

OPEN PARLIAMENT



Center for Democratic Transition



Parliament of Montenegro



European Union

Bulletin on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year I ♦ No. 7 ♦ July 2011

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

You are reading the most important information about the activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 31 July, which is, in the form of monthly bulletin "Open Parliament", prepared by the Center for Democratic Transition (CDT) and the Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The same as the previous month, this month is also marked by intensive parliamentary legislative activity. In July, Parliament adopted a total of 27 laws, while parliamentary committee deliberated 45 law proposals. Through exercising its oversight function, parliamentary committees, among others, deliberated the Annual Report of the Ministry of Defence, Report on the Overall situation in the Army of Montenegro for 2010, Report on the Use of Units of the Army of Montenegro in the International Forces in 2010, as well as Proposal for a Decision on Sending the Army of Montenegro in the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Afghanistan. Parliament also considered the Report on the State of the Energy Sector of Montenegro in 2010, and the Report of the Agency for Insurance Supervision in 2010 along with the Report on the State of the Insurance Market in 2010.

On the proposal of the Government of Montenegro, Parliament, at the tenth and eleventh sitting of the first regular session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2011, adopted a Proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro and a Supplementary proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro. Also, we highlight the adoption of the following laws: the Law on Non-governmental Organizations, the Law Amending the Law on Courts, the Law Amending the Law on Judicial Council, the Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office and the Law on the Status of the Descendants of the Dynasty Petrovic Njegos.

We highlight the adoption of the Semi-Annual Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2011, prepared by the Parliamentary Administration.

Bulletin "Open Parliament" is published monthly as a part of the project "Open Institutions", funded by the European Union through the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro.

Due to the holiday season, we will not publish the August edition of the bulletin, and until September we send you the warmest greetings while waiting for your opinions, criticisms and suggestions to make this bulletin even better and more interesting.

*Respectfully,
Dragan Koprivica
CDT Executive Director*



LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

During July, the Parliament adopted 27 laws.

At the seventh sitting of the first regular session in 2011, the Parliament adopted the following laws:

The Law Amending the Law on Spatial Planning and Construction and the Law Amending the Law on Pension and Disability Insurance.

At the ninth sitting of the first regular session in 2011, the Parliament adopted the Law on Digital Broadcasting.

At the tenth session of the first regular session in 2011, the Parliament adopted a Decision on adoption of the Proposal for amending the Constitution of Montenegro along with the following laws:

The Law on the Status of the Descendants of the Dynasty Petrovic Njegos, The Law on Enforcement and Security, the Law on Copyright and Related Rights, the Law on Sport, the Law Amending the Law on Business Organizations and the Law Amending the Law on Roads.

At the eleventh sitting of the first regular session in 2011, the Parliament adopted a Decision on adoption of the Supplementary proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro, a Decision for Amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro and the follow-



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ing laws: the Law on Non-governmental Organizations, the Law on the DNA register, the Law on Civil Servants and Employees, the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, the Law Amending the Law on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, the Law Amending the Law on Courts, the Law Amending the Law on Judicial Council, the Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office, the Law Amending the Law on Misdemeanours, the Law Amending the Laws Prescribing Fines for Violations, the Law Amending the Law on Salaries of Civil Servants and Employees, the Law Amending the Law on Prevention of Conflicts of Interest, the Law Amending the Law on Public Administration, the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, the Law on Financing of Political Parties and the Law on Public Procurement.

At the thirteenth sitting of the first regular session in 2011, Parliament adopted the Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Czech Republic on Economic and Industrial cooperation. Also, Parliament adopted a Constitutional Law Amending the Constitutional Law on the Enforcement of the Constitution of Montenegro, thus extending the deadline for the compliance of the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives with the Constitution to the 31 December 2011.

Law proposals considered before committees:

- Proposal for a Law on Prevention of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the leading Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms and Committee on International Relations and European Integration and Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the European Convention for the Protection of Audio-visual Heritage discussed and proposed for adoption by the



Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the European Convention for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage discussed and proposed for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Digital Broadcasting considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Agreement between Montenegro and the Swiss Confederation on the readmission (return and acceptance) of persons without a residence permit with the Protocol of Agreement Implementation considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation..
- Proposal for a Law on DNA Registry discussed and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Convention on the Establishment of the Centre for Law Enforcement in South East Europe discussed and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the use of mines, booby traps and other devices of the UN Convention on the prohibition of certain types of conventional armaments considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on the Enforcement and Security considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Market Inspection submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation as well as the Committee on Political system, Judiciary and Administration.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Agreement between Montenegro and the Republic of Slovenia on





social security to the Administrative Agreement for the implementation of the Agreement between Montenegro and the Republic of Slovenia on Social Security considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Peaceful Resolution of Labour Disputes considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Consular Convention between Montenegro and Bulgaria considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Misdemeanours considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law Prescribing Fines for Offenses considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration, the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- Proposal for a Law on Non-governmental Organizations considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Strasbourg Agreement concerning the International Patent Clas-

sification considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.

- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Optical Discs considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- Proposal for a Law on Technical Requirements for Products and Conformity Assessment considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- Proposal for a Law on Protection of Competition considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Treaty on Patent Law considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Agreement on Amendment of and Accession to the Central European Free Trade Agreement considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration as well as by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Rafting considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Environment and Spatial Planning.
- Proposal for a Law on Lobbying considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee for Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- Supplementary Proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Prevention of Conflicts of Interest considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration as well as the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on International Rela-



tions and European Integration.

- Proposal for a Law Amending the Labour Law considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Committee on Gender Equality.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare and the Committee on Gender Equality and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.



- Proposal for a Law on Territorial Organization of Montenegro considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- Proposal for a Law on Civil Servants and Employees considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on the Mountain Paths considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Environment and Spatial Planning.
- Proposal for a Law on Construction Products considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on State Aid Control considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Public Procurement considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.

- Proposal for a Law on Financing of Political Parties considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on State Administration considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Courts considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Judicial Council considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Salaries of Civil Servants and Employees considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Investment Funds considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law Amending the Constitutional Law for the Enforcement of the Constitution of Montenegro considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.
- Proposal for a Law on Ratification of Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Czech Republic on economic and industrial cooperation considered and submitted to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation.



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OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

- Committee on Security and Defence of the Parliament of Montenegro considered: Annual Report of the Defence Ministry, Report on the Overall Situation in the Army of Montenegro for 2010, Report on the Use of units of the Army of Montenegro in the International Forces in 2010, and a Proposal for a Decision on sending the Army of Montenegro to United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Afghanistan. Upon the invitation, Minister of Defence Boro Vucinic and Chief of the Army of Montenegro, Vice Admiral Dragan Samardzic attended the sitting.
- Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms considered the Information on the activities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in conjunction with the findings of the Analytical Report of the European Commission on the state in the Public Institution "Koman-ski most" and the Recommendations of the Protector

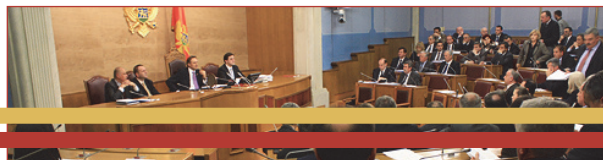


of human rights and freedoms of Montenegro regarding the Public Institution "Komanski most," Information on the activities of the Government of Montenegro regarding durable solution to the issue of refugees and internally displaced persons in the Konik Camp I and II and the Communication on the representation of minorities and other minority communities in public services, state and local government authorities.

After the introductory notes of the representatives of the proposer, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Dr. Suad Numanovic and Deputy Minister for Human and Minority Rights Sabahudin Delic and a broader discussion involving members of the Committee, the Committee, by a majority vote, adopted the Information and decided to submit reports with proposed conclusions to the Parliament.

- Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro considered the Report on Energy Sector of Montenegro in 2010 and the Report of the Agency for Insurance Supervision in 2010 to the Report on the state of the insurance market in 2010. The committee, by a majority vote, decided to recommend to the Parliament to adopt the the said reports. The Committee got introduced with the Report on Work of the Council for Financial Stability in 2010, which is submitted to the Parliament for acknowledgment, in accordance with Article 11 of the Law on Financial Stability Council.

NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Second Conference of the National Convention of European Integration of Montenegro

The Second Conference of the National Convention of European integration of Montenegro was held on Tuesday, 19th July 2011 in the Great Hall of the Parliament of Montenegro.

On that occasion, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Rifat Rastoder, Prime Minister of Montenegro Igor Luksic, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration in the Government of Montenegro Milan Rocen, Political Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Slovakia Peter Michalko, Director of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (SFPA) Alexander Duleba and Secretary General of the European Movement in Mon-

tenegro Momcilo Radulovic addressed the audience.

The goal of the Convention is to engage all social forces in Montenegro to contribute to the acceleration of social, political and economic reforms within the European integration process.

The project "National Convention of the European Integration of Montenegro", organized by the European Movement in Montenegro and the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic and SLOVAKAID, and in cooperation with the Parliament and the Government of Montenegro.



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Meeting of Chairpersons of Committee on Economy, Regional Policy and Infrastructure

Meeting of Chairpersons of the Committee on Economy, Regional Policy and Infrastructure was held in Warsaw on 17 and 18 July. The meeting brought together parliamentarians of the EU member states and candidate countries for EU membership and was devoted to various aspects related to the issue of cohesion policy, the Strategy for Europe 2020 and the issue of trans-European transport networks. On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, Members of Parliament Aleksandar Damjanovic and Veljko Zarubica attended the meeting, and His Excel-

lency Montenegrin Ambassador to the Republic of Poland Ivan Lekovic was also a member of the Montenegrin delegation.

The meeting highlighted the need for stronger cohesion policy, parliamentary cooperation and enhancement of the trans-European transport networks. The participation of Montenegrin parliamentarians was also welcomed and the message of support expressed to the integration of Montenegro into the European Union.

Round table "Parliament, the Media and Citizens"

Round table "Parliament, the Media and Citizens" was held on Tuesday, 12 July 2011. The roundtable was attended by the representatives of party caucuses in the Montenegrin parliament, chief editors of media accredited to monitor parliamentary activity, representatives of the Delegation of the European Union in Montenegro and the British Embassy in Podgorica.

The host and the keynote speaker of the roundtable was Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Rifat Rastoder who said that the aim of the roundtable is the need to "identify forms of adequate cooperation between Parliament and the media through an open and concrete discussion and exchange of views and experiences," that is "to provide the citizens with the proper presentation of essentials of legal and other acts adopted by the Parliament." Vice President of Parliament Rastoder identified the establishment of stronger ties with the media and an increase in openness and cooperation as a path to a quality, responsible and free journalism and the media.

Deputy Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Montenegro HE Lian Stephens and a representative of Thomson Reuters Foundation Paul Gallagher also welcomed

participants in the roundtable.

The round table was organized by the Parliament of Montenegro within the cooperation with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), in partnership with the Foundation of Thomson Reuters (Thomson Reuters) in London and Montenegro Media Institute.



Delegation of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration at the COSAC meeting in Warsaw

Chairman of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration of the Parliament of Montenegro dr Miodrag Vukovic and Deputy Chairman Vasilije Lalošević participated in the COSAC meeting in Warsaw. The key topic of the "COSAC" meeting were the priorities of the Polish EU presidency.

Poland, as the presiding country from 1 July to the end of 2011, is asking for bigger Europe or Europe with more member states and deeper integration, which comprises all the three priorities including secure Europe, Europe in growth and open Europe.

Conference of European Affairs Committees of national

parliaments of member states of the European Union (COSAC) is an important framework for cooperation between national parliaments of EU member states. Given that Montenegro is a candidate country for the EU membership, the Committee on International Relations and European Integration of Parliament of Montenegro has the right to participate in the work of the COSAC as an observer.

The first meeting of the COSAC during the Polish EU Presidency discussed the 16th Biannual Report of COSAC, vis-à-vis conflicts on the EU external borders, preparations for the 46th Regular meeting of COSAC and the priorities of the Polish presidency over the EU.



Semi Annual Performance Report of Parliament of Montenegro Launched

In order to contribute to better informing of the public about the work of the Montenegrin Parliament, the Administration of Parliament prepared a semi-annual report on the work of Parliament for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2011. The first part of the report presents a summary of parliamentary legislative activity. The report contains a review of oversight activities of Parliament and its working bodies. This year, a Calendar of activities of the Parliament has been developed for the first time, and working bodies adopted annual reports on their activities in the previous year as well as work plans by the end of the current year. The implementation of work plans has been regularly monitored, contributing that way to better planning and efficiency of parliamentary work.

In 2011, international activities of Parliament of Mon-

tenegro has also been intensified, primarily as a result of acquiring the candidate country status for EU membership, which is also covered by the report.

The Semi-annual performance report of Parliament also offers vital information relating to the cooperation with the civil society, including the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Network of Civil Society Organizations for Democracy and Human Rights, and a summary of activities that ensure full openness and transparency of the Parliament of Montenegro, which is, finally, the purpose of the report.

At the end, the report offers a set of annexes, as follows: list of laws and other acts adopted in the first half of the year; an overview of work of parliamentary working bodies by months and an overview of requests for free access to information.

20th Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

The topic of this year's session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was "Strengthening the OSCE Effectiveness and Efficiency - A New Start after the Summit in Astana".

The permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly attended the 20th annual session of the parliamentary dimension, which was held in Belgrade from 6-10 July 2011.

On the first working day, a sitting of the Standing Committee held, which was attended by the Vice President of the Parliament Rifat Rastoder, as the head of the delegation. After the introductory notes from the Chairman of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Petros Efthymiou, and the presentation on the activities of the Committee in the past year, the following reports were presented: Report of the Director of the Treasury Robert Battelli about the current financial situation and annual contributions, followed by the approval of the Budget for the 2011-2012 financial year; Report of the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly Spencer Oliver, which highlighted the increasing role of the Secretariat in the past period, and the fact that the OSCE parliamentarians have been assuming a leading role in the election observation missions, as it was the case in recent elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, USA, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Belarus, Turkey; Reports on the activities of Parliamentary Assembly from individual observation missions; "Ad Hoc" Committee and Reports of special representatives. The Committee also decided about the schedule of additional items for the inclusion in the agenda of one of three general committees, or plenary sitting. Upon the completion of the sitting of the Standing Committee, inaugural plenary session was held.

On the second working day, first sittings of three general committees were held: Committee on Political Affairs and Security, Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment and Committee for Democracy,

Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs. The sessions presented draft resolutions, along with reports of individual rapporteurs, followed by a vote on a number of amendments to the resolutions submitted to these three committees.

On the third day of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, continuations of sittings of three general committees were held, which discussed the remaining amendments to the draft Resolution "Strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE - A new start after the summit in Astana," as well as additional items and amendments thereof. Additional items included as follows: draft resolutions on issues of national minorities, combating violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism, Moldova, the OSCE approach to promoting cyber security, coordination of migration policy within the OSCE, nuclear safety and environmental protection, promotion of policy favouring the Roma population, as well as combating illegal trade in human organs, submitted by the Serbian delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Plenary sitting was held on the fifth and final day of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which was a continuation of the debate on resolutions adopted at previous sittings of three general committees. General Secretary of the Treasury and Director of the OSCE PA presented their reports and a secret ballot for Vice-Presidents of the Assembly was also conducted. For the second time, parliamentarians re-elected President Petros Efthymiou to one year term of office.

The Belgrade Declaration on "Strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE - A new start after the summit in Astana," was adopted at the end of the sitting, which was supported by more than 230 parliamentarians from 53 countries. The Declaration is a political document consisting of three general resolutions from three committee, and additional items - resolutions on topical issues, submitted by several delegations, which are also recommendations for national parliaments and the OSCE on the issues in the area of economy, security and human rights.



IN FOCUS



Amending Constitution

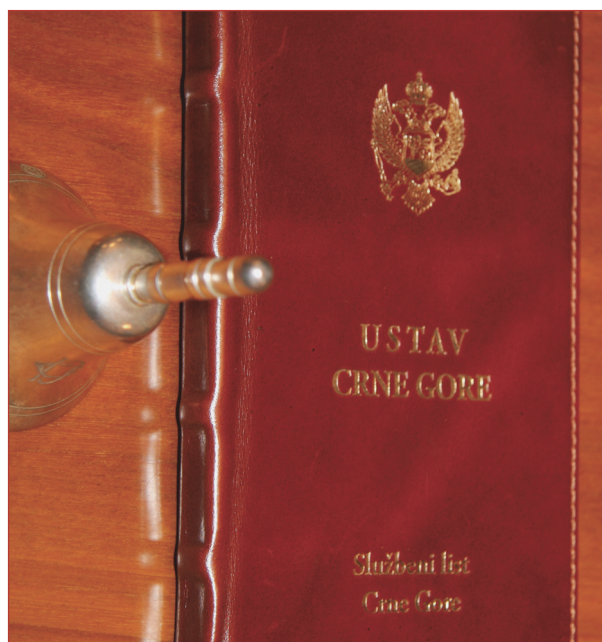
On the proposal of the Government of Montenegro, the Parliament of Montenegro, at its tenth and eleventh sitting of the first regular session in 2011, adopted Proposal for amendments to the Constitution of Montenegro or Supplementary proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro. In this regard, the Parliament instructed the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation to prepare the text of draft amendments to the Constitution.

In the Opinion on Montenegro's Application for Membership in the European Union, one of the recommendations related to strengthening the rule of law through de-politicized and merit-based appointment of members of the Prosecutorial and Judicial Council, the appointment of state prosecutor, as well as through strengthening the independence, autonomy, efficiency and accountability of judges and prosecutors.

Proposal for amendments to the Constitution of Montenegro, among others, proposes the heads of the prosecutor's office and judiciary to be elected by a majority of the total number of MPs in Parliament at the proposal of Judicial, that is, Prosecutorial Council, and the judges and prosecutors to be appointed and dismissed by the Judicial or Prosecutorial Council.

The adopted Supplementary proposal to amend the Constitution of Montenegro proposes the President of the Constitutional Court to be elected by the judges of the

Constitutional Court, and the number of judges of the Constitutional Court to be increased from seven to nine as well as and to grant immunity to the members of the State Audit Institution.



PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

QUORUM¹. indicates the minimum number or percentage of members of a body whose presence and participation in the voting, i.e. decision-making is treated as a prerequisite for validity of the very act of voting or decision-making. A quorum may consist of a simple majority of all members of a body who have the right to decide or a qualified majority (i.e. majority exceeding 50% plus 1) or only a smaller part of the electorate. Usually, at the first meeting or during voting/decision making, quorum is considered to be a major part of the total voting body or electorate, and if that condition is not met, then the new meeting, new voting or new election is scheduled.

At the opening of the sitting of the Parliament of Montenegro, President of Parliament establishes whether there is a quorum. Quorum is required: at the beginning of a sitting, when the minutes are adopted; when agenda is being determined, and when voting. Quorum, however, is not needed during the debate at the sitting. Quorum is determined by the use of the electronic voting system, in a way that each MP is obligated to identify (to apply) himself/herself personally by inserting his/her identification card in the MP's outlet on his seat or based on the record list of the Secretary General of the Parliament. Also, at the request of 10 MPs, establishing a quorum is carried out by taking the roll call.

¹ Source: Encyclopaedia of Political Culture, Savremena administracija, Beograd, 1993; Rules of Procedure of Parliament of Montenegro, Article 90.



FROM THE ARCHIVES: HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



Law on Establishing the 13 July as National Holiday

Based on Article 1 and 3 of the Decision Constituting CASNO as the supreme organ of the state power of Federal Montenegro, Presidency of the Montenegrin Assembly adopts the:

LAW ON ESTABLISHING THE 13 JULY AS NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Article 1

In order to celebrate with dignity the memory of the day of general people's rebellion against fascists and their supporters in Montenegro, 13 July shall be proclaimed National Holiday of Federal Montenegro,

which will be celebrated every year with the highest honours.

Article 2

The Law shall enter into force immediately.

Cetinje, 29. June 1945

Secretary

NIKO PAVIĆ, handwritten signature

President

MILOŠ RAŠOVIĆ, handwritten signature

*Activity of Parliament of Montenegro 1945-1950, eds.
Č. Perović, N. Ilić, Podgorica 1986, 65.*

FROM THE PARLIAMENT'S GALLERIES

Anka Burić: "Dialogue", 2005 - Combined technique on canvas, 178,5 x 180 cm

Anka Burić surely belongs to the most interesting and most authentic artists in the Montenegrin, and certainly - in the Yugoslav fine arts in past two decades. She appeared on the art scene at a sensitive time of great change in the fine arts that suddenly occurred in the early eighties.

At the very beginning, Burić created a world that was immediately detected and identified by critics as an important author's contribution on the sides of linguistic transformations in the visual arts. The main reasons for her creative activity Burić sees in the achievement of a high level of a new, different expressiveness. Without exaggeration, we can say that her work introduced a new phase in live streams of the current Montenegrin arts, which nowadays has dedicated young fans and valuable contributors.

She is a professor in the Department of Imaging, Faculty of Fine Arts in Cetinje.



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CALENDAR



1 July

- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidovic met with the Head of the Programme for Europe Westminster Foundation for Democracy Alex Romaniuk. The two officials agreed that it is essential to continue and further enhance the established model of work that guarantees the production of concrete results and measurable progress.



- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received Prime Minister of Bulgaria Boyko Borissov in Bečići, who was in an official visit to Montenegro. During the meeting, they exchanged views on long negotiations ahead of Montenegro, which Bulgaria has already surmounted, as well as generally on mechanisms and models of cooperation characteristics to small countries, their role in the Western Balkans and the possibilities of cooperation in key areas of the region, such as energy and infrastructure.
- Representatives of party caucuses of the Montenegrin Parliament met today with the Head of the Europe Programme for the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) Alex Romaniuk. The meeting was devoted to an analysis of co-operation, which has begun in May 2010, following the signing of the Memorandum of Co-operation between the Parliament and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy.

5 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received, in Podgorica, the Chairman of the OSCE and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Audronius Ažubalis. During the meeting, the satisfaction was expressed with the activities supported by the OSCE in Montenegro related to the reform of the judiciary and police, the rule of law, public administration

reform, improving environmental protection, fight against corruption and support to Parliament, with particular focus on compliance with Election Law and the Constitution and minority representation in Parliament.

7 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic met in Podgorica, Director General of the Directorate for Enlargement Mr. Stefano Sannino. The two officials pointed out that it is high time to adopt the electoral law, as a priority in the Parliament's work, especially considering that the adoption thereof and compliance with the Constitution presents a key European recommendation.

8 July

- Chairman of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration of Parliament of Montenegro Miodrag Vukovic held talks with an advisor to the Government of Montenegro in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration Page Rif. Both officials agreed the current moment to be of great importance for Montenegro, and that everything should be done to continue a successful series of positive results that Montenegro has achieved so far.

10 July

- Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly attended the 20th annual session of the parliamentary dimension, which was held in Belgrade from 6-10 July 2011. At the end of the session, the Belgrade Declaration on "Strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE - A new start after the summit in Astana," was adopted, which was supported by more than 230 parliamentarians from 53 countries.

11 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic sent a telegram of condolence to the President of the Russian Duma Boris Gryzlov, on the occasion of the tragic sinking of the ship "Bulgaria".
- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received today in Podgorica the High Representative of the Alliance of Civilizations Jorge Sampaio.



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The two officials pointed out to Montenegro as an example of multi-ethnic, multicultural and civic state in Europe, particularly in South East Europe.

- Chairman of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration of Parliament of Montenegro dr Miodrag Vukovic and Deputy Committee Chairman Vasilije Lalošević attended the "COSAC" meeting in Warsaw.

12 July

- President of Parliament Ranko Krivokapic presented awards 13 July to the Theatre Director Slobodan Milatovic, Composer and Historian Zarko Mirkovic and historian Serbo Rastoder.



- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic congratulated Montenegro on National Day.
- Round table "Parliament, the Media and Citizens" was held in the Parliament. The participants were representatives of party caucuses in the Montenegrin parliament, chief editors of the media accredited to

monitor parliamentary activity and representatives of the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro and the British Embassy in Podgorica.

18 July

- Meeting of the Chairpersons of Committee on Economy, Regional Policy and Infrastructure completed. The meeting of the chairpersons, held in Warsaw on 17 and 18 July, which brought together parliamentarians from the EU member states and candidate countries for the EU membership, was devoted to various aspects related to the issue of cohesion policy, the Strategy for Europe 2020 and the issue of trans-European transport networks. On behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro, the meeting of Chairpersons of the Committee on Economy, Regional Policy and Infrastructure was attended by Members of Parliament Aleksandar Damjanovic and Veljko Zarubica, along with HE Ivan Lekovic Montenegrin Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, as a part of the Montenegrin delegation.

19 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic, received today in Podgorica, Chairperson of the Committee on European Affairs of the Parliament of the Republic of Slovakia Ivan Stefanec. Two officials, among other things, exchanged views on possibilities of further development of parliamentary cooperation and particularly parliamentary cooperation among the Committees on International Cooperation and European Integration of the two countries. They emphasized the importance of the process of adopting European regulations and the smooth and efficient operation of the Parliament, in which, as Stefanec pointed out, Slovakia could be of a great assistance to Montenegro.
- Chairman of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration Miodrag Vukovic and Deputy Chairman of Vasilije Lalošević met today with Ivan Stefanec, Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs of Parliament of Slovakia. During the meeting, they highlighted extremely friendly relations between the two countries.
- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Damir Davidovic met with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China HE Zhi Zhaolin. During the discussion, they pointed out that the relations between the



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parliaments of two countries were very good, and that there were opportunities to enhance cooperation at the level of parliaments, and at the country level as well.



- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic congratulated the Day of the Berane Municipality.

20 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received today in Podgorica the newly appointed Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Montenegro Izmir Talic. During the meeting, they exchanged views on foreign and domestic-political situation and the important issues of regional cooperation. Both officials expressed their satisfaction with the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries and stressed that definite integration into the European Union is in the interest of the region.

21 July

- On the occasion of 22 July, Day of the Savnik Municipality, President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic sent congratulations to the President of the Municipality Velimir Perisic, President and Councillors of the Municipal Assembly and the citizens of Savnik.

22 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic received today in Podgorica the Prince Nikola Petrovic Njegos. During the meeting, at first, the satisfaction was expressed with the recent adoption of the Law on the Status of the Descendants of the Dynasty Petrovic-Njegos in the Montenegrin Parliament, stating that dynasty was dethroned with the act of violent annexation of Montenegro in 1918. It was agreed that the



future should be focused on further development of Montenegro, to evolve into a highly democratic and prosperous society, with clear direction of action in all areas.

23 July

- On the occasion of the terrorist attacks in Norway, the President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic sent a telegram of condolence to President of Norwegian Parliament Dagur Terje Andersen, Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the former President of the Norwegian Parliament Thorbjørn Jagland and President of the Norwegian Labour Party Jens Stoltenberg.

25 July

- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic hosted a farewell visit for Peter Plate, Ambassador of Germany to Montenegro.
- Delegation of the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget participated in a meeting of Chairpersons of the Committee on Economics in Warsaw. The meeting was attended by members of the Committee on Economics, Finance and Budget Radojica Zivkovic and Zarija Pejovic.
- President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic hosted a farewell visit for the Ambassador of Israel Arthur Koll.

28 July

- On the occasion of the Day of the Plav Municipality, President of the Montenegrin Parliament Ranko Krivokapic sent congratulations to President of the Municipality Plav Skender Šarkinović and councilors of the Municipal Assembly and the citizens of Plav as well.



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