



Parliament of Montenegro

NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 66 ♦ December 2016

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OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year VI ♦ No. 66 ♦ December 2016

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

We present to you the key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 31 December, which is, in the form of monthly newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by Parliamentary Service.

In December, the second and the fourth sitting of the second ordinary session of the Parliament of Montenegro took place. At the Fourth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro, MPs adopted 23 laws. In December, Committees considered 32 proposals for a law, one proposal for a decision, and performed other activities within their oversight role.

In focus of this month's newsletter is the presentation of the awards to the best employees of the year.

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 Second Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, the following started a new term of office as MPs: Mihailo Anđušić, Miomir M. Mugoša, Dragutin Papović, Nada Drobnjak, Petar Smolović, Petar Porobić, Nikola Rakočević, Jovanka Laličić, Miloš Nikolić and Branka Tanasijević. In addition, during the sitting, standing committees of the 26th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro have been established.

At the Fourth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, MPs adopted the following: Law on the 2015 Final Budget Account along with the Report on the audit on the proposal for a Law on the 2015 Final Budget Account and the Annual report on audits and activities performed by the State Audit Institution of Montenegro for the period October 2015 - October 2016, 2015 Performance Report of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services along with the 2015 Financial report and 2015 Report on performed audits on financial statements of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, 2015 Financial statements and Report on performed audits on financial reports of the Insurance Supervision Agency along with the 2015 Performance Report of the Agency, Annual Performance Report of the Securities and Exchange Commission and situation of the insurance market for the 2015, along with the 2015 Financial report of the Commission and 2015 Report on performed audits on financial statements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, 2015 Report on the current situation of the insurance market, financial Plans along with the 2017 work plans of independent regulatory bodies, namely: Energy Regulatory Agency, Agency for Electronic Media, Agency for

Parliament of Montenegro

The newsletter is edited by the Education Centre of the Parliamentary Institute.

Electronic Communications and Postal Services, Insurance Supervision Agency, Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices, and Securities and Exchange Commission, 2015 Status Report on the Energy Sector of Montenegro, 2017 Budget Law, Law on the Amendments to the Law on Salaries of Employees in the Public Sector, Law on Amendments to the Law on Social and Child Protection, Law on Amendments to the Law on Personal Income Tax, Law on Amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax, Law on Amendments to the Law on Excise Duty, Law on Rescheduling Tax Debts, Law on the Amendments to the Law on the Financing of Political Parties and Electoral Campaigns, Law on International and Temporary Protection of Foreigners, Law on Auditing, Law on Amendments to the Law on the Legal Protection of Industrial Design, Law on Amendments to the Law on Patents, Law on Amendments to the Law on Trademarks, Law on Amendments to the Law on Electronic Communications, Law on Amendments to the Law on Defence, Law on the Management of Municipal Wastewater, Law on Amendments to the Law on Memorials, Law on Amendments to the Law on Health Insurance, Law on Amendments to the Law on Health Protection, Law on Ratification of the Agreement Between Montenegro and Republic of Slovakia on Social Insurance, Law on the Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters, Law on the Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and EUROJUST, 2015 Report on the Development and Protection of Minority Rights and Rights of other minority national communities, 2015 Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Regional Development Strategy 2014-2020, Decision on Granting Hydrocarbons Production Concession Contract in Montenegro undersea blocks 4219-26 and 4218-30, along with the Proposal for a Contract on Granting Hydrocarbons Production Concession in Montenegro undersea blocks 4219-26 and 4218-30, Proposal for a Contract on Joint Operations and Proposal for a Contract on Accounting, 2015 Performance Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms and 2015 Report on the National Mechanism for the prevention of torture.

Within the item *Elections and Appointments*, the Parliament appointed nine members of the State Electoral Commission, as follows: Nataša Pešić as member; Nail Redža as deputy member; Ljiljana Radonjić as member; Nikola Dedeić as deputy member; Mersudin Dautović as member; Ljubomir Sošić as deputy member; Aleksandar Jovičević as member; Zoran Radonjić as member; Haris Mekić as member; Valon Dasharami as deputy member; Veljo Čađenović as an Acting Secretary of the Commission; Dražen Medojević as member; Darko Čelebić as deputy member; Veljko Vujović as member; Duško Stijepović as deputy member and Milisav Ćorić as member.

Proposals for a law deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Enforcement and Security** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Enforcement Officers** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative

Committee.

- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Defence** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Security and Defence Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Deployment of the Armed Forces of Montenegro units to the International Forces and participation of members of Civil Defence, Police and Public Administration employees in the International missions and other activities abroad** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Security and Defence Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on the Management of Municipal Wastewater** 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 Ratification of the Agreement Between Montenegro and Republic of Slovakia on Social Insurance** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on No. 152 Convention concerning Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work)** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) and non - member States of the European Union on the participation of the latter in the Community arrangements for the early exchange of information in the event of radiological emergency (ECURIE) (2003/C 102/02)** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and EUROJUST** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement on the measures undertaken by the State Port in the prevention, combating and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on**

- Memorials** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports.
- **Proposal for a 2017 Budget Law** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. Furthermore, the proposal was considered by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning, Committee on European Integration, Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, Security and Defence Committee, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports, Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, in part under their competence and submitted their opinion to the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, as a lead Committee.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Health Protection** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Health Insurance** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro** 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 Amendments to the Law on Minority Rights and Freedoms** 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 the 2015 Final Budget Account along with the report on the audit on the Proposal for a Law on the 2015 Final Budget Account and the annual report on audits and activities performed by the State Audit Institution of Montenegro for the period October 2015-October 2016** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. The same proposal was considered by the Security and Defence Committee which proposed to the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, as a lead Committee to propose to the Parliament to adopt it.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on State and Other Holidays** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
 - **Proposal for a Law on International and Temporary Protection of Foreigners** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Rescheduling Tax Debts** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Excise Duty** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Personal Income Tax** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Salaries of Employees in the Public Sector** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Social and Child Protection of Montenegro** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee, Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Auditing** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on the Legal Protection of Industrial Design** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Trademarks** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Patents** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Electronic Communications** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
 - **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on the Financing of Political Subjects and Electoral Campaigns** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.
- Proposals for other acts deliberated in committees***
- **Proposal for a Decision on Granting Hydrocarbons Production Concession Contract in Montenegro undersea blocks 4219-26 and 4218-30, along with the Proposal for a Contract on Granting Hydrocarbons Production Concession in Montenegro undersea blocks 4219-26 and 4218-30, Proposal for a Contract on Joint Operations and Proposal for a Contract on**

Accounting was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

Other activities of working bodies

- At the First meeting of the **Security and Defence Committee**, 21 December, the Committee adopted the 2017 Parliamentary Oversight Plan.

At the second meeting of the Committee of 23 December, the Committee supported the Final Report of the State Audit Institution on the audits of the 2015 Annual financial report of National Security Agency.

- At the First meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** of 22 December, members of the Committee considered and decided to propose to the Parliament to adopt: 2015 Performance Report of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services along with the 2015 Financial Report and 2015 Report on performed audits on financial statements of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, 2015 Financial statements and Report on the performed audits on financial reports of the Insurance Supervision Agency along with the 2015 Performance Report of the Agency, 2015 Report on the current situation of the insurance market, Annual Performance Report of the Securities and Exchange Commission and situation of the insurance market for the 2015, along with the 2015 Financial Report of the Commission and 2015 Report on performed audits on financial statements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, 2015 Status Report on the Energy Sector of Montenegro, Annual Report on the realization of the National Consumer Protection Programme (2015-2018) for the period between July 2015 and June 2016, 2015 Performance Report of the Commission for the Control of Public Procurement Procedures, Report on the awarded State Aid in Montenegro for 2015, 2015 Performance Report of the Deposit Protection Fund, Proposal for a Financial Plan along with the 2017 Work Plan of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, Proposal for a Financial Plan along with 2017 Work Plan of the Insurance Supervision Agency, Proposal for a Financial Plan along with 2017 Work Plan of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Proposal for a Financial Plan along with the 2017 Work Plan of the Energy Regulatory Agency, Proposal for a Financial Plan along with the 2017 Work Plan of the Agency for medicines and medical devices of Montenegro, and the Proposal for a Financial Plan along with the 2017 Work Plan of the Electronic Media Agency.

At the second meeting, held on 23 December, the Committee considered the 2015 Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Regional Development Strategy 2014-2020 and proposed the Parliament to adopt it.

- At the First meeting of the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms**, held on 23 December, the Committee members considered and supported the 2015 Report on the

Development and Protection of Minority Rights and Rights of other minority national communities.

At the second meeting of the Committee, held on 28 December, the Committee considered and supported the 2015 Performance Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms and 2015 Report on the National Mechanism for the prevention of torture.

- At the First meeting of the **Gender Equality Committee**, 22 December, the Committee, in part under its competence, considered the 2015 Performance Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms and submitted its opinion to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms as a lead committee, to propose to the Parliament to adopt it.
- At the First meeting of the **Administrative Committee**, held on 5 December, members of the Committee determined the number of members of standing committees. In addition, the Committee adopted the Decision on the termination of the right to earnings of all MPs of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, 39 decisions on the right to earnings upon termination of office of MPs of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, on their request, 63 decisions on the right to wages of MPs of the 26th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, who informed the Committee that they would perform the function exclusively, six decisions on the right to a difference on the salary of MPs of the 26th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, 12 decisions on the dismissal and 12 decisions on the termination of the right to wages of special advisors in the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, decisions on the termination of the right to wages of the President and members of the 40th Government of Montenegro, and Decision on the wages and Decision on special allowance of the Supreme Public Prosecutor, upon the request of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office.

In the follow-up of the meeting, on 16 December, the Committee determined the list of candidates on the election of chairs and members of standing committees of the Parliament of Montenegro of the 26th Convocation.

At the third meeting of 29 December, the Committee determined the Proposal for a Decision on the Appointment of nine members of the State Electoral Commission, and decided to propose to the Parliament to appoint Nataša Pešić as member of the Commission, Nail Redža as deputy member, Liljana Radonjić as member, Nikola Dedeić as member, Mersudin Dautović as member, Ljubomir Sošić as deputy member, Aleksandar Jovičević as member, Zoran Radonjić as member, Haris Mekić as member, Valon Dašarami as deputy member, Veljo Čadenović as Acting Secretary of the Commission, Dražen Medojević as deputy, Darko Čelebić as member, Veljko Vujović as member, Duško Stijepović as deputy member and Milisav Ćorić as member.

NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



A constructive political dialogue in the Parliament crucial for the integration process of the country

President of the Parliament of Montenegro received on 7 December Henoveva Ruiz Calavera, General Director for Western Balkans at the Directorate for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Head of the Montenegro Unit within the European Commission Directorate General for EU Enlargement Dirk Lange, and EU Ambassador to Montenegro Aivo Orav. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the priority activities in the upcoming period particularly with regard to the termination of the Euro-Atlantic integration process.

President Brajović emphasised that in the upcoming period, the Parliament will work intensively in recovering its role and good reputation in accordance with constitutional competences, mindful of the fact that the process of harmonizing the legislation with the EU *acquis* requires close and structured dialogue of the Government and the Parliament of Montenegro, as well all other participants in the political life in Montenegro.

The interlocutors agreed that a constructive political dialogue in the Parliament is crucial for the country in its integration process.

In addition, they expressed satisfaction over the fact that, the Parliament, by observing the recommendations

contained in this year's progress report has made a step forward with regards to strengthening the oversight of the budget. Namely, on 16 September, the Parliament has, in cooperation with Westminster Foundation and British Embassy initiated a project involving the Parliamentary budget office in charge of providing assistance to MPs in conducting parliamentary oversight over the budget.

Furthermore, the Parliament of Montenegro is among the Parliaments which have included all lead committees in the harmonization process. This means that in addition to the Committee on European Integration, all lead committees, in the area under their competences, shall provide their opinion on each negotiating position.



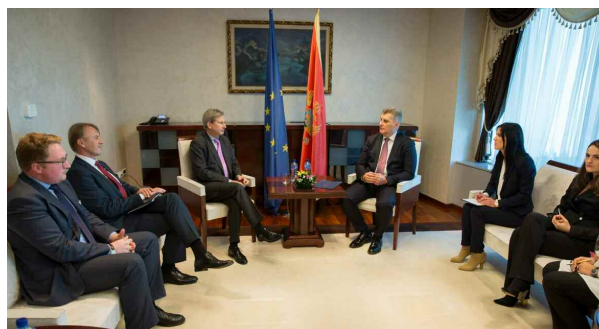
President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Johannes Hahn

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met on 8 December with the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Johannes Hahn.



President Brajović deems that Hahn chose a good timing for visiting Montenegro, and that he was certain that he could convince the other parties that the political dialogue should be conducted within the Parliament and

not out of the premises of the Parliament. He added that a great task lies ahead in terms of further integration processes, all aimed at improving the life of citizens and the society as a whole, and that all political actors should engage in fulfilling this task. The interlocutors agreed that many commitments lie ahead, particularly the ones involving the European Union, and commitment to the European agenda, which is manifested, inter alia, through parliamentary dialogue.



IN FOCUS



President of the Parliament of Montenegro presented the awards to the best employees of the Parliament of Montenegro

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović presented on 29 December the awards to the best employees of the Parliament of Montenegro. In the keynotes, President Brajović was strongly convinced in the success which would result from dedication and joint efforts and that he was certain that by the end of 2017, as well as other upcoming years he would proudly present all the achieved results aimed at promoting the image of the Parliament of Montenegro, as well as Montenegro per se, and all this should benefit the citizens of Montenegro. Bearing in mind his previous working experience, he was strongly convinced that there were no more or less important working tasks, since if that were the case, such working places would not be available. Therefore, he asked all his colleagues and associates to become aware of the importance of their duties. The President, inter alia, emphasised that the good image of the Parliament is not only shown through the work of MPs and the governing bodies, or the messages they were conveying to the citizens during the sittings of the Parliament. The best in the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016 are: Demir Mujević, Marija Vulić and Nela Škatarić. During the ceremony of presenting awards, students of music school “Vasa Pavić” Jana Božović, violin, and Vedran Galičić, guitar, presented themselves to the employees.



FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



THE LAW ON CIVIL PROCEDURE

PART ONE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

LITIGATION CAPACITY

Article 1

General Code of Property proscribes the persons which are sui iuris, persons who are legally competent of freely managing and using their property, and are therefore entitled to defend such rights before the court.

Persons depicted as Alieni iuris (640-664 General Code of Property) shall not be allowed to submit any documents to the court or initiate any civil action before the court.

Article 3

If a person decides to initiate any civil action before the court against another person, and the party the action is filed against does not have a legal representative, in order to avoid postponement of the case, he/she shall be assigned a temporary legal

representative who shall provide assistance to him/her until a permanent legal representative begins work on the case. The person who initiated the action shall cover the expenses.

CHAPTER II

RIVALRY

Article 4

Many persons may initiate an action or an action may be filed against them, provided that they are members of a legal entity, or when their rights and obligations are grounded in the same facts and legal basis.

Article 5

Each co-litigant shall be accountable for his actions, therefore, an act or negligence by a co-litigator shall not benefit or harm any person.

From the Law on Civil Procedure

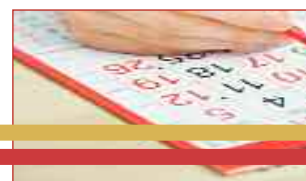
Pavićević, B, Raspopović, R, eds. Crnogorski zakoni 1796 -1916, knj. II (Montenegrin Codes 1796 -1916, Book II), Podgorica, Istorijiski institut Crne Gore, 1998, pp. 1049-1051

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

The Central European Initiative. "The Central European initiative is the oldest regional forum of its type created with the aim of improving cooperation between the states of the Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern Europe, and supporting its member states in the processes of transition to stable democracy, a market economy and European Integration. This initiative was born in 1989 and at first it had four members – Italy, Hungary, Austria, and SFR Yugoslavia. Today it has 18 member states: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, and Ukraine." ¹

¹ Doc. dr Komar, Olivera, Prof. dr Ivana Jelić, Nataša Komnenić, Irena Mijanović, Jelena Radonjić, Vlatko Šćepanović, *Parlamentarni leksikon*, Podgorica, Skupština Crne Gore 2016, pp. 181-182.

CALENDAR



1 December

- MP Obrad Mišo Stanišić participated in a round table held on the topic: "Internal Control of the Police - Independence, Strategies and Methods". The purpose of this round table was gathering representatives of internal control services from the region, as well as experts from international organisations in order to exchange views on normative standards, organisational models, best practices and experience, and emphasise the importance of this area, as well as bring forward new ideas which may strengthen the integrity of internal control of the police and its work.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović received the Ambassador of Slovakia to Montenegro Roman Hloben. President Brajović informed the Ambassador of Slovakia that a lot of activities lie ahead of the Parliament, such as considering law proposals which weren't considered during the pre-electoral campaign. Ambassador Hloben reiterated Slovakia's position that parliamentary dialogue was the only legitimate manner of political struggle in democracy, which was reaffirmed by the citizens with the 73.3 percent turnout in the elections. Brajović emphasised that Montenegrin citizens greatly respected the unequivocal goodwill and efforts of Slovakia invested in the period when Montenegro faced many challenges in restoring its statehood, and also emphasised the importance of Slovakia's ongoing support in terms of opening negotiating chapters.



2 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović received the Ambassador of Hungary to Montenegro Krisztián Pósa who, inter alia, handed over to him the letter of the President of the Parliament of Hungary László Kövér expressing special greetings and best wishes in his future work and the cooperation between both parliaments. President of the Parliament of Montenegro thanked the Ambassador Pósa for the

support Hungary has been providing to Montenegro, as a EU and NATO member, and emphasised that Montenegro and Hungary shared valuable experiences with regard to the integration processes, hence it understands and respects its specificities.

5 December

- Head of Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative Miodrag Vuković participated in the Annual Meeting of the CEI Parliamentary Assembly and meetings of general committees, which took place from 5-7 December in Sarajevo, within the Bosnian Presidency over this initiative. This year's meeting was dedicated to the topic: "Strategies in the prevention and fight against terrorism in the light of migration crisis".

6 December

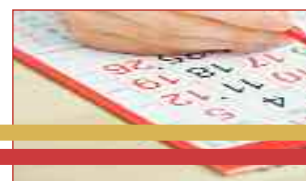
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović received the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Montenegro Mitja Mocnik, who extended his greetings on behalf of President of the Slovenian Parliament Milan Brglez. The interlocutors discussed the visit of President Brglez to Montenegro, the possibilities of intensifying the cooperation between parliaments of both countries, particularly through the activities of parliamentary committees. President Brajović emphasised that in the last ten years Slovenia has been actively participating in the development of Montenegro, and fully supporting Montenegro on its path to the EU and NATO. He added that the intensive cooperation would accelerate the process of Euro-Atlantic integrations, which is of key importance to our country as well as to the region.



7 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro received Henoveva Ruiz Calavera, General Director for Western Balkans at the Directorate for Neighbourhood Policy and

CALENDAR



Enlargement Negotiations, Head of the Montenegro Unit within the European Commission Directorate General for EU Enlargement Dirk Lange, and EU Ambassador to Montenegro Aivo Orav. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the priority activities in the upcoming period particularly with regard to the termination of the Euro-Atlantic Integration process.

8 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Johannes Hahn.
- President Brajović met with the British Ambassador to Montenegro Ian Whitting. The interlocutors emphasised a great parliamentary cooperation between both Montenegrin Parliament and the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Projects realised by the Parliament of Montenegro under the cooperation of the British Parliament, Westminster foundation and Embassy of the United Kingdom in Podgorica were of great assistance to completing specific projects very important for strengthening administrative capacities, as well as the oversight role of the Parliament. President Brajović emphasised that MPs of the Parliament of Montenegro and the Professional service had the opportunity to acquire skills in terms of the oversight role of the finances through other additional projects. The interlocutors underlined the importance of the visit of Commissioner Hahn to Montenegro, particularly in terms of encouraging the parliamentary dialogue between the Government and the opposition.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with the Permanent Coordinator of the System of the United Nations and Permanent Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Montenegro Fiona McCluney. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the achievements of the Parliament of Montenegro in the gender equality area. In addition, they discussed preparation for the upcoming regional conference "Promoting gender equality policies in the Western Balkans and Turkey". President Brajović informed Coordinator McCluney about the constant increase of the number of female MPs in the Montenegrin Parliament, as well a set of legislative acts which enable women to participate more actively in the political and social life of Montenegro. The Action Plan for achieving Gender Equality 2013-2017 is a very important strategic document in this area, which

has already produced positive results. During the meeting, the interlocutors also discussed numerous possibilities for promoting the cooperation between the Parliament of Montenegro and United Nations Office in Montenegro. Coordinator McCluney expressed readiness in providing professional assistance and transmitting experience in the areas important for the progress of the Montenegrin society.

12 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović participated in a regional Conference "Promoting Gender Equality Policies in the Western Balkans and Turkey", which took place on 12 and 13 December in Bečići. At the Conference, President Brajović was convinced that equal representation of both genders in the public and political life is a precondition for democracy. President of the Parliament Brajović deems that promoting real values, education as well as economic strengthening of women would change the mentality attitude towards women in certain professions. Within the two-day Conference, the President held a separate meeting with Cihan Sultanoğlu, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (RBEC) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

13 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro paid a visit to the Parliament of Luxembourg on the occasion of ratification of the Protocol on the accession of Montenegro to NATO. During the visit, President Brajović met with President of the Parliament of Luxembourg Mars Di Bartolomeo and high officials of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

15 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović paid a visit to Brussels, on the occasion of the ratification of Protocol on the Accession of Montenegro to NATO.

16 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro Aivo Orav and Ambassador of the Republic of Slovakia in Montenegro Roman Hloben. During the meeting, the

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interlocutors discussed the boycott of the opposition and an eventual return in the Parliament and the role of the Parliament in the Euro-Atlantic integration process.

21 December

- MP and member of the Anti-Corruption Committee Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković had separate meetings with the representative of the expert mission of the Council of Europe Quentin Reed. The purpose of this visit was the assessment of the implementation of the Code of conduct for MPs, as well as provisions of the Law on Prevention of Corruption with regard to the conflict of interest of MPs.



23 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović received Serhat Galip, Ambassador of Turkey to Montenegro. The best validation of this support is an early ratification of the Protocol on the accession of Montenegro to NATO in the Turkish Parliament. During the meeting, the interlocutors emphasised the importance of regular parliamentary dialogue in the Turkish Parliament in all areas of cooperation as well as a soon encounter between Montenegrin and Parliamentary friendship groups. President Brajović emphasised that Montenegrin and Turkish people shared many common values. Numerous diaspora, Montenegrin students in Turkey, as well as an increase in economic cooperation, also contributed in the promotion of good relations between both countries.
- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ivan Brajović received on a farewell visit the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Montenegro Hafsa Abdulla Mohamed Sharif Al Ulama. President Brajović emphasised that thanks to continuous efforts invested by Ulama, relations between Montenegro and the Emirates were advanced and strengthened. During the meeting, the interlocutors emphasised an excellent cooperation

in the political, cultural and economic level, with the focus on significant investments of the Emirates in our country.

26 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro received Ambassador of Kosovo to Montenegro Skender Durmishi. During the meeting, the interlocutors emphasised the importance of promoting trust and mutual commitment in advancing relations common to neighbouring countries. The interlocutors emphasised that European and Euro-Atlantic Integrations were a common goal, hence, Montenegro's knowledge and experience would be valuable to Kosovo. Ambassador Durmishi referred to Montenegro as an exemplary country with clear orientation for democracy, stability and regional cooperation, and emphasised that Kosovo welcomed Montenegro's success and progress, since it was indispensable for the region. The Ambassador was strongly convinced that there were no political boundaries, and that following the necessary procedure, the Parliament of Kosovo would recognize the Montenegrin minority. Brajović emphasised that both parties agreed that a lot of room was available for the promotion of cooperation, both at the committee level, through parliamentary friendship groups, exchange of opinions within international conferences, and thusly, Parliaments may contribute enormously in strengthening good neighbouring relations.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with the Ambassador of Palestine in Montenegro Rabil Al-Hantouli. President Brajović expressed satisfaction with the opening of the Embassy of Palestine to Montenegro and emphasised the importance of strengthening political dialogue at all levels. Brajović emphasised the need for intensifying parliamentary cooperation, as well as cooperation within multilateral forums. Brajović emphasised that Montenegro was traditionally oriented towards cooperation and mutual respect to other countries, both with neighbouring and all other countries.

29 December

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović handed over the awards to the best civil servants of the Parliament of Montenegro. The following employees received the best employee award: Demir Mujević, Marija Vulić and Nela Škatarić.