



Parliament of Montenegro

# NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 57 ♦ February 2016

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# OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year VI ♦ No. 57 ♦ February 2016

## FOREWORD

*Dear readers,*

We present to you the key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 29 February, which is, in the form of monthly newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by Parliamentary Service.

In February, Sitting of the Second Extraordinary Session took place, during which MPs adopted the following laws: Law on Public Sector Salaries, Law on Amendment to the Law on Yachts and Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreigners.

During February, committees considered 15 proposals for a law and held other activities within their oversight role.

In focus of this month's newsletter is the participation of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro in the Fifteenth Winter meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which took place in Vienna.

The newsletter is published monthly 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.

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 Second Extraordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016**, the following laws were adopted: Law on Public Sector Salaries, Law on Amendment to the Law on Yachts, and Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreigners. In addition, the beginning of MP's office for MPs Raško Konjević and Miloš Konatar was stated.

### *Proposals for a law deliberated in committees*

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreigners** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Public Sector Salaries** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee. The Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration also considered the proposal as an interested committee, and submitted its opinion on the proposal to the Lead committee, i.e. Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. In addition, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget considered the proposal and proposed it to the Parliament for adoption.
- **Proposal for a Law on Spirit Drinks** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning.

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendment to the Law on Yachts** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Waste Management Law** 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 Administrative Fees** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Security Protection of Ships and Ports** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement on the Western Balkan Research and Innovation Centre – WISE** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Amicable Settlement of Labour Disputes** 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 Amendments to the Labour Law** 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 Amendments to the Law on Prohibition of Harassment at Work** 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 Amendments to the Law on Trade Union Representation** 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 Amendments to the Law on Labour Fund** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Legislative Committee.

### *Other activities of working bodies*

- At the 111<sup>th</sup> meeting of 10 February, the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held a control hearing of Supreme State Prosecutor Ivica Stanković, Main special prosecutor Milivoje Katnić and Minister of Justice Zoran Pažin, on the topic: “The current application in practice and effects of the new institutes from the Criminal Procedure Code (plea agreement, cooperative witness and others), their scope and limitations, and the application of the Law on Special Public Prosecutor's Office - effects and problems, with special focus on the model for electing the head of a special investigation team”.



At the 112<sup>th</sup> meeting held on the same day, the Committee determined a list of candidates who applied to Public Call for the election of two members of the Prosecutorial Council among respectable lawyers.

At the 113<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 15 February, the Committee members have concluded that all the applicants fulfill the conditions for the election of two members of the Prosecutorial Council from among respectable lawyers.

- At the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3 February, members of the **Committee on European Integration** provided a positive opinion on draft negotiating positions for chapters 11 - Agriculture and rural development and 12 - Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy.



- At the 128<sup>th</sup> meeting of 1 February, the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** considered implementation of six conclusions, adopted during the consultative hearing on the topic: “Enforcement of policy, respectively laws in the field of concessions, with regard to implementation of the laws of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted on the occasion of considering 2013 Performance Report of the Commission for

Concessions". In addition, the Committee also discussed the 2014 Performance Report of the Commission for Concessions of Montenegro with the Register of Concession Contracts.



At the 130<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 22 February, the Committee conducted a control hearing of Branimir Gvozdenović, Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism and Zoran Mrdak, Director of the Skadar Lake National Park, regarding the negative opinion of the State Audit Institution on the financial audit and audit of regularities of the Public Enterprise for National Parks of Montenegro.

At the 132<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Committee, held on 29 February, the Committee adopted the 2015 Performance Report and determined 2016 Work Plan.

- At the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** held on 18 February, the Committee members considered the 2013-2017 Action Plan for implementation of the Strategy for Development of Social Welfare and Child Care System in Montenegro, for 2015 and 2016.

At the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting of 29 February, the Committee conducted the control hearing of Zorica Kovačević, Minister of Work and Social Welfare and Coordinator of the Coordination Committee for monitoring the implementation of the Strategy for permanently resolving the issue of displaced and internally displaced persons in Montenegro with special regard to the Camp Konik I and II, on the topic: "Implementation of the Strategy for permanently resolving the issue of displaced and internally displaced persons in Montenegro with special regard to the Camp Konik".



- At the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Gender Equality Committee** of 15 February, the Committee members adopted the 2015 Performance Report of the Committee and 2016

Work Plan.

- At the 54<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning** held on 16 February, the Committee adopted the 2015 Performance Report.
- The 115<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare**, held on 3 February, was dedicated to the topic "Current state of health care in Montenegro". Members of the Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the health care system in Montenegro and worldwide. In addition, there were talks about the Zika virus and recommendations of the World Health Organization, as well as activities of the health care system of Montenegro in fighting this virus.
- At the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the **Anti-corruption Committee** of 17 February, the Committee unanimously adopted the 2015 Performance Report of the Anti-corruption Committee and the 2016 Work Plan of the Anti-corruption Committee.
- At the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the **Administrative Committee** of 18 February, members of the Committee determined a List of timely and complete proposals of candidates for members of the Agency for Electronic Media Council. In addition, the Committee determined the 2015 Performance Report of the Administrative Committee and 2016 Work Plan of the Committee.
- At the Eleventh 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**, held on 24 February, members of the Committee considered Draft Proposal for the Report 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 and Draft Performance Report 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.



## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



### *Delegation of the Committee on European Integration participated in the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the EU (COSAC)*

Deputy Chair of the Committee on European Integration Marija Maja Čatović and member Danko Šarančić participated on 8 February in the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the EU (COSAC), held in The Hague.

In the framework of the Dutch Presidency of the EU Council, the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the EU was held. The meeting was focused on the topic of improving the role of parliaments in reaching decisions at the European level and strengthening their control mechanisms for the implementation of the EU regulations. In addition, key issues that Netherlands would deal with in the framework of the Dutch Presidency of the EU Council in the following six-month period were presented.

The first session was focused on cooperation of union affairs committees of national parliaments concerning application of mechanisms to control the decision-making process at the European level, and the level of development of communication and cooperation of the committees with the European Parliament itself.

Experiences of the French and Belgian parliaments regarding control mechanism were presented. With regard to that, the National Assembly of the Parliament of France regulated the issue of control by the resolution, while in Belgium, in line with parliamentary structure, federal and regional parliaments had their independent instruments of control.



The second session was devoted to priorities of six-month presidency. In line with that, the aim of the Dutch presidency is the Union focused on economic growth and opening of new jobs through innovations, but also the Union which cooperates with the civil sector.

### *Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Mustafić attended the National Prayer Breakfast, in Washington*

At the invitation of members of the United States Congress, Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić attended on 3 and 4 February the National Prayer Breakfast, in Washington, hosted by the American President Barack Obama. During his stay in the State Department, Mustafić met with Director of the Office of South Central European Affairs Thomas Yazdgerdi, Director of the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Philip Kaplan and Head of the sector for Montenegro David Mayer, Head of the section for Montenegro, on strengthening further cooperation in the defence and security field Eric Simon, Director of the Office for the Balkans on the improvement of coordinated and partnering actions aimed at more efficient fight against global problem of terrorism Mark Norman, and Special Coordinator for Office of Global Criminal Justice Todd Buchwald.

NATO invitation is a big step for Montenegro, important for the future processes of strengthening stability in the region, but it is necessary to continue further reforms in the society, by strengthening the rule

of law and political dialogue - it was assessed during the meeting of Vice President of the Parliament Suljo Mustafić and the State Department officials in New York.



Vice President Mustafić stressed the importance of partnering relations, expressing gratitude for the USA support in NATO integration and democratisation of the society.

Montenegro's Ambassador to Washington Srđan Darmanović also attended the meetings in the State Department.

## IN FOCUS



### *President of the Parliament of Montenegro participated in the Fifteenth Winter meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Vienna*

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and MP Branko Čavor participated in the Fifteenth Winter meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which took place in Vienna, on 25-26 February. The meeting of the Standing Committee of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was held first, which welcomed the possibility for establishing temporary committee that would address the issue of migration crisis, one of the greatest challenges at the moment.

Gernot Erler, Special Representative of the German Federal Government had a key statement at the OSCE PA Winter Meeting. He spoke about priorities of the German presidency and emphasised the most important topics that the Germany would address in the period to come. With regard to that, Erler stressed that priorities of the German presidency rested upon the restoration of dialogue, rebuilding of trust and maintaining security in the OSCE area. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, discussing with him the current political developments in Montenegro. The President informed him on the autumn protests and establishment of the parliamentary dialogue, with the support of the European Union. They mutually stated that free and fair elections were a fundamental value that OSCE protected, and many separate institutions in the OSCE were devoted to this: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE's Representative on Freedom of the Media and other. They stated that Montenegro was in front of the great challenge to provide all citizens with their fundamental right to

freely express their will and obtain the government as undisputed expression of their votes. Without that, there are no basis conditions for democracy, permanent stability or prosperity of the state. Secretary General Zannier promised that the OSCE would help to Montenegro in order to achieve free and fair elections. He expressed gratitude to the OSCE PA President Emeritus for all his work in the OSCE so far, and for initiating and leading parliamentary dialogue in Montenegro.



They agreed that it was necessary to work a lot in the field of the rule of law in the period to come, as well as for providing free media and freedom of expression, because, aside from being the key principles in the enlargement process, free media are reflection of democracy in a country. In addition, the interlocutors underlined the importance of full application of electoral legislation with the aim of holding fair and free elections which would be recognised by all participants in the election process, as well as the need for regaining confidence in election process.

## PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

**Plenary.** "Plenary (English *plenary session, plenum*; German *Plenum, Vollversammlung*; French *assemblée plénière*), means session during which all members are in attendance. It is a sitting of an elected body (representative or another forum) which is attended by all members, hence the name plenary. For instance, plenary session of parliament means a sitting attended by all its members, and not just members of certain parliamentary committees. Extended plenum may be defined as a sitting which is in addition to the ordinary members attended by other persons, most commonly by other institutions, respectively invited individuals."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pravni Leksikon, Zagreb, Leksikografski Zavod Miroslav Krleža 2007, str.1074

# FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



## POLICE REGULATIONS IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONTENEGRO

25 January/7 February 1907.

### A General provisions Police and its duties

Among the oldest state institutions is the Police Administration, which existed at the same time as the state. It is hard to imagine a well-organised state without the police, i.e. without an institution in charge of maintaining public order and security. Imagine a country where everyone did what they wanted and no one had security of life and property.

The first and foremost, the task of the police is maintaining order in the country. Last but not least, and also very important task of the police is ensuring individual security and security of property.

In addition to the aforementioned tasks, the police shall also perform many other tasks, most important of which are:

- a) prevention of penal (evident) affairs, arresting and investigation of its perpetrators,
  - b) taking care of carrying out of law and decisions of particular governments, and
  - c) care of citizen health and public morals.
- Given the duties listed above, it can be noted that the police is among the most important and useful state institutions.

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### C

#### Gendarmes

Gendarmes are members of law enforcement in charge of policing, taking care of citizen personal and property security, prevention of penal (evident) affairs, arresting and investigation of its perpetrators, taking care of carrying out of law and decisions of particular governments and care of citizen health and public morals.

Citizens are welcome to join the gendarmery voluntarily, and in order for a candidate to become a gendarme, he should satisfy the following requirements:

- a) to be a Montenegrin citizen
- b) to be literate,
- c) to have served his time in the army,
- d) not to be younger than 20 nor older than 40

- e) years,
- f) to be well-behaved and to be mentally and physically completely developed (which must be confirmed by medical certificate).

Priority will be given to those who in addition to the abovementioned also fulfil the following requirements: unmarried or widowed without children; fluent in a foreign language and are located nearby; assets shall also be taken into account.

### D

#### Behaviour of gendarmes toward citizens and their behaviour when performing their duties and off duty

Gendarmes are obliged to act in accordance with their duties and the trust placed on them, and shall observe strictly the following orders:

##### Article 1

Gendarmes are obliged to be polite, serious, reasonable and cautious to everyone and everywhere.

##### Article 2

They are obliged never to behave toward citizens in a rude or offensive manner.

##### Article 3

Gendarmes have to observe strictly the laws and orders of superior authorities, in performance of their official duties.

##### Article 4

They must unconditionally act in accordance with the decisions of superior authorities.

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As members of law enforcement, gendarmes are not allowed to perform activities which are also prohibited to others, neither act in a way that would make them an object of mockery and derision.

Cetinje, 25 January 1907

Minister of Interior  
Mih. Ivanović

Pavićević, B, Raspopović, R, ur. Crnogorski zakonic 1796-1916, knj. IV, Podgorica (Montenegrin Codes 1796-1916, Book IV), Istorijski institut Crne gore, 1998, pp 421- 438

# CALENDAR



## 3 February

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Philip M. Breedlove, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. The interlocutors assessed that Montenegro's accession to the NATO Alliance was mutually beneficial. Montenegro was estimated as a country which, among other things, provided a significant contribution to regional stability with its good international relations and especially good neighbourly relations, while NATO contributed to Montenegro in various domains, but mostly in promotion of security and stability.



- Chair of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports Branka Tanasijević met with Secretary General of the International School Sport Federation Jan Coolen. The emphasis was on the excellent cooperation of this parliamentary Committee with the Administration for Youth and Sports and Montenegrin Olympic Committee. Special attention was dedicated to the system of school sports, legal provisions and funding, as well as challenges in the organisation of sports activities for secondary school age.
- President and member of the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations Aleksandar Saša Zeković and Dražen Cerović paid a working visit to the Police Security Centre Nikšić. Prior to official talks with chief and heads of the Police Security Centre, the President and the member of the Council took part in the informative meeting "Police service and police integrity in Nikšić", where they discussed particular examples of police powers, cooperation of local NGOs with police service and possibilities for further development of police at the local level.
- At the invitation of members of the United States Congress, Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Mustafić attended on 3 and 4 February the National Prayer Breakfast, in Washington, hosted

by the American President Barack Obama. During the visit to New York and Chicago, Vice-President Mustafić met with representatives of the Association of emigrants originating from Montenegro.

## 4 February

- Members of the Committee on European Integration Marija Maja Čatović, Predrag Sekulić, Vuk Roćen, Nada Drobnjak, Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Azra Jasavić, as well as Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget Aleksandar Damjanović met with Angelina Eichhorst, Director for Western Europe, Western Balkans and Turkey at the European External Action Service. The focus of the meeting was the current political situation in Montenegro, thus the MPs expressed different views on the current political dialogue and the work on preparation of the upcoming parliamentary elections.



- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Angelina Eichhorst, Director for Western Europe, Western Balkans and Turkey at the European External Action Service. The interlocutors discussed various topics, including, inter alia, the current political situation, which was assessed as a test situation, the results of which would show how much Montenegro had progressed and matured in political domain of democracy.

## 5 February

- President of the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations Aleksandar Saša Zeković presided over the Consultative conference of the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations titled "Civilian Control of Police Operations and Objections by the Public". The conference provided an opportunity for discussion with the leading NGOs, on topics such as: capacities of the police, use of police powers and observance of human rights, as well as possibilities of



# CALENDAR



mutual cooperation. In addition, the Conference focused on obtaining specific proposals for the improvement of future activities and work of the Council.

## 8 February

- Deputy Chair of the Committee on European Integration Marija Maja Ćatović and member Danko Šarančić participated in the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the EU held in the Hague. During the meeting, the discussion was about the role of parliaments in decision-making at the European level, key issues that Netherlands would deal with in the framework of the Dutch Presidency of the EU Council in the following six-month period, as well as the 2016 European Commission work programme.



- At the Fifth meeting of the Parliamentary Dialogue, it was agreed that the document, which is the subject of work and agreement of the Parliamentary Dialogue, will be called "Agreement on Creating Conditions for Free and Fair Elections".
- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Miodrag Vuković participated in the Conference of Chairs of Parliamentary Committees on Foreign Affairs of the Council of Europe Member States, which took place in Sofia, Bulgaria. The main topic of the Conference was "Democratic Security Based on European Unity and Cooperation". Within three sessions, the participants discussed challenges and dilemmas regarding freedom and security in Europe, Schengen, and perspectives of the SEE countries, migration wave and management of crisis caused by that wave, as well as the security challenges of migration crisis.

## 9 February

- President of Montenegro Filip Vujanović received representatives of the Gender Equality Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro, composed of the Chair Nada Drobnjak and Executive Director of the Women's Safe House Ljiljana Raičević. The Delegation informed the

President on the international conference "General and specialised services of assistance to women who experienced violence - guarantees of availability and quality of service", held in Podgorica, on 25 November as a part of the campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence".

## 10 February

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić hosted Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria Sebastian Kurz. The interlocutors assessed that maintaining the constant political course was necessary for progress and successful European integration, while building trust in the election system was a step which should be undertaken on that path. It was concluded that political maturity as well as stronger economy and respect of democratic principles by the strength of the rule of law were necessary for the solid foundations of Montenegrin progress.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Roman Hloben, newly appointed Ambassador of the Slovak Republic. President Krivokapić emphasised that the Slovak Republic represents a very significant factor in accomplishing the historical Montenegrin goals - renewal of independence and NATO membership. The interlocutors agreed that the ongoing parliamentary dialogue in the Parliament of Montenegro was an important element in strengthening political stability, and that it is also one of the steps that moves Montenegro forward on its European path. Ambassador Roman Hloben pointed again at the support of the Slovak Republic in Montenegro's EU accession integration process.

## 16 February

- MPs Miodrag Vuković, Žana Filipović and Nikola Gegaj participated in the Summit "Balkan Partnerships - Strengthening the region's ties", which was held in Brussels. Participants in the Summit agreed that it is necessary to work further on intensifying the cooperation between West Balkans countries, which was especially insisted on at the last year's Vienna Summit of the Western Balkans, which was held within the Berlin Process, when the European perspective of the Western Balkans countries was confirmed, including infrastructure and energy projects.

## 17 February

- Deputy Chair of the Committee on Economy, Finance

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and Budget Damir Šehović participated in the Interparliamentary Conference, on the topic „Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU“, within the Netherlands' presidency over the Council of the European Union, which took place in Brussels. The Conference included three sessions with the following topics: EU member states' parliaments' experiences with enhanced economic coordination and governance, the effects of budgetary coordination, as well as opportunities and challenges to be faced by the EU member states and accession countries with regard to future investment scenarios.



- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić hosted Speaker of the Parliament of Israel Yuli-Yoel Edelstein, who paid an official visit to Montenegro. During the visit, Speaker of the Parliament of Israel had meetings with President Krivokapić and heads of MP Groups.

## 19 February

- President Krivokapić received Miro Kovac, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia. The interlocutors assessed that the continuously good relations needed to proceed namely by strengthening cooperation in the areas of culture, tourism, economy, and education. During the meeting, they discussed the systems of strengthening cooperation in education by introducing more favourable conditions for Montenegrin students in Croatia, but they also discussed tourist offers that would place quality content in the tourism market offered by natural potentials of Montenegro and Croatia.

## 22 February

- Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with the Council of Europe organised the Conference “Freedom of Expression and Accountability of Media” dedicated to the role of public broadcasters, private

media and investigative journalism in providing conditions for the protection and improvement of freedom of expression and public debate, but also accountability of media in accordance with their strength and role in the society.

## 24 February

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with Head of Political and Economic Section of the US Embassy in Podgorica Eric Holmgren. It was concluded that political stability was important to Montenegro and in this sense it was necessary that the dialogue between political subjects is continued, as a manner of overcoming differences on certain issues. It was assessed that minority parties were a significant factor in political processes, and that their mutual cooperation represented a good model for building trust and stability with a view to democratisation and integration processes of Montenegro.

## 25 February

- President of the Parliament Krivokapić and MP Branko Čavor participated in the Fifteenth winter meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which took place in Vienna, on 25-26 February. The meeting was focused on the field it covers, migrant and refugee crisis in the field of economy, security and human rights. The aim of this mission will be creating opportunities for providing the collective response for overcoming current challenges of participating courtiers. During his visit to Vienna, President Krivokapić met with OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier and other OSCE officials.
- Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning held a meeting, in which 2030 Draft National Strategy for Sustainable Development was presented. It was stated that, in accordance with the methodology for drafting the NSOR and significance of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, the content and structure of NSOR was determined: State of national resources (which covers four units: state of human resources, state of social resources, state of natural resources, state of economic resources, governance for sustainable development). The overview of key unsustainable trends of development and the need for sustainable development by 2030 was also given.