



Parliament of Montenegro

NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 87 ♦ November 2018

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OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year VIII ♦ No. 87 ♦ November 2018

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

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

During November, Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, Fourth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, and the Sixth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro were held. There was also a Fifth Special Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018. Committees considered ten proposals for a law, 3 proposals for a decision and performed other activities within their oversight role.

In focus of this month's newsletter is participation of the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro in the 16th Meeting of SAPC, in Strasbourg. 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 Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, the MPs adopted the following: Law on Governance and Internal Controls in the Public Sector; Law on Amendment to the Law on Default Interest Rate; Law on Environmental Impact Assessment; Law on Amendments to the Law on Expropriation; Report on the results of the tender on long-term lease of land for developing the base settlement of the mountain centre "Kolašin 1600", Decision on long-term lease of land for developing the base settlement of the mountain centre "Kolašin 1600" and Agreement on long-term lease of land for developing the base settlement of the mountain centre "Kolašin 1600"; 2017 Performance Report of the Agency for Protection of Competition; 2017 Annual Performance Report of the Deposit Protection Fund; 2017 Status Report on the Capital Market in Montenegro, with the Performance Report and Financial Statements of the Capital Market Commission and 2017 Report of the Authorised Auditor on Financial Operations of the Commission; 2017 Annual Performance Report of the Central Bank; 2017 Performance Report of the Financial Stability Council; 2017 Performance Report of the State Commission for the Control of Public Procurement Procedures; 2017 Status Report on the Insurance Market in Montenegro; 2017 Status Report on the Energy Sector of Montenegro; Opinion with the proposal for a reply to the Constitutional Court of Montenegro with regard to the Initiative for the constitutional review of provisions of Article 12 of the Law on the Judicial Council and Judges (Official Gazette of Montenegro 11/15, 28/15, and 42/18); Opinion with the proposal for a reply to the Constitutional Court of Montenegro with regard to the Proposal for the

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constitutional review of provisions of Article 15 of the Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro 11/15); Opinion with the proposal for a reply to the Constitutional Court of Montenegro with regard to the Initiative for the constitutional review of provisions of Article 4 of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Notaries (Official Gazette of Montenegro 55/16).

Under the item of the agenda "Elections and appointments", the MPs adopted the following: Decision on the election of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and members of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation; Decision on the appointment of the Municipal Election Commission of Tuzi; Decision on the election of five members of the Evaluation Commission; Decision on dismissal of President of the Council of the Insurance Supervision Agency; and decisions of the Administrative Committee concerning changes in the composition of committees. Even in the second round of voting, the Parliament of Montenegro failed to elect four members of the Judicial Council from among the prominent lawyers.

At the Fourth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, MPs adopted the Law on State Administration.

At the Fifth Special Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, within the agenda item Prime Minister's Questions, MPs' questions were answered by the Prime Minister of Montenegro. The Prime Minister was posed seven questions.

At the Sixth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2018, the MPs adopted the Resolution on the 100th anniversary of the "Podgorica Assembly".

Proposals for law deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Law on Governance and Internal Controls in the Public Sector** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on the 2017 Final Budget Account** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and the Security and Defence Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Academic Integrity** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports.
- **Proposal for a Law on the Amendments to the Law on Cinematography** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports and Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Notaries** was considered and proposed to the

Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Legislative Committee.

- **Proposal for a Law on Certification of Signatures, Manuscripts and Transcripts** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on judicial cooperation in criminal matters with the EU member states** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Legislative Committee.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Joint Protocol Relating to the Application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.
- **Proposal for a Law on State Administration** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.
- **Proposal for a Law on Ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury** was considered and proposed to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption by the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants.

Proposals for other acts deliberated in committees

- **Proposal for a Resolution on the Reindustrialisation of Montenegro** was considered by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, however; the proposal did not obtain the required majority. The same proposal was considered by the Legislative Committee, which decided to propose to the Parliament for adoption.
- **Proposal for a Resolution on the manner of valorisation of electric power and energy potential in Montenegro** was considered by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, however; the proposal did not obtain the required majority. The same proposal was considered by the Legislative Committee, which decided to propose to the Parliament for adoption.
- **Proposal for a Resolution on the 100th anniversary of the "Podgorica Assembly"** was considered and proposed to the Parliament for adoption by the Legislative Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.

Other activities of working bodies

- At the 29th meeting of the **Security and Defence Committee**, held on 2 November, members of the Committee held a consultative hearing on border control and information sharing in the context of preventing and combating terrorism and violent extremism with special reference to the advanced passenger information system

(APIS), passenger name records and collection of biometric data.

- At the 30th meeting, held on 23 November, within the second agenda item, members of the Committee did not support the proposal to appoint Nebojša Medojević as Deputy Chair of the Security and Defence Committee.
- At the 31st meeting, held on 30th November, the Security and Defence Committee conducted a consultative hearing of military and diplomatic representative of Montenegro, Frigate captain Igor Vujačić, before assuming the office as Assistant to Defence Attache of Montenegro in the Republic of Austria, Vienna, also performing the duty of assistant to the military counselor at the Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the UN, OSCE and other International Organisations, in Vienna, on a residential basis, and Assistant to Defence Attache of Montenegro in the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic and Hungary, on non-residential basis.



- At the 43rd meeting of the **Committee on International Relations and Emigrants**, held on 5 November, members of the Committee unanimously provided a positive opinion on the proposal to appoint Vera Kuliš as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Federal Republic of Germany, on a residential basis, in Berlin.
- At the 44th meeting of 5 November, the Committee members unanimously provided a positive opinion on the proposal to appoint Budmir Šegrt as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of Poland, on a residential basis, in Warsaw.



- At the 26th meeting of the **Committee on European Integration**, held on 27 November, members of the

Committee considered and supported the Ninth semi-annual Report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, covering the period January-June 2018, as well as the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Quarterly Reports on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, covering the period January-March and April-June 2018. In addition, MP Adrijan Vuksanović was appointed Deputy Chair of the Committee.

- At the 56th meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, held on 13 November, the Committee supported the finding and recommendations of the State Audit Institution, deriving from the Report on the Audit of the Proposal for a Law on the 2017 Final Budget Account, including the ones pertaining to the individual audits contained in the Annual Report on Performed Audits and Activities of the State Audit Institution of Montenegro for the period October 2017 - October 2018.



- At the 23rd meeting of the **Gender Equality Committee**, held on 12 November, the Committee held a theme meeting titled: "Legal Framework involving the exercise of rights of LGBTIQ persons, on the occasion of marking the start of the Pride Week in Montenegro 12-18 November 2018.
- At the 24th meeting of the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms**, held on 1 November, members of the Committee considered and unanimously supported the 2017 Performance Report of the Fund for Protection and the Realisation of Minority Rights.



- At the 25th meeting, held on 19 November, the Committee considered and supported the Report on the protection from discrimination, involving the

activities of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, covering the period 1 January - 31 July 2018.

- At the 23rd meeting of the **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports**, held on 15 November, a theme meeting was held on the topic “Protection of children on the Internet”.
- At the 34th meeting of the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare**, held on 26 November, the Committee marked the World AIDS Day. During the meeting, the following were discussed: educating children and teachers about AIDS/HIV in elementary and secondary schools, educating young men and women, counselling centres for confidential counseling and testing, institutions for provision of assistance to the population at risk, testing week on the occasion of marking the World AIDS Day, supervising blood donors, the means through which the disease may be transmitted, lives of those already infected, available therapeutic measures, budget funds allocated for the prevention of AIDS/HIV, role of NGOs in the fight against AIDS/HIV in Montenegro, as well as the legislative framework.
- At the 13th meeting of the **Anti-Corruption Committee**, held on 28 November, the Committee members appointed Željko Aprcović as Deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
- At the 50th meeting of the **Administrative Committee**, held on 8 November, with regards to the Public Call for the Election of the members of the Evaluation Commission, upon determining the list of timely and complete proposals of members with no impediments to their election, the Committee decided to elect five members of the Evaluation Commission, as follows: Mirjana Purić, Mirjana Vuković, Boris Zvicer, Nazif Velić and Adis Pepić. Thus, the Committee shall readvertise the public call for the election of two members of the Evaluation Commission.
- At the 51st meeting of 8 November, the Committee members determined several proposal for decisions. Namely, the Committee decided to propose to the Parliament of Montenegro that Miodrag Iekić be elected as member of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and member of the Constitutional Committee; and also that Neđeljko Rudović be elected as member of the Committee on European Integration and member of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration. In addition, the following MP groups submitted their list of candidates to be elected as Chair, Deputy Chair and members of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation, as follows: MP group of the Democratic Party of Socialists proposed that Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro be elected as Chair of the Committee, whereas Marta Šćepanović, Miodrag Vuković and Predrag Sekulić be elected as members of the Committee. In addition, the MP group of the Democratic Party of Socialists renounced their right to propose one more member, granting the MP group of the Bosniak Party, coalition “The Albanians Decisively” and the Croatian Civic Initiative (HGI) the right to do so; MP group of the Bosniak Party, coalition “The Albanians Decisively” and the Croatian Civic Initiative (HGI) proposed that Ervin Ibrahimović and Genci Nimanbegu be elected as member of the said Committee; MP Group of the Social Democrats of Montenegro and the Liberal Party of Montenegro proposed that Boris Mugoša be elected as member of the Committee; MP Group of SNP-DEMOS proposed that Miodrag Lekić be elected as member of the Committee; Special MP Group renounced their right to propose a member, and decided that an MP Group from the opposition should be granted the right to propose a member.
- At the 52nd meeting, held on 12 November, the Committee determined the Proposal for a Decision on appointing the Electoral Municipal Commission in Tuzi, and thus decided to propose to the Parliament that the following be appointed as members of the electoral Municipal Commission in Tuzi: Štjefan Ujkić, as Chair of the Commission; Danijela Nikčević, as Deputy Chair of the Commission; Edmond Ujkaj, secretary of the Commission; Enisa Niković, as member of the Commission; Beqir Gjokaj, as deputy member; Ajla Turusković, as member of the Commission; Aida Duković, as Deputy member; Robert Camaj, as member; Valbona Sinishtaj, as Deputy member; Leon Berishaj, member of the Commission; and Ilir Camaj, as Deputy member of the Commission.
- At the 53rd meeting, held on 16 November, the Committee decided to advertise a Public Call for the Appointment of the President of the Insurance Supervision Agency Council and readvertise the Public Call for the Election of two member of the Commission for the Evaluation of projects submitted to the public competition for allocating funds for supporting activities significant for preservation and development of national and/or ethnical particularities of minority nations and other minority national communities and their members in the field of national, cultural, linguistic and religious identity, in line with the Law on Minority Rights and Freedoms.

NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



64th Annual Session of the NATO PA was held in Halifax

Standing Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, composed of: Obrad Mišo Stanišić, Head of the Delegation and Genci Nimanbegu, member of the Delegation, participated in the 64th Annual Session of the NATO PA, held from 16 to 19 November, in Halifax. The host of the gathering was the Delegation of Canada to the NATO PA. The session held in Halifax, gathered over 50 national parliamentary delegations, representatives of member states, associated members and regional partners and Mediterranean associate members, and observers, as well as invitees from the hosting country and countries abroad. During the work, members of the Montenegrin Standing Delegation were allowed to vote during the committee meetings. The Fourth day of the session, there was a plenary sitting, during which the participants were addressed by the following: President

of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly Rase Juknevičienė, Minister of National Defence Hajrit Singh Sajjan, Deputy



Secretary General of NATO *Rose Gottemoeller*, and President of *Sobranie Talat Xhaferi*; followed by a part of the plenary reserved for the participant questions.

President of the Parliament hosted a visit with President of the National Council of Austria Wolfgang Sobotka

President of the Parliament hosted a visit of President of the National Council of Austria Wolfgang Sobotka. Following the meeting, Sobotka revealed that there have been several reasons for his visit to our country. The first reason is the improvement of bilateral parliamentary cooperation, and the second - providing support to the countries of the Western Balkans, first of all Montenegro, as a leader in the process of European integration. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović said that the visit of the President of the National Council of Austria is even more important given the fact that Austria has been presiding over the Council of the European Union. The President of the Parliament reminded that a very important segment in the extraordinary relations we have with Austria is an excellent parliamentary cooperation, achieved through meetings at the highest level and meetings of parliamentary bodies. He emphasised that there were friendship groups in both parliaments, and that Montenegrin MPs took part in

several meetings organised within the parliamentary dimension of the Austrian presidency of the EU Council. An exhibition on important women of Austria in the past 200 years was opened in the Hall of the Parliament on the occasion of the visit of the President of the National Council of Austria to the Parliament of Montenegro. Presidents Brajović and Sobotka also visited the participants of "Barbara Prammer" Democracy Workshops. At the follow up, Sobotka met with Chair and members of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation. Sobotka said that the Parliament of Austria supported the democratic process and dialogue in Montenegro, and especially the role of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation in the process. Sobotka acquainted Vice-President Gvozdenović and members of the Committee with the Austrian experience, in terms of the challenges faced by the country: additional technical construction, personal data protection, and open lists.

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

Legal System is a set of legal norms that make a framework of conduct for members of a society. Legal norms are arranged in a hierarchical system with the constitution at the top in most cases as the basic political and legal act of a state, while all other lower general and individual acts must be harmonised with it. In Montenegro, ratified and published international agreements and the generally accepted rules of international law are a constituent part of the internal legal system, which means that they have supremacy over national legislation and are directly applied when they arrange relations differently from the national legislation.

¹ Doc. dr Komar, Olivera, Prof. dr Ivana Jelić, Nataša Komnenić, Irena Mijanović, Jelena Radonjić, Vlatko Šćepanović, *Parlamentarni leksikon*, Podgorica, Skupština Crne Gore 2016, p. 232

IN FOCUS



Delegation of the Parliament participated in the 16th SAPC Meeting in Strasbourg

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović was at the head of the Montenegrin Delegation attending the Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), which took place on 14-15 November at the European Parliament



building, in Strasbourg. President Brajović was co-chair along with David Martin, Chairman of the European Parliament's Delegation to the EU-Montenegro SAPC. In his address, Brajović stated that the Parliament had been engaged in a number of activities, reminding that maintaining democratic elections was the essence of democracy and a prerequisite of security and stability, and thus of the overall development of each country. Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branimir Gvozdenović highlighted the effective work of the Parliament, and also spoke of the comprehensive nature of the upcoming work of the temporary committee. MP Adrijan Vuksanović talked about the state of play of the accession negotiations, Marta Šćepanović on progress and results in judiciary reform and the fight against organised crime and corruption, while Luigj Shkrela dealt with issues of fundamental rights and freedoms, including free and professional work of the media. MP Ranko Krivokapić from the opposition ranks actively participated in the SAPC's work. The Committee concluded the Meeting, by adopting Declarations and recommendations, as well as a Joint Statement. In the Joint Statement, they welcomed the forming of the temporary committee and urged members of the opposition to constructively participate in the work of the committee as well as the work of the SAPC. The Statement also stated that the European Parliament welcomed the progress achieved so far in the field of rule of law, as well as in regards to the negotiating chapters 23 and 24. In addition, it was emphasised that more feasible results in the field of rule of law were needed, given their crucial role in the development of the overall dynamics of the negotiation process. Previously,

during the second day of the SAPC Meeting, Brajović mentioned the role of Montenegro in the regional cooperation, and its contribution in terms of the stability in the Western Balkans, promotion of constructive dialogue and promotion of common European values. MP Tarzan Milošević spoke about economic performance, on the European path of Montenegro, whereas MP Adrijan Vuksanović addressed the participants on the topic Sustainable development and environmental protection. During the discussion about the economic performance, Vice-President Gvozdenović pointed out to the progress made in Montenegro, mentioning a set of specific indicators, whereas while referring to the sustainable development, he mentioned that the main focus should be on the protected areas of our country, in line with the adopted strategies. During the discussion about the Environmental protection, MP Marta Šćepanović referred to the fact that the course of Tara had been continuously changing, as it may be witnessed by the population living in her area of residence. President and Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro also met with the President of the European Parliament Antonio Tajani. During the meeting, the emphasis was placed on the activities of the Parliament of Montenegro, both at the domestic and international level, European path of Montenegro and its role in the Balkans and beyond, as well as on the parliamentary and economic diplomacy, aimed at strengthening the economy of Montenegro and its European partners.



President Brajović emphasised that the Parliament of Montenegro actively participates in parliamentary diplomacy both at the level of the management bodies and MPs, especially referring to the MPs who actively engaged in the work of all international organisations, investing their efforts in promoting Montenegro in every place possible.

FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



Law on the manufacturing and distribution of medicines ("Official Gazette of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro", No. 031/77 as of 10 October 1977, 040/77 as of 31 December 1977, 017/82 as of 16 June 1982, 020/88 as of 1 August 1988, 029/89 as of 25 October 1989, 039/89 as of 29 December 1989, Official Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro", No. 048/91 as of 28 November 1991, 017/92 as of 24 April 1992, 059/92 as of 22 December 1992, 027/94 as of 29 July 1994, Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 073/10 as of 10 December 2010)

I GENERAL PROVISIONS

This Law regulates the medicinal substances used in manufacturing of the medicine as well as dispensing of medicines in pharmacies, respectively other health organizations of associated labour that have an organized service for handling medicines (hereinafter: pharmacy), inspection and supervision of medicine making and regulates in more details the marketing authorization for the medicine, which is regulated by the Law on marketing authorization for medicines ("The Official Gazette of Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia", NO 43/86), (hereinafter: federal law).

II MEDICINE MAKING

Article 2

Magistral and galenic medicines are prepared in a pharmacy in various pharmaceutical forms.

Magistral medicines are made in accordance with a prescription issued by a medical doctor, dentist or veterinarian. Galenic medicines are made in accordance with the norms prescribed by the Yugoslavian pharmacopoeia and other professional standards and norms.

Article 3

Magistral and galenic medicines referred to in Article 2 of this Law are made by a pharmacist, and also by a pharmacy technician, under the supervision of a pharmacist.

III DISPENSING OF MEDICINES

Article 4

A pharmacist is authorized to dispense medicines in a pharmacy. A pharmacy technician shall work under the supervision of the pharmacist and may dispense medicines and additional medicinal devices except those medicines containing drugs and psychotropic substances.

Article 5

A pharmacy is obliged to keep records of medicines that have been dispensed. A functionary i.e. Head of the state

administration authority competent in the field of Health shall prescribe the manner of keeping records of dispensed medicines.

Article 6

A pharmacy is required to procure, prepare, store and dispense a right medicine.

The following medicine shall be determined as inaccurate:

- 1) A medicine whose organoleptic properties (appearance, taste and odor) have been altered due to chemical and other processes, and differ from the properties proscribed by the Yugoslavian pharmacopoeia and other norms;
- 2) A medicine whose validity date expired;
- 3) Which have been determined inaccurate in terms of their qualitative and quantitative composition;
- 4) The data specified in declaration, instructions or package of the medicine vary

Article 7

As a rule, the pharmacy shall dispense a medicine in original package. If the dose dispensed by the pharmacy is smaller than the one in the original package authorized by the manufacturer, the person dispensing such dosage shall specify in the equipment containing the medicine the following:

- 1) Title of the medicine;
- 2) Manner of proper usage;
- 3) Strength and amount of medicine;
- 4) Expiry date of the medicine;
- 5) Number and date of manufactured batches;
- 6) Title and headquarters of the pharmacy;
- 7) Signature of the person responsible for dispensing the medicine.

Article 8

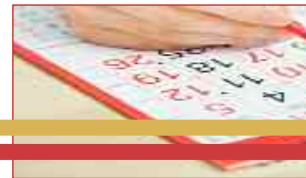
In the event the pharmacy dispenses a medicine in other equipment, it is obliged to meet the necessary requirements in order to prevent that specific properties of medicine be altered due to exposure to external factors (light, temperature, humidity, etc.)

IV CONTROL OF MEDICINES

Article 9

For the purpose of preparation of magistral and galenic medicines, the pharmacy may only acquire and use medicinal substances prescribed by the Yugoslavian and other pharmacopoeia. The identification of legal substances is to be performed immediately after their receipt. In order for the galenic medicines prepared in pharmacies and galenic laboratories to be authorized, they must meet the quality requirements prescribed by the Yugoslavian pharmacopoeia and other norms.

CALENDAR



1 November

- President of the Parliament held a speech on the occasion of Day of Public Prosecutors of Montenegro. In his address, the President emphasised that the goals of the Parliament of Montenegro and Montenegrin prosecution office are the same: adoption and achievement of highest professional standards; secure and peaceful existence of all citizens of Montenegro and their property; protection of movable and immovable heritage of Montenegro - priceless legacy that forms our identity and culture.
- Collegium of the President held a meeting, which was attended by Minister of Interior Mevludin Nuhodžić, upon the invitation by President Ivan Brajović. Minister Nuhodžić informed the Collegium members that there are no lists of persons declared persona non grata, except for individuals with criminal background.

5 November

- Delegation of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, composed of Chair of the Committee Suad Numanović and members of the Committee Halil Duković, Maja Bakrač, Nedžad Drešević, and Draginja Vuksanović-Stanković, paid a three-day visit to Ankara, the Republic of Turkey. On the first day of the study visit, a meeting was held in the Ministry of Labour, Social Services and Family. The parliamentary delegation met Minister of Labour, Social Services and Family *Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk* and Deputy Minister *Ayşe Ergeze*. Minister Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk underlined the importance of the Agreement between Montenegro and the Republic of Turkey on cooperation in the field of labour, social security and employment. The Minister also emphasised the importance of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), being extremely successful and important for the health care system in Montenegro. Chair Numanović said that the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare would give its contributing to an even stronger strengthening of the relations between the two countries, both in the fields of economy, culture, health and other important areas. The meeting was also attended by Ambassador of Montenegro to Turkey Branko Milić. On day two of the study visit, delegation of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare of the Parliament of Montenegro held two meetings in the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Turkey with Chair of the Committee on Health, Family, Labor and Social Affairs and its members, as well as with chair and members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Also, the delegation had two meetings in the Ministry of Health.

During the third day, the Delegation of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare of the Parliament of Montenegro met with administrators of the “Acibadem healthcare group” hospital. Representatives of the Committee also paid a visit to the Montenegrin Embassy in Turkey.

6 November

- Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branimir Gvozdenović met first Deputy Speaker of the Federal National Council (FNC) of the United Arab Emirates Marwan Ahmed Ali Bin Ghalita, in Dubai. During the meeting, the establishment of a friendship group between the two parliaments was initiated, bearing in mind the importance and opportunities for bilateral cooperation through this form of relationship. In line with that, and with the aim of strengthening friendship and promoting mutual cooperation, signing of an agreement on the cooperation between the two parliaments was agreed, as well as formation of the friendship group. They assessed that there was a very high level of cooperation between the two countries. During the meeting, an invitation to attend the Global Council for Tolerance & Peace was handed to Gvozdenović, by President of the organisation Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Jarwan.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović hosts the Delegation of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, headed by Ambassador Maryse Daviet, with whom he discussed the forthcoming activities of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation, as well as other topics of interest for the work of the Parliament. The Head of the OSCE Mission welcomed the



establishment of the Committee, with the participation of the ruling majority and the opposition, as well as the non-governmental sector and the academia. President Brajović expressed his satisfaction once again with the excellent cooperation of the Parliament of Montenegro with the OSCE and its Mission in Montenegro, as well as the OSCE PA, their reliable and constructive partnership

CALENDAR



in processes of importance for democratic reforms in our country.

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants hosts newly-appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Montenegro *Artur Dmochowski*. Nikolić and Dmochowski agreed it was necessary to fill the geopolitical gap as soon as possible, by integrating the Western Balkan countries into a community of European nations. In this regard, the possibility of establishing direct contacts between parliamentary committees on foreign affairs of the Parliament of Montenegro and the Parliament of Poland was especially discussed. The interlocutors assessed that the relations of the two countries have been friendly, expressing mutual interest to further improve those in the fields of economy, tourism, agriculture and culture, as well as to strengthen parliamentary cooperation.
- Members of the Security and Defence Committee visited the Border Police Sector of the Ministry of Interior, touring on this occasion border crossings with Bosnia & Herzegovina (Ilino Brdo) and Republic of Croatia (Debeli brijeg). At the meeting with Assistant Director of the Police Administration - Head Vesko Damjanović and chiefs of the Border Police Sector, Nikšić and Border Police Sector, Herceg Novi, members of the Committee learned about current state of functioning of the said sector.
- Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration *Željko Aprcović* and members of the Committee *Radule Novović* and *Marija Čatović*, as well as Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro *Aleksandar Jovičević* along with the parliamentary service, paid a three-day visit to the Croatian Sabor. The first day was marked by the meeting with Chair of the Committee on Judiciary *Orsat Miljenić* and member of the Committee *Stepan Čuraj*, as well as with Vice-president of Sabor, and Chair of the Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System *Željko Reiner*. Reiner acquainted the Delegation in details with the course of the negotiation process of Croatia with the European Union, especially referring to the structure established for the purposes of conducting negotiations, as well as the role of the Croatian Sabor in the process. In addition, there was discussion regarding the reform process of the public administration, and also about the recent amendments made to the Rules of Procedure of the Croatian Sabor. During the meeting with the President of the Supreme Court *Đuro Sessa*, MPs were given the opportunity to get acquainted with the duties

and activities of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia, as well as with issues involving the Code of Conduct of Judges, disciplinary responsibility, and submitting of performance reports. At the follow-up of the visit, there were talks with representatives of the Judiciary of the Republic of Croatia, as well as with representatives of the National Judicial Council and State Attorney's Council. The three-day visit came to an end following the meetings with representatives of the European Affairs Committee, Secretary General of the Croatian Sabor *Davor Orlović*, and representatives of the Constitutional Court. The visit was initiated in order to exchange experiences and strengthen cooperation between the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro and working bodies of the Croatian Sabor competent in the area of Judiciary and public administration.



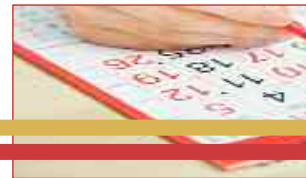
7 November

- Head of minority parties' MP Group *Ervin Ibrahimović* met Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro *Aivo Orav*, on the occasion of establishing the temporary Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation. MP *Ibrahimović* emphasised that the establishment of this Committee was another step forward on Montenegro's European path. In addition, *Ibrahimović* emphasised the important role of the EU Delegation to Montenegro with regard to its support in the negotiation process, confirming the Bosniak Party would have its representative in the said Committee. In conclusion, the interlocutors agreed that the temporary Committee should produce results of its work as soon as possible, respecting the principle that the quality is more important than the speediness.

8 November

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee *Nada Drobnjak* met with *Svein Eriksen*, leader for the building integrity project in the defence sector, implemented by the Norwegian Centre for Integrity in the Defence Sector

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(CIDS), in cooperation with the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro. During the meeting, they discussed the level of gender equality achievement in Montenegro and Norway, with special focus on gender equality in defence sector, as well as on the previously achieved project results. The meeting was also attended by Biljana Dulović, gender equality coordinator at the Ministry of Interior, and Rajko Radević, local project associate.



9 November

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak and Committee member Branka Tanasijević met with UN WOMEN expert Sanja Nikolin, who paid a working visit to Montenegro, aimed at collecting data within the UN WOMEN programme on promoting gender sensitive policies in the South East Europe and the Republic of Moldova. During the meeting, they discussed the position of women in Montenegro, their representation in public and social life, economic empowerment of women and regional cooperation in the field of improvement of gender equality. The meeting was attended by Biljana Pejović, Head of the Gender Equality Department at the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, and Senada Cikotić, associate at the Gender Equality Department, in the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights.
- 20th Cetinje Parliamentary Forum took place on the topic: "Election laws, participants and campaigns: is the voter in the spotlight?". Forum was organised by the Parliament of Montenegro, whereas the questions were answered by MPs from the region and Montenegro, international officials from the Venice Commission - the Director and the Vice President, OSCE PA's Special Representative, as well as ODIHR experts, with the participation of non-governmental organisations and the presence of diplomatic corps. The Cetinje Parliamentary Forum was opened by the President of the Parliament Ivan Brajović, followed by the dynamic sessions discussing the improvement of election laws

and cooperation with international organisations, as well as the impact of campaigns and financing of political actors on election integrity. After the Forum ended, participants adopted the Joint Declaration.

- Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branimir Gvozdenović met with Alexander Shlyk, Head of the ODIHR Elections Department, Raul Muresan, ODIHR expert, Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro Maryse Daviet, and also with Barbara Rotovnik, Adviser for European integration and the rule of law at the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro. The meeting was scheduled for the purpose of discussing the newly-formed Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation, under the chairmanship of Vice-President Gvozdenović. Vice-President Gvozdenović acquainted the interlocutors with the overall process involving the mere initiative and the forming of the committee, as well as with the manner of its operation in the future. ODIHR Representatives welcomed the forming of the committee and expressed satisfaction over the invitation to participate in the work of the Committee. During the meeting, the interlocutors exchanged their experience regarding electoral legislation in Montenegro and the region.

10 November

- In order to strengthen scientific literacy and democratisation of the knowledge-based decision-making process, Montenegrin Science Promotion Foundation PRONA is a participant in the major European project Youth Science Forum (OMNAF) within Horizon 2020. Participants of the Youth Science Forum have presented resolutions prepared during the project to President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović. The President of the Parliament highlighted the satisfaction with the topicality and visionary quality of topics covered, befitting the Forum participants and the



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digital era in which we live. Brajović said to the Forum participants that they should continue to develop the culture of dialogue, because it represented a key for the understanding and survival of a society.

12 November

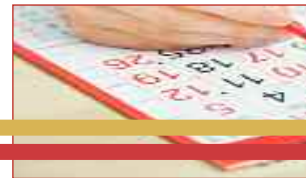
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović met with the Chairperson *Li Xueyong* and members of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Health of the All-China People's Congress. The traditional and friendly relations between Montenegro and China, being continually improved through the strengthening and enhancement of cooperation and intensive political dialogue between the highest legislative bodies of the two countries, are an essential prerequisite and support for increasing the volume of economic cooperation and further development of relations in many other areas – it was concluded at the meeting. President Brajović expressed his satisfaction with the implementation of the worthy projects in Montenegro, both through the bilateral dimension, and through the 16 + 1 mechanism and the Belt and Road Initiative, our country being one of the first signatories. The Chairperson of the Chinese Committee on Education emphasised that China considered Montenegro a country of rich history and culture, and a great friend in the Balkans and in Europe, contributed greatly by the parliamentary cooperation and personal engagement of the President Brajović. He informed the President of the Parliament about the most important activities of that body and stressed the readiness to use good solutions of reformational laws in the area of education adopted by Montenegro. The meeting was also attended by the Chair of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Parliament of Montenegro Radule Novović.
- Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Aleksandar Jovičević and his associates paid a working visit to the Upper chamber of the Italian Parliament-Senate. Within the frameworks of the visit, there was a meeting with the Secretary General of the Italian Senate Elisabetta Serafin. The interlocutors referred to the importance of cooperation and exchange of experience between the two parliaments. The interlocutors exchanged information involving the manner of functioning of both services, as well as experiences in regards to the administrative assistance to the legislative process. The Delegation also met with heads of the services competent in the area of research, protocol, public relations and the media, the budget

office, etc. The visit was organised within the frameworks of the OSCE assistance programmes provided to the Parliament of Montenegro, in part relating to the strengthening of administrative capacities.



- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrant Relations Andrija Nikolić met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Albania in Montenegro Ridi Kurterzi. They assessed during the meeting that Albania and Montenegro have significantly contributed to strengthening stability and fostering enthusiasm in the region with regards to the integration process. The interlocutors emphasised that Montenegro and Albania haven't any unresolved issues, and have traditionally fostered friendly relations, setting an example for other countries in the region. The interlocutors emphasised that the presence of representatives of both populations in the said countries was the most significant bond between both countries.
- Members of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports met with Delegation of Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Health of the All-China People's Congress, who paid a visit to the Parliament of Montenegro and the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports. The meeting was scheduled in order to exchange information and experience regarding the work of both committees that shared similar competences. Chair of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports Radule Novović informed the interlocutors with duties and functioning of the Committee presided by him. Parliamentary Friendship Group with the All-China People's Congress had a separate meeting with the Chinese Delegation. Obrad Mišo Stanišić, member of the Friendship Group and also Chair of the Security and Defence Committee emphasised that Montenegro was eager to further strengthen its relations with the People's Republic of China and establish long-term relations, which is acknowledged by the forming of the parliamentary friendship group. The interlocutors agreed that there

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were a few platforms enabling cooperation at the parliamentary level, and that parliamentary friendship groups were by far one of the most significant mechanisms, which helped promoting cooperation in numerous areas. The meeting was attended by the following: Tarzan Milošević, Andrija Nikolić, Nada Drobnjak and Branka Tanasijević. Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Montenegro Liu Jin and Yan Jiaqi, Attache at the Embassy of the PR of China also attended the meeting.

13 November

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak met with the Executive coordinator in the Centre for Roma Initiative Fana Delija-Nikšić and Slavko Milić, President of the Advisory Council in the Centre for Roma Initiative-Nikšić. They spoke about the challenges faced by Montenegro in terms of preventing arranged marriages within the Roma and Egyptian Community, as well as raising awareness on the importance of abolishing such social phenomenon.
- Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Genci Nimanbegu met with the Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Ambassador Marise Daviet regarding the reforms of the electoral legislation and creating a safer electoral climate in Montenegro. Nimanbegu acquainted Daviet with reforms of the electoral legislation as well as the formed working group in the Parliament. Special attention was dedicated to representation of minorities and women in the Parliament. Ambassador Daviet expressed willingness to assist Montenegro in the upcoming reforms in the field of electoral legislation.
- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Andrija Nikolić met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Italy to Montenegro Luca Zelioli. Zelioli stated that the return of the majority of MPs pertaining to the opposition, was a positive step forward in the field of Montenegrin democracy, and the agreement reached between the position and the opposition in terms of allocation of duties within working bodies, including the forming of the Committee on further reform of electoral and other legislation was very commendable. He also emphasised that Italy recognised Montenegro a leader in the process of European integrations, and the willingness of Italy to continue to provide its support in regards to the further development and reforms of Montenegro. They discussed the possibility of further cooperation, which was already satisfactory, by the means of

cooperation of working bodies dealing with international relations, and establishing ordinary communication between Montenegrin and Italian MPs, since it was a prerequisite to better understanding and mutual progress.

- Committee on Further Reform of Electoral and Other Legislation held its first meeting. Members of the Committee discussed matters involving the methodology and further activities of the Committee. Readiness was expressed to obtain feasible results through intense work of the Committee, which would additionally contribute to strengthening of the trust of the public in the electoral process. The Committee harmonised the text of the Public Call for the election of the associated members, from among the academia and the NGO sector. They pointed out to the need for forming the secretariate of the Committee, and further activities be undertaken in order to enable other subjects to contribute in achieving the goals and tasks of the Committee.



14 November

- Members of the Committee on European Integration met with Josip Muratović, member of the Bundestag. Within the official visit of the Bundestag MP Josip Juratović, organised by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, a meeting was held with Chair and members of the Committee on European Integration. Juratović stated that Montenegro belonged to the European Union, but she must earn her place in the EU, whose foundations have been built on the idea of peace and a society of values, using a positive approach in regards to the reforms and the obtained results, and also by facing the challenges. Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović emphasised that the citizens of Montenegro wished to see feasible results and changes in terms of the EU accession process, and that the approach that had been used so far contributed to the increase of euro-scepticism. He added that the perception of Montenegrin citizens in regards to the migrant crisis had additional

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effects on the matter. Director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation Regional Office for Serbia and Montenegro *Max Brändle* also attended the meeting.

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and members of the Committee met with the MP of the German Bundestag *Josip Juratović*. Chair *Andrija Nikolić* stated that Montenegro recognises the Federal Republic of Germany as one of the main addresses when negotiating with the EU, and the German Bundestag shall have a crucial role in the upcoming and final stages of the integration process of Western Balkan countries. The interlocutors jointly agreed that in the upcoming period, a more frequent communication and openness in the talks between the Montenegrin and German parliamentarians was needed.
- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms *Halil Duković* participated in the regional conference, on the topic: “Tolerant and Inclusive Societies in the Western Balkans”, which took place on 14-15 November, in Podgorica. The conference was organised by the Anti-Discrimination Department of the Council of Europe, within the frameworks of a Joint European Union and Council of Europe Programme, titled “Horizontal Facility” for the Western Balkans and Turkey. The participants were from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYR Macedonia, Kosovo as well as representatives of the EU, Council of Europe and Regional Cooperation Council. The second day of the regional conference, participants discussed in working groups the legislative framework for anti-discrimination, with special focus on protection of national minorities, role of competent gender equality bodies/Ombudsman, and civic society organisations



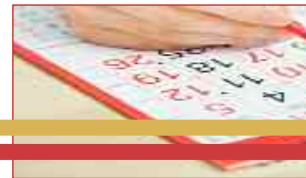
engaged in the fight against discrimination and promotion of tolerance and inclusion, as well as promotion of diversity in local communities, as well as countering hate speech.

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro *Ivan*

Brajić was at the head of the Montenegrin Delegation attending the Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), which took place on 14-15 November at the European Parliament building, in Strasbourg.

- Delegation of the Legislative Committee composed of: *Jovanka Lalić*, *Momčilo Martinović* and *Miloš Nikolić* paid a two-day visit to the Parliamentary Assembly of Hungary. The first day, members of the Delegation met with Chair and members of the Hungarian parliamentary Committee on Legislation and the Committee on Justice. During the meetings, they exchanged information on the working experience of committees, with special focus on the legislative process. In addition, there was also a discussion about the control and oversight role of the Montenegrin Parliament, as well as the experience of Hungary prior to and after joining the EU. The meetings were also attended by *Aleksandar Moštrokol*, Ambassador of Montenegro to Hungary. Second day, members of the Delegation of the Legislative Committee met with Head of Hungary's National Election Office *Ilona Palfy*. They exchanged experience involving the electoral process, with the special focus on Election administration bodies, requirements for submitting the lists of candidates, as well as manner of collection of signatures showing endorsement for an electoral list. The Delegation also met with Deputy State Secretary for the Ministry of Justice *László Salgó*. During the meeting, they exchanged the experience of the Ministry of Justice regarding legislative initiatives as well as the manner of drafting proposals for acts, and first and foremost drafting of acts in accordance with the Nomotechnical rules for drafting regulation. In addition, the Delegation paid a visit to the Embassy of Montenegro in Hungary, on which occasion they met with the Ambassador *Aleksandar Moštrokol*.
- Member of the Security and Defence Committee *Milorad Vuletić* participated in the work of the regional conference, titled: “Collaborative approaches to confronting extremism through action”, organised by the international Republican Institute and the American State Department, which took place on 14-16 November, in Budva. The aim of the Conference was to enable countries in the region to exchange experiences in the fight against all types of violent extremism in the Western Balkans, as well as vertical cooperation between the state and local levels, in each country. The Conference gathered parliamentarians and ministers of interior from countries in the region, state coordinators competent for countering violent extremism, municipal

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chiefs from municipalities, which are currently implementing programmes involving the fight against extremism, representatives of civic society, the media and academia. It was jointly assessed that violent extremism was a threat to regional stability, not only in the Western Balkans, but in the Europe as well, and that the fight against radicalism requires a multi-sectoral approach and joint efforts of all countries in the region.

16 November

- Vice-President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branimir Gvozdenović participated in the second meeting of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, which took place in Tirana. Global Council for Tolerance and Peace is an international organisation whose aim is sharing principles and values of peace and tolerance in the world, with the focus on youth. It enjoys the support of the United Nations. During his stay in Tirana, Vice-President Gvozdenović had a separate meeting with the President of Global Council for Tolerance and Peace Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Jarwan, during which a possibility of cooperation between this organisation and Montenegro and its institutions, was considered.
- Standing Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, composed of: Obrad Mišo Stanišić, Head of the Delegation and Genci Nimabegu, member of the Delegation, participated in the 64th Annual Session of the NATO PA, held from 16 to 19 November; in Halifax. The host of the gathering was the Delegation of Canada to the NATO PA.

18 November

- Delegation of the Committee on European Integration participated in the 60th Plenary sitting of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union- COSAC, which took place on 18-20 November, in Vienna, within the frameworks of the parliamentary dimension of the Austrian Presidency over the Council of the European Union. The first day of the plenary, the discussion was about the priorities of the Austrian presidency, negotiations of the United Kingdom on leaving the European Union, as well as the EU climate policies and building of the Energy Union. Chair of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović expressed satisfaction over the fact that the EU has once more expressed interest for our region during the Bulgarian and Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and still continues to provide its support.

Radunović emphasised that in the current stages of negotiations, Montenegro should invest further efforts in the field of rule of law and democratisation of institutions, as well as that the main goal of the reforms should not be joining the EU, but rather the exercise of

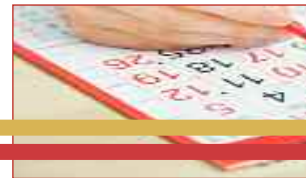


the main democratic values in the country, as follows: rule of law, respecting human rights, economic stability, and a guaranty of a secure and sustainable future for its citizens and future generations. In addition to the Chair, the session was also attended by members of the Committee Adrijan Vuksanović, Daliborka Pejović, and Ranko Krivokpačić. The second day, MP Krivokpačić acquainted the parliamentarians with the activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in promoting the EU and its values to the youth, by the means of Democracy workshops “Barbara Pramer”, organised since 2012 managing to gather over more than 20 000 children. He also mentioned children’s parliament which enables the children direct contact with representatives of the Parliament and Government.

19 November

- Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Andrija Nikolić received President of the Ukrainian World Congress Eugene Czolij. Nikolić stated that as a member of the NATO Alliance and a country which has so far excelled in the EU accession process compared to other countries in the region, as well as in the context of the Ukrainian crisis, Montenegro shares the values of the EU as well as supports its foreign policy. They jointly emphasised the importance of establishing more intensive contacts at the parliamentary level, as a prerequisite to better mutual understanding and promotion of intergovernmental relations.
- Children’s Parliament was organised for the ninth time. This year’s Children’s Parliament was organised by the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with Centre for Children’s Rights in Montenegro, under the support of the Ministry of Sports and UNICEF Office, and on the occasion of commemorating the adoption of the

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Convention on the Rights of the Child on 20 November. The gathering was attended by 70 representatives from children's local parliaments, coming from 23



municipalities, with two representatives from elementary and secondary schools each, including the representatives of vulnerable groups from all the municipalities. Aside from the committee chairs and representatives of the MP Groups, there were also representatives from the Government, domestic institutions, international organisations dealing with children's rights, as well as members of the diplomatic corps.

- Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and freedoms Halil Duković met with President of the Ukrainian World Congress Eugene Czolij, at his request. The meeting was also attended by Charge d'Affaires of Ukraine in Montenegro Natalia Fialka. During the meeting, they exchanged views regarding the following: European and Euro-Atlantic integration process of Ukraine, as well as the experience of Montenegro in the processes, International Community's solution to the Russian hybrid war, human rights of Ukrainians in Kremlin, as well as on the development of relations between Montenegro and Ukraine. The interlocutors expressed satisfaction over the scheduled visit and the expressed views, and assessed that exercising international standards in the field of human rights and freedoms, was crucial for the development of every country, and that the cooperation between both countries and exchange of experience concerning European and Euro-Atlantic integrations was mutually important. Aside from the meeting with Chair Duković, President of the Ukrainian World Congress also met with Head of the Montenegrin Delegation to the PACE Predrag Sekulić and with Chair of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Andrija Nikolić.
- Chair of the Committee on education, Science, Culture and Sports Radule Novović and member of the Committee Andrija Popović participated in an

interparliamentary meeting organised by the European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education, on the topic: "European cultural heritage", which took place on 19-20 November in Brussels. The meeting was organised for the purpose of marking the European Year of Cultural Heritage in 2018, declared by the European Parliament and the Council of Europe on 17 May 2017. Members of the Committee emphasised inter alia, that Montenegrin cultural heritage was unique, given that its historical development was influenced by Western and Eastern civilisations, and that its cultural heritage was a consensual merger of different traditions. The goal of the meeting was to exchange experience at the national level, by the means of discussing legislation, and exchange ideas on possible methods of upgrading protection and promotion of European cultural heritage.

20 November

- A group of children attending the Public Preschool Institution Ljubica Popovic in Podgorica, paid a visit to the Parliament of Montenegro. On the occasion, the children were, in accordance with their age group, acquainted with the work of the Parliament of Montenegro, and they also toured the Great Hall and rooms in which parliamentary activities are carried out. The visit was organised within the programme "Open Parliament", which provides an opportunity of having individual and collective visits to the Parliament, with a view to informing as many citizens as possible about its work.
- Chair of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare Suad Numanović and members of the Committee Nikola Divanović and Boris Mugoša paid a visit to the Centre for Children and Youth 'Ljubovic', in Podgorica. The visit was organised in order to mark the Universal Children's Day. There was a meeting with the Director of the Centre for Children and Youth 'Ljubovic' Mirjana Đurić and her special pedagogues. Numanović emphasised that it was necessary to strengthen inter-institutional cooperation at both state and local level, in order to solve issues faced by the Centre's protégé, especially when it comes to prevention. The members of the Committee unanimously agreed that short-term stay of protégés in the Centre was an issue and that it was necessary to procure a manner to supervise them even after their leave. After the meeting ended, members of the Committee toured the premises occupied by the protégés and made sure they were properly cared for.
- Member of the Committee on Human Rights and

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Freedoms Mihailo Anđušić participated in the conference titled: “Mental Health of children in Montenegro”. The Conference was organised by the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in Montenegro, on the occasion of marking the 20 November-Universal Children’s Day. The Conference was attended by representatives of the Parliament, Government, educational and health facilities, facilities of social and children’s protection, as well as members of the international organisations and NGO sector. During the Conference, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms presented the Report on mental health of children in Montenegro. It was noted that legislation governing the protection of mental health of children was insufficiently regulated, and the level of implementation of strategic documents and programmes on the promotion of mental health of children was low.

23 November

- Employees at the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro, members of the Trade Union, voluntarily donated blood at the premises of the Blood Transfusion Institute of Montenegro. They have been a part of this humane mission for a few years, to which they have grown accustomed to by now, thus promoting voluntary blood donation in Montenegro. Action of the Trade Union of the Parliament of Montenegro was organised with the aim to provide support for medically most vulnerable members of society and strengthen the principle of solidarity and empathy in the community.
- Chair of the Committee on Human rights and Freedoms Halil Duković met with UNICEF consultant Branka Pavlović. UNICEF Child Rights Monitoring & Evaluations Specialist Ana Dautović also attended the meeting. The meeting was held within the frameworks of the consultative process, on the occasion of drafting the Strategy for the exercise of the rights of children in Montenegro, 2019-2023, which is being prepared by the Working Group composed representatives of competent ministries, facilities and organisations. Chair of the Committee provided comprehensive, thorough and detailed information involving the children’s rights in Montenegro. He stated that the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms has been dedicated to promoting the children’s rights for many years now, in accordance with its activity plans.

- Chair of the Committee on Human rights and Freedoms Halil Duković participated in the Conference titled: “Executing of judgements of the European Court of Human Rights in relation to Montenegro”, organised by the Supreme Court of Montenegro in cooperation with AIRE Centre, in London. Chair of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Željko Aprcović also attended the Conference. An “Analysis of judgements of the European Court of Human Rights in relation to Montenegro” was presented during the Conference, prepared as part of cooperation between the Supreme Court of Montenegro, Office of Representative of Montenegro before European Court of Human Rights and AIRE Centre, London. The Conference ended after adopting Conclusions and Recommendations.

26 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović hosted the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Serhat Galip, on the occasion of the end of his diplomatic mission to Montenegro. Ambassador Galip thanked President Brajović for his continued support that he had experienced during his diplomatic mission and said that Montenegro was, for many reasons, a country to be looked up to, not only in the Western Balkans, but in the whole of Europe. The interlocutors also covered issues of regional stability, as well as the process of European integration.
- The Ninth Session of Women’s Parliament was held. The emphasis of the Session was placed on implementation of activities undertaken in the preventing and countering violence against women and violence in the family, realised during the Campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence”. Opening the Session, the President welcomed the request made by women members of 16 political parties in Montenegro, demanding at least 40 % of women be included in the parties’ lists of candidates conceptualised in a such a way that one candidate of each group containing three candidates shall be a woman. Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak assessed that the tolerance towards violence against women in Montenegro continues to be at a high level, and that it should be sanctioned. The opening speeches were also given by President of the Supreme Court Vesna Medenica, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms Šučko

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Baković, and Marceline Naudi, GREVIO Committee Rapporteur for Montenegro. The following also participated in the work of the session: representatives of parliamentary and government mechanisms competent in the gender equality area, members of women's associations of parliamentary parties segments of civil society. The questions posed by union activists, representatives of the civic sector, political parties were answered by Minister of the Interior Mevludin Nuhodžić, Minister of Human and Minority Rights Mehmed Zenka, State Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare Vukica Jelić, Director General of the Directorate for Judiciary in the Ministry of Justice Marijana Laković.

- Head of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative (CEI-PD) Miodrag Vuković participated in the annual session of the CEI Parliamentary Assembly, which took place on 26 November, in Zagreb, within the frameworks of the Croatian Presidency of the Initiative. This year's session was dedicated to the topic: "Development of Tourism and local communities: ways to strengthen sustainability?". Members of the Delegation were also addressed by Head of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative (CEI-PD) Miodrag Vuković. In his address, he emphasised that tourism was an important instrument of regional cooperation and a powerful catalyst for the European integration process. In addition, he emphasised that regional connectivity meant future development and competition of the said industry, and furthermore, it was a prerequisite to prosperity and prospect of developing innovative and sustainable tourism, with the focus on diversification of tourism product and solutions to the seasonality issue. Head of the Montenegrin Delegation concluded that tourism was based on the principle of sustainability, one of the main incentives to economies of the CEI region, primarily for its indirect effect on nearly all industries. At the end of the session, to which attended ten delegations, Final declaration was adopted, containing summarised conclusions adopted during the session of the CEI Parliamentary Assembly.

27 November

- Chair of the Gender Equality Committee Nada

Drobnjak spoke at the Regional forum on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Western Balkans and Turkey, which took place on 27-28 November, in Skopje. Chair of the Committee delivered a speech concerning application of the Istanbul Convention in Montenegro, on the panel topic: "Regional implementation of the Istanbul Convention: Progress and Challenges Ahead", during which she provided answers to the questions concerning the activities undertaken to hasten the implementation of the Convention, main challenges and achievements in the process followed by the ratification, experience of GREVIO during the monitoring process in promoting the implementation of the Convention, and joint efforts of countries facing the challenges in relation to the implementation of Convention. The Forum was organised by Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Council of Europe, European Commission, and UN WOMEN, in partnership with European Women's Lobby. The Forum was organised in order to acknowledge Macedonia's Government ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).

- Committee on Further Reform of Electoral and Other legislation held its second meeting on 27 November. During the meeting, the Committee resumed its work on the methodology and further activities of the Committee. A significant part of the meeting was marked by discussion on innovative proposal concerning the organisation structure of the Committee, which requires forming of seven working groups with defined tasks. Members of the Committee supported the proposal.

At the follow-up of the meeting, held the same day, following the discussion and report of the Commission formed by the Committee in order to verify the regularity and timeliness of the submitted applications, Committee on Further Reform of Electoral and Other Legislation elected associated members of the Committee from among the academia and the NGO sector. Đorđije Blažić, Faculty for Administrative and European studies and Boris Bastijančić, University Donja Gorica, were elected associated members of the Committee. Three members were elected from the NGO sector, as follows: Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector (MANS), Center for Democratic Transition (CDT), and Civic Alliance.

CALENDAR



In addition, the Committee considered the proposal for the organisational structure of the said working body, and reached an agreement on persons to be put in charge for the work of specific working groups.

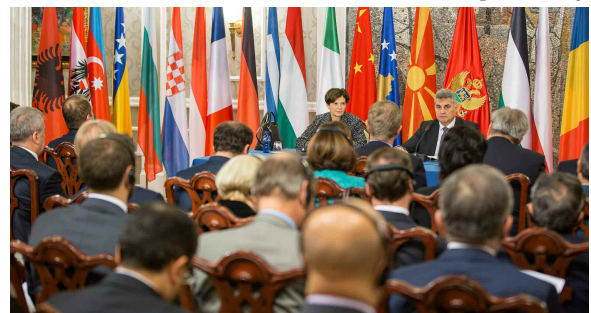
28 November

- President of the Parliament hosted a visit with President of the National Council of Austria Wolfgang Sobotka. An exhibition on important women of Austria in the past 200 years was opened in the Hall of the Parliament on the occasion of the visit of the President of the National Council of Austria to the Parliament of Montenegro, and will be opened for citizens to visit until the end of the week.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro received in a visit Johan Iks, Director of Historical Archive of the Vatican, who had been paying a visit to Montenegro. President Brajović emphasised the importance of cooperation between Montenegrin Ministry of Culture and Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, and Historical Archive of the Vatican, established at the initiative of the Embassy of Montenegro to the Holy See. President Brajović expressed gratitude for the willingness of the Holy See to engage in this type of cooperation, and said that Montenegro was honoured for being given the opportunity to access the archive material of great relevance to our country. Director of Historical Archive of the Vatican emphasised that Montenegro was the first country that has been given the opportunity to establish such cooperation, by the means of a specifically defined project involving preparation and use of archive material dating from the middle ages and onwards, in line with which adequate publications would be prepared. The implementation of the project is scheduled to start next year. In addition, Ix hoped that publishing of unfamiliar archive material involving Montenegrin history would call the attention of historians from around the world. He emphasised that one of the documents of priceless value to both is safeguarded in the Archives, which he administers himself. It is the actual Concordance signed between principality of Montenegro and the Holy See in 1886.
- Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro attended the plenary session of the Energy Community, held on 28 November, in Sobranie, Skopje. Members of the Parliament of Montenegro Filip Vuković and Aleksandar Damjanović participated in the

discussion, whereby they pointed out to the fact that in spite of all the efforts. The source of energy derived from renewable resources still remains at a low level, and further efforts were needed in order to observe specific energy targets. Following the discussion, led by representatives of the member states of the Energy Community plenary, due to lack of majority, given that the Delegation of Serbia and Ukraine failed to attend the session, it was agreed that the Joint Statement be adopted at the following session, scheduled for 19 February 2019, in Brussels.

29 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović had an annual meeting with the heads of diplomatic resident missions in Podgorica. The meeting was also attended by MPs - chairpersons of parliamentary working bodies. Brajović stated, inter alia, that in the next two years of our mandate, the parliamentary life will be dynamic and will help to accelerate the adoption of European standards with the aim of improving the quality of life of our citizens. President Brajović also spoke about the international activities of the Parliament, and the participants were also informed about data on the number of adopted laws, plenary sittings and working bodies held, as well as other important events organised by the Parliament of Montenegro. Ana Janković, the Ambassador of Austria to Montenegro, also addressed the participants on behalf of the presiding country of the Council of the European Union, stressing that 2018 was the year important and successful for Montenegro, Austria and bilateral relations between the two countries. Speaking about the European perspective of Montenegro and the Western Balkans, Ambassador Janković cited the Federal Chancellor of Austria who said that "the EU will be complete only



when the countries of the Western Balkans join."The opening remarks were followed by a discussion with ambassadors.