

OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year III ♦ No. 27 ♦ May 2013

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

The key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro from 1 to 31 May are outlined in May issue of the newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro.

In May, the Parliament adopted nine laws, as well as one decision and a set of conclusions: the Decision on opening parliamentary investigation and establishing the Inquiry Committee for gathering information and facts on events relating to work of state authorities regarding publishing of audio recordings and transcripts from the meetings of organs and bodies of the Democratic Party of Socialists and the Conclusions on building trust in the electoral process. At the Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session, President of Montenegro Filip Vujanović took the oath before the members of the Parliament of Montenegro. Also, the committees considered 15 law proposals, two proposals for a decision and one proposal for conclusions and apart from that, they also considered a series of reports and carried out other activities within the oversight role.

In focus of this month is the innovated website of the Parliament of Montenegro, launched on 21 May. The new website, redesigned and significantly enriched in content, was implemented entirely by the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro using its own capacities.

The newsletter is published monthly as a part of the "Open Parliament" programme, within which the Parliament endeavours to bring its work closer to Montenegrin citizens. We consider this publication to be very significant as a reliable source of information regarding the work of the Parliament and we hope that you will find it useful. From the May issue, this publication will be translated as "newsletter", as we believe that this term reflects its content and format more accurately. We 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



LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

At the Third Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the following laws were adopted: the Law on Railway, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Ports, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Protection and Exercise of the Rights of Mentally Disabled Persons, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Legal Copyright of Industrial Design, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organisation of Montenegro, the Law on Social and Child Welfare, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreigners and the Law on Amendments to the Law on Payment of Foreign Currency Assets of Citizens Placed with Dafiment Banka Belgrade and Banka Privatne privrede Podgorica, Placed via the company Jugoskandik Belgrade.

Furthermore, the Parliament adopted the amendments to the 2013 financial plans of six independent regulatory bodies, namely: Energy Regulatory Agency, Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices, Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, Agency for Electronic Media, Securities Commission and Insurance Supervision Agency.

Under the item of the agenda Elections and Appointments, Nikola Fabris was elected as the Vice Governor of the Central Bank of Montenegro.

The Parliament gave consent to the Statute of the Insurance Supervision Agency, and got introduced with the technical performance report of the Inquiry Committee for gathering information and facts on corruption in privatisation process of the company Telekom Crne Gore.

Newsletter 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 newsletter is edited by the Service of the Parliament.

At the Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, President of Montenegro Filip Vujanović took the oath before the members of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the Parliament adopted the Decision on opening parliamentary investigation and establishing the Inquiry Committee for gathering information and facts on events relating to work of state authorities regarding publishing of audio recordings and transcripts from the meetings of organs and bodies of the Democratic Party of Socialists and the Conclusions on building trust in the electoral process. The Proposal for a Law on Pronouncing the Presidential Elections, held on 7 April 2013, non-democratic and invalid was not supported by required majority.

Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions:

At the Sixth (Special) Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, within the item of the agenda "Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions", MPs' questions were answered by the Prime Minister of Montenegro Milo Đukanović and representatives of the Government. The Prime Minister was asked six questions, while the representatives of the ministries were asked 44 questions, as well as three additional ones.

Proposals for laws deliberated in committees:

- **Proposal for a Law on Social and Child Welfare** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee for Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
- **Proposal for a Law on Organic Production** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on International Legal Aid in Criminal Matters** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee for Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Pension and Disability Insurance** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee. The Proposal was also considered by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, which did not support it, and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro not to adopt it.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Protocol on Amendments to the TRIPS (the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights)** was considered and proposed to the Parliament

for adoption by the Legislative Committee.

- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Social Housing** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Internal Affairs** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on International Private Law** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Consumer Loans** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Contracts in Road Transport** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organisation of Montenegro** was considered by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, from the aspect of influence of proposed solutions on the Budget of Montenegro, which decided to deliver a positive opinion to the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Sports** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports.
- **Proposal for a Law on Pronouncing the Presidential Elections, held on 7 April 2013, non-democratic and invalid** was considered and voted positively on by the Legislative Committee. The Proposal was also considered by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration which proposed to the Parliament not to adopt it.

Proposals for other acts deliberated in committees:

- **Proposal for a Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee for Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Decision on opening parliamentary investigation and establishing the Inquiry Committee for gathering information and facts on events relating to work of state authorities regarding publishing of audio recordings and transcripts from the meetings of organs and bodies of the Democratic Party of Socialists** was considered

and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.

- **Proposal for Conclusions on building trust in the election process** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.

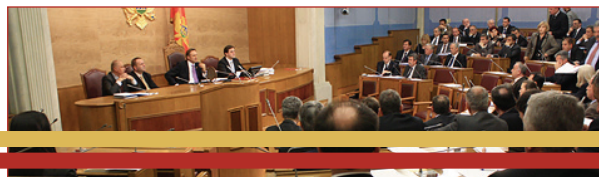
Other activities of the working bodies:

- At the eleventh meeting of the **Constitutional Committee**, held on 7 May, the work on constitutional amendments was continued. MPs also considered mechanisms to improve legal solutions regarding the Public Prosecution Office. At the twelfth meeting held on 8 May, the dominant topic was the issue of Public Prosecution Office. Additionally, solutions which should improve the previously defined model were also analysed.
- At the seventh meeting of the **Security and Defence Committee**, held on 9 May, the following was considered and adopted: 2012 Performance Report of the Ministry of Defence, 2012 Status Report of the Army of Montenegro and the 2012 Report on Use of Units of the Army of Montenegro in International Forces, Peace Missions and Other Activities Abroad. At the ninth meeting held on 24 May, the 2012 Performance Report of the National Security Agency was considered.
- At the eighth meeting of the **Committee on International Relations and Emigrants**, held on 23 May, the proposal that Veselin Šuković be appointed as the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Holy See, on residential basis, as well as the proposal that Milimir Mihaljević be appointed as the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of Bulgaria, on residential basis, were considered and supported.
- At the tenth and the eleventh meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, held on 27 May, the following was considered: the State Audit Institution Report on auditing of state guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011, as well as recommendations of the State Audit Institution structured in four parts: its previous recommendations regarding the issuing of the state guarantees, regulation analysis with the proposal for amendments, economic indicators and risk analysis, as well as the oversight function. Additionally, the Committee considered the Information on acting of electrical energy subjects according to the Energy Regulatory Agency, within which a proposal was made for urgent amendments to the Law on Energy. MPs assessed that it was necessary to consider the possibility of proposing amendments to the Law on Energy in articles 59 and 60. At the eleventh meeting, the Committee adopted

the 2012 Performance Report of the Committee.

- At the tenth meeting of the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms**, held on 16 May, the Committee got acquainted with the Information on international legal procedures against Montenegro, which, apart from statistical indicators, also contains recommendations for removal of weaknesses within the legal system that may cause new applications against Montenegro before the European Court Of Human Rights. In continuation of the ninth meeting, held on 17 May, the Committee held a control hearing of the ECRI National Coordinator for Montenegro, Blanka Radošević-Marović, Deputy Minister for Human and Minority Rights. At the eleventh meeting held on 24 May, the Committee considered and supported the 2012 Performance Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro and 2012 Status Report on Protection of Personal Data in Montenegro, proposing their adoption to the Parliament. Under the current issues, the Committee got acquainted with the letter of the Agency for Personal Data Protection and Free Access to Information, in which they ask for Committee's support in their endeavours to primarily provide financial conditions for adequate implementation of the Law on Free Access to Information, citing that the Agency has insufficient staff capacity. The Committee asked for the Agency to timely supplement the letter with precise data, citing for which jobs in particular they need staff, or funds, after which the Committee would forward the requests to the Ministry of Finance.
- At the third meeting of the **Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning**, held on 9 May, the 2012 Performance Report of the Committee and 2013 Work Plan of the Committee were adopted.
- At the fourth meeting of the **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports**, held on 29 May, the members of the Committee discussed on the topic: "Dynamics and quality of work of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Parliament of Montenegro".
- At the seventh meeting of the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare**, held on 9 and 10 May, the Committee got acquainted with the 2012 Performance Report of the Committee and determined the 2013 Work Plan of the Committee.
- At the eighth meeting of **Administrative Committee**, held on 8 May, a consultative hearing was held of the following candidates for a member of the Senate of State Audit Institution: Biljana Vuksanović, Neli Ćuković, Dragoslav Minić and Radule Žurić. At the ninth meeting, held on 24 May, the Proposal for a Decision on appointment of one member of the Senate of State Audit Institution was determined. The Committee decided, by a majority of votes, to propose to the Parliament of Montenegro to appoint the candidate Radule Žurić as member of the State Audit Institution.

NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Inauguration of the President of Montenegro

At the Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, held on 20 May, President of Montenegro Filip Vujanović took the oath before the members of the Parliament of Montenegro.

In addition to members of the Parliament, the Sitting was attended by the representatives of the Government, the Judiciary, the Prosecutor's Office and the Diplomatic Corps. The sitting was held in the Government

House in Cetinje.

We remind that the presidential elections were held on 7 April 2013. The final results of the elections were declared by the State Election Commission on 22 April 2013, according to which the candidate Filip Vujanović won the elections with 51.21% of votes, i.e. 161,940 citizens voted for him, while his opponent Miodrag Lekić got 48.79% of votes, i.e. 154,289 citizens voted for him.

The Independence Day - 21 May traditionally celebrated on Lovćen Mountain

On the occasion of 21 May, the Independence Day of Montenegro, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić laid down the laurel wreath, with military honours, on the statue of Njegoš at the Jezerski vrh on Lovćen Mountain.

"At the altar of Montenegrin freedom, I congratulate the Montenegrin citizens, wherever they may be, worldwide and in our homeland, this day of renewal of Montenegrin independence. This day symbolizes the millennium long duration of Montenegro, as the only South Slavic country which kept the torch of freedom in the times when it was extinguished in this whole region. That is why Lovćen is the symbol of freedom of all South Slavic peoples. And Montenegro is not selfish; it kept the freedom for everybody in the same way it now wants to share European freedoms with everybody in the region. Nevertheless, this day is special. And this year is also special, since it is the 200th anniversary of Njegoš's birth; his deeds look upon all of us, as well as his achievements, thus we have a higher obligation. The obligation to be in

the least worthy of what he was, to be consistent and respond to the crisis, to be deserving and care about our homeland, to be worthy and demonstrate the power of the state. How much justice there was in Montenegro, that much was of Montenegro. And the greater the strength of justice, the stronger Montenegro will be. And this is the day when we should remind ourselves of the true values created by our ancestors as well as their achievements, and with that emotion we should gather strength to do more, until the next holiday. May you have a happy 21 May, the day of renewed freedom of Montenegro."

On the occasion of the Independence Day of Montenegro, again this year, thematic gathering "Šednik na gumnu" was organised on the topic: "200 years since the birth of the state-maker and poet". Following the introductory speech, President Krivokapić spoke with the students of the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Political Science of the University of Montenegro, the Faculty of Legal Sciences of the University Donja Gorica and the Faculty of Law of the University Mediteran.

Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) held in Ohrid

Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić participated in the Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP PD), held under the Macedonian presidency over this initiative, in Ohrid from 26 to 28 May.

At the Conference they discussed the new challenges of the economic crisis, role of national parliaments and regional inter-parliamentary cooperation. In addition, the Report of the SEECP PD Working Group was presented. The Working Group was formed with the aim of designing modalities and providing guidelines for further strengthening of this initiative, which would eventually lead to the establishment of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly.

In his address, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić pointed out that Montenegro had defined regional cooperation as one of the most significant

foreign policy priorities and that through willingness to establish cooperation in this domain, it actively participated in the work of many regional organisations and initiatives.

At the Conference margins, Vice President Mustafić met with the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Cemil Çiçek, the First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina Milorad Živković, and also had informal meetings with Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia Trajko Veljanovski, Speaker of the Croatian Parliament Josip Leko and Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia Nebojša Stefanović.

The Conference ended with adoption of a joint statement, with the invitation to hold the inaugural session of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly in Bucharest, during Romanian presidency over this initiative.

Spring Session of the NATO PA held in Luxembourg

Spring Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly was held from 17 to 20 May 2013 in Luxembourg. The session gathered around 300 parliamentarians from the NATO and partner countries, who debated on the current issues regarding the transatlantic safety. On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, members of the Delegation Borislav Banović and Obrad Mišo Stanišić, as well as MP Vasilije Lalošević, participated in the work of the Assembly.

Plenary Meeting was opened by the NATO PA President Hugh Bayley, Prime Minister of Luxembourg Jean-Claude Juncker, Speaker of the Parliament of Luxembourg Laurent Mosar and NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen. Spring Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly started with the meeting of delegations' secretaries, where the Draft Work Plan of the Standing Committee and organisational elements of the gathering were presented, as well as NATO PA activities in the following period. Following the introductory statements,

NATO Parliamentary Assembly and North Atlantic Council had a Joint Meeting. During the Meeting they spoke of the transition in Afghanistan, security challenges, possibilities, resources and commitments of the Alliance, implications for the development in the Middle East and North Africa, national and institutional partnerships, with special reference to cooperation with the EU as well as the "open door" policy. Within the discussion, MP Borislav Banović spoke on the topic "Open Door Policy" and stated his expectations that Montenegro would get the membership invitation at the next Summit of the Alliance.

On the second day of the Spring Session, meetings of the Political Committee, the Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security, and the Committee on Economics and Security were held. In the continuation, the Defence and Security Committee and Science and Technology Committee held their meetings, followed by the meeting of the Standing Committee, which ended the work of the gathering.

Visit of Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament Athanassios Papaioannou

Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament Athanassios Papaioannou visited the Parliament of Montenegro with his associates, on 10 May 2013. On that occasion, he met with Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović, Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović, as well as the members of the European Integration Committee Jovan Martinović and Dritan Abazović.

Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović informed the interlocutors on the manner of work and internal organisation of the Parliament of Montenegro, as well as with responsibilities of the Collegium of the Parliament and the working bodies, with special emphasis on the new working bodies established by the latest amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament. During the meeting, the secretaries general compared legislative practice of the two parliaments, with the special emphasis on the shortened procedure for law adoption. Furthermore, they exchanged opinions on budget issues related to the parliament, particularly regarding the priorities in the conditions of the economic crisis.

Interlocutors pointed out the importance of professional training of the parliament administration, while Papaioannou emphasised the importance of specific training in the field of EU legislation, particularly through direct insight into the EU procedures and practices. In that regard, he deemed it as a very good approach that representatives of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro participate in the screening process and other activities, in order to acquire knowledge which would enable them to provide support of a higher quality to MPs in their future work.

At the meeting of Mr Papaioannou with Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović, they spoke of the parliamentary budget and the procedure of its adoption. The interlocutors agreed that full transparency in spending taxpayers' funds, especially in the time of economic crises, was the best

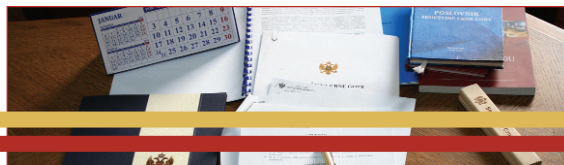
answer of the parliament in favour of strengthening financial accountability. Finally, they assessed that the cooperation between the two parliaments should be strengthened through sharing experiences, especially in the fields relating to the EU integration.

Members of the European Integration Committee Jovan Martinović and Dritan Abazović informed the guests on the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro and the establishing of the European Integration Committee. MPs pointed out the significance of further support to European perspective of Montenegro and informed the Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament of the results previously achieved regarding the Montenegrin integration to the EU. Finally, a mutual interest was expressed for organising consultations regarding the European integration of Montenegro, which would be an opportunity for enhancing the overall cooperation between Montenegro and Greece.

Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament Athanassios Papaioannou also visited the democracy workshops of the Parliament of Montenegro, where he had the opportunity to talk to the students of the Primary School "Bajo Pivljanin" from Plužine. Mr Papaioannou spoke to students about the importance of democracy, division of powers and role of citizens in the decision making. He said that he was impressed with this project, especially from the aspect of the unique approach and benefits that the youngest generations of the society would gain by its implementation.

During his conversation with the students of "Bajo Pivljanin", Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament Athanassios Papaioannou invited the participants of the workshop to come to Athens and visit the Hellenic Parliament. The invitation was officially sent via the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro, so eight students of the ninth grade of this school are going to visit Greece.

IN FOCUS



Innovated Internet website of the Parliament of Montenegro

The innovated Internet website of the Parliament of Montenegro is launched on 21 May 2013. The website is redesigned and substantially enriched in content, in accordance with the current technical achievements, significantly enlarged parliamentary activities and, primarily, with needs of the citizens. Innovated website and its maintenance was completely realised with professional, technical and financial capacities of the Service of the Parliament, i.e. IT Section in cooperation with other organisational units.

The Parliament of Montenegro dedicates special attention to public relations, continuously improving transparency and openness of the work, with the aim to achieve stronger connection and better communication with citizens. The Parliament is striving to create efficient mechanisms of informing on MPs' activities, including usage of information technology.

At the end of XX century, the development of information technologies set new standards and challenges in communication – how to make information more available in the shortest period of time. Parliaments were also assigned with these tasks, posting on their websites basic information on parliamentary history, function of the Parliament, MPs and legislative process in general. As time went by, aims of parliamentary websites have become more complex and challenging. It was necessary to publish copies of the law proposals, data on discussions on law proposals, reports on sittings of the Parliament and meetings of committees, etc.

The key question today is how to make information on events in the parliament available as fast as possible and in a format that allows the re-use of this information by external users, no matter if they are citizens, media representatives or specific organizations that further process published data. The aim is to make the work of legislative bodies more efficient, improve communication with citizens, and enhance knowledge on parliamentary processes, which is achieved by providing unhindered access to information.

In the development of the innovated website, the aim was to take into account the highest standards of parliamentary sites of developed countries in view of content and structure. Innovated presentation provides more content, structured in the way that user can easily and quickly (with three “clicks”) access all information. Hyperlinks are used in a number of texts, so that the user is able to access the same document from several places.

Bearing in mind that nowadays citizens show special interest for everyday work of MPs, through the website, citizens are provided not only with the access to basic data on MPs and information on the work of the working bodies and the Parliament, but also with the access to phonographic records of all debates in the Parliament, voting lists which enable monitoring how each MP voted or overview of MPs' income, which is a recommended standard being fulfilled by only a certain number of parliamentary sites. In addition, the website is innovated so to enable the greater possibility of two-way communication between MPs and citizens, as well as between the Parliament and other interested. Bearing in mind that the nature of the parliament envisages parliamentary website to be open for interaction with citizens, the innovated website provides tools for encouraging dialogue between citizens and their elected representatives on questions they are interested in. E-mail addresses of all MPs are available at the website and users can easily and quickly address them, by sending questions and comments, proposals for amendments, as well as applications for content they want regularly to get on their e-mail address. In this manner, the Parliament further contributes to improvement of the legislative system with the characteristics of transparency, openness, responsibility and efficiency.

In the period from 20 to 31 May 2013, website of the Parliament was visited 7976 times in total, out of which there were 3533 unique visits. The average time spent on the website was 00:06:34. In addition, in the reporting period, there were 40056 visits to the pages in total, out of which there were 27356 unique visits. The average time spent at one Internet page was 00:01:38.

Visits to the new website are recorded from 57 countries, including countries from the region, but also France, the United States of America, Germany, Belgium, Russian Federation, India, Canada, the Czech Republic, Saudi Arabia and China.

All acts preceding the adoption of proposals of laws and other acts (reports of committees, amendments to the law proposals, etc.) are available at the website. Through online streaming all interested citizens may watch live sittings of the Parliament and be informed on newest parliamentary decisions. Following the sitting, voting lists of all MPs for each item of the Agenda are published, The content of the site is enriched with more detailed and structured information on the accession process of Montenegro to the EU as well as on the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in that process.

FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



RULEBOOK ON TOWN MUNICIPALITIES

25 November / 7 December 1899

RULEBOOK

on the Town Municipalities according to the order
of the Article 24 of the Regulation of Town
Municipalities, from 23 April 1899

PART I BASIC RULES

Article 1

The Municipality Office shall be opened every day, except Sundays and holidays, during all the year from 9 to 12 AM, and in the period from Saint George's Day to Saint Mitar's Day from 3 to 4 PM, and in the period from Saint Mitar's Day to Saint George's Day from 2 to 4 PM.

Article 2

Even in the days when the Office is closed, the President may gather the Board, with at least two councillors, to decide on urgent issues.

Article 6

President, councillors and clerks shall be obliged strictly to keep in secrecy the tenure of office.

Whoever breaches these rules, shall be fined with 20 florins for the first time; for the second time, if he is president or councillor his mandate in administration shall cease; and if he is a clerk, he shall be deprived of his service.

In both cases they are responsible for all accidental consequences.

Administration of the Town Municipality
Number 1183.

Cetinje, 25 November 1899

Seen, approved and confirmed in the
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(M.P.)

*From the Rulebook of the Town Municipalities
according to the order of the Article 24 of the
Regulation of Town Municipalities, from 23 April
1899, Cetinje 1899*

Pavićević, B., Raspopović, R., eds. *Crnogorski zakonici 1796-1916, knj. II, (Montenegrin Codes 1796-1916, Book II)*, Podgorica, Istorijски institut Crne Gore, 1998, str. 438-445.

FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY GALLERY

Tomo Pavićević, without title

Tomo Pavićević represents a specific phenomenon in the contemporary Montenegrin painting, belonging to those artists who create during their whole life one painting, devoted to relation between life and death and their significance, with distinctive expressive language, bringing to life metaphysical visions.

His drawing, considered by art critics as masterful, being realised in a variety of materials, most often in combined technique on a medical paper, points out deformation, destruction, dissolution and ugliness, in the service of evil and death.

Pavićević was born in 1952 in Podgorica. He had 25 exhibitions in the country and abroad and is awarded numerous prestigious awards.



CALENDAR



9 May

- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Montenegro H.E. Catherine Knight-Sands and Director of the British Council in Montenegro Vanja Madžgalj presented the Self-Study Toolkits to the employees of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro, who participated in professional training of the joint project of the Parliament of Montenegro, the UK Embassy and the British Council. This marked the official end of the final phase of the project for strengthening of administrative capacities of the Parliament of Montenegro, which was successfully completed by more than 40 participants in the past two years of the project's duration.



10 May

- Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament Athanassios Papaioannou stayed in official visit to the

Parliament of Montenegro. On this occasion, he held talks with Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović, Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović and members of the European Integration Committee Jovan Martinović and Dritan Abazović. Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament also visited the democracy workshops of the Parliament of Montenegro, where he spoke with students of the Elementary School "Bajo Pivljanin" from Plužine.

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić participated in the Meeting of Vice Presidents of the Parliaments of the Dayton Accord Signatory Countries, held in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia. The topic of the meeting was Nordic model of cooperation and possibilities of its implementation within the discussion of reports and recommendations of the Igman Initiative experts. Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić, Vice Presidents of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia Vesna Kovač and Gordana Čomić and Vice President of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina Lazar Prodanović talked about the need for strengthening regional cooperation. At the end of the meeting, Co-Chairs of the Igman Initiative for Serbia Aleksandar Popov, for Montenegro Branko Lukovac and for Croatia Zoran Pusić stated that the countries of the region should direct their cooperation to key fields agreed at the meeting, particularly to control over law enforcement in the field of environmental protection.

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

POLITICAL EQUALITY. "In general, political equality implies equal distribution of political power and influence. It can be considered as the central principle of democracy because, regardless of the definition of "people", it enables that each person is equally significant: all votes have the same voting weight. There are two different conceptions of this. According to the liberal-democratic theory, political equality means an equal distribution of political rights: right to vote, right to candidature etc., which is often summarised in the principle "one person – one vote; one vote equals one". Contrary to that, socialists associate the political influence with factors such as control over economic resources and access to means of mass communication. According to this view, political equality does not only mean equal suffrage, but also a significant degree of social equality."¹

¹ Endru Hejvud, *Politika (Politics)*, Beograd, Clio 2004, p. 135

CALENDAR



11 May

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the International Conference “Ohrid Initiative – Strengthening the “1325 Community” in the Region”, held on 11 and 12 May in Ohrid, in organisation of the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, with support of the UN WOMEN. Within the panel which dealt with application of the UNSC Resolution in countries that have not yet adopted a plan for its implementation, Chair of the Committee Nada Drobnjak presented experiences from Montenegro. Experts from seven countries of the Western Balkans participated in the Conference.

12 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić participated in the Conference of Presidents of Parliaments of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, which was held on 12 and 13 May in Brdo pri Kranju, in Slovenia. Topics of the Conference were: “Adriatic-Ionian Initiative as a tool for dealing with common challenges and encouraging convergence of the Western Balkans countries to the EU” and “Creation of European macroeconomic regional strategies and the role of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative – involvement and perspective of the parliamentary dimension of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative”. During the Conference, President Krivokapić met with President of the National Assembly of Slovenia Janko Veber and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia Karl Erjavec.



13 May

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić held talks with President and

members of association „Society of social solidarity and culture of Yugoslav-Montenegrin emigrants” – Bedri Gul, Ervin Ibar, Hidajet Demirok, Avdi Akiš and Savaš Herceg. Interlocutors expressed mutual pleasure over strengthening of relations between Montenegro and Turkey on social and cultural plan, while pointing out that these relations need to be further improved.

- Chair of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning Predrag Sekulić and Vice Chair of the Committee Jelisava Kalezić participated in the Meeting of Chairs of Environment and Energy Committees of EU Member States and the European Parliament, which was held in Dublin. Topic of the meeting was “Clean energy for the future”, with special emphasis on sustainable production of energy, new EU Environment Action Programme and progress achieved in fight against climate change. The meeting was organised within the parliamentary dimension of Irish Presidency over the Council of the EU in the first half of 2013.
- Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Mevludin Nuhodžić and members of the Committee Suljo Mustafić and Vasilije Lalošević met with representatives of the NATO expert team. The meeting was organised within the project “Building Integrity in the Security and Defence Sector”, at the initiative of the NATO expert team, which was forwarded by the Ministry of Defence. Chair of the Committee Mevludin Nuhodžić pointed out the importance of adoption and two-year implementation of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight, which significantly widened and strengthened the authority and responsibility of the Committee, with special emphasis on enforcement of the Parliament’s oversight role. In the end, participants of the meeting stated that the aim of the Committee is to continue with its work and to raise quality of the Parliament in the defence and security reforms, particularly in democratic oversight in realisation of these reforms, so that Montenegro fulfils required standards as soon as possible and becomes full-fledged NATO and EU member.
- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković participated in the Meeting on Promoting Human Rights and Minority Protection in South East Europe, which was held in Podgorica. The meeting was organised within the

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15 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić held talks in Brussels with EU Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on the challenges which are ahead of Montenegro. Interlocutors expressed the hope that Parliament will provide key contribution, as in the opening of negotiations, this time through the constitutional reform and starting of the inquiry committee, but concrete results are needed by the other branches of the political system – the judiciary and the executive.

16 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić, on the invitation of President of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Cemil Çiçek participated in the XVIII EUREKA Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Brussels. The conference was held on the topic of provision of adequate funding for innovations in challenging economic times. Krivokapić and Çiçek spoke about implementation of projects of common regional interest, aimed at improving the quality of life of our citizens. They emphasised that economic strengthening of our countries strengthens the credibility of our common integration policy in the European Union, and investments in infrastructure and energy are starting point for further comprehensive economic development of the Western Balkans. President Krivokapić also used his visit to the European Parliament for meeting with members of the EP committees in charge for the budget, monetary and financial affairs, during which it was agreed that representatives of the Parliament of Montenegro will attend the upcoming inter-parliamentary conferences, where the EP and national parliaments will harmonise national economic and monetary policies twice a year.
- Members of the Committee on Political system, Judiciary and Administration held a meeting with representatives of the GIZ - German Organization for International Cooperation. At the meeting they discussed future cooperation and participation of representatives of the Committee on Political system, Judiciary and Administration within the Open Regional Fund for South East Europe – the project “Legal Reform”. This project was presented

joint project of the Council of Europe and the European Union, titled “Promoting Human Rights and Minority Protection in South East Europe”, in cooperation with the institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro. Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić opened the meeting, and the participants were greeted by Šučko Baković, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro and Markus Jaeger, Council of Europe representative, supervisor of the regional project “Promoting Human Rights and Minority Protection in South East Europe”. Two panels were held: “Promotion and protection of minority rights in Montenegro” and “Role and work of minority councils in Montenegro”. After introductory speeches and discussion, draft conclusions were presented.

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić spoke at the Meeting on Promoting Human Rights and Minority Protection in South East Europe, which was organised in Podgorica. In his speech, he pointed out that respect of human rights and affirmation of differences is the cornerstone of every free and democratic society. Dedicated work on institutional strengthening of human rights protection is a duty of all segments of the society, and the first step on this path is the legislation which regulates this area.

14 May

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak, members of the Committee: Jovan Martinović, Branka Tanasijević, Zdenka Popović, Draginja Vuksanović and Ljerka Dragičević and members of the Security and Defence Committee: Obrad Mišo Stanišić, Luid Ljubo Škrelja and Zoran Miljanić, met with representatives of the Dialogue and Mediation Working Group. The meeting was organised with the aim to share opinions on UNSC Resolution 1325 and its application in Montenegro and the region, as well as to make an overview of the security situation and challenges for Montenegro and the Western Balkans region. It was concluded that inclusion of women in the political decision making and security issues can bring permanent changes to the society; therefore, improvement of gender equality is an essential contribution to permanent stability and security in the world.

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by Thomas Meyer, who pointed out that the goal of the project was involvement of Montenegrin judiciary into the regional judicial network. On the other hand, GIZ representatives were acquainted to the structure of the Committee, its responsibilities and future activities of the Committee in relation to the judiciary. The meeting was attended by Snežana Jonica, Deputy Chair of the Committee and members of the Committee staff.

- Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović met with representatives of the International Monetary Fund mission (IMF), led by Nadeem Ilahi, Head of the Mission for Montenegro. The meeting was also attended by Aasim Husain, Deputy Director of the IMF European Department. At the meeting, there was discussion about current economic situation, fiscal risks, tax policy, fiscal consolidation of revenue and expenditure side of the budget and need to reduce shadow economy. They exchanged views regarding strategic investment and infrastructure projects in Montenegro and pointed out the importance of investment in energy sector for the overall progress of the Montenegrin economy.
- Delegation composed of Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić, MPs Zoran Vukčević, Srđan Perić, Obrad Gojković, Zdenko Popović, Draginja Vuksanović and Fatmir Gjeka, as well as Mayor of Ulcinj Nazif Cungu and President of the Assembly of the Municipality of Herceg Novi Danijela Đurović visited political and military NATO headquarters in Brussels and Mons, on 16 and 17 May. In the NATO political headquarters, MPs discussed with Joseph Manso, Deputy Permanent Representative of the U.S. Mission to NATO, as well as other officials from the Alliance. In the military headquarters SHAPE in Mons, Members of the Parliament met with the military aspects of the functioning of NATO and its partners. Delegation also visited the Permanent Mission of Montenegro to NATO in the political headquarters in Brussels, as well as permanent military representation of Montenegro in Mons.

17 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić congratulated the Ambassador of Italy to Montenegro H. E. Vincenzo del Monaco on taking

office and praised the contribution of his predecessor Ambassador Sergio Barbanti regarding strengthening relations between Montenegro and Italy. He thanked the Italian Government for the support in European integration of Montenegro and the region and promotion of the NATO “open door” policy. President Krivokapić pointed out that the visit of the Italian delegation from the Ministry of Justice to Podgorica in March 2013 contributed to the strengthening of cooperation in the field of judiciary and praised the cooperation between the two countries in field of home affairs and fight against organised crime.

- On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, permanent members of the Delegation to NATO PA Borislav Banović and Obrad Mišo Stanišić, as well as MP Vasilije Lalošević, participated in the work of Spring Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of NATO, held from 17 to 20 May in Luxembourg. The Spring Session brought together about 300 parliamentarians from NATO and partner countries.



- Within the project “Open Parliament”, which aims to strengthen the bond of the Parliament and citizens, especially young people, representatives of the Montenegrin Association of Political Science Students (MAPSS) visited the Parliament of Montenegro.

18 May

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković and member of the Committee Dritan Abazović attended the festivities on the occasion of the independence of Montenegro, organised in Dortmund by the Union of Montenegrin Associations of Germany, under the auspices of the Consulate General of Montenegro in Frankfurt.

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20 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Jorge Capitanich, Governor of the Chaco Province in the Republic of Argentina who is staying for the first time in the country of his ancestors. Governor Capitanich thanked to President Krivokapić on the warm welcome, inviting him to visit Argentina in early October. It was jointly assessed that relations between Montenegro and Argentina should be strengthened and cooperation of the parliaments of the two countries should be established, relations between entrepreneurs and investors encouraged, the exchange of goods increased, etc.



- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak and members of the Committee Draginja Vuksanović, Branka Bošnjak and Zdenka Popović participated in the five-day Danube Parliamentary Conference under the auspices of Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, which was held from 20 to 25 May, in organisation of the Danube Competence Centre and the GIZ. The conference brought together more than one hundred participants from more than ten European countries. Members of the European Parliament and the Parliament of Montenegro, parliaments of Serbia, Romania, Bavaria, the region of Bratislava and Vienna adopted the Danube Parliamentary Network Initiative. Apart from the parliamentarians, the conference participants were also other social political figures interested in implementation of the EU Danube Strategy.

21 May

- The innovated website of the Parliament of Montenegro is operational starting today. The website had been redesigned and substantially enriched with new contents, implemented on our own capacities, in accordance with the current

technical capabilities, significantly enlarged parliamentary activities and needs of the citizens.

- On the occasion of the Independence Day of Montenegro, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić traditionally, with military honours, laid down the laurel wreath on the monument of Njegoš at the Jezerski vrh on Lovćen mountain. On the same occasion, the gathering “Šednik na gumnu” was held on the topic “200 years since the birth of the statesman and poet”, and following the introductory speech, President Krivokapić spoke to the students of the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Political Science of the University of Montenegro, Faculty of Legal Sciences of the University Donja Gorica and Faculty of Law of the University Mediteran.



23 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić attended a ceremony of marking the 150th anniversary of founding the labour movement and social democracy in Europe, organised in Leipzig. The ceremony was attended by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert and more than 80 heads of states and governments and leaders of social-democratic parties from around the world. President of Germany Joachim Gauck and President of France François Hollande spoke at the ceremony, while President of the German SPD Sigmar Gabriel closed it. President Krivokapić also attended the Leadership meeting of the Party of European Socialists. Participants of the meeting discussed the preparations of the European Left for the upcoming 2014 European elections and the joint candidate for President of the European Commission from the Party of European Socialists.

24 May

- Representatives of the Montenegrin Association of

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Political Science Students (MAPSS) visited the Parliament of Montenegro. The visit was a part of the project "Open Parliament". During the visit, students were informed about the history of Montenegrin parliamentarism, organisation and structure of the Parliament and its powers and functions. On that occasion, they discussed the functioning of parliamentary working bodies and MPs groups. Students had the opportunity to see the Great Hall, photo gallery of all the presidents of the Parliament since 1906, as well as the collection of Montenegrin dynastic emblems and parliamentary art collection.

Administration Rifat Rastoder and members of the Committee Azra Jasavić, Snežana Jonica, Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović, member of the Legislative Committee Srđan Perić and heads of organisational units of the Parliament. Furthermore, Secretary General of the Parliament Damir Davidović met with representatives of SIGMA. Topic of the discussion was the findings and recommendations contained in the draft analysis, particularly those related to the Parliament. The final version of SIGMA analysis will be prepared in June this year.

26 May

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić attended the Conference of Presidents of Parliaments of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECPP PD), organised within the Macedonian presidency of this initiative, which was held from 26 to 28 May in Ohrid.



29 May

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić attended the 2nd World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue held in Baku from 29 May to 1 June. The forum was organised by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), UN Alliance of Civilizations, the UN World Tourism Organisation, Council of Europe and the Organisation ISESCO.

28 May

- Presentation of the draft analysis "The decision-making and policy coordination in Montenegro", which was prepared by SIGMA (Support for Improvement in Governance and Management) was held in the Parliament of Montenegro. Findings of the analysis, with special reference to the Parliament of Montenegro, were presented by representatives of the SIGMA Klaus Goetz, expert on the capacity of parliaments and Klas Klaas, expert on parliamentary issues. In the part relating to the Parliament of Montenegro the analysis was focused on legislative procedure, implementation of oversight activities, budget adoption process and EU accession process. The presentation was attended by Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and

30 May

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with H. E. Pius Fischer, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Montenegro, and with Andreas Lämmel, member of German Bundestag. The interlocutors exchanged views on current political situation in Montenegro, with a special focus on the key tasks that await the country in negotiations with the European Union. President Krivokapić said that the Parliament is committed to reaching an agreement on priority issues for the country, and that full commitment to political and economic stability is a goal to strive for which the rule of law is a necessary precondition.