



Parliament of Montenegro

NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 52 ♦ August and September 2015

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OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

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FOREWORD

Dear readers,

We present to you the key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 30 September, which is, in the form of monthly newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by Parliamentary Service.

In September, the sitting of the fourth extraordinary session was held, during which Proposal for a Resolution on support to the NATO integration was adopted. The Sitting of the fifth extraordinary session was also held, during which six laws were adopted.

During September, committees considered 13 proposals for a law and held other activities within their oversight.

In focus of this month's newsletter is participation of President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić in the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments, which took place in the UN General Assembly and was devoted to the topic "Parliamentary oversight: Challenges and opportunities".

The newsletter is published monthly through which the Parliament endeavours to bring its work closer to Montenegrin citizens.

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

*Respectfully,
Parliamentary Service*



LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

At the Sitting of the Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2015, Proposal for a Resolution on support to the NATO integration was adopted.

At the Sitting of the Fifth Extraordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2015, the following laws were adopted: Law on Confiscation of Assets Acquired from Criminal Activity, Law on Training Centre for Judiciary and Public Prosecution Office, Food Safety Law, Law on Amendments to the Law on Forest Reproductive Material, Law on Removal and Transplantation of Human Tissues and Cells for Therapeutic Purposes and the Law on Ratification of the 38th Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance.

Proposals for a law deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Free Zones** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Cross Border Trade in Electricity and Natural Gas** 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 of Topographies of Semiconductor** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on 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 Amendments to the Law on Forest Reproductive Material** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning and Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Health Care** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Health Insurance** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Confiscation of Assets Acquired from Criminal Activity** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Training Centre for Judiciary and Public Prosecution Office** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Food Safety Law** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Removal and Transplantation of Human Tissues and Cells for Therapeutic Purposes** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms.
- **Proposal for a Law on Energy** was considered and

proposed the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Insolvency** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

Proposal for which a committee began deliberation during September is the following:

- Proposal for a Law on Energy was considered by the Legislative Committee, which decided to postpone declaring on the proposal for the upcoming meeting.

Other activities of working bodies

- At the 135th meeting, held on 9 September, the **Legislative Committee** considered and supported the Proposal for the Resolution on support to the NATO integration of Montenegro.
- At the 61st meeting of 9 September, the **Committee on International Relations and Emigrants** supported by the majority of votes the Proposal for the Resolution on support to the NATO integration of Montenegro.



- At the 113th meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** held on 7 September, the Committee considered the 2014 Annual Report on Awarded State Aid in Montenegro and 2010-2014 Report on the Implementation of the Regional Development Strategy of Montenegro, for 2014; however, they did not obtain the required majority.



At the 114th meeting, held on 14 September, the Committee supported the 2014 Performance Report of the State Commission for the Control of Public Procurement Procedures and the Report on the usage of the Parliament of Montenegro's funds for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2015, along with the Report on Public Procurement for the same period.

- At the 55th meeting, held on 3 September, the **Administrative Committee** determined by the majority of votes Proposal for a Decision on election of members of the Committee on Monitoring Application of Laws and Other Regulations Important for Building Trust in the Election Process. In addition, within the agenda item: "Continuation of the procedure for appointment of three members of the Council of the Agency for Electronic Media", the Committee established the working group comprised of Radovan Obradović, from among the ruling coalition and Danijela Danka Marković, from among the parliamentary opposition. The group was tasked to examine the applications and documentation submitted by authorised proponents, in order to determine whether proposals of candidates for appointment of members of the Council of the Agency were complete and submitted on time.

At the 56th meeting, held on 22 September, the Committee determined the complete and timely list of candidates for three members of the Agency for electronic media of Montenegro, and hence decided to publish the list in the Official Gazette of Montenegro, on the website of the Parliament of Montenegro and in the following daily newspapers: "Pobjeda", "Dan", independent daily "Vijesti" and "Dnevne novine".



- The first meeting of the **Inquiry Committee for collecting information and facts on the events relating to the actions of competent state authorities in the protection of state property and public interest during the sale of assets of the**

SC Tobacco Plant Podgorica in bankruptcy was held on 31 August, in which the Committee agreed to establish at its next meeting the initial list of persons, who would make statements, in line with Article 13 of the Law on Parliamentary Investigation. The Committee will also compile a list of documents that should be submitted. Additionally, the Committee decided, in line with the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, that meetings of the Inquiry Committee would be recorded phonographically.

- At the second meeting of the Inquiry Committee addressing the issue of SC Tobacco Plant Podgorica in bankruptcy, held on 7 September, in accordance with the agreement from the first meeting of the Committee and proposals submitted by members of the Committee, the Committee compiled the initial list of documents that will be requested from the responsible authorities and the initial list of persons who will be invited to make statements.



- At the third meeting of the Inquiry Committee for collecting information and facts on the events relating to the actions of competent state authorities in the protection of state property and public interest during the sale of assets of the SC Tobacco Plant Podgorica in bankruptcy, Committee members stated their opinion on the remaining proposals for submitting documents and persons who are to be invited to make statements. The initial list has 14 persons. Additionally, the Committee stated that the documents were submitted by entities who had been asked to do so.



NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Vice-President Simović met with delegation from German Bundestag

Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Milutin Simović met on 1 September Ulrich Petzold, Member of Bundestag, and Guido Heinen, Head of Bundestag's department of Research Services Directorate. Uwe Meerkotter, Deputy Ambassador of Germany to Montenegro, also attended the meeting.



Vice-President Simović emphasised that the meeting was a good opportunity for guests to become familiar with the political and economic developments in Montenegro as well as its achievements on European and Euro-Atlantic path, simultaneously voicing gratitude for the overall support provided by Germany to Montenegro in development of democracy, and during the numerous economic challenges behind

us but also in front of us. The interlocutors pointed out to dynamics and quality of NATO integration given the fact that Montenegro was in the process of intensive and focused debates with NATO partners in four key areas.

MP Petzold expressed thoughts that the best way to support Montenegrin society is through education of young people. These activities have been implemented through the International Parliamentary Scholarship programme (IPS) of the German Bundestag, where representatives of Montenegro also take part. In addition, the MP announced granting scholarship to young people who want to attend higher education in Germany, after which they would return to work in Montenegro, and thus give a contribution to the development of Montenegro. As a part of the economy cooperation of the two countries, MP Petzold announced opening of the German Chamber of Commerce in Montenegro.

According to Vice-President Simović, the development is a guarantee for prosperity of Montenegro and the region. The important support on that path will be provided by the regional initiative Berlin Process, initiated by the German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Autumn Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe held in Strasbourg

Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe participated in the Autumn session of PACE, which took place from 28 September to 2 October in Strasbourg.



Special attention during the Autumn Session was

dedicated to migration and refugee crisis in Europe, the challenges faced by countries of transit and the European asylum system. The Agenda topics discussed during the session involved public health and the interests of the pharmaceutical industry; the activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for the period 2014-2015; the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights; freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society, and, abuse of pretrial detention in States Parties to the European Convention on Human Rights; the progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure; Equality and shared parental responsibility, with the focus on the role of fathers; Rethinking the anti-doping strategy.

Within the session, the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, the President of the Italian Chamber of

Deputies, the Prime Minister of Serbia, and the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed the parliamentarians.

Secretary General of the Council of Europe answered the questions posed by the parliamentarians, while Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina also addressed the parliamentarians as Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Within elections and appointments, PACE elected the judge to the European Court of Human Rights from Slovakian Republic, the elected PACE Vice President is from Denmark, while Vojcek Savicki was reelected as Secretary General for a five year term.

The first day of session, PACE President Anne Brasseur awarded the "Václav Havel" Prize to veteran Russian human rights defender Ludmilla Alexeeva. The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize was established three years ago and is awarded for exceptional contribution in the field of preservation and promotion of human rights.

Members of the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro met on the third day of the session with

co-rapporteurs for the post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro Terry Leyden and Ionuț-Marian Stroe. Current political topics in Montenegro were discussed during the meeting.



In addition, meeting of heads of permanent delegations of the parliaments in the region took place, and was hosted by the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro. Agreed joint activities of PACE was the topic of the meeting.

Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro which participated in the Autumn Session was composed of Head of Delegation Predrag Sekulić and members of Delegation Goran Tuponja and Snežana Jonica.

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

Right to social security. "The right to social security consists of the right to social insurance and the right to social assistance. Even if they belong to the same category, these rights do differ, firstly in the manner in which the funds for their exercise are acquired. Social insurance is provided by employees, where they set aside a part of their personal income in order to provide themselves and their families with a fee envisaged for unplanned situations. As opposed to social insurance, social assistance consists of fees acquired by individuals on the basis of their status (unemployment) without their obligation to appropriate from their own funds, since social assistance funds are generated from public funds deriving from taxation. One of the rights granted on the basis of social assistance is the right to financial benefits."¹

¹ Istraživački rad: Socijalna davanja u zemljama članicama Evropske unije, Broj: 01/2013, Podgorica, Služba Skupštine Crne Gore 2013, str. 3, detaljnije na linku: http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/biblioteka-i-istrazivanje/Socijalna_davanja_u_zemljama_%C4%8Dlanicama_Evropske_unije.pdf

IN FOCUS



President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić participated in the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić participated in the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments which took place from 31 August to 2 September in the UN General Assembly on the topic “Parliamentary oversight: Challenges and opportunities”.

On this occasion, Montenegro was particularly honoured, hence President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić was one of ten among 120 presidents of parliaments who had a bilateral meeting and a working lunch with Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki-Moon.

During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the importance of strengthening parliamentary mechanisms, the role of parliament as a pillar of democracy and the need to make parliament to be a stronger carrier of political processes aimed at strengthening institutions, keeping peace and providing general social progress.

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić addressed the participants of the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments in the plenary hall of the UN General Assembly, and noted: “We parliamentarians must see the forest – the integrity and not lose ourselves among the trees – particularity. Parliaments are the very place which has to open the space for unpleasant truths and take responsibility for painful changes. We are elected primarily to build paths of safe future, not momentary popularity”.



In his address to participants of the conference, Krivokapić stressed: “We must never lose the awareness that the parliament is a democratic origin of all other authorities and powers. Without the power of parliament, the citizens are not represented. The oversight role has been increasingly leveled with the legislative role of parliament. The crisis has opened new awareness for the need of standardising instruments of hearing, investigation and control.”

On the side-lines of the Conference, President Krivokapić had a meeting with his German counterpart, President of Bundestag Norbert Lammert. The interlocutors spoke on Euro-Atlantic integration of our state, with a special focus on obligations of Montenegro arising from NATO agenda before the December ministerial meeting.

President Krivokapić had a bilateral meeting with Speaker of the Chamber of Representatives of the Kingdom of Belgium Siegfried Bracke. The interlocutors concluded that Euro-Atlantic path is a road to permanent peace and stability of the Western Balkans countries and a rout that leads to democratisation of the society, creating a more prosperous ambience based on the law and justice, and finally to better living standard of citizens.

On the second day of the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić had a series of bilateral meetings.

President Ranko Krivokapić met in New York his Italian counterpart Pietro Grasso. Krivokapić and Grasso spoke on obligations of our country envisaged by the NATO and EU agenda, with a special emphasis on constitutional changes providing greater independence and efficiency of judiciary and prosecution service. The officials assessed that forthcoming months ahead of Montenegro, in anticipation of the December call for NATO membership, were very binding, but also an opportunity to show the determination in building the system which shared the value of the North Atlantic Alliance system – peace, stability, democracy and rule of law.

President Krivokapić spoke in New York also with President of the United Nations 70th Session of the General Assembly and recent President of the Danish Parliament Mogens Lykketoft and his Swedish counterpart Speaker of the Riksdag Urban Ahlin.

In addition, President Krivokapić met in New York with a delegation of the Bosniak Alliance of Montenegro (BSCGNY), headed by its President Esad Rastoder, and our diaspora. The topics discussed during the meeting were models and specific activities which should better connect Montenegro and its citizens worldwide, particularly those living in the USA. The interlocutors spoke on concrete issues important for our diaspora in the USA, with an accent on institutionalisation of relations between Montenegro and its emigrants.

FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



RULES ON MANAGING FUNDS FOR PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO POOR STUDENTS OF ELEMENTARY (NATIONAL) SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS

1/14 November 1907

RULES ON managing funds for providing assistance to poor students of national schools and high schools

Article 1

Ministry of Education and Church Affairs prescribes the following rules, according to which the funds for providing assistance to poor students of our national schools and gymnasiums are to be henceforth managed.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS

Article 2

Each school municipality may establish a school fund, carrying the name of the school located in the same municipality.

Article 3

A school fund is established for the purpose of maintaining poor students as well as organising student excursions.

Article 4

The school fund base shall consist of:

- a) The money which was previously collected for the poor students, and has not been spent yet,
- b) All contributions made by philanthropists of the school fund, voluntary contributions, gifts, bequests, contributions from St Sava celebration, various events, and also the part provided for this purpose by the political assembly, as well as other revenues which in accordance with the law on national schools appertain to the school fund, and may be received by the fund until 15 June 1908.

1 November 1907
Cetinje

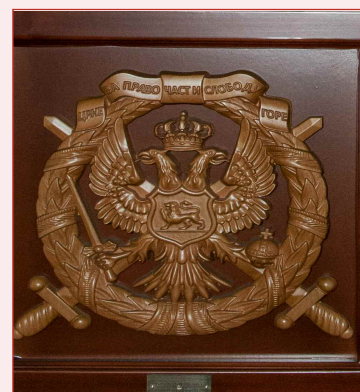
Pavićević, B, Raspopović, R, ur. Crnogorski zakonici 1796-1916, knj. IV, Podgorica (Montenegrin Codes 1796-1916, Book IV), Istorijski institut Crne Gore, 1998, pp. 544-549

FROM PARLIAMENT'S GALLERY

Following the success achieved by the Armed forces during the First World War and the Battle of Mojkovac, the Kingdom of Montenegro was deceived, betrayed and abandoned by its allies. Illegitimate and illegal Decisions reached by the Podgorica Assembly on 26 November 1918, lead to the overthrowing of the Petrović-Njegoš dynasty and to the unconditional merger of Serbia and Montenegro, by which the Montenegrin state ceased to exist. Due to a mass resistance directed against the new government which had been terrorising the people, a spontaneous Montenegrin uprising followed, which culminated in 1919.

The battle conducted during Christmas Rebellion (Christmas Uprising) was fought under the traditionally golden double-headed eagle, the difference being that the eagle is holding a sword instead of a sceptre in its talon. Above the eagle, there is a ribbon with the following inscription:

TO RIGHT, HONOUR AND FREEDOM OF MONTENEGRO, which actually represents every battle Montenegro has fought throughout history and in the upcoming 88 years a guiding inspiration to Montenegro towards rectification of a great historical injustice.



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26 August

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received members of the German Bundestag Josip Juratović and Martin Rosemann with delegation of Social Democrats (SDP) of Germany. The interlocutors jointly stated that the countries of the Western Balkans were facing numerous challenges in the field of media freedom, and that additional efforts were necessary for strengthening the protection of journalists and provision of the highest possible level of professionalism and independence. They assessed that, when it comes to the NATO integration, the forthcoming period was particularly important for Montenegro, and the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in those processes was emphasised, which was particularly accentuated as the institution recognised in the region and wider for its transparency and openness towards civil society and public. The interlocutors stated that Bundestag would be a constructive partner to Montenegro on its Euro-Atlantic path.



31 August

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić participated in the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments which took place in the UN General Assembly on the topic “Parliamentary oversight: Challenges and opportunities”. During his stay in New York, the President met with the following: representatives of the Bosniak Alliance of Montenegro – representatives of our diaspora, and President of Italian Senate Pietro Grasso, Mogens Lykketoft, President-elect of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly and former President of the Danish Parliament, and also with President of Riksdag Urban Ahlin.

1 September

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković participated in the Tenth

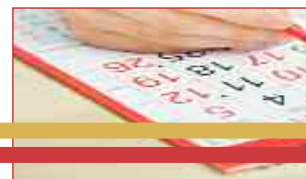
Bled Strategic Forum. The central panel of the first working day addressed the topic: “New Global Order: Confrontation or Partnerships”, focused on the refugee crisis that has struck Europe. The first working day comprised panels devoted to the issues of changes necessary in the world’s politics regarding the issues such as mass migration, international terrorism and climate changes. Holding of the panel on the topic of the Western Balkan marked the end of two-day Bled Strategic Forum, which brought together more than 500 participants from 65 countries and international organisations. On the second working day, the participants discussed the power and importance of intercultural dialogue, as well as strengthening the fight against impunity through partnership and cooperation.

- Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Milutin Simović met with German Bundestag MP Ulrich Petzold and Head of the Bundestag’s department of Research Services Directorate Guido Heinen. Uwe Meerkotter, Deputy German Ambassador to Montenegro, also attended the meeting.
- Deputy Chair of the Committee on European Integration Marija Maja Čatović and member of the Committee Azra Jasavić held a meeting with delegation from the German Bundestag, which paid a visit to Montenegro, for the purpose of the election of candidates for the International Parliamentary Scholarship – IPS. The conversation was focused on scholarship granted to young people from more than 40 countries worldwide, who are to spend five months in training and acquiring knowledge about the German political system through the work with members of the German Bundestag.

3 September

- Committee on European Integration of the Parliament of Montenegro and European Integration Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia held a bilateral meeting on the topic of dynamics of the negotiation process and use of IPA funds with the aim of implementing reforms on the path towards the EU. In the first part of the meeting, chairs of the two committees presented experiences of the Montenegrin and Serbian parliaments in the process of consideration of the negotiation chapters, as well as various practices regarding the verification of the compliance of the laws with the EU legislation. The second part of the meeting was devoted to the discussion on activities of committees on European integration in the use of IPA funds. Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro

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comprised of: Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović and members of the Committee Marija Maja Čatović, Azra Jasavić, Obrad Mišo Stanišić, Koča Pavlović and Šefkija Murić.



5 September

- During his visit to the United States of America, President Krivokapić met with Charles Kupchan, Special Assistant to the American President and Senior Director for Europe at the National Security Council (advisory body of the White House), John Heffern, Deputy Assistant to the State Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland, and Mark Lagon, President of Freedom House.

8 September

- Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović participated in the 25th Economic Forum, which took place in Poland, from 8 to 10 September 2015. The forum was organised by the Institute for Eastern Studies, and brought together more than 3000 participants from Europe, Asia and United States of America.

11 September

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Montenegro Sergey Nikolaevich Gritsay. Ambassador Nikolaevich Gritsay thanked President Krivokapić for the reception and pointed out that he would use his mandate to achieve mutual interests of the two countries. President Krivokapić said that the Montenegrin Parliament was open and ready for intensifying the parliamentary dialogue which would lead to better understanding and cooperation. The interlocutors concluded that the parliaments should be used for cooperation and dialogue in reaching mutual goals and interests.

15 September

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Gjorge Ivanov, President of the Republic of Macedonia. President Krivokapić assessed the visit as important, since it provided room for additional improvement of already good relations of the two countries. Krivokapić stated that it is easy for both of our countries to understand each other since we share common past and our future is also common with countries united in the NATO and European Union, and that challenges in front of us are similar - the rule of law, strengthening of democracy and institutions - and on that path we may and we should share our experiences and work together. President of the Republic of Macedonia Gjorge Ivanov acknowledged Montenegro's reform path towards the NATO and EU membership, stating that the two countries may learn a lot from mutual experiences. Speaking on the refugee crisis, the interlocutors concluded that that problem required a collective response, and that the countries must show its humane dimension and understanding towards everybody who suffered the consequences of different persecutions and instabilities.
- At its third meeting, the Council of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption stated that the following candidates applied to Open Vacancy Notice for the election of the director of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption: Elvira Pupović, Advisor to the Head of the Secretariat for Economy and Finance, Municipality of Budva; Sreten Radonjić, retiree - Former Manager of the Forensic Centre; Željko Tomović, lawyer; Dušan Drakić, employee of the Directorate for Anti-Corruption Initiative; and Mladen Tomović, Coordinator in the Directorate for Anti-Corruption Initiative). The Council of the Agency for Prevention sent a request to the Government of Montenegro, informing the Government that from the day of election it has been facing the lack of funds and space for work. With regard to that, the Council requested from the Government - in accordance with its legal responsibilities - to create preconditions for its work, stating that the Council of the Agency and its Director, whose election is ongoing, will not be able, to due to objective reasons, perform duties and carry out obligations related to the provision of normative work conditions for the beginning of the work of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption, prescribed by the Law on Prevention of Corruption. The Council has decided to continue the procedure for the election of Director of the Agency after the Ministry of Justice submits criminal record certificate of

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candidates. Afterwards, the Council will check if the candidates fulfil conditions prescribed by the Open Vacancy Notice. The Committee members discussed the Proposal for the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption, submitted by Bojan Obrenović, member of the Council of the Agency.



16 September

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Faisal Fahad Al Shay, Chair of the Parliamentary Friendship Group of the National Assembly of Kuwait.



It was estimated that the National Assembly of Kuwait was a particularly good example among the Gulf countries as a very strong parliament which had been efficiently implementing a control over the executive branch of power. President Krivokapić said that Montenegro was an open country investment-wise, and that the parliaments were a prerequisite for secure networking and making room for investment projects which were welcome. Chair of the Parliamentary Friendship Group of the National Assembly of Kuwait Faisal Fahad Al Shay emphasised as very significant cooperation of the two parliaments and countries, estimating that there was room for investments in areas of tourism and health in Montenegro, in which the State of Kuwait was very interested. On that occasion, Al Shaya extended an invitation to President Krivokapić to

pay an official visit to Kuwait.

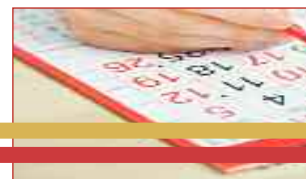
- Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Rifat Rastoder, Deputy Chair of the Committee Snežana Jonica, and MPs Husnija Šabović, Veljko Vasiljević and Azra Jasavić paid a visit to the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, on which occasion, they spoke with with Supreme Public Prosecutor Ivica Stanković, Chief Public Prosecutor Milivoje Katnić and Head of the High Public Prosecutor's Office in Podgorica Vesna Jovičević.



The MPs toured the building occupied by the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, Special Public Prosecutor's Office and High Public Prosecutor's Office, and became familiar with conditions that state prosecutors work in. Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Rifat Rastoder, said that, together with other members of the Committee, would help that such important institution as Prosecution Office be provided with conditions that would enable undisturbed functioning. Activities of the Prosecution Office are encouraging and show that prosecutors have the intention to work seriously and achieve the important results. In that sense, the MPs noted that it is also necessary to resolve the accumulated problems from the previous period and improve the current situation where the Public Prosecution Office will have a support of all members of the Committee.

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Irena Tatarzynska – the newly appointed Ambassador of Poland to Montenegro. Ambassador Tatarzynska thanked President Krivokapić for the reception, and expressed satisfaction over the good relations of Montenegro and Poland. The interlocutors assessed that Montenegro has been making a continuous progress in Euro-Atlantic integration. They also emphasised that the invitation expected to be received from NATO Alliance is of

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historic importance, and that it would mean completing the independence in security and safety context as well.

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Sotirios Athanasiou – the newly appointed Ambassador of Greece to Montenegro. The interlocutors noted good cooperation of the two countries, based on the shared understanding with mutual desire to promote and deepen it. President Ranko Krivokapić said that the Montenegrin Parliament was open and ready for intensifying the parliamentary dialogue which would lead to stronger cooperation of the two countries.
- The Fifth Friendship Group of the National Assembly of Kuwait, headed by Chair of the Group Faisal Fahad Al Shaya paid an official visit to Montenegro from 14 to 18 September. During the working part of the visit to the Montenegrin Parliament, there were meetings with the Friendship Group of the Parliament of Montenegro for cooperation with Kuwait, headed by Vice - President of the Parliament and Chair of the Group Milutin Simović.

17 September

- Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović received H.E. Ferdinand Nagy, Ambassador of the Republic of Romania to Montenegro. The interlocutors emphasised good cooperation and friendly relations of the two countries, seen through, inter alia intensive parliamentary dialogue. In that context, and with the aim of sharing experiences in the negotiation process with the European Union, the two agreed on the visit of the Committee on European Affairs of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies to the Parliament of Montenegro.
- Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms of the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro and Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), organised the seminar “Code of Ethics for MPs”, thereby making it another activity set out in the 2015 Activity Plan of the Committee to have been implemented. The following participated in the seminar: Chair of the Committee Halil Duković, Deputy Chair Ljiljana Đurašković, members of the Committee Husnija Šabović, Izet Bralić and Rešad

Sijarić, as well as MPs Marta Šćepanović, Nada Drobnjak and Nikola Gegaj.



18 September

- Ambassador of Turkey in Montenegro Serhat Galip paid a visit to the Parliament of Montenegro. During the visit, the ambassador had several meetings with President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Vice Presidents of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović, Milutin Simović and Suljo Mustafić.

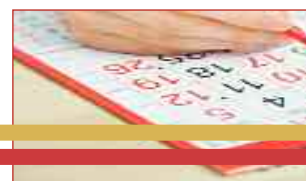
20 September

- Delegation of the Legislative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro, composed of MPs Velizar Kaluđerović and Luid Ljubo Škrelja, paid a study visit to the Parliament of Italy, in the period 20-26 September.



During the visit, the delegation members met with parliamentarians of the Lower House of the Italian Parliament, i.e. members of the Constitutional Affairs Committee, Committee on European Union Policies and Committee on Foreign Affairs. Delegation of the Legislative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro was the guest of the Upper House of the Italian Parliament – the Senate as well, as part of the ongoing visit to the Italian Parliament.

CALENDAR



22 September

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the work of the conference, at which, the project "The prevention of early forced marriages" was presented. This event forms an integral part of the project jointly implemented by the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Permanent Representation of France to the OSCE in Vienna and Embassy of France in Podgorica. The project "The prevention of early forced marriages" was an opportunity to initiate dialogue on the goals and planned activities within the joint project.

23 September

- Member of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Šefkija Murić and Deputy Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Ljiljana Đurašković participated in the Interparliamentary meeting of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and competent committees of national parliaments, held on the topic: "Situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic approach to migration". Several sessions took place during the meeting, on the following topics: "The role of Justice and Home Affairs Agencies in the hot spot concept" and "Addressing migration at the national and local level".

24 September

- Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Rifat Rastoder, and the Secretary General of the Parliament Siniša Stanković participated in the Inter-parliamentary Conference on the topic "Public service media and the Parliaments in the Enlargement Countries". The Conference, hosted by Croatian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Croatian Parliamentary Committee on Information, Computerisation and the Media, was held in Zagreb.
- At the fourth meeting, the Council of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption determined the List of candidates that meet the conditions for the election of the Director of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption. The interview with the candidates who

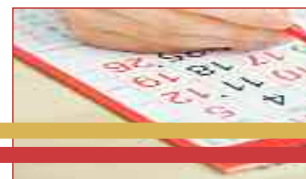
meet the conditions for the election of the Agency Director is scheduled for 1 October 2015.

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković received H.E. Ferdinand Nagy, the Ambassador of Romania to Montenegro. Chair Vuković referred to the importance of the support that Romania has been providing to Montenegro on its path towards the EU and NATO integration. The Ambassador Nagy emphasised that the following NATO Summit represents a very important political decision for Montenegro and that Romania will continue to fully support Montenegro in the fulfillment of the strategic goals towards EU and NATO membership. The two noted the significance of parliament as a legislative institution crucial in strengthening the rule of law.
- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the work of the meeting of the Board for Women Entrepreneurship of the Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro. Participants of the meeting spoke about the Strategy for the Development of Women's Entrepreneurship in Montenegro 2015-2020 and Guidelines for creating the environment for women entrepreneurship in local communities, as well as results of the research entitled "Education of women in Montenegro in the function of gender equality".

28 September

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in a program on domestic gender-based violence, conducted within the project "Access to Justice for Victims of Domestic Violence", implemented in partnership by the Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and NGO Center for Women's Rights, and financial support from the Norwegian Embassy in Belgrade. The aim of this project is to support the process of establishing a sustainable and efficient system of protection and support victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence.
- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković participated in the event organised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and UNICEF Representative to Montenegro,

CALENDAR



as a follow up event within the campaign “Every child needs a family”, which took place on 28 September in the Montenegrin National Theatre. The campaign “Every child needs a family” was launched by the Government of Montenegro, UNICEF and Delegation of EU to Montenegro in September 2013. The Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms also joined the campaign, and in cooperation with UNICEF Representative to Montenegro, organised a public debate entitled “Rights of the Child-Foster parenting”, which took place on 2 March 2015 in Herceg Novi.

- Head of Delegation Predrag Sekulić and members of Delegation Goran Tuponja and Snežana Jonica participated in the Autumn session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which took place from 28 September to 2 October in Strasbourg.

29 September

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković met with the Counselor at the Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan Seyran Mirzazadeh. The interlocutors reached consent on further intensification of political and economic cooperation at all levels.



Chair Vuković pointed out that mutual friendship and understanding existed between the two countries, and that the relations were reflected in regular political dialogue, as well as in intensive contacts and substantial cooperation, especially in the fields of economy, tourism and culture. Counselor in the Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mirzazadeh informed the Chair about holding of parliamentary elections in the Republic of Azerbaijan, which were scheduled for 1 November 2015, and used the opportunity to express the wish

for the Parliament of Montenegro to appoint a representative, who would assume the role of the observer and monitor these elections.

30 September

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnyak met with the Ombudswoman for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia Višnja Ljubičić. The topics of the meeting covered the following - implementation of the Law on Gender Equality, with amendments to which, in June 2015, the obligation of Montenegro was fulfilled for anti-discrimination laws to be in compliance with the EU acquis; evaluation of the work of national mechanisms for gender equality; prevention of violence against women and domestic violence, as well as experience on the implementation of the CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul), with the significant contribution of the Committee, as an institutional mechanism for the protection of women's rights. With the adoption of the Law on Ratification of the Convention in 2013, Chair of the Committee emphasised that Montenegro became one of the first countries to commit itself to harmonise its legal framework with the provisions of the Convention, which began to be applied from 1 August 2014.
- Upon termination of the Third Conference on sustainable energy, organised by School of Democratic Leadership, members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget met with Janez Kopač, Director of the Energy Community Secretariat, who presented to the Committee the Third Annual Report on Implementation of Energy Community Strategy. The committee members were acquainted with, among other things, the Views of the Energy Community on the current situation in Montenegro when it comes to the following areas: electricity, gas, renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, environmental protection and oil reserves. In addition, activities and objectives of Energy Community were discussed, which involved attracting investment in power generation, provision of stable energy resources, establishment of an integrated energy market, improvement of environment in terms of energy supply and strengthening competition at the regional level.