



*Parliament of Montenegro*

# NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 34 ♦ January 2014

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# OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year IV ♦ No. 34 ♦ January 2013

## FOREWORD

*Dear readers,*

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

In January, the committees considered six proposals for a law, began deliberation of two proposals for a law and held other activities within their oversight role.

In focus of this month's issue of the newsletter is the Winter Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe which took place on 27-31 January in Strasbourg.

The newsletter is published monthly as a part of the "Open Parliament" programme, through 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.

In the following issues of the Newsletter we will present to you exhibits from this parliament's collection, i.e. Montenegrin coats of arms from the first Montenegrin dynasty, the Vojislavljević dynasty, to the modern Coat of Arms of the State of Montenegro.

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

### *Proposals for laws deliberated in committees*

- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Social Security Agreement between Montenegro and the Republic of Croatia** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Amendments to the Agreement for the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Combined Transportation of Cargo** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Plant Protection Products** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Inspection Control** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.

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### Proposals for laws deliberated within committees during January are the following:

- **Proposal for a Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms** was considered by the Legislative Committee; however, due to a need for additional consultations, voting on the law proposal has been postponed.
- Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget had the first round of discussions on the **Proposal for a Law on Budget and Fiscal Responsibility**.

### *Proposals for othe acts deliberated in committees*

- **Proposal for a Decision on holding control hearing of Minister of Economy Vladimir Kavarić and President of the Board of Directors of Elektroprivreda Crne Gore A.D. Nikšić Srđan Kovačević in order to obtain information on reasons for the increase of electricity bills for December** was considered by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. It was decided that the position on the said proposal would be specified at the continuation of the meeting.
- **Proposal for a Decision on nominating one member of the State Audit Institution Senate** wasn't determined by the Administrative Committee, since none of the candidates got the required majority of members present in the Committee.

### *Other activities of working bodies*

- **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** issued a Public Call for the election of four members of the Judiciary Council, among respectable jurists, on 14 January.
- At the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Committee on European Integration**, held on 31 January, the Committee considered and unanimously adopted the Opinion on Draft Negotiation Position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on the Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 4 – Free Movement of Capital.

The same day, first part of the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting was held, during which the Committee started considering Draft Negotiation Position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on the Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 31- Foreign, Security and Defence Policy.



- At its 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, which took place on 22 January, the **Administrative Committee** initiated a procedure for the appointment of members of the RTCG Council, by submitting a Public Call to the proposers, not later than six months before the end of the mandate of the existing Council. The Committee determined Public Call text and the Form for proposing nominating members of the RTCG Council and, in accordance with the request of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro (submitted 17 January 2014), decided to issue an adequate Decision on the Salary for Desanka Lopičić, Chair of the Constitutional Court. On the basis of a request (submitted on 17 January 2014), the Committee decided to issue an adequate Decision on Salary for MP Danko Šarančić and in accordance with the Law on Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, the Committee issued an adequate Decision on termination of rights arising from holding the position of a former Deputy Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms for Budimir Šćepanović, due to holding another public position.



At the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, which took place on 30 January, the Committee decided not to give its consent to the conclusion of an agreement for performing additional work, specifically referring to the request submitted by MP Radosav Nišavić regarding consent for performing additional work, since this wasn't within the scope of its competences. The Committee got acquainted with the letter submitted by Goran Đurović, member of the RTCG Council, related to issues, which according to him could significantly affect the formal correctness of NGO proposals, submitted during this process. In addition, the Committee considered a request submitted by the Union of Free Trade Unions of Montenegro, related to interpretation of application of Article 28, paragraph 9 of the Law on public broadcasting services of Montenegro, following the appointment of a Union representative in the Social Council. The Committee decided to form a Working Group, which would be in charge of determining the validity of documents, provided as evidence in the nomination process of members of the RTCG Council. The Working Group would, in accordance with the law, determine the list of proposals, which have been submitted by the candidates in a timely manner and are complete.

## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



### *Representatives of the European Programmes Implementation Service of the Hellenic Parliament visited the Parliament of Montenegro*

Representatives of the European Programmes Implementation Service of Hellenic Parliament paid a visit to the Parliament of Montenegro on 20-21 January 2014. The purpose of the visit was to consider possibilities and models for using European funds for implementation of projects aimed at promoting capacity and quality of work of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The meeting between experts from the Hellenic Parliament and Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidović was focused on issues regarding promotion of bilateral cooperation between both parliamentary services as well as identification of needs of the Parliament, which will serve as a basis for development and implementation of future projects.

In order for experts to gain better insight into the current situation and priorities of the Parliament, needed for framework definition of arrangements in planning and preparing project documentation and proposals as well as coordinating the implementation of EU funds project, several meetings were held with representatives of organizational units of the Service. Representatives, *inter alia*, informed their guests on the recent novelties, introduced within the Parliament in the previous period, aimed at further strengthening its legislative and

oversight role, developing the Research center, enhancing of administrative capacities and professional development of employees.



In addition, Greek guests held a presentation to employees of the Montenegrin Parliament on the organisation and role of the European Programme Implementation Service, as a specific unit within the structure of Hellenic Parliament in charge of coordination and implementation of projects, funded by European funding programmes. The Delegation consisted of representatives of European Programmes Implementation Service, coordinator Vasilios Svoloopoulos as well as advisors Dimitris Korizis and Ilias Iliadis.

### *Delegation of the Committee on European Integration visited European Institutions*

Delegation of the Committee on European Integration paid a two-day visit to Brussels, which was organised in cooperation with the European Parliament. Parliamentary delegation consisted of the Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović and members of the Committee: Nada Drobnjak, Predrag Bulatović, Šefkija Murić, Srđa Popović, Zoran Srzentić, Danko Šarančić and Koča Pavlović.

First day of the visit, several meetings were held with representatives of the European Parliament, Council of the European Union and European Commission, *inter alia*, with László Surján, Vice-President of the European Parliament in charge of Western Balkans, Libor Rouček, MEP and Chair of Working Group on Western Balkans and Thomas Hagleitner, Deputy Head of Montenegro Unit of the European Commission Directorate General for Enlargement. During the meetings, in terms of the EP's commitment to further enlargement, the 2014 Programme of support intended for national parliaments of Western Balkans was presented. It was assessed that Montenegro's dynamics of conducting reforms was very

favorable, which enables constant progress of Montenegro on its path toward the European Integrations as well as that moving closer to the EU, means that new and much bigger challenges are before us. Participants also emphasised the importance of attendance of representatives of the Parliament of Montenegro in Brussels, aimed at strengthening the communication between the Parliament of Montenegro and the European Parliament as well as constantly informing Montenegrin MPs on new European policies.



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Second day, the Delegation met with Eduard Kukan, MEP and Chair of the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee, Charles Tannock, MEP and Rapporteur of the European Parliament for Montenegro as well as with Thomas Grunert, Head of European Unit for Foreign Affairs of the Directorate General. The discussion was focused on the 2013 Montenegro Progress Report as well as on the progress achieved by candidate countries and potential candidates of South-Eastern Europe region in regards to the EU membership. The following chapters were particularly emphasised 4 -Free movement of capital, 8 -Competition policy, 11-Agriculture and rural development and 27 -Environment, as very demanding chapters that would take a lot of time and funds in order to meet all the necessary requirements for membership.

Kukan emphasised that Montenegro was at the stage where the focus of integration was placed on actual implementation of standards and implementation of reforms related to the adoption of European values.

Focusing its presentation on issues related to the Aluminum Plant, Kukan referred to the need for development of Montenegrin economy in a stable environment of the rule of law and competitive market.

At the meeting with MEP Tannock, adoption of the 2013 Resolution on Montenegro's Progress at the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament was welcomed. The Resolution, *inter alia*, emphasises Montenegro's success, achieved due to the recent opening of five negotiating chapters, which, as the European parliamentarian stated, is a proof of continuous work and commitment of Montenegro on its path toward the EU. During the meetings, there was also discussion on the upcoming European elections, which are expected to bring changes in terms of structure within political groups of the European parliament, in essence to strengthen the Euro-scepticism to which the countries in the accession process should pay special attention to, having in mind that the policy of membership conditioning would become more restrictive.

### ***Second regional meeting of parliamentary bodies competent for Human Rights and Rights of the Child along with Children's Ombudsmen of countries in the region***

The Second Regional meeting of parliamentary working bodies competent for Human Rights and Rights of the Child, along with Children's Ombudsmen of countries in the region, took place in the Regional School of Public Administration, on 21-22 January in Danilovgrad. The topic of the meeting was: "Rights of the Child-Promotion of the position of the child with the purpose of its protection from all types of exploitation". The goal of the meeting was sharing the views and good practices in the field of protection of the child, in order to determine goals and directions of further interparliamentary cooperation and national institutions competent for the protection of human rights and rights of the child.

The Second regional meeting was attended by representatives of parliamentary working bodies competent in the field of Human Rights and Rights of the Child from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and representatives of Ombudsmen for Children from Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Republic of Srpska and Montenegro as well as the Save the Children representatives, representatives from international organisations in Montenegro that deal with these issues (UNICEF, OSCE and Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro).

The regional meeting was opened by the following: Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in Montenegro Šučko Baković, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro and Head of the Political, European Integration and Trade Sections of EU Delegation to Montenegro Alberto Cammarata, UNICEF Representative to Montenegro Benjamin Perks and others.

Vice-President Suljo Mustafić assessed as very important the cooperation between Parliaments from the region as well as Ombudsmen from the region, that

contributed to strengthening of activities aimed at protecting human rights and freedoms of people living in these regions.

Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms Šučko Baković stated that the Institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in Montenegro, within the regional project "Promotion of the position of the child with the purpose of its protection from all types of exploitation", conducted studies on child begging, sexual abuse of children as well as Internet child exploitation. The studies were presented in three Reports and proposals were drafted based on the results of conducted research, which were forwarded to competent ministries for further review.

The Protector especially assessed as important the support of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, which considered all the reports, welcomed all the proposals and forwarded them to the competent state authorities. In addition, the Committee keeps track of implementation of proposals, through consideration of Information on concerned areas, submitted by competent state authorities, at the request of the Committee.



## IN FOCUS



### *Winter Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe held in Strasbourg (27-31 January 2014)*

**W**inter Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) took place on 27-31 January 2014 in Strasbourg. Montenegrin delegation consisted of: Zoran Vukčević, Head of Delegation and its members Draginja Vuksanović, Mladen Bojanić, Predrag Sekulić and Snežana Jonica.



First day of the session, Anne Brasseur was elected as President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, for one year, with a possibility to be re-elected for a second term. In addition, the Parliamentary Assembly elected its Vice Presidents. The Head of the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to PACE Zoran Vukčević was elected as one of the Vice Presidents. The PACE Committees were formed the same day. MPs, members of the Montenegrin delegation to PACE, are the members of the following committees: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, and Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media. The Head of Montenegrin Delegation to PACE participated in the PACE Bureau meeting, while all the members of the Delegation participated in the meeting of the Socialist Group.

During the second day, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe Thorbjørn Jagland addressed MPs and called on member states to ratify the Social Charter of the Council of Europe and step up efforts to curb social inequalities. Jagland also emphasised the role of the Council of Europe in promoting freedom of expression, privacy and global internet management. PACE elected Jon Fridrik Kjølbro as the Judge to the European Court of Human Rights for a term of office of nine years.

Focus of interest of the second day was on the case of Sergei Magnitsky. The PACE adopted the Resolution titled "Refusing impunity for the killers of Sergei Magnitsky" based on the report of Andreas Gross (Switzerland, Socialist Group), thus inviting Russian authorities to fully investigate the circumstances and background of the death of Sergei Magnitsky and enable the initiation of criminal liability against all those involved in the case. During the Sitting, there was also a discussion on the fight against racism and intolerance in Europe. The conclusion was that it was necessary to fight against racism and intolerance through a strategic approach which would strengthen the legal framework and make greater efforts in order to ensure its effective implementation. It was emphasised that the Strategy for fight against racism and intolerance should be focused on preventing such incidents, raising awareness and educating people on human rights. In addition, the Internet and the Media should also contribute to spreading the idea on fight against racism among people.

The Resolution based on the Report of David Davies states that there can be no impunity for manifestations of racism by the police and police officers who shall be held accountable for their behavior.

The following committees held their meetings: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, which were attended by members of the Montenegrin delegation.



The third day, there was a discussion on the topic: "Internet and politics: the impact of new information and communication technology on democracy". The Member of Montenegrin delegation to PACE Mladen Bojanić participated in the discussion. Stating that he

came from Montenegro, where 49.9% of citizens had access to the Internet, Bojanić emphasised that the rest of the citizens had no possibility of receiving information via Internet or expressing their opinion in such way. He emphasised that the Internet might help in spreading the democracy, primarily in introducing new knowledge, which could result in development of full and sustainable democracy.

In addition, President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz addressed MPs of PACE, emphasising that the PACE and the EP were natural partners and expressed expectation that the cooperation between these institutions would continuously grow. Schulz also spoke on the synergy within the field of Human Rights, preservation of democracy and stability of the rule of law.



On the same day, Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and Sub-Committee on Human Rights held meetings, which were attended by members of the Montenegrin delegation.

On the fourth day, there was an urgent debate focused on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine. Also, there was a debate focused on the following: stepping up action against global

inequalities and Europe's contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) process as well as climate changes and sustainable development.

On the fourth day, the Council of Europe held a ceremony to commemorate Holocaust victims and a ceremony to commemorate the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz attended by numerous parliamentarians. The President of PACE Anne Brasseur stated that the duty of all member states was to ensure that those things don't happen again, but also combating anti-Semitism and all other forms of hatred and intolerance.

In addition, the following committees held their meetings: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, joint meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Sub-committee on Environment Protection and Energy, Sub-committee on Integration, Sub-committee on Co-operation with non European countries of origin and transit, where members of Montenegrin delegation participated. Additionally, meetings of Joint Committee and Presidential Committee were held, where Zoran Vukčević participated as the Head of Montenegrin delegation and PACE Vice President.

On the final day, there was discussion on revision of the European Convention on Transfrontier Television and Accountability of international organisations for human rights violations. In addition, PACE Bureau held a meeting, where the Head of Montenegro's delegation to PACE Zoran Vukčević participated.

## PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

**Electoral right.** "Subjective constitutional right which enables citizens to participate in the establishment of representative bodies. As a complex right, the electoral right consists of the right of citizens to elect their representatives (active electoral right) and their right to be elected as members of representative bodies (passive electoral right)."<sup>1</sup> "In modern democratic societies, the electoral right is universal and equal for all. Universality of electoral right envisages the right of all citizens to use active and passive electoral right. However, specific minimal limitations, which shall by no means be discriminatory, can be found within the institute of universal electoral right. Therefore, essentially, the electoral body includes only those citizens who fulfill the age criteria (usually referring to individuals who have turned 18) and possess working capacity (which may be taken from an individual during a court procedure, due to the lack of judgement). In some countries, citizens who fulfill temporary residence and civic honour criteria (which can be taken away from an individual during a criminal procedure) can also be a part of the electoral body."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Boško Mijatović, Ilija Vujačić, Tanasije Marković, *Pojmovnik liberalne demokratije*, Official Gazette, 2008, p. 21

<sup>2</sup> IBID, p. 22



## FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



### Law on State Library and Museum

6/18 December 1896

### Law on State Library and Museum

1.

State Library and Museum shall be established in the Old Royal Capital of the Principality of Montenegro and situated in Zetski dom (Royal Theatre).

2.

The State Library and Museum shall be overseen by Ministry of Education and Church Affairs.

3.

These Institutions shall be given an annually determined amount of money by The Ministry of Education for the purpose of acquiring books, antiques and all the necessary goods.

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4.

A Special Librarian and Museum Guard, designated by the Ministry of education under the Highest consent, shall be in charge of managing the State Library and Museum.

5.

The Librarian shall be in charge of everything, in terms of organisation and usage of library and Museum collections.

6.

The organisation, professional rules of conduct in the Library and Museum as well as the duties of the Librarian and Museum Guard shall be governed by a Special Rulebook.

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8.

The State Museum shall make a collection of all the antiques, which have already been found or are yet to be found in Montenegro as well as other valuable goods from other countries.

9.

The Librarian and Museum Guard shall submit to the Ministry of Education and Church affairs the list of things needed for the Library and Museum.

10.

The Library and Museum shall be open to everyone.

11.

At the end of each year, the Librarian and Museum Guard shall submit a report on the current state of these institutions, and at the same time submit proposals on actions ought to be undertaken for the improvement of these institutions.

From the Law on State Library and Museum  
Pavičević, B, Raspopović, R, eds. Crnogorski zakonici 1796-1916, knj. II (Montenegrin Codes 17961-1916, Book II), Podgorica, Istorijски institut Crne Gore, 1998, pp. 370-371

## FROM PARLIAMENT'S GALLERY

“Montenegrin Armorial” and “Montenegrin State and Dynastic Coats of Arms” collection, in the possession of the Parliament of Montenegro, created by D. Krivokapić, PhD; represents the materialization of Montenegrin Coats of Arms, from the first Montenegrin dynasty, the Vojislavljević dynasty to the modern Coat of Arms of the State of Montenegro. The display of the state, dynastic and ruler's coats of arms somehow represents a continuity of Montenegrin statehood, which has gone through many development periods as well as various state forms, throughout the history of the millennium, yet, it has managed to survive even in the most difficult times, when history wasn't on its side.





# CALENDAR



## 15 January

- Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović met with the newly appointed Ambassador of Romania to Montenegro H.E. Ferdinand Nagy. Nagy commended the progress Montenegro has achieved on its path toward the European Union, stating that the quality of realised reforms was evident, which is confirmed by the results of the European Commission Progress Report as well as the recent opening of the two most demanding chapters 23 and 24. It was jointly assessed that the existing consensus among parliamentary parties in Montenegro which was also present in Romania during its accession negotiations, is important for a smooth course of integrations and that it should be utilised in the best way possible, so the citizens could feel the membership benefits prior to country's membership in the European family of nations.



## 16 January

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić, along with President of the Swiss Federal Council and also the OSCE Chair Didier Burkhalter met with Directors of the OSCE institutions. During the meeting, there was a discussion on the priorities of the Swiss Presidency as well as modalities of coordination of different OSCE institutions. The special emphasis was placed on freedom of the Media and the recent cases of violation of this freedom in member states. While in Vienna, Krivokapić also participated in the work of a special sitting of the OSCE Permanent Council, dedicated to priorities of the Swiss Presidency.
- Staff members of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms participated in the seminar: "European Convention on Human Rights-execution of judgements", organised by the Parliamentary

Assembly of the Council of Europe, on 16-17 January in Strasbourg.

## 17 January

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received the newly appointed Ambassador of French Republic in Montenegro H.E. Veronique Brumeaux.



Krivokapić and Brumeaux noted the friendly relations between Montenegro and French Republic and agreed that cooperation between both countries is very visible and strong in many fields, from parliamentary cooperation and friendship to cultural relations. Krivokapić emphasised that France was important to Montenegro, in terms of its support to Montenegro on its path toward Euro-Atlantic Integrations. Interlocutors expressed pleasure over the achieved results of the Parliament of Montenegro through a complex process of legislative reforms, which resulted in strengthening of confidence in institutions and democracy.

## 20 January

- Representatives of the European Programmes Implementation Service of the Hellenic Parliament paid a visit to the Parliament of Montenegro on 20-21 January. The purpose of the visit was to consider possibilities and models for using European funds for implementation of projects aimed at promoting capacity and quality of work of the Parliament of Montenegro.



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# CALENDAR



- Delegation of the Committee on European Integrations paid a two-day visit to Brussels, organised in cooperation with the European Parliament. The parliamentary delegation consisted of Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović and members of the Committee: Nada Drobnjak, Predrag Bulatović, Šefkija Murić, Srđa Popović, Zoran Srzentić, Danko Šarančić and Koča Pavlović.

## 21 January

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria H.E. Kristijan Vigenin. Krivokapić and Vigenin noted the traditionally friendly relations of Montenegro and the Republic of Bulgaria. Krivokapić emphasised the need for strengthening and intensifying cooperation in the parliamentary dimension, especially in the field of harmonisation of Bulgarian legislation with acquis communautaire.
- The Second Regional meeting of parliamentary working bodies competent for Human Rights and Rights of the Child, along with Children's Ombudsmen of countries in the region, took place in the Regional School of Public Administration, on 21-22 January in Danilovgrad. The topic of the meeting was: "Rights of the Child-Improvement of child's position for the purpose of its protection from all types of exploitation". The goal of the meeting was sharing the views and good practices in the field of protection of the child, in order to determine goals and directions of further interparliamentary cooperation and national institutions competent for the protection of human rights and rights of the child.



## 23 January

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro received H.E. Ditmir Bushati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the

Republic of Albania. Krivokapić and Bushati noted friendly relations of the two countries as well as a good quality cooperation of two countries at a bilateral level and through numerous regional initiatives. Krivokapić expressed willingness and readiness for intensifying parliamentary cooperation between Montenegro and Albania. On this occasion, Bushati emphasised that Montenegro was renowned in this part of Europe as a state of stability and peace.

## 27 January

- The Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union, which took place in Athens, was organised under the Greek Presidency over the Council of the European Union and was attended by Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović.



- The 2014 January Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe took place from 27 until 31 January. The Montenegrin Delegation in the January Session consisted of: Head of Delegation Zoran Vukčević and members of the Delegation Draginja Vuksanović, Mladen Bojanić, Predrag Sekulić and Snežana Jonica.

## 28 January

- Members of the Security and Defence Committee and members of Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly met with advisors in the Government of Montenegro in the European integration process and defence system reform Paige Reffe and Bain Ennis. It was jointly concluded that the role of the Parliament in the Euro-Atlantic process was important and that informing citizens on all aspects of Montenegro's path toward NATO was significant. Additionally, it was assessed that implemented activities and achieved standards

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# CALENDAR



on the path toward Euro-Atlantic Integrations, whether at the state level or at the level of its institutions, represent a good recommendation for the upcoming NATO Summit and a full-fledged membership in this organisation.



- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković and Chair of the Friendship Group between the Parliament of Montenegro and National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan Suljo Mustafić met with representatives of Civil Service Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan, headed by Chair of the Commission Bahram Khalilov. During the meeting, Vuković complimented friendly relations between Montenegro and the Republic of Azerbaijan and emphasised that parliamentary cooperation and diplomacy represent important operating segments which contribute to the acceleration of European and Euro-Atlantic integration process.



**29 January**

- Committee on European Integration organised the third Public debate, dedicated to the negotiating Chapter 4 -Free movement of capital. In addition to Slaven Radunović, Chair of the Committee, panellists at the Public debate were Aleksandar Andrija Pejović,

State Secretary for European Integration and Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the EU, Nikola Fabris, Vice Governor for Financial Stability and Payment in the Central Bank of Montenegro and Negotiator for Chapter 4, and Dragan Radanović, Task Manager in Operations Section of the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro.

- Members of the Security and Defense Committee paid a visit to the Directorate for emergency situations in the Ministry of the Interior. During the visit, special attention was dedicated to the evaluation of results regarding implementation of conclusions adopted at the eighth meeting of the Committee, at which the Committee considered the 2012 Report on the current situation of protection and rescue system in Montenegro. It was concluded that significant efforts have been made in the previous period regarding implementation of Guidelines and suggestions encompassed within the Conclusions of the Committee. In addition, it was specified that the Committee is planning to continue with its activities related to establishing an adequate legal framework, which would primarily enable the creation and hence the complete functioning of the overall protection and rescue system.



- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, under the support of the Capacity Development Programme, organised the first Round Table and a Public discussion on the Draft Law on Cooperation of Montenegro with Diaspora aimed at creating a quality and comprehensive legal framework. In addition to Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić, also the member of the Working group, the round table was attended by representatives of the Committee on International Relations.

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