

Parliament of Montenegro

NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 32 ♦ November 2013

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OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

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FOREWORD

Dear readers,

The key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro from 1 to 30 November is outlined in the November issue of the monthly newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro.

In November, the Parliament adopted five laws. The committees considered 21 proposals for a law and proposals of other acts. Furthermore, the committees considered numerous reports and held other activities within their oversight role.

In focus of this month's newsletter is the working visit of President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić to the United States of America.

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.

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 Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the following Laws were adopted: the Law on Conservation of Natural and Cultural-Historical Area of Kotor, the Law on Amendments to the Law on E-Commerce, the Law on Organic Production, the Law on Protection of Public Interests in Mining and Metallurgy Sector, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Administrative Taxes.

In addition, during the Third Sitting, seven reports were adopted, as follows: Performance Report on Energy Sector in Montenegro in 2012, Report on the Insurance Market in Montenegro for 2012, Report on Development and Protection of Minority Rights and Other Minority Communities Rights in 2012, Performance Report of the Commission for the Control of Public Procurement Procedures for 2012, Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum of Montenegro for 2012, Performance Report of the Deposit Insurance Fund for 2012, Performance Report of the Investment and Development Fund for 2012 with the Report of the Independent Auditor on the audit of Financial Statements of the IDF for 2012.

Proposal for the Law on Communal Police and Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Dynamics of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union were withdrawn from the procedure.

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Prime Minister's Hour

At the Fifth (Special) Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, within the item of the agenda "Prime Minister's Hour", MPs' questions were answered by Prime Minister of Montenegro Milo Đukanović. The Prime Minister was posed six questions.

Proposals for laws deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Additional Bilateral Agreement to the European Convention on Extradition from 13 December 1957, aimed at facilitating its implementation** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Additional Bilateral Agreement to the European Convention on Mutual Provision of Legal Assistance from 20 April 1959, aimed at facilitating its implementation** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Protocol on Cooperation Between the Government of Montenegro and His Serene Highness the Prince of Monaco in the Field of Sustainable Development** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lake Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Customs Law** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Housing and Maintenance of Residential Buildings** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Administrative Fees** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Protection of State Interests in Mining and Metallurgy Sector** was considered by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. The Committee decided to propose to the Parliament not to adopt it.
- **Proposal for a Law on Consumer Protection** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for

adoption by the Legislative Committee.

- **Proposal for a Law on Interest Write-offs on Tax and Customs Duties** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Supplements to the Law on Corporate Profit Tax** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Insurance Premiums Tax** 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 Labour Law** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare. The law proposal was also considered by the Legislative Committee, which decided to propose to the Parliament not to adopt it.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Trademark Law** 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 Protection from Noise in the Environment** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Social Council** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreign Investments** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on National and Other Holidays** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Communal Activities** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning.
- **Proposal for the Law on Old Royal Capital** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.

Proposals for other acts deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Decision on Awarding Concession for Commercial Use of the Port Terminals for Loading**

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and Unloading of the Containers and General Cargo in the area of KO Novi Bar was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance, and Budget.

- **Proposal for a Decision on Adopting the Annex 1 of the Contract on Renting the Hotel “Kraljičina plaža” in Budva** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance, and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Decision on Adopting the Annex 1 of the Contract on Renting the Hotel “Sveti Stefan” and “Miločer” in Budva** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance, and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Decision on Adopting the Contract on Long-Term Renting of the Land, signed between the Government of Montenegro and the Northstar Consortium JSC Podgorica and the Eggest Capital Limited Jersey, UK** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

Other activities of the working bodies

- At the fifteenth meeting of the **Constitutional Committee** held on 6 November, Velizar Kaluđerović was elected as Deputy Chair of the Committee. In addition, the Committee determined the text of Public Notice for the election of five judges of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro.
- At the 40th meeting of the **Legislative Committee** held on 28 November, the Committee determined the revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro.
- At the 29th meeting held on 7 November, the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** considered and determined the text of the Open Vacancy Announcement for election of four members of the Judicial Council as well as the text of the Open Vacancy Announcement for election of four members of the Prosecutorial Council.

At the 30th meeting of the Committee, held on 29 November, the Committee established the list of applicants for the Public Notice for the election of four members of the Judicial Council among respectable jurists as well as the list of applicants for the Open Vacancy Announcement for the election of four members of the Prosecutorial Council among respectable jurists. In addition, the Committee determined the Rulebook on Procedure for Establishing the Proposal for Election of Four Members of the Judicial Council among the respectable jurists and the Rulebook on Procedure for Establishing the Proposal for Election of Four Members of the Prosecutorial Council among the respectable jurists.

- **Security and Defence Committee** marked the second continuation of the eleventh meeting on 19 November, by discussing Information on the “Listing” affair in the light of arresting Naser Keljendi. Following the introductory statements of representatives of competent authorities and discussion afterwards, the Committee members did not support the proposed conclusions.

- At the 32nd meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** held on 4 November, the Committee considered the implementation of three groups of conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro, referring to the Aluminium Plant JSC Podgorica. The Committee, *Inter alia* deemed it necessary that the Bankruptcy Administrator of KAP should report to the Committee every fifteen days on the current situation in this company.

The 30th meeting of the Committee, which started on 21 October, was concluded on 11 November, by ending a consultative discussion (hearing) on the topic “Implementation of the Law on NGOs regarding their funding”.

At the first continuation of the 34th meeting held on 20 November, the Committee established proposals for conclusion on the occasion of considering the following: Performance Report of the Investment and Development Fund for 2012, Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum of Montenegro for 2012 and Performance Report of the Deposit Insurance Fund for 2012.

At its 35th meeting held on 22 November, the Committee decided to propose to the Parliament to adopt the following: Proposal for the Financial Statement with the Performance Report of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, Proposal for the Financial Statement with the Performance Report of the Agency for Electronic Media, Proposal for the Financial Statement with the Performance Report of the Energy Regulatory Agency, Proposal for the Financial Statement with the Performance Report of the Insurance Supervision Agency, Proposal for the Financial Statement with the Performance Report of the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices as well as Proposal for the Financial Statement of the Securities Commission. The Committee also decided to propose to the Parliament to give a consent to the Statute of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services.

At the 36th meeting held on 28 November, the Committee considered the degree of implementation of the conclusions adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2012.

At the 37th meeting held on 29 November, the Committee considered a Proposal for a Law on Budget Final Account of Montenegro for 2012 with the Report on Audit of the Final Budget Statement of Montenegro for 2012. The Committee was also informed on the opinion of the State Audit Institution on the Proposal for the Budget Final Account, containing the established irregularities and recommendation, referring to the following: analysis and computational accuracy, receipts and expenditure of the budget, capital budget, property and public procurement.

- At the first joint meeting of the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** and **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** held on 11 November, the Committee held a control hearing of Raško Konjević, Minister of Interior and Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finance, on the topic: "Analysis of functioning of local self-governments". The purpose of the control hearing was analysing the functioning of local self-governments and reviewing of implementation of legislation in this field as well as defining problems which would be solved by the upcoming amendments to the normative acts, inter alia, amendments to the Law on Local Self-Government.
- At the nineteenth meeting held on 11 November, the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** considered and adopted the Report on Results of Conducted Research on Protection of Children from Exploitation. In addition, the Committee has decided to hold a Regional meeting of parliamentary working bodies of the regional countries, competent in the field of human rights and rights of the child, and the ombudsmen for children of regional countries, on the topic: "Rights of the Child: Promotion of the position of the child aimed at protection from all forms of exploitation". At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the Information from the Public debate on the topic: "IPA 2014-2020 and inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro". The Committee also adopted the Report on the participation of the Delegation of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms at the First regional meeting of the parliamentary bodies competent for human and minority rights and gender equality, which was held in Belgrade. Additionally, the Committee got acquainted with the letter of Minister for Human and Minority Rights Suad Numanović, in which he called the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms to appoint two representatives for members of the Working Group which would deal with the analysis of legislation governing the work of the Fund for Protection and Exercising of Minority Rights. Afterwards, the Committee decided to appoint Husnija Šabović as the representative of the ruling coalition in the Working Group, while the representative of the opposition will be determined subsequently.
- The sixteenth meeting of the **Gender Equality**

Committee was held on 1 November in Pljevlja, on the topic: "Economic Empowerment of Women and Women in Politics and Decision-Making". During the discussion, the participants pointed out that the economic empowerment of women represented a basis for strengthening their role in society as well as that the economic independence of women was the key to their overall equality.

At the seventeenth meeting of the Committee held on 15 November, the Committee decided to hold a control hearing of the following: Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Predrag Bošković, Minister of Health Miodrag Radunović, and Director of the Police Administration Slavko Stojanović on the topic: Implementation of the 2011-2015 Strategy on Protection against Domestic Violence.

At its eighteenth meeting, held on 18 November, the Gender Equality Committee held a control hearing of Božena Jelušić and Art Historian Ljiljana Zeković on the topic: "Female Characters in Njegoš's Work". The consultative hearing was organised on the occasion of celebrating 200 years since the birth of Petar II Petrović Njegoš.

At the nineteenth meeting of the Committee held on 25 November, the Committee held a control hearing of the following: Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Predrag Bošković, Assistant Minister of Health Mensud Grbović, and Director of the Police Administration Slavko Stojanović, on the topic: "Implementation of the 2011-2015 Strategy on Protection against Domestic Violence". The meeting was also attended by the representatives of the United Nations, the European Union, and the OSCE Mission to Montenegro. During the meeting, the Committee adopted several conclusions.

At the 20th meeting of the Gender Equality Committee held on 26 November, Marije Cornelissen, a member of the European Parliament presented the Report on Women's Rights in the Western Balkans. In the report on Montenegro, the introduction of measures for achieving gender equality into the reform programme of Montenegro on its path to the EU was welcomed as well as the efforts made by the Parliament of Montenegro to methodically investigate the implementation of legislation in the field of equality. In a part of the report, it is also mentioned that the percentage of women in the political decision-making, had not increased significantly in the past several decades, and therefore the Government was urged to reform the legislation in this field and ensure its implementation. The following requirements were also made: The increase of human and financial resources for the Department for Gender Equality Affairs, the implementation of the legal and institutional framework aimed at enforcing gender equality and the Gender

Equality Action Plan.



- At the nineteenth meeting of the **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports**, held on 5 November, Members of the Committee decided to send to the Collegium of the President a proposal for composition of the Committee delegation, which will pay a study visit to the Finnish Parliament.

At the twentieth meeting held on 27 November, the Committee got acquainted with the Report from the seminar on the topic "Youth and Education in the Balkans", held on 6 and 7 November 2013, in the European Parliament in Brussels. In addition, the Committee has elected Zdenka Popović as the Deputy Chair of the Committee.

At the 21st meeting, on 27 November, the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports, held a control hearing of Minister of Education Slavoljub Stijepović, on the topic : "Exploitation of Preschool-Age Children for Political Party Purposes in the Kindergarten 'Zvezdani vrt', Golubovci". The Minister of Education pointed out before the members of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports that the event in the kindergarten in Golubovci was an oversight committed by the representatives of the Youth Council of DPS and an isolated case, not a common occurrence. This is also confirmed by the fact that no similar case had been recorded in the education system in the previous period. The Committee has also adopted several conclusions.



- At the 22nd meeting held on 12 November, the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** considered the following item of the agenda: Employment of foreign labour force and possibility of greater employment of domestic labour force. The Committee also held a discussion on the following: unemployment in Montenegro; unemployment in the region; unemployment in the EU; Programme for Stimulating Entrepreneurship; Law on Professional Training, active politics of employment; employment

and work of foreigners; on the level of education of people to whom work permits were issued. Following the discussion, several consusions were adopted.

The Committee devoted its 24th meeting to the celebration of World Diabetes Day. In addition to Committee members, the meeting was also attended by Sreten Kavarić, Director of the Internal Clinic of Clinical Centre of Montenegro and Dragan Likić, Head of the Registry for Diabetes in the Institute of Public Health.

The Committee dedicated its 25th meeting held on 18 November to the current situation following the strike of the disabled workers in Bijelo Polje, Rožaje, and Mojkovac.

- At the eighth meeting of the **Anti-corruption Committee**, Obrad Mišo Stanišić was elected as the Deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

At the ninth meeting, held on 27 November, the Committee decided to schedule a consultative hearing, following the MANS initiative regarding removal of identification numbers from online register version of the Central Registry of Commercial Entities and Real Estate Administration. The consultative hearing is scheduled for 27 December, and the following will be invited: Director of the Tax Administration, Director of the Real Estate Administration and Director of the Council of the Agency for Personal Data Protection and Free Access to Information.

- At the seventeenth meeting of the **Administrative Committee** held on 5 November, the Committee held a consultative hearing of six candidates for appointment of one member of the Senate of the State Audit Institution, as follows: Branko Bulatović, Zarija Pejović, Nela Ćuković, Radule Žurić, Žarko Đurišić and Milan Radović.

At its eighteenth meeting, the Committee stated that the Requests for exercising the right to compensation after the expiration of term of office until gaining the right to pension, submitted by a former MP Mehmet Bardhi was handed in a timely manner, but was not complete, thus it is necessary for Bardhi to submit the relevant proof from the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of Montenegro, thus, enabling the Committee to reach a decision, in line with the Article 10, paragraph 5 of the Law on Wages and Other Incomes of Civil Servants and State Employees of Montenegro.



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NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović opened the photography exhibition of the previous four sessions of the Children's Parliament

Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović opened the photography exhibition of the previous four sessions of the Children's Parliament on 20 November.

Vice President Radulović said that the Parliament of Montenegro organised the exhibition of photographs in cooperation with the Child Rights Centre and Save the Children in the North West Balkans, on the occasion of 20 November - the Day of the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Vice President Radulović reminded that Montenegro, as a party to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, found its place among advanced countries committed to securing and protecting the rights of the child. The exhibition, set up in the hall of the Parliament of Montenegro, represents the retrospective of the project Children's Parliament, when representatives of the Government of Montenegro answer questions posed by children from all Montenegrin municipalities. The retrospective is presented through photographs which depict the maturing of idea and improvement of the model

of children participation in social processes, because the individual contribution of every child is an additional quality and contribution to democracy.



In addition to Vice President Radulović, Ranka Perović, Director of the Children's Rights Centre and participant of the Children's Parliament Iva Maraš also took floor. The opening of the exhibition was also attended by children who participated and co-chaired the previous sessions of the Children's Parliament in the Parliament of Montenegro, representatives of the Children's Rights Center as well as representatives of MPs groups in the Parliament of Montenegro.

Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović received Lia Magnaguagno, Head of the Sector for Democratisation in the OSCE Mission to Montenegro

Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović received Lia Magnaguagno, Head of the Sector for Democratisation in the OSCE Mission to Montenegro. The interlocutors spoke on possibilities of further cooperation between the Parliament of Montenegro and OSCE Mission as well as of future models of the OSCE support. During the meeting, the previous successful cooperation was emphasised and it was concluded that there was enough space for its further continuation. With regard to that, Magnaguagno expressed willingness of the Mission to provide support to the Parliament for concerned fields, particularly in terms of strengthening the oversight role of parliament and improvement of the work of working bodies.

Secretary General informed the interlocutor on most important changes in the work of the Parliament of Montenegro, introduced during the previous years with the aim of further strengthening of the oversight role through establishing the practice of regular consideration of implementation of laws, state of play in some areas and monitoring implementation of conclusion by committees. Introducing the regular planning in all fields have provided the work of the parliament and work of the working bodies to be directed to priority fields and afterwards to be monitored systematically. In addition, it was talked on the role of the Parliament in the process of accession negotiations with the European Union and on

the extension of competences of lead committees in monitoring and assessing the harmonisation of laws with EU acquis. The interlocutors spoke on strengthening the administrative capacities of the Parliamentary Service, primarily through improvement of the professional support to MPs, analysis of harmonisation of legislation, participation in working groups for preparation of negotiations and development of the research sector. The participants of the meeting considered models for support to implementation of projects that the Parliament would pay a special attention to in the following period, such as: project of e-parliament, live broadcast of working bodies meetings as well as further realisation of "Democratic Workshops" project. Secretary General expressed his gratitude for the assistance provided in drafting the Parliamentary Glossary, which have been on-going, as well as on the overall previous help of the OSCE Mission.



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Members of the Committee on European Integration met with Charles Tannock

Members of the Committee on European Integration met with Charles Tannock, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament and rapporteur of the European Parliament for Montenegro, in order to exchange impressions on current issues regarding European integration process of Montenegro, particularly in the part of pre-accession negotiations.



The MEP emphasised that Montenegro had been on a good path regarding integration processes, praising the course of negotiations in terms of government's and parliament's role. He particularly emphasised the importance of sending the positive message to Brussels when it comes to opening of chapters 23 and 24, also stating that the focus was placed at internally displaced persons, their social inclusion, then issues covered by the chapter 8 relating the competence and actual issues on regional cooperation as well as membership of Montenegro to NATO.

The Rapporteur of the European Parliament for Montenegro voiced pleasure over Montenegro's

progress on the European path, announcing that the report which was expected to be published in February would be positive. On that occasion he stated that it was exceptionally important for Montenegro's political parties to connect with European Parliament political parties, i.e. to cooperate at transnational level. Committee members agreed that there were crucial issues covered by chapters 23 and 24, which needed to be resolved, emphasising that the implementation of those was expected in December of the current year.

On this occasion, participants voiced expectation that Montenegro would continue to work on building the adequate legislative framework which would be followed by the full implementation - finally resulting in adoption of European values and standards. In addition to Tannock, the meeting was also attended by Mitja Drobnič, Head of the European Union Delegation to Montenegro as well as Jonathan Lis, the advisor to the Rapporteur.



On the occasion of the Day of Parliamentarism in Montenegro and 200 years since the birth of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, a Ceremonious Sitting of the Parliament of Montenegro was held in Cetinje

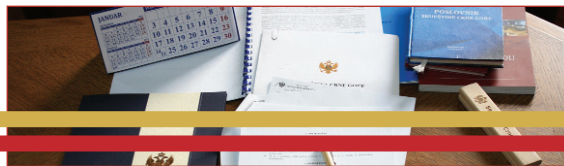
On the occasion of the Day of Parliamentarism in Montenegro and 200 years since the birth of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, a Ceremonious Sitting of the Parliament of Montenegro was held in Cetinje on 13 November. In his speech held on that occasion, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić said that a long history of diverse forms of parliamentary tradition in Montenegro had been created by a decisiveness of action of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, and this year we marked 200 years since his birth with piety and pride: "It is not by accident that Saint Petar the First is the greatest Petrović. To take his place was a difficult task. Njegoš took that burden at an early age of seventeen. And created work of everlasting worth. Both Saint Petar and Njegoš brought Montenegro closer to Europe with regard to civilisation, which was founded on a unique relation of the Roman Law, Christian heritage and free art and thought and all other religions that visited its space. Saint Petar was European as a lawmaker and thinker of political and holy", said

Krivokapić. Krivokapić said that Montenegro nowadays was not the same as Montenegro from the time of Njegoš, but a civic state, multicultural society of all Montenegrin citizens, in which all religions were equal, in which the cross and the crescent as two fearsome, juxtaposed symbols, stood in harmony. "However, that kind of civic and multi-confessional Montenegro would not be possible without Njegoš, and the things which he had left as his legacy", concluded the President Krivokapić in his speech.



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IN FOCUS



President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić paid a visit to the United States of America

President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić paid a visit to the United States of America. On the first day of the visit, President Krivokapić met with Senator John McCain; Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Congressman Michael Turner and Chair of the Subcommittee on European Affairs of the U.S. Senate Christopher Murphy.



During the meeting with McCain, one of the most influential U.S. politicians, it was stated that the U.S. strongly supported the idea of Montenegrin membership to NATO. McCain emphasised that Montenegro had been already contributing to spreading of the Alliance ideas as well as that the majority of obligations on its path to the membership were already fulfilled. Congressman Michael Turner, Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the meeting with Krivokapić, stated that NATO's presence in the country prevents a threat to democracy in each country. On the occasion, the interlocutors agreed that the interest of the U.S. was for Montenegro to become a full-fledged NATO Alliance member, adding that it had met the majority of criteria on that path. Chair of the Subcommittee on European Affairs of the U.S. Senate Christopher Murphy echoed the U.S. commitment to Euro-Atlantic aspirations of Montenegro, stressing that it was important for Montenegro to remain committed to European and Euro-Atlantic integration, adding that its membership, as a part of open-door policy, would remain one of the priorities of the Committee on European Affairs of the Senate. President Krivokapić participated in a panel discussion in the U.S. Congress on the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan in 2014, organised on the

occasion of his visit to the Congress. Five prominent congressmen dealing with the future of NATO have also discussed the role of Montenegro in the mission, emphasising that the role of Montenegro, as a stability factor in the region, contributed to quality policy in the field of NATO contribution missions.

As the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Krivokapić met with members of the Helsinki Commission, speaking with them on the reform of the OSCE, since the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act is to be celebrated soon.

On the second day of the visit, President Krivokapić met congressmen Eliot Engel, Doug Lamborn and Mike Michaud. During the conversation with Krivokapić, congressmen expressed unequivocal support to Euro-Atlantic aspirations of Montenegro, promising that they would make further efforts aimed at helping Montenegrin membership to NATO, by which the only part of the Mediterranean coast not being under the Alliance protection would be covered. Krivokapić also met Karen Donfried, European affairs specialist Advisor to President Barak Obama. Krivokapić and Donfried spoke on challenges that Montenegro had been facing with on its path to NATO membership and the means by which the U.S. government could enable faster overcoming of obstacles along the way. Interlocutors agreed that Montenegro had made a great progress in just 7 years since the restoration of its independence as well as that its commitment was a motive for NATO allies to lobby on its behalf.



In honour of Krivokapić's visit to the Congress, the official inauguration of Montenegrin caucus was organised. The inauguration of caucus in the U.S. Congress is a ceremonious act symbolising new note

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of friendship between Montenegro and U.S. A great number of representatives of the legislative power in the U.S. joined the Montenegrin caucus, by which a great affection to Montenegro by the elected representatives of the American government was demonstrated. Congressman Doug Lamborn, a co-chair of the caucus, said on that occasion that Montenegro was an important part of Europe, and NATO was a key coalition of important world's states and Montenegro should become a part of it. The aim of caucus is to establish a mechanism which would additionally deepen relations between the two states, but also promote numerous joint interest. President Krivokapić thanked U.S. congressmen, saying that it was brave to support a small state of a great history, and that the United States nourished common values throughout history, starting from 1905, when the U.S. had its first ambassador to Montenegro. In addition, Krivokapić referred to Euro-Atlantic aspirations of Montenegro: "We are the future of NATO in the Balkans".

During the visit, Krivokapić also met with Nancy Pelosi the Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. President Krivokapić expressed pleasure over another meeting, considering that they had their first meeting in 2007, when Pelosi was the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.



He thanked Pelosi on the continuous support that the USA had been giving to Montenegro with regard to the implementation of one of its top priorities – NATO Alliance integration. Krivokapić emphasised that it was very important for Montenegro to encourage and promote its cooperation with the USA, as the strategic partner on the path to further democratic development of our country. Further democratisation and strengthening of the rule of law are issues of crucial importance for Montenegro, and the dynamics and quality of the integration process that we are in, depend on them. The interlocutors especially pointed out the inauguration of the Congressional Montenegro Caucus as a new important mechanism of further strengthening of partnership between the two countries. In Washington, during the Strategic Session which was held in the Atlantic Council, President Krivokapić held a lecture, on the topic "Montenegro and NATO". President Krivokapić emphasised that for Montenegro, the NATO membership meant alliance with the democratic and economically prosperous countries of the world. "Being together with such countries, for Montenegro meant having more democracy and the rule of law. The NATO membership also creates conditions for a more intensive economic development and more actual strategic investors which would benefit our economy". While answering numerous questions of the participants in the session, Krivokapić emphasised that Montenegro would continue to fulfil the NATO membership criteria, citing that the security framework of the Alliance was especially needed in the region, which had been a place of tragic conflicts in the recent past.

Ian Brzezinski, American foreign policy and military affairs expert, spoke in the session on behalf of the Atlantic Council. President Krivokapić also visited the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and met with Bojana Perošević, the first Montenegrin lady attending this prestigious Academy.

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

Multiculturalism. "Multiculturalism is used as a descriptive and normative notion. Primarily, it signifies cultural diversity as a result of two or more groups existing within the society, whose beliefs and practices lead to creation of different collective identities. Multiculturalism is inextricably linked to a diversity of communities, originating from racial, ethnical and language diversity. As a normative notion, it signifies acceptance of diversity within the community, which is based on the right of diverse cultural groups to respect and recognition or on the alleged benefits which moral and cultural diversity brings to the society as a whole. Multiculturalism recognizes the importance of beliefs, values and ways of life, aimed at achieving self-understanding and feeling of self worth of individuals or groups. Its critics claim that multicultural societies are naturally unstable and filled with conflicts, while normative multiculturalism is considered as an example of political correctness."¹

¹ Endru Hejvud, *Politika(Politics)*, Beograd, Clio 2004, p. 231

FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



Rules of Institution "Cetinjska Čitaonica i Gorski Vijenac"

9/24 November 1900

RULES OF INSTITUTION "CETINJSKA ČITAONICA I GORSKI VIJENAC"

Institutions "CETINJSKA ČITAONICA" and "GORSKI VIJENAC", joined together economically into a single Institution on 16 December 1897, under the High protection of His Highness Great Duke and Prince MIRKO, and today, they established the following Rules.

GOAL

ARTICLE 1

The goal of the Institution is achieving mental perfection, nourishing national sentiments and the physical development of its members.

Article 2

The Institution shall achieve its goal by establishing a Reading room and a library(which

should acquire Gazettes and books , primarily in Serbian, afterwards in Slavic, and if possible in foreign languages), by publishing its Literary Gazette, nurturing music, organising: speeches, gatherings, parties, social outings and introducing gymnastics.

Article 5

Every honest person, regardless of gender and position, shall be allowed to become a member of the Institution.

Article 6

The authority to decide on all types of membership, shall be given to honorary persons and the Executive Board, which shall not provide any information on it.

From Rules of the Institution "Cetinjska Čitaonica i Gorski Vijenac"

Cetinje, 9 November 1900.

Pavićević, B, Raspopović, R, ur. *Crnogorski zakonici 1796-1916*, knj. II, Podgorica, Istorijski institut Crne Gore, 1998, str. 471-480

FROM PARLIAMENT'S GALLERY

Mirjana Đurić Blagojević: „ Blagojević Tower"

The Parliamentary art collection also includes works of an autodidact, which have drawn the attention of the public through specific achievement approach and recognizable motifs. A representative of such painting circle is also Mirjana Đurić Blagojević, who certainly knows her way around painting, by conquering space without using any unnecessary moves, thus creating an atmosphere of landscapes which she loves and depicting the scent of flowers, predominantly used in her work with watercolour. Mirjana Đurić Blagojević was a member of the Association of Original Fine Artists of Montenegro, Reveille Painting and The Association of Creators of Montenegro.



CALENDAR



1 November

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić recieved Coordinator of the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency – TIKa Mustafa Yazici and Head of the Office Merdan Krlić. Vice President Mustafić highlighted the significance of TIKa, as an organisation contributing to the implementation of high quality projects in Montenegro as well as improving the development of infrastructure, education and health institutions. TIKa Coordinator Mustafa Yazici said that it is very important that TIKa is supporting the realisation of projects in different parts of Montenegro, this being beneficial for the all the citizens. Vice President pointed out that through his further suggestions and proposals, he would direct organisation towards under-developed areas where the need for investing in infrastructure, agriculture, education and sports was greater.

4 November

- At the 30th meeting of the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process held on 4 November, the Working Group considered the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and MPs.

5 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Ambassador of Czech Republic Hana Hubackova for a farewell visit. Krivokapić and Hubackova noted good relations between Montenegro and Czech Republic, and also a productive cooperation between these two. Krivokapić thanked Hubackova on her engagement during which a more intensive cooperation with Czech Republic has been reached. Hubackova emphasised that Czech Republic will continue to support Montenegro on its path towards Euro-Atlantic integration.
- At its 31st meeting held on 5 November, the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process continued the discussion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and MPs. The meeting was marked by discussion on the proposed model of electronic identification at the polling station.

6 November

- Parliamentary Seminar on the topic “Young and education in the Western Balkans countries” was held on 6 and 7 November in Brussels. Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro composed of: Saša Pešić, Branka Bošnjak, Andrija Popović and Obrad Goković, participated in the Seminar. During the seminar, special attention was paid to vocational education and unemployment of the young people. With the aim of resolving the unemployment problem, i.e. discrepancy between acquired skills and labour market needs, the participants emphasised the importance of possessing key competences, especially knowledge of foreign languages, IT knowledge and entrepreneurship skills. It was concluded that MPs from national parliaments of the Western Balkan and Turkey should be more active in terms of providing support to the reform of education system, both through legislative measures and by exercising of parliament’s control role.

7 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro and OSCE PA Ranko Krivokapić received Minister of Defence of the Republic of Macedonia Talat Xhaferi with his delegation. President Krivokapić pointed out that the strength of cooperation between Montenegro and Macedonia had been increased, not only by close common past, but also by common strategic goals towards the NATO and the EU. It was highlighted that Montenegro and Macedonia could serve as an example of regional cooperation, especially having in mind that there were no open issues between the two countries. President Krivokapić reminded that particularly the countries in this region could resolve their issues most efficiently through parliamentary dimensions, and thus invited Minister Xhaferi to share common experiences as contribution to strengthening stability, at the following Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, through meeting of the parliamentary committees on defence and security and line ministers.



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CALENDAR



- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković, met with Head of the UNICEF Office to Montenegro Benjamin Perks. During the meeting, participants discussed ways of furthering cooperation between the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and the UNICEF Office in Montenegro.
- Chair of the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure Janko Vučinić and Deputy Chair Branko Čavor held a meeting with representatives of former workers and creditors of Electrical Industry "Obod" JSC Cetinje Đuro Đonović, Radislav Vujović and Vukašin Đurović. They talked about their request for examining the privatisation procedure of the company Electrical Industry "Obod" JSC Cetinje.
- Within the project "Democracy Workshops", the students of the eighth and ninth grade of the Primary School "Bernard Bolzano" from Tabor, Czech Republic and the Primary School "Milija Nikčević" from Nikšić attended a joint workshop on the topic "European Union", focused on the EU founding and values, education and mobility. Within the workshop, the students visited the Parliament of Montenegro, toured the building of the Parliament, and were informed on the origin, organisation and programmes of the Parliament.



8 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Council of Europe Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland. President Krivokapić informed his interlocutor on the significance which the Parliament of Montenegro acquired to meeting Council of Europe standards, stressing the ten-year long cooperation with the Venice Commission, especially on the occasion of writing the Constitution and adoption of the electoral law. President Krivokapić stated that the Montenegrin parliamentary scene had been constantly maturing, which is confirmed by the fact that there was a consensus on some key issues among political parties in the Montenegrin Parliament, such as the process of European integration. President Krivokapić also emphasised that the Parliament strived constantly to strengthen its capacities, strengthening its oversight role as well as increasing transparency in work, all of which had been recognised in the last European Commission Progress Report. Jagland considered the achieved democracy standards to be very important, voicing expectation that those would be additionally improved through further support of the CE.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjørn Jagland visited "Democracy Workshops" of the Parliament of Montenegro, where they spoke with students of the class VI-c of the Primary School "Štampar Makarije" on the topic "Democracy and parliament". The students had the opportunity to learn from the high officials what characteristics an active and responsible citizen in a democracy state should possess, what were his rights and who protected them, as well as why they were important for each individual. Additionally, the students spoke with the guests on the role of the Parliament of Montenegro and its contribution to developing of human rights as well as the on ways that the work of the Council of Europe in the field of human rights influenced all of us.
- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Željko Šturanović received Helen Studdert, Ambassador of Austria to Montenegro, for a farewell visit. Vice President Šturanović expressed pleasure over the overall cooperation between the two countries, thanking the Ambassador for her overall contribution in the development of bilateral relations between Montenegro and Austria during her mission to Montenegro. The interlocutors expressed mutual interest for further deepening of relations between the two states both at parliamentary and economic level and other fields as well.
- International Conference titled "Mediterranean Civil Society and Women in Leadership", organised jointly by the Gender Equality Agency (Bosnia and Herzegovina), America - Bosnia Foundation (ABF) and Centre for Transatlantic Relations (SAIS), was held on 8-10 November in Sarajevo. Nada Drobnjak,

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CALENDAR



Chair of the Gender Equality Committee and Irena Bošković, Head of the Gender Equality Department in the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights represented Montenegro at the Conference. The aim of the Conference was to intensify the dialogue and communication among Mediterranean countries as well as to initiate activities in the region, with special reference to empowering of women and achieving gender equality and strengthening civil society role in these processes.

- At their 32nd meeting, the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process formulated the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and MPs, with some of the articles of Draft law being conditionally accepted.

10 November

- Upon the invitation by Daniel Mondekar, Chair of the Committee on European Affairs of the Parliament, Delegation of the Committee on European Integration paid an official visit to the Republic of Croatia on 10-12 November. The parliamentary delegation consisted of :Slaven Radunović, Nada Drobnjak, Predrag Sekulić, Šefkija Murić, Srđa Popović, Zoran Srzentić, and Koča Pavlović. The significance of further mutual assistance and joint appearance at the multilateral level was recognised at the meeting, through various activities at the forums, initiatives, and the international organisations to which both countries belonged.



12 November

- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms of the Parliament of Montenegro Halil Duković, met with Acting Head of OSCE Mission to Montenegro Waldemar Figaj and his associates. During the meeting,

the participants discussed ways of furthering cooperation between the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and OSCE Mission to Montenegro, with the accent being placed on the forthcoming regional meeting of parliamentary working bodies competent for human and children rights and ombudsmen for children from regional countries, on the topic: "Rights of the Child: Promotion of the Position of a Child Aimed at Protection from All Forms of Exploitation".



13 November

- On the occasion of the Day of Parliamentarism in Montenegro and 200 years since the birth of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, a Ceremonious Sitting of the Parliament of Montenegro was held in Cetinje.
- Member of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Vasilije Lalošević attended a "Regional workshop for MPs, on the topic: Climatic changes - influence on the Mediterranean region", organised by the "Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development – COMPSUD", which was held on 13-15 November in Athens. The aim of the workshop was to inform MPs on the current and forthcoming initiatives and programmes dealing with climatic changes and varieties and their influence on the Mediterranean region as well as their connection with programmes for water and environment.

14 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Prime Minister of the Albanian Government Edi Rama. It was jointly assessed that Montenegro and Albania nurtured friendly international relations. Krivokapić and Rama stated that cooperation between Montenegro and Albania had actual results in a number of fields, and that it was necessary to develop and upgrade it in the following period.

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CALENDAR



- Members of the Committee on European Integration met with Charles Tannock, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament and rapporteur of the European Parliament for Montenegro, in order to exchange impressions on current issues regarding European integration process of Montenegro, particularly in the part of pre-accession negotiations.
- Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and Trade Union of the Parliament of Montenegro organised an action of blood sugar control for MPs and parliamentary staff.

15 November

- As a member of the Working Group, Miodrag Vuković, Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants, participated in the eleventh meeting of the Working Group on South East Europe Cooperation Process "SEECF PD", which was held on 15 and 16 November in Bucharest. During the meeting, MPs and national coordinators from eleven parliaments of the SEECF member states, considered the Draft of the Rules of Procedure of the South East Europe Cooperation Process Parliamentary Assembly.

18 November

- The Committee on European Integration is holding a series of public debates, starting with Herceg Novi, in order to inform high-school students from all Montenegrin municipalities on the European integration process and the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in that process. The public debate held in the Public Institution Combined High School "Ivan Goran Kovačić" in Herceg Novi was attended by the representatives of the Children's Parliament and the students taking the subject European integration.
- U The Conference on Relations between the State Audit Institutions and the Parliaments of the Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries for the EU Membership was held on 18-19 November in Budva. On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, the following participated in the Conference: Aleksandar Damjanović, Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, and Zoran Vukčević, member of the Committee. The two-day Conference covered topics relating to the following: the role and responsibilities of the parliaments, audit institutions

and executive powers in the responsibility system; cooperation in the countries of the Network of Supreme Audit Institutions of Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries and the European Court of Auditors; practice in the EU states (Portugal, Lithuania, Croatia, Poland, the Netherlands, and Italy), as well as future activities in the field of enhancing cooperation.

20 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić paid a visit to the United States of America. On the first day of the visit, President Krivokapić met Senator John McCain, and also with Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly Congressman Michael Turner and Chair of the Subcommittee on European Affairs of the U.S. Senate Christopher Murphy. On the second day of the visit, Krivokapić met with Congressmen Eliot Engel, Doug Lamborn and Mike Michaud. During his visit to the USA, Krivokapić met with Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović opened the photography exhibition of the previous four sessions of the Children's Parliament. The Parliament of Montenegro organised the exhibition of photographs in cooperation with the Child Rights Centre and Save the Children in the North West Balkans, on the occasion of 20 November - the Day of the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



22 November

- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović met with Secretary General of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia Jana

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CALENDAR



Ljubičić. While emphasising the importance of permanent professional development of parliamentary administration, the interlocutors agreed that there was mutual interest of two parliaments' services for further development of cooperation. The visit of the Secretary General Ljubičić and her associates was organised with the support of National Democratic Institute from Belgrade.



Davidović informed Jana Ljubičić on changes and innovations in the work of the Parliament of Montenegro, introduced over the past few years, especially in the part, referring to the strengthening of professional help to MPs through drawing up of informative reviews, analysis of harmonised regulations, development of research sector and strengthening of the overall administrative capacities. In addition, Davidović presented the recently adopted Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service along with secondary legislation, resulting from the previous evolutionary development of human resources.

24 November

- Chair of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning Predrag Sekulić attended the Meeting of Chairs of the Committees on Environment Protection and the Committees on State Administration and Local Authorities of the European Union and the European Parliament member states, held on 24 and 25 November in Vilnius. The main topic of the meeting was the protection of the environment in macro-economic strategies.
- VIII Meeting of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States participating in the Stabilisation and Association Process of the South East Europe, was held on 24-25 November in Skopje. On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, Srđa

Popović, a member of the Committee on European Integration, participated in the COSAP meeting. During the meeting, the participants emphasised the importance of the role of the Parliament with regard to using the IPA funds. Apart from that, the topics in the COSAP meeting included visa liberalisation, and the functioning of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA).

25 November

- Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Mevludin Nuhodžić and its members: Borislav Banović, Vasilije Lalošević and Goran Danilović participated in a conference, on the topic "Strategic Communication of Euro-Atlantic Integration Process", organised by the Center for Democratic Transition (CDT) in Podgorica. During the panel "Role of the Parliament and Political Parties in Communication of Euro-Atlantic Integration Process", various aspects of Montenegrin membership to NATO were discussed, with special reference to informing of citizens on implications of Euro-Atlantic integration process and effects of full-fledged membership to NATO Alliance as well as the role of the Parliament and political parties in that field.
- Delegation of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget participated in a two-day parliamentary seminar on the topic: "Economic crisis and its influence on the policies of the European Union and countries in the accession process", which was held on 25 and 26 November in Brussels. During the seminar, the following topics were discussed: the influence of the crisis and global dimension of EU, new oversight mechanisms and coordination of economy policies, strengthening of the role of European institutions, new strategies for improving employment growth, involvement in the competitive process, establishment of the Banking Union and ways of solving the problem of public debt and deficit as well as the role of civil sector in finding ways to overcome the crisis.



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CALENDAR



26 November

- Delegation of the Committee on European Integration paid an official visit to the United Kingdom, in the time period of 26-27 November. During this visit, the Delegation had several meetings with members of the Committee on European Union Affairs of the House of Lords and House of Commons of the Parliament as well as with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth. The Delegation consisted of the following: Chair of the Committee Slaven Radunović, Deputy Chair of the Committee Jovan Martinović and members Šefkija Murić, Dritan Abazović, Koča Pavlović and Zoran Srzentić.

27 November

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak spoke on a two-day conference, on the topic: "Implementation of EU criteria in the gender equality field", held in Podgorica. The Chair of the Committee addressed the participants within the panel "Reaction on the Report of MEP Marije Cornelissen and EU Progress Report". The Conference was also attended by Committee members Ljiljana Đurašković and Branka Bošnjak.



- Within the parliamentary activities of the semi-annual Lithuanian presidency over the Council of the EU, Delegation of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants of the Parliament of Montenegro, participated in the Meeting of the Chairs of the Committees on Foreign Affairs of the National Parliaments of the EU, held on 27-28 November in Vilnius. In addition, the Parliamentary Forum for Democracy was held. The Delegation consisted of: Chair of the Committee Miodrag Vuković, and the members of the Committee Žana Filipović and Goran Danilović.

28 November

- Chair of the Security and Defence Committee and its members met with Head of Western Balkans Division at the European External Action Service Jonas Jonsson. During the meeting, the emphasis was placed on the importance of the role of the Parliament, as the lead institution in creating the adequate legislative framework as well as on its accountability in effective and successful implementation of the parliamentary oversight.

29 November

- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović received Lia Magnaguagno, Head of the Sector for Democratisation in the OSCE Mission to Montenegro. The interlocutors, inter alia, spoke on possibilities of further cooperation between the Parliament of Montenegro and the OSCE Mission.
- Employees of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and the Committee on European Integration attended a two-day training, which was dedicated to the mechanisms of parliamentary control of IPA funds. During the training, the emphasis was placed on objectives and structure of IPA programmes including coordination mechanisms between the government and parliamentary service in monitoring the use of IPA funds.
- Members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget held a meeting with Director of the Energy Community Secretariat Janez Kopač, during which Kopač presented the Annual Report on implementation of Energy Community Strategy. In addition to the members of the Committee and the Director of the Energy Community Secretariat, the meeting was also attended by Chair of the Committee of the Energy Regulatory Agency Branislav Prelević.



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