path towards the EU. Since 2004, the delegations of the parliaments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia have gathered in the Government House in Cetinje to discuss actual social issues. The Forum aims at deepening and strengthening parliamentary cooperation, exchanging knowledge and experience and as a result, the overall improvement of bilateral and multilateral ties between the countries in the region.

The thirteenth consecutive Cetinje Parliamentary Forum was held on 2 and 3 February 2012, on the topic "Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development". It was organized by the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and the NGO "Green Home". In addition to members of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning of the Montenegrin Parliament, the Forum was attended by representatives of regional parliaments, government representatives, international organizations and civil society.

Cetinje Parliamentary Forum was opened by the President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapic, while the Head of the European Union Delegation to Montenegro, Leopold Maurer, and the Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Predrag Sekulic delivered introductory speeches.

The forum was organized into two thematic sections: sustainable development and waters. During the session "The Sustainable Development", the participants were addressed by Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning of the Parliament of Montenegro, Slaven Radunovic, who moderated this part of discussion.

MP Radunovic pointed out that in the previous period major opportunities and prospects of Montenegro and the wider region were identified. According to Radunovic, those were reflected in the sustainable development of tourism and agriculture, development and enhancement

of environmental awareness, and fostering cultural development, which will follow the integrated efforts of the countries of Southeast Europe towards the European integration. He pointed out that events such as the CPF should promote information exchange and flow of ideas among the political, diplomatic, but also scientific, business, NGO and government entities that make decisions on issues of sustainable growth and development at all levels.

In this part of the Forum, representatives of the parliaments of the region, as well as experts in the field of environment and sustainable development delivered their presentations, which were followed by the discussion on the topic "Water - the Common Good and Renewable Energy," moderated by the Executive Director of NGO "Green Home" Darko Pajovic.

The Forum ended with the adoption of the Joint Statement, in which parliaments of participating states are urged to cooperate with international organizations and civil society on improving the legal framework to protect the natural resources of the region, to enhance parliamentary oversight over the use of natural resources and for this purpose to build capacities of parliaments supporting services, to pay particular attention to the implementation of adopted laws, and under the auspices of the CPF to launch specific actions, which will include a continued exchange of experience among parliaments.

All participants praised the idea of the Parliament of Montenegro and the concept of this particular conference, to invite to speak at the event, on this extremely important topic, in addition to representatives of parliaments from the region and experts, the representatives of the Government, international organizations and civil society.

Since 2004, Cetinje Parliamentary Forum through previous twelve meetings has brought together over 700 parliamentarians from the region and partner EU member countries, to discuss in Cetinje topical issues in the field of common interest, such as economics, foreign policy, security, education and culture.



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# CALENDAR



## 1 February

- Secretary-General of the Parliament of Montenegro, Damir Davidovic, met with the External Evaluation Training Programme Expert for Advisors to the Parliaments of South Eastern Europe, Marsaili Fraser. The Secretary-General Davidovic informed the evaluator Fraser on the results achieved in the area of improving legislative and oversight functions of the Parliament, as well as plans regarding the definition of the role of the Parliament in the process of the European integration. Also, international project of support which are currently implemented in the Parliament were mentioned.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, received HE Charalambos Hadjisavvas, Ambassador of Cyprus to Montenegro, in a farewell visit. The President Krivokapic thanked the Ambassador Hadjisavvas for the cooperation and wished him success in his new office in Jordan.



- Members of the Security and Defence Committee met with the External Evaluation Training Programme Expert for Advisors to the Parliaments of South Eastern Europe Marsaili Fraser.

## 3 February

- The 13<sup>th</sup> Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, devoted to the topic "Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development," was closed. The Forum was concluded with closing remarks and adoption of the Joint Statement.

## 8 February

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko

Krivokapic met with the President of SUBNOR and Anti-fascists of Montenegro, Andrija Nikolic and academician Branko Pavicevic. The reception took place on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ostrog Assembly of Montenegro and Boka patriots.

## 9 February

- Members of Security and Defense Committee, as well as members of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, met with the delegation of ambassadors of NATO member states. It was concluded at the meetings that the processes of European and Euro-Atlantic integration have a complementary relationship.



- Chairman of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, Ervin Spahic, met with the Resident Legal Adviser of the U.S. Embassy Cecilia Bratten. They discussed at the meeting the legislative process for adopting or amending legal acts related to the field of combating organized crime.

## 10 February

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, received the ambassadors of NATO member states. At the meeting, it was emphasized that participation in the Membership Action Plan serves as an incentive for further reforms that should lead to Montenegro's full membership in NATO.



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# CALENDAR



## 11 February

- Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro passed the decision for the Defence and Security Council to introduce a state of emergency in Montenegro, as it was concluded that, in the new situation, the Parliament would not be able to provide a quorum.

## 23 February

- Chairwomen of the Gender Equality Committee, Nada Drobnjak, received the Head of the Democratization Department of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Lloyd Tydik and his associates. During the meeting, they expressed willingness to continue the successful cooperation, especially in the framework of monitoring the implementation of the Law on Election of MPs and Councillors and the UNSC Resolution 1325.
- The delegation of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget was in a study visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The study visit was devoted to the topic of financial oversight.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapic, received a delegation of the state bank of the National Republic of China, led by the EXIM Bank Vice President Zhu Hongji.

## 24 February

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Ranko Krivokapic, received the Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans in the European External Action Service, Miroslav Lajcak. At the meeting, the discussion focused on the chal-

lenges remaining ahead of Montenegro, which need to be overcome in order to start negotiations between the European Union and Montenegro.

- Representatives of the Parliament of Montenegro and associates in MP's clubs went to a study visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.
- The Eleventh Winter Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe was concluded.

## 28 February

- Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro met with the European Commission expert in the field of rule of law Luca Perilli to discuss the current situation related to ongoing constitutional reform, which is aimed at the implementation of the recommendations of the Venice Commission.

## 29 February

- Chairman of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, Aleksandar Damjanovic, met with the Head of the IMF's Mission to Montenegro, Gervin Bell. At the meeting, the two discussed issues related to indicators of economic growth, the state of the Montenegrin economy, public debt, the amount of the guarantee, assumption of debt, sustainable finance policy, control of the budget deficit and the IMF forecasts for the region.
- The seminar on "The Reform of the Defence System - the Concept of Good Governance", which was organized by the Regional Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC), in Rakitje in Croatia, was finished.

## PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

**CONSENSUS**<sup>1</sup> means general agreement without making formal declaration by voting. Consensus may precede voting, but it is not the equivalent of unanimous decision-making. From a sociological point of view, consensus implies general agreement among opinions and feelings aimed at restoring order in an area burdened by conflicts and disparities. Such broad agreement can be followed by expression of different opinions about certain details. Consensus is a cooperative solution of conflicts (differences), it is an agreement made between the sides with equal power. Auguste Comte considers consensus to be a link which keeps a society together.

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Pravna enciklopedija, Savremena administracija, Beograd, 1985.*





## FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



### TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MONTENEGRO AND BELGIUM

Brussels, 9 December 1904  
Cetinje, 9 December 1904

The Government of His Royal Majesty Sovereign and the Government of His Majesty the King of Belgium, while expecting the conclusion of the final agreement, decided to arrange temporary trade relations between the two countries, the undersigned, duly authorized, agreed on the following:

#### Article 1

The citizens and products of both countries will enjoy mutual rights of the most privileged country in terms of commerce, seafaring and customs.

#### Article 2

The Agreement shall be ratified and the ratifications will be soon exchanged. It will come into force one month after the exchange of ratification acts, and shall remain valid until the expiry of the year, from the day when one of contracting parties declares its intention to cancel the agreement.

To confirm thereof the undersigned confirmed the agreement with their seals.

Signed in Cetinje, in two identical copies on 9 December and in Brussels, on 9 December 1904.

Minister of Foreign Affairs  
His Royal Majesty, Prince of Montenegro  
(L.S) Duke G. Vukovic, handwritten signature

Minister of Foreign Affairs  
His Royal Majesty, King of Belgium  
(L.S.) Favero, handwritten signature

*Medjunarodni ugovori Crne Gore (eng. International Agreements of Montenegro) ed. G. Perazic, R. Raspopovic, Podgorica 1992*

## FROM PARLIAMENTARY GALLERY

### *Mirko Daljev: „Landscape“*

Works of Mirko Daljev in the parliamentary art collection represent the fifties of the XX century. His paintings are complex artworks of intertwined sensations and impulses and provocative play of light and contrast. Art audience remembers him by paintings in oil and watercolor paintings, whose thematic preoccupations are those of landscape and scenes from daily life.

Daljev was born in Kikinda in 1909. He graduated from the Art Crafts School in Belgrade, and served as a teaching painter in Herceg Novi.



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