

# OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Bulletin on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year II ♦ No. 20 ♦ October 2012

## FOREWORD

*Dear readers,*

You have before you the most important information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro during the period between 1 and 31 October which, in the form of the monthly bulletin "Open Parliament", is prepared by the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro.

Pursuant to the Decision on calling for the elections for members of the Parliament of Montenegro from 31 July 2012, parliamentary elections were held on 14 October, where 81 MPs were elected. In this issue of the bulletin, we present you with the Report on results of elections for Members of the Parliament of Montenegro, submitted to the Parliament by the State Electoral Commission, on 25 October 2012.

The topic of this month's issue is the 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro, published on 10 October by the European Commission. In the section regarding the Parliament, progress was noted in strengthening of the legislative and oversight role, monitoring of the process of harmonising Montenegrin law with the EU law, as well as in other fields. Furthermore, it has been stated that interaction with the civil sector and transparency of work were improved, and administrative capacities of the Parliament strengthened.

The bulletin is published monthly as part of the "Open Parliament" programme, by which the Parliament seeks to bring its work closer to Montenegrin citizens. We consider this publication to be very significant as a reliable source of information on work of the Parliament and hope it will be useful to you.

We certainly remain open to your comments and suggestions, as well as criticism, which can help us bring more quality to our work.

*Respectfully,  
Service of the Parliament*



Bulletin is a part of the programme "Open Parliament", aimed at increasing transparency of work of the Parliament of Montenegro and citizen participation in the parliamentary activities. The bulletin is edited by the Service of the Parliament.

## 2012 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Pursuant to the Decision on calling for the elections for members of the Parliament of Montenegro from 31 July 2012, parliamentary elections were held on 14 October 2012. Elections were held in Montenegro as a single electoral constituency, and 81 MPs were elected.

The State Electoral Commission submitted the Report on results of elections for Members of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliament, on 25 October 2012.

The Report has stated that the overall election result, based on the election material, is the following:

- **514.055** voters registered in total in the voters' registry;
- **347.424** voters voted in polling places;
- **15.290** voters voted outside polling places, that is by mail;
- **362.714** voters in total used their voting right;
- **515.035** ballots were received, 981 of which for those in detention or prison;
- **152.321** unused ballot papers;
- **362.714** used ballot papers;
- **5.764** invalid ballot papers;
- **356.950** valid ballot papers.

Individual election lists gained the following number of votes:

1. THE ALBANIAN YOUTH ALLIANCE – ALEANCA RINORE E SHQIPTARËVE.....	<b>531</b>
2. SERBIAN UNITY.....	<b>5275</b>
3. CROATIAN CIVIC INITIATIVE (HGI) – DECISIVELY.....	<b>1470</b>
4 “POSITIVE MONTENEGRO – DARKO PAJOVIĆ”.....	<b>29881</b>
5. SNP – SOCIALIST PEOPLE’S PARTY OF MONTENEGRO – WORD AND ACT .....	<b>40131</b>
6. DEMOCRATIC UNION OF ALBANIANS – UNIONI DEMOKRATIK I SHQIPTARËVE.....	<b>2848</b>
7. THE ALBANIAN COALITION: DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE IN MONTENEGRO, DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND ALBANIAN ALTERNATIVE – KOALICIONI SHQIPTAR: LIDHJA DEMOKRATIKE NË MAL TË ZI, PARTIA DEMOKRATIKE DHE ALTERNATIVA SHQIPTARE .....	<b>3824</b>
8. DEMOCRATIC FRONT – MIODRAG LEKIĆ .....	<b>82773</b>
9. FORCA FOR UNITY – FORCA PËR BASHKIM – Genci Nimanbegu - Vasel Sinishtaj - Zana Sarvan.....	<b>5244</b>
10. BOSNIAC PARTY – RAFET HUSOVIĆ.....	<b>15124</b>
11. THE COALITION EUROPEAN MONTENEGRO – MILO ĐUKANOVIĆ .....	<b>165380</b>
12. TOGETHER.....	<b>1384</b>
13. SERBIAN NATIONAL ALLIANCE – DR RANKO KADIĆ (DSP, PSR and GC).....	<b>3085</b>

Pursuant to the Articles 94 and 95 of the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of the Parliament separate election lists gained the following number of seats:

1. CROATIAN CIVIC INITIATIVE (HGI) – DECISIVELY **one** seat
2. “POSITIVE MONTENEGRO – DARKO PAJOVIĆ” **seven** seats
3. SNP – SOCIALIST PEOPLE’S PARTY OF MONTENEGRO – WORD AND ACT **nine** seats
4. DEMOCRATIC FRONT – MIODRAG LEKIĆ **20** seats
5. BOSNIAC PARTY – RAFET HUSOVIĆ **three** seats
6. THE COALITION EUROPEAN MONTENEGRO – MILO ĐUKANOVIĆ **39** seats
7. Joint list of Albanian minority **two** seats, namely:
  - FORCA FOR UNITY – FORCA PËR BASHKIM –  
Genci Nimanbegu - Vasel Sinishtaj - Zana Sarvan **one** seat and
  - THE ALBANIAN COALITION: DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE IN MONTENEGRO, DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND ALBANIAN ALTERNATIVE – KOALICIONI SHQIPTAR: LIDHJA DEMOKRATIKE NË MAL TË ZI, PARTIA DEMOKRATIKE DHE ALTERNATIVA SHQIPTARE **one** seat.

Pursuant to the Article 96 of the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of the Parliament, seats are allocated to the candidates according to the order on the electoral list.

## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



### *Members of the Electoral Commission of Bundestag for Awarding the International Parliamentary Scholarship (IPS) visited the Parliament of Montenegro*

Members of the Electoral Commission of the Lower House of the German Parliament (Bundestag) for Awarding International Parliamentary Scholarships (IPS) for 2013, MP Steffen Claudio Lemme (Head of the Delegation), prof. dr Ulrich Schöler, Deputy Director of the Bundestag and prof. dr Michael Linscheid from the Humboldt University, visited the Parliament of Montenegro on 2 October 2012. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received the guests. President Krivokapić and MP Lemme talked about the work of the Parliament, its role in the political system of Montenegro, and especially about its role in the European integration. Mr. Krivokapić said that the Parliament with the continuous innovations in work and its transparency moves the limits in comparison to numerous institutions.

President Krivokapić noted that Bundestag has always been a good partner to the Montenegrin state and the Parliament, and that every experience of its representatives is valuable.

On the same day, Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović met with the guests. The Secretary General pointed to the good bilateral relations and emphasised that possibilities of bilateral cooperation of the two parliaments have not

been used as much as possible through present cooperation, in particular in the field of professional services. Programme of international parliamentary scholarships was assessed as very useful, particularly in terms of possibilities of Montenegrin citizens with higher education to be able to acquire experience and learn about the German parliamentary system of Germany.

The Secretary General considered with his interlocutors the possibility for employees of the Parliament to visit German Bundestag and for employees of Bundestag to visit the Parliament of Montenegro, where experiences could be exchanged through joint work on regular activities.

Member of the German Bundestag Steffen Claudio Lemme stated that Bundestag awarded two scholarships for 2013 as well, to young people from Montenegro, who would have the opportunity to learn directly about the political system of FR Germany and the decision-making processes, during their five-month internship in the office of one of the members of Bundestag. Interlocutors agreed that it was necessary to promote further international parliamentary scholarship and expressed belief that the number of interested participants for this program would grow in the future.

### *Pilot Project "Democracy Workshops" started*

Pilot project "Democracy Workshops" started in October, organised with the aim to stimulate interest of young people for political processes and democracy. "Democracy Workshops" are designed as a program of civic education for primary school pupils to acquire knowledge on parliamentary democracy, functioning of a parliament, adoption and implementation of laws as well as the role of media in democracy. Children and young people aged 8 to 14/15 would learn how democracy works, through different interactive contents and in the manner adjusted to their age, with support of selected and trained lecturers/trainers.

Sixth grade pupils of the Primary School "Dušan Bojović" from Nikšić participated in the first workshop organised on 8 October. Pilot project would last for 30 days, when its official implementation would start according to the planned dynamic.

The Parliament of Montenegro organises "Democracy Workshops" as part of the programme "Open Parliament", with the aim of its further expanding and enhancing, with the focus on strengthening of connections between the parliament and young people, in particular primary school pupils.

The ERSTE Foundation financially supports this project, with technical and professional realisation of the NGO Forum MNE (Forum Young People and Informal Education). The project is modelled after the programme of the same name implemented in the Parliament of the Republic of Austria since 2007. Over 10,000 children participate annually in these workshops in the Austrian Parliament. In addition, trainers from Montenegro were trained by the experts from the agency Müllers Freunde, which also provides expert support to this project in the Parliament of the Republic of Austria.

## *The Parliament of Montenegro organised XIV Cetinje Parliamentary Forum*

The Parliament of Montenegro organised the XIV Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, dedicated to the topic "The Western Balkans towards Euro-Atlantic Integration", on 16 October in the Government House in Cetinje. More than 160 representatives of delegations of NATO PA member states, among which are countries of the region, as well as important guests, attended the Forum.

In his opening speech, Chair of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration Miodrag Vuković pointed out that improvement of Montenegro in overall reforms had been recognised and endorsed at the NATO Summit in Chicago, but also its role in regional and global stability through participation in peacekeeping missions.

During the opening session, participants were also addressed by: Jaroslaw Skonieczka, Senior Director for Integration at the Partnership and Cooperation Directorate in Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO and Joost Korte, Deputy Director General for Enlargement at European Commission.

During the afternoon, three sessions were held. The moderator during the session "Perspectives for NATO Enlargement in the Western Balkans: Options" was Lamberto Dini, Senator at the Senate of the Italian Republic, and the panelists Milica Pejanović-Djurišić, Minister of Defence of Montenegro and Muhamed Ibrahimović, Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Minister of Defence Milica Pejanović-Djurišić indicated that the NATO accession of the Western Balkans countries is the best guarantee for peace, security and further overall development in this part of Europe.

Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina Muhamed Ibrahimović stressed that NATO enlargement

has a long-term perspective, but that the integration and the dynamics of this process will depend on the global political, security and economic factors. He added that the prospect of NATO and EU membership in Bosnia and Herzegovina has no alternative.

The moderator during the session "European Union Membership: Still a Magnet for the Western Balkans?" was Senator Sergio de Gregorio, Chair of the Subcommittee on Transatlantic Relations of NATO PA, and the panellists Corina Stratulat, Analyst of the European Policy Centre Policy from Brussels and Nenad Šebek, Executive Director of the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe (CDRSEE).

During this session, it has been jointly estimated that the EU integration of the Western Balkans is a clear contribution to its security and development and to global foreign policy. Also, there has been discussion about the impact of the economic crisis on the EU member states and the enlargement policy.

The moderator during the session "Political Developments and the Way Ahead in Serbia" was Jose Lello, Former President of the NATO PA and Vice Chairperson of the Political Committee, and the panellists Dušan Janjić, Senior Researcher of the Centre of Sociological Research of the Institute of Social Sciences, the University of Belgrade and Elizabeth Pond, American journalist based in Berlin, non-resident Fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations.

During the session, among other things, there has been discussion on the prospects of the Republic of Serbia on the path towards European integration, forms of cooperation with NATO, as well as the suggestions of the international community in terms of normalisation of relations with Kosovo.

## *81<sup>st</sup> Rose-Roth Seminar held in Miločer*

Permanent delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in cooperation with NATO PA organised the 81<sup>st</sup> Rose-Roth Seminar, on the topic: "Anchoring Stability in the Western Balkans: Fulfilling the Promise of Euro-Atlantic Integration", in period of 15-17 October in Miločer. The Seminar brought together some 160 participants, including 66 parliamentarians from 14 NATO member countries and 10 partner delegations, experts from Montenegro, international organisations, NGOs, etc.

Political, economic and security situation in the Western Balkans was in the focus of the Seminar, as well as prospects for regional cooperation. Also, there were talks about the European integration process in the region. At the end, situation in Kosovo and prospects for its future were the topic of the discussion.

The Seminar was opened by President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić, and the Opening Session included speeches of non-resident Ambassador of Switzerland to Montenegro, based in Belgrade, H. E. Erwin H. Hofer, Vice President of NATO Parliamentary Assembly Julio Miranda Calha, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Nebojša Kaluđerović. The moderator of the Opening Session was the Head of the Delegation of

Montenegro to NATO PA, MP Mevludin Nuhodžić. Director of the Balkans Project Marko Prelec delivered his opening statement, and the discussion followed.

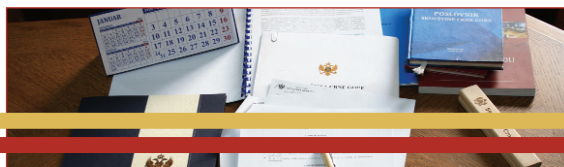
During the first day three sessions were held, on the topics: "The Economic Situation in the Western Balkans and Prospects for Regional Co-operation", "Fuelling Economic Growth: Energy Policies and Co-operation in the Western Balkans" and "Strengthening the Rule of Law: Fighting Corruption, Building Integrity".

The second day of the Seminar was held in Cetinje, within XIV Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, titled "The Western Balkans towards Euro-Atlantic Integration". Three sessions were held, where topics were domestic and foreign political challenges facing the countries of the region. The discussion was focused on perspectives of these countries on their path towards European integration.

On the third day, two sessions titled "Prospects for Smart Defence in the Western Balkans" and "Future of the International Presence in Kosovo" were held.

The Rose-Roth Seminar ended with closing statement by MP Mevludin Nuhodžić, the Head of the Delegation of Montenegro to the NATO PA and David Hobbs, Secretary General of the NATO PA.

## IN FOCUS



### *The European Commission published the 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro*

The European Commission published the 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro, on 10 October. In the part related to the Parliament of Montenegro, visible progress in all fields of parliamentary work was emphasised, with recommendations for its further strengthening. The Report assesses that progress is achieved in terms of functioning of the Parliament and its legislative and oversight role; including the issue of rule of law, and that implementation of recently adopted electoral legislation has started. Transparency has been enhanced, administrative and professional capacities have been strengthened, and committees which would deal with the European integration and fight against corruption were established.

The Report states that implementation of the Law on Election of Councillors and MPs adopted in September 2011 has started. According to the new law, all parliament's seats shall be awarded on the basis of the previously established order of candidates on the electoral lists. Also, it states that the new provision on obligation of submitters of electoral lists to provide 30% of female candidates on their lists, was for the first time implemented at local elections in April. Still, the Report emphasises that women remain underrepresented in the Parliament, and that it is necessary to align electoral legislation with the remaining recommendations of the OSCE / ODIHR and the Venice Commission.

Also, it is stated that the Parliament adopted amendments to the Rules of Procedure in May, which entered into force in July. New rules provide for more regular control hearings and enhanced guarantees for draft legislation presented by the opposition parties to be examined by the parliament. Then, it is emphasised that the European integration remains a key priority for parliamentary work.

The 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro also points out that further progress with regard to the transparency of the work of our institution is achieved. In December 2011 the voting record of individual MPs started to be published on the Parliament website, and further measures have been taken to improve interaction with civil society and the public.

The document of the European Commission also promotes the fact that the Parliament works actively on adopting new acts, with the aim to harmonise

Montenegrin legislation with the EU acquis:

"The parliament has continued its intensive legislative activity, which has included a number of areas relating to European integration, such as preventing money laundering and financing of terrorism, and auditing EU funds. The work of the research department has been strengthened. The role and the capacity of the parliament in monitoring the process of bringing Montenegro's laws into line with EU law have been enhanced."

It was also assessed that oversight role of the Parliament has been enhanced, notably through adoption of the Law on Parliamentary Inquiry, amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament and to the Law on Data Secrecy, as well as through steady increase in the number of parliamentary questions, control and consultative hearings with high-level state officials and discussions of reports submitted by various institutions.

Then, the Report states that the Parliament's administrative capacity has been strengthened, notably through increased number of staff and training courses. However, office space and technical equipment is lacking, even for MPs. In this part, it is concluded that training of existing staff and the recruitment of qualified new staff need to be pursued.

In the conclusion, the Report states that overall progress has been made, recommending the Parliament to continue the efforts with the aim to enhance its legislative and oversight capacity.

Through statements in the Report, it is clear that the European Commission, as in its previous report, recognises and values efforts of the Parliament to enhance its work in all fields, and that it invites the Parliament to continue in that direction.



The European Commission 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro can be downloaded at:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key\\_documents/2012/package/mn\\_rapport\\_2012\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2012/package/mn_rapport_2012_en.pdf).

# FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



## LAW ON ELECTION OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES

24 June/7 July 1906

**WE**  
**NIKOLA THE FIRST**  
By the grace of God  
**PRINCE AND SOVEREIGN OF MONTENEGRO**  
Announce and declare:  
That on the proposal of Our Ministerial Council,  
Upon hearing Our State Council, in the purpose of  
implementing par. II of Article 221 of the  
Constitution,  
We have decided to proclaim and decree the  
following:

### LAW ON ELECTION OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES

\*\*\*  
**PART III**  
**Who can perform a duty of an MP**

#### Article 9

A Montenegrin citizen may be elected an MP only if he:  
1) is thirty years old on election day,  
2) permanently resides in Montenegro, except those who perform a state job abroad,  
3) enjoys all citizens rights,  
4) pays to the state at least 15 krone per year for taxes and agricultural tax, or taxes and agricultural tax jointly (Article 53 of the Constitution).

\*\*\*

#### Article 15

Each MP nominated for a state official or promoted in state administration, loses his MP seat by that. However, they can be re-elected MPs if it is not contrary to articles 7 and 10 of this law.

\*\*\*

**PART VI**  
**Conclusion of voting, arranging of electoral lists  
and proclamation of elected MP**

#### Article 34

Elected MP shall be considered one who gains absolute majority (i.e. more than half of those who voted) of votes cast (Article 56 of the Constitution).

If votes are divided so that neither of the candidates acquired absolute majority, on the same day, choice shall be made between the two shortlisted candidates who gained the majority of votes. On electing shortlisted candidates, all present voters shall be obliged to vote. If on electing shortlisted candidates, both candidates acquire equal number of votes, the dice throwing shall determine who of the two shall be an MP, and that task shall be performed by the polling board (Article 57 of the Constitution).

Nikola, authentically signed  
Cetinje, 24 June 1906

**From the Law on Election of People's Representatives,  
Cetinje, 1906**

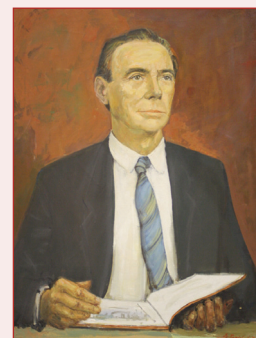
*Pavičević, B., Raspopović, R., eds. Crnogorski zakonici 1796-1916, IV, (Montenegrin Books of Laws 1796 - 1916, IV), Istorijski institut Crne Gore, Podgorica, 1998.*

## FROM PARLIAMENTARY GALLERY

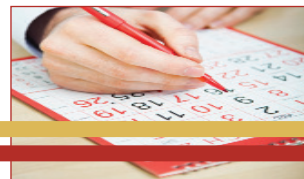
### *Ljubo Brajović Brajo: "Portrait of Risto Vukčević"*

In the nineties of the XX century and in the first decade of the XXI century, the parliamentary art collection was complemented by works of artists of older, middle and younger generation of creators of fine arts, including a portrait of former President of the Parliament of Montenegro Risto Vukčević, by Ljubo Brajović Brajo, painter born in 1934 in Vraka, Albania.

Art critics hold that this artist was a prisoner of humanistic principle, who painted landscapes and portraits with the same passion, following the imperative of expressive deformation as universal device of artistic expressions. He spent a significant part of his creative life as an expert for conservation and restoration, in the Museums and Galleries in Podgorica and in the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments in Cetinje.



# CALENDAR



## 1 October

- At the ceremony in the gallery “Dado Đurić” in Cetinje, President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić presented Trinaestojulska Award for lifetime achievement to world-renowned performance artist Marina Abramović.



The occasion for the meeting was five-month scholarship, which is awarded every year to young people with higher education who intend to participate actively in creating the democratic future of their country.



## 2 October

- Members of the Electoral Commission of the Bundestag for Awarding International Parliamentary Scholarship (IPS) for 2013, MP Steffen Claudio Lemme, prof. dr Ulrich Schöler, Deputy Director of Bundestag and prof. dr Michael Linscheid from the Humboldt University visited the Parliament of Montenegro. They were received as guests by President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić. President Krivokapić and MP Lemme talked about the work of the Parliament, its role in political system of Montenegro and in particular about its role in the European integration.

- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović met with the members of the Electoral Commission of Bundestag for Awarding International Parliamentary Scholarship (IPS) for 2013. The Secretary General considered with interlocutors the possibility for employees of the Parliament to visit German Bundestag and for employees of Bundestag to visit the Parliament of Montenegro, where they could exchange experiences and work practices through joint work on regular activities.
- MP Miodrag Vuković met with Slovak experts Miroslav Adamis and Milan Jezovica. Slovak experts visited Montenegro for the first time within the project “Supporting European Integration Process in

## PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

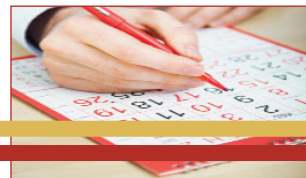
**ELECTIONS.** “Elections – a general term for procedure by which members of a social group or state community elect their representatives in governing bodies or state authorities.”<sup>1</sup>

According to the level of political community they are held in, elections can be national (general), regional and local. At the elections, representative body of citizens is elected (the parliament), while the president and other representatives of executive authorities can be elected as well. Also, elections can be direct and indirect, depending on whether voters directly elect their representatives or they elect the electoral college, tasked to cast vote for MPs or other authorities.

In Montenegro, MPs of the Parliament of Montenegro, councillors of local assemblies of municipalities, city municipalities, Capital City and of Old-Royal Capital, as well as the President of Montenegro are elected on free and direct elections. Councillors and MPs are elected every four years, while the President of Montenegro is elected every five years.

<sup>1</sup> Radovan Radonjić, *Demokratija (Democracy)*, Podgorica, Centar za građansko obrazovanje, 2007, p. 81.

# CALENDAR



Montenegro via Sharing Slovak Experience”, which is implemented with the support of M.E.S.A 10, independent think-tank organisation from Slovakia, which has been actively involved in socio-economic affairs and the UNDP, and in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. The aim of the project is to convey Slovak experience in order to better prepare Montenegro for leading the EU accession negotiations, as well as to exchange opinions with the members of the negotiation structure.

- President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić met today with heads of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission, Geert Hinrich Ahrens and Colin Munroe. Mr. Krivokapić noted that the presence of independent observers at the elections on 14 October was crucial for the further strengthening of democratic processes in the country.

## 3 October

- Chairwoman of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak met with the Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission in Montenegro, Ambassador Geert Hinrich Ahrens. Chairwoman Drobnjak expressed pleasure that the Gender Equality Committee was recognised as important for the talk during the pre-election process. She also assessed that the solution from the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of the Parliament on 30% of women participation in the Parliament was very significant and stated that she believed that number of women would be larger upon the forthcoming elections.

## 4 October

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Birgitta Ohlsson, Minister for EU Affairs in the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden. President Krivokapić and Ms. Ohlsson discussed previous results of Montenegro on its path towards the EU, as well as future challenges that await our country in the accession process. Mr. Krivokapić said that the European and Euro-Atlantic integration were key priorities for Montenegro and that the rule of law was the primary goal of the country.
- Chairwoman of the Gender Equality Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro Nada Drobnjak participated in the International Women’s Summit “Partnership for Change: Empowering of Women”, the first of this type in the region, which was held in Priština. The Summit, held under the auspices of the President of Kosovo Atifeta Jahjaga, was attended by around 200 leaders,

women and men, from public and private sector of Kosovo and foreign countries, among which several speakers were female officials from the USA.

- President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić received champions of knowledge of Montenegro: Petar Tadić, student of the high school “Stojan Cerović” from Nikšić, who won bronze medal at 43<sup>rd</sup> International Olympics in Physics, held in Estonia, which was the first medal won for Montenegro in International Knowledge Olympics. The President also received Anđela Marković, a student of the primary school “Štampar Makarije”, and Ilija Gračanin, a student of the primary school “Njegoš” from Kotor, who both won bronze medals at 16<sup>th</sup> Junior Balkan Olympics in Mathematics.

## 6 October

- OSCE PA Fall Meetings, which gathered more than 130 parliamentarians, were held in Tirana. During the first part of the day, a session was held on the topic “The Role of the Media in Promoting Good Governance”, while in the second part of the day, the Standing Committee held a meeting. On behalf of delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro in the OSCE PA, Rifat Rastoder, the Vice President of the Parliament, attended the meetings.

## 8 October

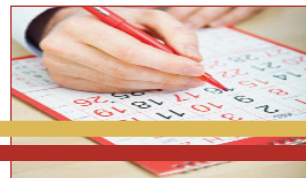
- Pilot project “Democracy Workshops”, aimed at stimulating interest of young people for politics and democratic processes, has started. “Democracy Workshops” are designed as a programme of civic education for students of primary schools to acquire knowledge on parliamentary democracy, functioning of the parliament, adoption and implementation of laws as well as the role of the media. Students of sixth grade of the Primary School “Dušan Bojović” from Nikšić participated in the work of the first workshop and visited the Parliament. Duration of the pilot project would be 30 days, upon which its official implementation would start.



Bulletin is a part of the programme “Open Parliament”, aimed at increasing transparency of work of the Parliament of Montenegro and citizen participation in the parliamentary activities. The bulletin is edited by the Service of the Parliament.



# CALENDAR



- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received memorial-medal as a sign of respect and gratitude for cherishing the tradition of NOB (People's Liberation Struggle). On behalf of the Presidency of the Federation of Associations of Veterans and Antifascists of NOR (People's Liberation War) and Antifascists of Montenegro, President of SUBNOR and Antifascists of Montenegro Andrija Nikolić awarded him with the memorial-medal.

## 12 October

- President Krivokapić spoke with heads of election observation mission of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Roberto Battelli and Christopher Chope. Mr. Battelli and Mr. Chope informed Mr. Krivokapić that they were satisfied with the pre-election process in Montenegro, and that so far they had no objections to anything that could jeopardize holding of the fair and democratic elections.

## 16 October

- Within the Macedonian chairmanship over the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP), the International Conference "15 Years of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - Past, Present and the European Future of the Region" was held in Skopje, 15-16 October 2012, followed by the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension working group. The Conference was opened by Trajko Veljanovski, President of the Assembly of Macedonia and Zoran Petrov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Macedonia, who, in their introductory speeches, spoke about the nature of this initiative, which supported stabilisation of the region as well as its progress through 15 years of existence.
- The XIV Cetinje Parliamentary Forum dedicated to the topic "The Western Balkans towards Euro-Atlantic Integration" was held in the Government House in Cetinje, organised by the Parliament of Montenegro.



More than 160 representatives of NATO PA member delegations, among which were the countries of the region, as well as important guests attended the Forum.

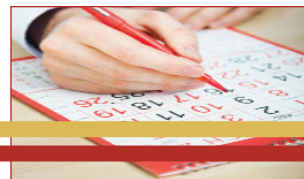
## 17 October

- In the period from 15 to 17 October, the permanent delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the NATO PA, in cooperation with NATO PA, organised the 81<sup>st</sup> Rose-Roth Seminar. The Seminar brought together some 160 participants, including 66 parliamentarians from 14 NATO member countries and 10 partner delegations, experts from Montenegro, international organizations, NGOs and non-profit organisations. The topic was "Anchoring Stability in the Western Balkans: Fulfilling the Promise of Euro-Atlantic Integration".

## 18 October

- Chair of the Committee on Political System and Judiciary Ervin Spahić received a group of 30 students of the Faculty of Administrative and European Studies. Mr. Spahić presented students with competencies and manner of work of the working bodies. He spoke, in particular, about the work of the Committee on Political System and Judiciary during the previous convocation, manner of law adoption, control hearings and other activities implemented by the Committee.
- Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro, headed by the Secretary General Damir Davidović, participated in the Meeting of Secretary Generals of Parliaments of Western Balkans, dedicated to modernisation of human resources management in national parliaments, which was organised in Tirana, on 18 and 19 October 2012 by the OSCE Mission to Albania.
- Chairman of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration Miodrag Vuković participated in the Initial Meeting of Chairs of Committees on Foreign Policy of the Region of South East Europe, held in Zagreb from 18 to 19 October. Existing models of parliamentary cooperation of Nordic, Baltic and Benelux countries were presented at the meeting which gathered chairs of committees on foreign policy of Montenegro, Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Serbia, representatives of Igman Initiative and diplomatic corps.
- Meeting of representatives of the European Parliament with national coordinators of Western Balkans parliaments for the South-East European Cooperation Process was held in the European Parliament in Brussels, in organisation of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. Draft programme of cooperation between the European Parliament with national

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parliaments in Western Balkan states for 2013, which will be adopted by the European Parliament in further procedure, was considered at the meeting.

## 20 October

- The VIII International Conference of the European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD), on the topic “New Balkans in a changing world – with a changing Europe” was held in Belgrade. MP Miodrag Vuković participated in the Conference. The aim of this International Conference, as well as the work of the Permanent International Experts Group, founded by the ECPD to this effect, would be the contribution to enhancement of stable peace and sustainable development in post-conflict region of the Balkans.
- The Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CEDEM) in partnership with the AIRE Centre from London, organised the Conference on the occasion of presenting the Final Report on Trial Monitoring as the final activity of the project “Monitoring of the Justice System in Montenegro”, funded by the European Union, through the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro. On behalf of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, MP Snežana Jonica, Deputy Chair of the Committee, MP Refik Bojadžić, member of the Committee and representatives of the Committee Service took part in the Conference.

## 23 October

- MP Miodrag Vuković participated in the IX Meeting of Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD), which was organised in Athens, 22-23 October. Participants discussed the topic: “In what way parliamentarians can contribute to efficient prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean”, with the primary aim to introduce the initiative “Horizon 2020”, but also with the aim to promote common priorities in the field of environmental protection in order to provide implementation of the mentioned initiative, both at the regional and national levels.

## 24 October

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić held talks with the Chair of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina Bakir Izetbegović. Mr. Krivokapić and Mr. Izetbegović stated that friendly relations between Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina represented an excellent example of regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations.
- Representatives of Service of the Parliament of

Montenegro paid a study visit to the Parliament of the United Kingdom and Thomson Reuters Foundation, 23-24 October. Good practices and challenges in the field of internal and external communications were exchanged during the visit to the Parliament, and employees of the Parliament of Montenegro were acquainted with activities which the Parliament of the UK conducted in order to inform public of the role and significance of the Parliament. Special attention was paid to the educational program of youth.

## 28 October

- Second International Conference “Strengthening the role of parliaments and governments in promoting competitiveness and economic growth in the Western Balkan Countries”, of the Regional Network of parliamentary committees on economy and finance of the Western Balkan countries, supported by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, was held in Miločer. Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović, Secretary General Damir Davidović, as well as representatives of Committee Service attended the Conference.

## 30 October

- Two-day International Conference “The Role of Parliaments in the Process of European Integration: Constitutional and Legislative Changes”, was organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Konrad Adenauer Foundation and OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo. MPs Miodrag Vuković and Velizar Kaluđerović attended the Conference.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with member of the Executive Board of the ERSTE Foundation Doraja Eberle. Mr. Krivokapić and Ms. Eberle expressed pleasure over the cooperation achieved between the Parliament and the ERSTE Foundation through the project “Democracy Workshops”.

## 31 October

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the international Round Table “Women’s Rights in the Western Balkans”, held in Sarajevo. The meeting was organised at the initiative of the MEP Marija Cornelissen, in order to gather information on women’s rights and gender equality in the Western Balkans countries. Gathered information shall be used as a basis for report to the EP, i.e. as a proposal of the Resolution, intended to be adopted and submitted to governments and parliaments of the Western Balkans countries.

Bulletin is a part of the programme “Open Parliament”, aimed at increasing transparency of work of the Parliament of Montenegro and citizen participation in the parliamentary activities. The bulletin is edited by the Service of the Parliament.