



**PARLIAMENT OF MONTENEGRO**

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**2015**

**PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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## FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT OF MONTENEGRO

Dear citizens of Montenegro,

Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th convocation, for the period 1 January 2015 - 1 January 2016, is before you. In accordance with long-term practice, this Report contains the most important information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the previous year, with regard to its legislative and oversight functions, events at international plan, transparency and openness, as well as other aspects of its work.

In 2015, the Parliament of Montenegro held 18 sittings of ordinary session and five sittings of extraordinary session, adopting a total of 211 acts, of which 125 laws. In 2015, nine sittings of extraordinary session of the Parliament were held, devoted to Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions and one held on the occasion of the Decision of the NATO Ministerial Council on Montenegro's accession to the Alliance. Working bodies of the Parliament were also very active. They held 323 meetings, with total of 1,047 items of the agenda, including 340 proposals for laws, and they also considered 2,225 amendments. In addition, working bodies held seven control and 43 consultative hearings.

In the reporting year, events at the international scene were carried out by undiminished dynamics. Numerous bilateral meetings at different levels, work of parliamentary delegations in the most important parliamentary assemblies and regional initiatives still give an important contribution to building a positive image about our parliament in the neighbouring countries, Europe and world.

We worked diligently to reinforce the administrative and technical capacities, which is also an area where we have been achieving continuous progress over the last few years. In the reporting period, new Data centre has been launched as well as modern communication equipment, thanks to the support of the European Union Delegation to Montenegro. Our staff underwent a significant number of trainings and certain planning documents for the purpose of contributing to further improvements in this field have been adopted.

Finally, we remain committed to the idea that our work should be recognised as a useful and transparent, while continuously improving and upgrading it for the interest of all of us. On that path, we are additionally motivated by constant assessments of the EU institutions and civil society that the Parliament of Montenegro is among the most transparent and most open parliaments in the region. In addition, the European Commission progress reports on Montenegro note that Montenegrin Parliament continuously exercised its constitutional powers, in particular with regard to the supervision and control of the executive branch.

Respectfully,

Ranko Krivokapić

President of the Parliament of Montenegro



## I INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Parliament of Montenegro held a total of 18 sittings of ordinary session and five sittings of extraordinary session, adopting a total of 211 acts, of which 125 laws, 20 decisions, 39 decisions on elections and appointments, 25 conclusions, one resolution and one opinion.

In 2015, a total of nine sittings of extraordinary session of the Parliament were held, of which two devoted to Prime Minister's Hour, two devoted to and Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions and one held on the occasion of the Decision by the NATO Ministerial Council. 56 questions were referred to the Prime Minister and 272 to members of the Government, with 25 supplementary questions.

In the same period, working bodies held 323 meetings, for a total of 337 days, 502 hours and 10 minutes; wherein 1,047 items of agenda were considered, including 340 proposals for laws as well as 2,225 amendments. In addition, working bodies held 7 control and 43 consultative hearings.

Collegium of the President of the Parliament adopted in this year the 2015 Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro and 2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro. In accordance with the previous practice, the working bodies adopted annual work plans for 2015. In 2015, Montenegro has continued the implementation of activities aimed at achieving further progress in accession negotiations with the European Union. In the reporting period, the Committee on European Integration considered, inter alia, the Second and Third Quarterly Report on the overall activities within Montenegro's integration process to the EU, for the period July – December 2014 and January - July 2015. The Committee supported the reports and proposed the Parliament to adopt thereof.

Within the Stabilisation and Association Process, the Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), composed of member of the European Parliament and Parliament of Montenegro, follows the application of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. In the reporting period, SAPC held two meetings, adopting declarations with recommendations. In line with that, the Committee introduced new practice of considering the level of implementation of recommendations adopted by SAPC, at the meeting held ahead of the next SAPC meeting. In 2015, two such meeting were held, where recommendations adopted at the IX and X SAPC meeting were considered.

Intensive international cooperation marked 2015 through numerous bilateral and multilateral meetings and numerous regional and international gatherings.

When it comes to administrative resources, it is important to mention making of a new human resources strategy, as well as significant improvement of information and communication infrastructure.

### *2015 in figures*

- *A total of 211 acts were adopted, of which: 125 laws, one resolution, 20 decisions, 25 conclusions and 39 decisions on elections and appointments as well as one opinion;*
- *18 sittings of ordinary session and five sittings of extraordinary session of the Parliament were held, in duration of 337 hours and 40 minutes;*
- *56 questions were referred to the Prime Minister and 272 to members of the Government, with 25 supplementary questions;*
- *323 meetings of parliamentary working bodies were held, for a total of 337 days, 502 hours and 10 minutes; wherein 340 proposals for laws were considered as well as 2,225 amendments. .*
- *7 control and 43 consultative hearings were held;*
- *4,782 pieces of information, announcements and statements illustrated with 4,284 photos were posted on the News page of the Parliament's website;*
- *287 hours and 49 minutes of programme was produced;*
- *277 permanent credentials for journalists and camerapersons/photographers from 28 electronic and printed media were issued, as well as 163 daily credentials;*
- *It was responded to 112 individual journalist questions, concerning parliamentary activities;*
- *46 requests for free access to information were submitted;*
- *15 research papers were prepared and published, and responded to around 77 quests of other countries national parliaments;*
- *203 workshops were hosted, wherein 4,458 students from 59 primary schools participated;*



Detailed information on legislative and oversight activities of the Parliament and its working bodies, parliamentary cooperation, transparency of work, administrative capacities, the use of funds allocated by the budget of Montenegro, as well as other activities that marked 2014, are given below. Appendixes include the list of laws adopted by the Parliament in this period, a number of parliamentary questions per MP, tabular overview of spending, overview of requests for free access to information, the list of research papers done in 2015 as well as tabular overview of conducted trainings and tabular overview of implemented trainings and specialisations.

Employees of all organisational units of the Parliamentary Service, in accordance with their responsibilities, were involved in the preparation of this report. Minutes from parliamentary sittings as well as reports and minutes from meetings of working bodies, monthly reports of organisational units and other reports were primarily used as resources.

Presentation of data in the form of this report was prepared by the Parliamentary Institute in cooperation with other organisational units of the Parliamentary Service.



## II GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 LIST OF MPS, WITH CHANGES IN COMPOSITION IN 2015

#### *COALITION EUROPEAN MONTENEGRO – MILO ĐUKANOVIĆ*

1. Ranko Krivokapić
2. Mevludin Nuhodžić
3. Milutin Simović
4. Rifat Rastoder
5. Andrija Popović
6. Borislav Banović, until 30 October 2015 (termination of office)
7. Tarzan Milošević
8. Predrag Sekulić
9. Filip Vuković
10. Radivoje Lala Nikčević
11. Miodrag Vuković
12. Šefkija Murić
13. Srđa Popović, until 23 September 2015 (termination of office)  
Vuk Roćen, from 13 October 2015
14. Slobodan Krušo Radović
15. Saša Pešić
16. Veljko Zarubica
17. Branko Čavor
18. Luid Ljubo Škrelja
19. Milorad Vuletić
20. Obrad Mišo Stanišić
21. Zoran Jelić
22. Marta Šćepanović
23. Marija Maja Čatović
24. Draginja Vuksanović
25. Džavid Šabović
26. Husnija Šabović
27. Nikola Gegaj
28. Željko Aprcović
29. Zorica Kovačević, until 18 March 2015 (termination of office)  
Maida Bešlić, from 24 March 2015
30. Izet Bralić
31. Halil Duković
32. Branka Tanasijević
33. Rešid Adrović
34. Radovan Obradović
35. Nada Drobnjak
36. Žana Filipović
37. Jasmin Sutović
  - \* Damir Šehović
  - \* Mićo Orlandić

#### *DEMOCRATIC FRONT – MIODRAG LEKIĆ*

1. Ljiljana Đurašković
2. Branka Bošnjak
3. Milan Knežević
4. Janko Vučinić
5. Andrija Mandić
6. Nebojša Medojević



7. Predrag Bulatović
8. Branko Radulović
9. Strahinja Bulajić
10. Slaven Radunović
11. Koča Pavlović
12. Vladislav Bojović
13. Emilo Labudović
14. Veljko Vasiljević
15. Milutin Đukanović
  - \* Novica Stanić
  - \* Miodrag Lekić
  - \* Radovan Asanović
  - \* Goran Danilović
  - \* Jelisava Kalezić

***SNP - SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY OF MONTENEGRO – WORDS AND DEEDS***

1. Srđan Milić
2. Snežana Jonica
3. mr Danko Šarančić
4. mr Aleksandar Damjanović
5. Danijela Danka Marković
6. dr Radosav Nišavić
  - \* Neven Gošović
  - \* Velizar Kaluđerović
  - \* Obrad Gojković

***POSITIVE MONTENEGRO – DARKO PAJOVIĆ***

1. Darko Pajović
2. Azra Jasavić
3. Srđan Perić
4. Goran Tuponja
  - \* Mladen Bojanić
  - \* mr Dritan Abazović
  - \* Zoran Miljanić

***BOSNIAK PARTY – RAFET HUSOVIĆ***

1. Almer Kalač
2. Suljo Mustafić
3. Rešad Sijarić

***CROATIAN CIVIC INITIATIVE (HGI) – DETERMINED***

1. Ljerka Dragičević

***ALBANIAN COALITION: DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE IN MONTENEGRO – DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND ALBANIAN ALTERNATIVE – KOALICIONI SHQIPTAR: LIDHJA DEMOKRATIKE NË MAL TË ZI, PARTIA DEMOKRATIKE DHE ALTERNATIVA SHQIPTARE***

1. Nik Gjelošhaj

***FORCA FOR UNITY – FORCA PËR BASHKIM  
GENCI NIMANBEGU – VASEL SINISHTAJ – ZANA SARVAN***

1. Genci Nimanbegu

**Note:** Asterisk marks names and surnames of MPs whose membership ceased in MP groups constituted at the beginning of the 25th convocation.

## 2.2 MPS GROUPS

MPs groups of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, on 31 December 2015:

MP Group of the Democratic Party of Socialists	30 members;
MP Group of the Democratic Front	15 members;
- * in the reporting period, a membership to four MPs in the MP group ceased;	
MP Group of the Socialist People's Party	nine members;
- * in the reporting period, a membership to three MPs in the MP group ceased;	
MP Group of the Social Democratic Party	six members;
- * in the reporting period, a membership to two MPs in the MP group ceased;	
MP Group of the Positive Montenegro	four members;
MP Group of the Albanian parties (FORCA, DP), HGI and LPCG	four members;
MP Group of the Bosniak Party	three members;
MP Group of Independent MPs	12 members.
- in the reporting period, nine MPs joined the Group.	

\* One MP does not belong to any MP group.

## 2.3 PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENTS, SECRETARY GENERAL AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PARLIAMENT

At the First Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session of the 25th Convocation, held on 6 November 2012, Ranko Krivokapić was elected President of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the same sitting, Željko Šturanović (deceased) and Suljo Mustafić were elected vice presidents of the Parliament as well as Branko Radulović, a candidate of parliamentary minority.

At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2014, Milutin Simović was elected Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the Fourth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro of 11 November 2014, Siniša Stanković was elected new Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro.

## **RANKO KRIVOKAPIĆ, PRESIDENT**

He was born in Kotor on 17 August 1961.

Graduated lawyer, passed the oral MA examination at the Faculty of Law in Belgrade – field of international relations. He paid study visits to the Congress of the United States of America and British Lloyds in London. He is an alumni of the Atlantic Partnership Program “The Council’s transatlantic young leaders program”, which gathers 30 high-ranking politicians from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.



### **EMPLOYMENT**

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro since 2003, in the 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th Convocation of the Parliament;
- President Emeritus of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly;
- Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee;
- In the beginning of the 90’s he was one of the founders of the Democratic Forum which was formed with the aim of establishing the multiparty system in Montenegro;
- Elected MP in nine convocations. First time in 1989 in the Parliament of Montenegro; in the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from 1993 to 1997, and in the Parliament of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro from 2003 to 2006.
- Following the Referendum on the state legal status of Montenegro, in October 2006 he was elected President of the Constituent Assembly of the Republic of Montenegro and Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee of the Constituent Assembly of the Republic of Montenegro, until the proclamation of Constitution of Montenegro in 2007;
- He has been Head of the Montenegrin Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly for ten years. At its XXII Annual Session, held in Istanbul, he was elected 12th President of the OSCE PA. Upon completing a one year term as President, he was elected President Emeritus on 2 July 2014. He was a member of the Montenegrin delegations to the Council of Europe as well as the Parliamentary Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.
- Founder of the regional initiative “Cetinje Parliamentary Forum” in 2004, which traditionally gathers parliamentarians from the region, with the aim of sharing constructive experiences in different areas of political work.

### **POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT**

- His political engagement started in the late 80s. He was a member of the Presidency of the Reform Forces for Montenegro in 1990, headed by the last Prime Minister of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Ante Marković. He was anti-war activist during the 90s, a member of the Presidency of the Reform Forces for Montenegro in 1990, and co-founder of the Democratic Forum;
- President of the Social Democratic Party of Montenegro (SDP) since 2001;
- Member of the Presidency of the Party of European Socialists – PES;
- One of the founders of the Social Democratic Party (1990), which has been a full-fledged member of the Socialist International (SI) since 1996 and member of the Party of European Socialist since 2009.

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGES:**

He speaks the English language.

**MILUTIN SIMOVIĆ, VICE PRESIDENT**

He was born in Nikšić on 29 December 1961.

He graduated as the student of the year at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad, in 1986. Obtained a master degree at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad, in 1991.

**EMPLOYMENT**

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro (December 2014 - );
- Head of the DPS MP Group in the 24th Convocation (January 2011 – November 2012) and in the 25th Convocation (November 2012 – December 2014);
- Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management in seven mandates, in the period 1997-2010;
- Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, in 1997;
- Senior researcher at the Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops.

**POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT**

- Member - Security and Defence Committee;
- Member - Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly;
- Member - The European Union – Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC);
- Member - Presidency of the Democratic Party of Socialists.

**MARITAL STATUS:**

Married, father of three

***SULJO MUSTAFIĆ, VICE PRESIDENT***

Born in Bar, on 8 October 1973.

He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad (Serbia) – Department of Southern Slavic literature and Serbo-Croatian language, in 1998.

He finished a one-year specialisation in Media Plan – advanced course of journalism, funded by the French Government – the field of television, radio and printed media, in Sarajevo, BiH, in 2000.

**EMPLOYMENT**

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th Convocation;
- MP of the 24th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro (2009–2012) and 25th Convocation (from 2012);
- Head of the Bosniak Party MP Group in the 24th Convocation of the Parliament;
- Member of the Committee on International Relations and European Integration and Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC) in the 24th Convocation;
- Member of the Constitutional Committee, Committee on International Relations and Emigrants, Security and Defence Committee and SAPC in the 25th Convocation;
- He worked in the Informative Centre of Bar and he was a correspondent of several daily newspapers, in the period 1998 – 2007;
- He was editor-in-chief of Radio Bar from 2002 to 2007;
- He is a teacher at Madrasa in Podgorica, teaching Native language and literature, since 2008.

**POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT**

- He is a member of the Bosniak Party from August 2006;
- Chief of the media team and spokesperson of the Bosniak Party, in the period 2007-2012;
- Member of the Bosniak Party Presidency since 2007;
- Head of the Bosniak Party MP Group, in the 24th Convocation of the Parliament (2009-2012).

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES:**

He has basic knowledge of the English language.

**MARITAL STATUS:**

He is married and has one child.

**BRANKO RADULOVIĆ, VICE PRESIDENT**

Born in Podgorica on 10 July 1950.

Graduated from the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy in Skopje in 1975, Obtained degree at the Faculty for Materials and Metallurgy in Ljubljana in 1986 and PhD degree at the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy in Belgrade in 1989.

**EMPLOYMENT**

- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th Convocation;
- He has been an MP of the Movement for Changes from 2006, during the 23 and 24th
- Convocation as well as during the 25th Convocation as a member of the coalition Democratic Front;
- Since 1990 he has been working at the Faculty of Metallurgy and Technology in Podgorica, where he was elected senior lecturer, associate professor and full professor for the following subjects: Heat treatment, Special metal materials, Surface engineering and Phase transformations. He was the Head of the Department for Physics Metallurgy, Head of the Postgraduate studies and Vice President of the Senate of the University of Montenegro;
- From 1986 to 1990 he worked at the Institute for Technical Research in Podgorica, at the position of the Head of HTM Bureau.
- From 1976 to 1986 he worked at MZT – Skopje, at various management positions. In the period while he was a director of the factory, it was pronounced to be the best industry organisation in SFRY and in 1986 it won the AVNOJ award.

**SCIENTIFIC WORK**

- He is an author and co-author of more than 200 scientific papers, presented at prestigious conferences and congresses, and published in leading worlds scientific magazines from SCI list, such as “Materials Science and Technology”, “Journal of Engineering and Performance”, “ISIJ International”, “Materials and Technologies” etc;
- He participated in and managed more than 30 scientific research and development projects. He is an author and co-author of 5 university textbooks and holder of 3 patents. He was a mentor on a few dozen successfully defended graduate, and PhD thesis.
- He attended specialisations in Japan, England, Germany, Russia, Italy, Czech Republic, etc.
- In 2004, the International Bibliographic Centre in Cambridge awarded him for extraordinary results in the field of technical sciences and listed him as a leading world’s scientist.

**POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT**

- Since 1990 he has been an active member of anti-war, anti-regime and pro-democratic block, by writing numerous texts, petitions and by participating in many gatherings;
- He was a high official of the Liberal Alliance of Montenegro (LSCG);
- He is one of the founders of the Group for Changes and Vice President of the Movement for Changes;
- He was the MP in 23rd and 24th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro, Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on European Integrations and Foreign Affairs, member of National Council for European Integration, and member of the Committee on International Relations and European Integrations and Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure as well as Head of the MP Group of the Movement for Changes in 24th Convocation;

**MARITAL STATUS:**

Married, father of two.



**SINIŠA STANKOVIĆ, SECRETARY GENERAL (since November 2014)**

Born in Podgorica on 20 December 1957.

He obtained a diploma of an engineer in the field of mechanics, construction mechanics,

project engineer at the Faculty of Mechanical

Engineering, Podgorica in 1986.


**EMPLOYMENT**

- Secretary General of the Parliament since November 2014;
- January 2011 - November 2014 - Assistant Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism - Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism;
- March 2009 - January 2011 - Assistant Minister of Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection (Sector for Communal Development) - Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection;
- January 2007 – March 2009 - Assistant Minister of Tourism and Environmental Protection (Sector for Environmental Protection) - Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Protection;
- June 2004 - January 2007 - Assistant Minister of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning (Sector for Communal Development) - Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning;
- February 2003 - May 2004 - Secretary of the Social Democratic Party of Montenegro;
- July 2000 - July 2002 - Vice President of the Capital City Podgorica;
- September 1998 - July 2000 - Secretary of Secretariat of Labour, Health and Social Welfare;
- September 1986 - August 1998 - Mechanical Engineer – Factory “19 Decembar” - Independent Engineer in the factory of anti-hail rockets.

**SPECIALISATIONS AND TRAININGS**

- 1976 – 1982 - Field of mechanics, construction mechanics, project engineer - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering;
- 23 August 2010 - 10 September 2010 - Training on sustainable development of the city - US Institute For International Education (Congress of USA); United States;
- February 2002 - May 2002 - Course for leaders in the Government - Consulting firm ASSET (Training); Podgorica (Montenegro);
- August 2000 - August 2000 - Seminar for Mayors - Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Seminar); Germany
- 23. August - 10 September 2010 - International Leadership program on the theme “Sustainable Urban Development in the U.S.” - United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES:**

English



## 2.4 WORKING BODIES OF THE PARLIAMENT

In accordance with the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (“Official Gazette of Montenegro”, No. 25/12), the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro has 14 standing committees. As a rule, composition of a committee, including its chairperson and deputy chairperson, corresponds to the party representation of MPs in the Parliament. The number of committee members is determined during their election, and in case of the standing committees of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament, the number of committee members ranges from 11 to 13.

In addition to the standing committees, another working body of the Parliament is the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure, which has eight members from parliamentary majority and four from parliamentary minority.

Eleven working bodies of the Parliament are chaired by MPs from parliamentary majority, while chairpersons of Committee on European Integration, Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, Anti-corruption Committee and Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure are MPs from parliamentary minority.

*Table No. 1 –Working Bodies of the 25th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro with data on chairpersons and number of members*

Working bodies	Chairperson	Number of members
<b>Constitutional Committee</b>	Ranko Krivokapić	13
<b>Legislative Committee</b>	Draginja Vuksanović	13
<b>Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration</b>	Rifat Rastoder	13
<b>Security and Defence Committee</b>	Mevludin Nuhodžić	13
<b>Committee on International Relations and Emigrants</b>	Miodrag Vuković	13
<b>Committee on European Integration</b>	Slaven Radunović	13
<b>Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget</b>	Aleksandar Damjanović	13
<b>Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms</b>	Halil Duković	11
<b>Gender Equality Committee</b>	Nada Drobnjak	11
<b>Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning</b>	Predrag Sekulić	13
<b>Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports</b>	Branka Tanasijević	11
<b>Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare</b>	Zoran Jelić	11
<b>Anti-corruption Committee</b>	Predrag Bulatović	13
<b>Administrative Committee:</b>	Radivoje Lala Nikčević	13
<b>Commission for Monitoring and Control of the</b>	Janko Vučinić	8
<b>Privatisation Procedure</b>	Janko Vučinić	8



### III LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

In 2015, the Parliament of Montenegro held a total of 18 sittings of ordinary session and five sittings of extraordinary session, adopting a total of 211 acts, of which 125 laws, 20 decisions, 39 decisions on elections and appointments, 25 conclusions, one resolution and one opinion.

In 2015, a total of nine sittings of extraordinary session of the Parliament were held, of which two devoted to Prime Minister's Hour, two devoted to and Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions and one held on the occasion of the Decision of the NATO Ministerial Council on Montenegro's accession to the Alliance. 56 questions were referred to the Prime Minister and 272 to members of the Government, with 25 supplementary questions.

In the same period, working bodies held 323 meetings, for a total of 337 days, 502 hours and 10 minutes; wherein 1,047 items of agenda were considered, including 340 proposals for laws as well as 2,225 amendments. In addition, working bodies held 7 control and 43 consultative hearings.

In 2015, 247 representatives of civil society were included in meetings of working bodies through attendance and participation.

Collegium of the President of the Parliament adopted in this year also 2015 Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro and 2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The 2015 annual work plans have been adopted by all working bodies of the Parliament, with the exception of the Constitutional and Legislative Committee, having in mind the specific responsibilities of these two committees. . Security and Defence Committee, in line with the Law on Parliamentary Oversight of Security and Defence Sector, adopted 2015 Plan of Parliamentary Oversight.

More detailed information on the work of the Parliament and its working bodies is presented below. The Appendix I contains a list of laws adopted in 2014.

#### 3.1 SITTINGS OF THE PARLIAMENT

In the reporting period, i.e. in the period 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015, the Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th Convocation held 18 sittings of ordinary session and five sittings of extraordinary session, during which the Parliament adopted 211 acts, namely: 59 laws, 66 laws on amendments, 20 decisions (of which nine with regard to consideration of reports and financial plans and four decisions on initiating the criminal procedure against some MPs), 39 decisions on elections and appointments, 25 conclusions (of which 19 with regard to adoption of reports), one resolution and the one opinion.

*Table no. 2 - Total number of acts adopted*

JAN - DEC 2015	
Number of acts adopted <sup>1</sup>	125
Decision <sup>2</sup>	59
Conclusions	25
Other acts	2
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTS ADOPTED</b>	<b>211</b>

<sup>1</sup> Comprising the total number of laws and laws on amendments to the laws

<sup>2</sup> Presented decisions include decisions on election and appointments

Table No 3 – Statistical data on the sittings of the Parliament in 2015

	ORDINARY SESSIONS		EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS	
	2014.	2015.	2014.	2015.
Number of sittings held	20	18	2	5
Duration in days	84	75	4	21
Duration in hours	319 hours and 55 minutes	280 hours and 15 minutes	11 hours and 35 minutes	97 hours and 25 minutes
Number of discussed items of the agenda	160	173	7	31
Number of adopted laws	90 laws, of which 45 laws on amendments to the laws	45 laws and 55 laws on amendments to the laws	five laws, of which 4 laws on amendments to the laws	14 laws and 11 laws on amendments to the laws
Number of proposals for laws not adopted	16	one proposal for the law, 22 proposals for laws on amendments to the laws and three proposals for decisions	2	two proposals for laws on amendments to the laws
Number of adopted decisions	20	20	-	-
Number of adopted decisions on elections and appointments	48	39	-	-
Number of adopted declarations	-	-	-	-
Number of adopted resolutions	1	-	-	1
Number of adopted conclusions	26	25	-	-
Number of considered interpellations	-	-	-	-
Number of questions posed to Prime Minister	50	-	-	-
Number of parliamentary questions	231	272	-	-
Number of motions of no-confidence vote to the Government	-	-	-	-
Number of considered reports of certain bodies	19 <sup>4</sup>	24	-	-

### 3.1.1 PROPOSED ACTS

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2015, MPs submitted: nine proposals for laws, 56 proposals for laws on amendments to laws, six proposals for decisions, two proposals for resolutions and one proposal for conclusions.

In the same period, the Government submitted: 48 proposals for laws, 48 proposals for laws on amendments to laws, four proposals for decisions and six reports.

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2015, four proposals for laws were withdrawn from procedure, namely: Wine Law, submitted during 2015, as well as the Law on Selection, Use and Public Display of National Symbols, Proposal for the Law on Health Care and Proposal for the Law on Coastal Property, submitted during 2014.

### 3.1.2 ADOPTED ACTS

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2015, upon the proposal of MPs, the following was adopted: four laws, 20 laws on amendments to laws, five decisions and one resolution.

4 One report was not supported by the requested majority



In the same period, upon the Government's proposal, the following was adopted: 55 laws, 46 laws on amendments to the laws and three decisions.

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2015, 28 laws were adopted in accordance with the summary procedure

### 3.1.3 NUMBER OF CONSIDERED AND ACCEPTED AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS FOR LAWS

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2015, a total of 1,422 amendments to proposals for acts were considered at parliamentary sittings, of which 818 were accepted.

Working bodies submitted 479 amendments, which have become integral parts of the proposals for acts, namely: Legislative Committee 306 amendments; Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration 70 amendments; Security and Defence Committee four amendments; Committee on International Relations and Emigrants 12 amendments; Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget 14 amendments; Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms 12 amendments; Gender Equality Committee five amendments; Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning nine amendments; Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports two amendments and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare 45 amendments.

MPs submitted 929 amendments<sup>5</sup> to proposals for acts, of which 327 were accepted, 315 were not accepted and MPs abandoned 269 amendments.

The Government submitted 14 amendments,<sup>6</sup> of which 12 have become an integral part of proposals for acts, and one was abandoned.

### 3.1.4 PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

The Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th convocation at the Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session in 2015 of 16 July 2015, reached a Decision on opening parliamentary inquiry and establishing the Inquiry Committee for collecting information and facts on the events relating to the actions of competent state authorities in the protection of state property and public interest during the sale of assets of the JSC Tobacco Plant Podgorica in bankruptcy. In addition, at the Nine Sitting of the First Ordinary Session in 2015 of 31 July 2015, the Parliament reached a Decision on establishing the Inquiry Committee, which come into force on 26 August.

### 3.1.5 PRIME MINISTER'S HOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

In 2015, a total of eight special sittings of the Parliament were held, i.e. six special sittings devoted to the Prime Minister's Hour and two special sittings devoted to the Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions. 56 questions were referred to the Prime Minister and 272 to members of the Government, with 25 supplementary questions.

- MP Group of the Democratic Party of Socialists (eight questions)
- MP Group of the Socialist People's Party (six questions)
- MP Group of the Social Democratic Party (eight questions)
- MP Group of the Positive Montenegro (eight questions)
- MP Group of the Bosniak Party (eight questions)
- MP Group of the MP Group of Albanian parties (FORCA, AA), HGI and LPCG (eight questions)
- MP Group of Independent MPs (seven questions)
- MP Jelisava Kalezić (three questions)

*Table No 4 – Number of sittings devoted to Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions and number of questions posed to the Prime Minister and members of the Government in 2015, with comparative data for 2014*

	Number of sittings devoted to Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions	Number of questions posed to Prime Minister	Number of parliamentary questions
2014.	8	50	231 and 33 supplementary
2015.	8	56	272 and 25 supplementary <sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> The Parliament did not vote on 18 amendments to the Proposal for the Law on Coastal Property, because during the vote on amendments, the Government's representative withdrew the Proposal for the Law from the procedure,

<sup>6</sup> Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration rephrased the Government's proposal as its own.

<sup>7</sup> The Appendix II contains a number of parliamentary questions per MP



*Seventh - Special Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2015  
Prime Minister's Hour and Parliamentary Questions*

### **3.1.6 LEGISLATIVE WORK PLAN, ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ROLE AND CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES OF THE PARLIAMENT**

According to the established practice, the Collegium of the President of the Parliament at the meeting of 16 March 2015 adopted the 2015 Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro and 2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro.

**2015 Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro** contains an overview of proposals for laws that were to be considered during 2015. It comprises 180 proposals for laws, including 31 proposals for laws whose adoption was planned for the purpose of harmonising with the European Union legislation. In addition to proposals for laws, this document comprises the review of reports which some bodies, in accordance with the law, submit to the Parliament as well as proposals for financial plans of independent regulatory bodies which are considered together with the proposal for the budget law. Service of the Parliament of Montenegro is preparing two information papers on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan. Information paper containing data on the implementation of the Plan for the period until 31 July was prepared in September, while at the beginning of 2016 the information paper containing data for the whole 2015 will be prepared and published. Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro and information paper on the implementation of the Plan are published at the web page of the Parliament.<sup>8</sup>

Adoption of the **2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro**<sup>9</sup> is a continuation of the established practise, initiated by the 2010 Action Plan, with the aim of contributing to planned, systematic and coordinating action of all participants in the process of work in the Parliament of Montenegro, for the purpose of efficient accomplishment of its responsibilities defined by the Constitution. This year's Plan is based on findings of the European Commission, given in the European Commission's Progress Report for 2014.

The 2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro contains 66 activities and measures, with explanations, holders, deadlines of implementation and success indicators, including a number of measures envisaged for 2014 and not implemented, or their implementation has just started. For the better clearness, activities and measures envisaged by this Action Plan are grouped into three parts. The first part is related to strengthening the legislative and oversight functions of the Parliament of Montenegro, through preparation and adoption of acts, more frequent use of oversight mechanisms, work of the plenum and work of the working bodies. The second part comprises activities and measures directed towards strengthening of administrative and professional capacities, that the Parliamentary Service is

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.skupstina.me/index.php/me/plan-zakonodavnog-rada>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.skupstina.me/index.php/me/akcioni-plan>



responsible for. The third part is devoted to activities directed to further improvement of openness and transparency of the Parliament towards citizens and civil society organisations.

In July, the Parliamentary Service prepared Semi-Annual Report on the implementation of the 2015 Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro. This report contains data on the implementation of measures and activities envisaged by this document, until 30 June 2015. The report is presented in a table format, comprising a description of activities implemented in the reporting period, as well as indicators and status, i.e. A level of the implementation. The Report that will include data on implementing the Action Plan for the whole year of 2015 will be prepared and published at the beginning of 2016-



*Sixth - Special Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2015*

**Calendar of Activities of the Parliament**, also adopted by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament, determines the days in a month envisaged for the sittings of the Parliament, meetings of working bodies, as well as the days envisaged for the work of MPs in MP groups and with citizens and dates of international activities. The Calendar is available at the web pages of the Parliament.<sup>11</sup>

## 3.2 WORK OF THE WORKING BODIES

In 2015, working bodies held 323 meetings, for a total of 337 days, 502 hours and 10 minutes; wherein 1,047 items of agenda were considered, including 340 proposals for laws as well as 2,225 amendments.

In the same period, working bodies held seven control and 43 consultative hearings, of which one consultative hearing was held at a joint meeting of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and Anti-Corruption Committee, and one at a joint meeting of the Committee on European Integration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

Overview of data on the work of the working bodies of the Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th convocation in 2015, with comparative data for 2014 is presented below.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/akcioni-plan/1-0.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.skupstina.me/index.php/me/kalendar-zasijedanja>



Table No. 5 – Meetings of working bodies in the period 1 January - 31 December 2015, with comparable data for the period 1 January - 31 December 2014

	Number of sittings	Duration of meetings (in hours)	Duration of meetings (in days)	Number of discussed items of the agenda	Number of considered proposals for laws	Number of considered amendments
2014.	346	583 h and 50 min	352	984	296	1.757
2015.	323	502 h and 10 min	337	1.047	340	2.225

Table No. 6 – Statistical data on meetings of the working bodies of the Parliament of Montenegro for the period 1 January - 31 December 2015 with comparable data for the period 1 January - 31 December 2014

	Number of sittings		Duration of meetings (in hours)		Duration of meetings (in days)		Number of discussed items of the agenda		Number of considered proposals for laws		Number of considered amendments <sup>12</sup>		Participation/attendance in line with Article 67 of the Rules of Procedure	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Constitutional Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legislative Committee	44	49	80 h i 40 min	75 h i 15 min	42	50	234	297	140	158	1.035	1.136	102	154
Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration	36	37	64 h i 35 min	63 h i 35 min	38	42	81	98	39	30	213	312	160	199
Security and Defence Committee	17	19	24 h i 20 min	37 h i 55 min	18	22	35	41	6	4	11	43	83	93
Committee on International Relations and Emigrants	23	28	26 h i 45 min	26 h i 25 min	23	29	48	59	19	26	-	33	37	48
Committee on European Integration	17	15	25 h i 10 min	26 h i 50 min	14	15	43	43	1	1	-	-	106	112
Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget	46	41	113 h i 10 min	78 h i 5 min	52	44	165	181	37	57	280	287	311	296
Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms	20	15	23 h i 30 min	17 h i 49 min	20	17	56	46	8	4	26	35	105	117
Gender Equality Committee	16	20	26 h i 20 min	29 h i 45 min	16	20	25	29	4	2	3	5	218	216
Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning	20	14	19 h i 30 min	18 h i 15 min	20	14	51	56	18	26	84	164	102	129
Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports	22	15	30 h i 10 min	15 h i 50 min	21	13	34	28	3	8	52	2	45	62
Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare	41	40	79 h	64 h i 50 min	40	39	86	78	18	22	53	208	182	107
Anti-corruption Committee	14	11	23 h i 10 min	19 h i 40 min	15	11	23	18	3	2	-	-	11	7
Administrative Committee:	23	14	32 h i 45 min	16 h i 10 min	24	14	87	61	-	-	-	-	2	15
Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure	7	5	14 h i 45 min	12 h i 35 min	9	7	16	12	-	-	-	-	24	31
TOTAL	346	323	583 h i 50 min	502 h i 10 min	352	337	984	1.047	296	340	1.757	2.225	1.488	1.586

<sup>12</sup> Same amendment may be considered by several working bodies. An amendment submitted by the proposer of a law and an amendment accepted by the proposer of a law becomes an integral part of the proposal for a law and the Parliament does not decide separately upon it..

### 3.2.1 CONTROL AND CONSULTATIVE HEARINGS

Within the oversight role, working bodies of the Parliament regularly conduct hearings of representatives of state bodies and other persons on various topics. At the meetings of working bodies, seven control and 43 consultative hearings were held, of which one consultative hearing was held at a joint meeting of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and Anti-Corruption Committee, and one at a joint meeting of the Committee on European Integration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

#### CONTROL HEARINGS

At the 109th meeting of 22 December, the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held, in line with Article 75 paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure, control hearing of Minister of Justice, Zoran Pažin, on the topic: “Application and effects of the Law on Enforcement and Security and control over the work of public enforcement officers”. The meeting was attended by responsible representatives: Zoran Pažin, Minister of Justice, Marijana Laković-Drašković, Director General of the Directorate of Justice at the Ministry and Siniša Mugoša, Chairperson of the Chamber of Public Enforcement Officers of Montenegro.

At its 42nd meeting of 30 January, the **Committee on European Integration** held a control hearing of Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Igor Lukšić and Minister of Interior Raško Konjević, on the subject of dispute with Bosnia and Herzegovina on delimitation in the area of Sutorina.

At the 101st meeting of 1 June, the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** held a control meeting on the topic: “Implementation of policy, or law in the field of concessions, with reference to implementation of conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted regarding consideration of 2013 Performance Report of the Commission for Concessions” (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 31/14)”. Persons who underwent hearing are: Petar Ivanović – Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Radoje Žugić – Minister of Finance, Ivan Bošković – President of the Commission for Concessions, Božidar Vuksanović – Director of Administration for Inspection Affairs, Milan Lakićević – Director of Tax Administration,



*Meeting of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget*

On 2nd March, the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** held two control hearings of Predrag Bošković (Minister of Labour and Social Welfare at the time) and Zlatko Popović (Chief Inspector for Safety at Work), with regard to the current situation in the Steelworks “Toščelik” – Nikšić. The Committee also held a hearing of: Zorica Kovačević, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Mirko Bulatović, Head of the Basic Public Prosecutor’s Office in Bijelo Polje and Angelina Mededović, Chief Labour Inspector in the Administration for Inspection Affairs on the topic: “Current situation regarding the tragic event that occurred in weapons factory “Tara” in Mojkovac”.

**Anti-corruption Committee** held two control hearings, namely: on 23 February, a control hearing of Supreme Public Prosecutor, Minister of Interior and Director of Public Procurement Administration on the topic “Construction of the Police Security Centre building in Podgorica – Police Administration” and on 18 April, a control hearing of Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism Branimir Gvozdenović and Director of PE “Morsko fobro” Rajko Barović regarding the illegal charging of fees on weekend cottages in Ada Bojana area.



## CONSULTATIVE HEARINGS

**Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held two consultative hearings. At the 92nd meeting of the Committee, which started on 4 June, the consultative hearing was held, concerning the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code. For the purpose of obtaining expert opinions on the proposal for the law, aside from the representatives of the proposer, the meeting was attended by members of the working group for drafting the Proposal for the law: Branka Lakočević, President of the Administrative Court of Montenegro; Radule Kojović, Judge of the Supreme Court, Veselin Vučković, Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor; Drago Radulović, Professor at the Faculty of Law at the University of Montenegro; Branislav Lutovac, lawyer; Dragan Šoć, lawyer; Radovan Ljumović, Head of the Department on Planning, Development and Analytics for improving operations and development of the Police Administration and Milorad Marković, representatives of the nongovernmental organisations, as well as representatives of the state bodies: Zoran Pažin, Minister of Justice; Ivica Stanković, Supreme State Prosecutor; Đurdina Ivanović, Special Prosecutor for Organised Crime and Nikola Medojević, representative of the Bar Association of Montenegro. Slobodan Martinović attended the meeting on behalf of the Faculty for State and European Studies, while the following participated on behalf of nongovernmental organisations: Vanja Čalović, Executive Director of the Network for affirmation of NGO sector, Boris Marić, from the Centre for Civic Education; Dina Bajramspahić, from the Institute Alternative, Milan Radović, on behalf of the Civic Alliance and Dalibor Tomovic from the Human Rights Action.

At the 106th meeting of 25 November, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration held a consultative hearing of candidates who applied to the Public Notice for election of one member of the Prosecutorial Council from among respectable lawyers. The following applied to the Public Notice: Slobodan Dragović, Srđan Đurović, Novak Bego Laković, Jakup Murati, Velija Murić and Šefko Crnovršanin.



*Meeting of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration*

In the reporting period, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration held three consultative discussions. At the 76th meeting of 21 January, the Committee held a consultative discussion regarding the consideration of the Proposal for the Law on Courts, Proposal for the Law on the Judicial Council and the rights and duties of judges and Proposal for the Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro. At the 77th meeting of 23rd January, the Committee held a consultative discussion regarding the consideration of the Proposal for the Law on Public Prosecution Office and Proposal for the Law on Special Public Prosecutor's Office. The Committee also held a consultative discussion on the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Civil Procedure.

On 8 May, the Security and Defence Committee held a consultative hearing on the topic: "Considering the status in the field of air traffic and airspace security". The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Defence: Deputy Commander of the Air Force of the Army of Montenegro Lieutenant Colonel Namik Arifović, Head of the Operations Department of the Air Force of the Army of Montenegro Lieutenant Colonel Toni Sić and Director of the Directorate for Protection of Classified Information Savo Vučinić; Ministry of Interior: Chief of Operational and Communication Centre 122 of the Police Administration and member of the National Committee for the Safety of Civil Aviation Mladen Marković and responsible

officer of the Directorate for Emergency Situations of the Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Centre Đorđe Vujović; Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs: Minister Ivan Brajović and General Director of the Directorate for Air Transport Nebojša Krstajić; Company “Montenegro Airlines”: President of the Board of Directors Daliborka Pejović, Executive Director Živko Banjević, security coordinator Miloš Vučinić and Director of security system Velizar Darmanović; Airports of Montenegro: Director of the Airports of Montenegro Dragan Milanović; Civil Aviation Agency of Montenegro: Director Dragan Đurović and Assistant Director Renato Brkanović; and the Flight Control of Serbia and Montenegro SMATSA doo Beograd: Head of the Thermal Flight Control Podgorica Šemsudin Redžepagić.

**Committee on International Relations and Emigrants** held 12 consultative hearings with regard to providing opinions on candidates for positions of extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of Montenegro. At the 44th meeting of 16 February, the Committee supported by a majority of votes the proposal for appointing Nebojša Kaluđerović as an Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador, Head of Montenegro’s Permanent Mission to UN and other international organisations, on a residential basis, seated in Geneva. At the 45th meeting of 16 February, the Committee supported by a majority of votes the proposal for appointing Dragana Radulović as an Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador – Head of the Montenegro’s Permanent Mission to NATO, on a residential basis, seated in Brussels. At the 47th meeting of 20 February, members of the Committee unanimously supported proposal for appointing Božidarka Krunić to be permanent representative - Ambassador of Montenegro to the Council of Europe, on non-residential based in Strasbourg. At the 48th meeting of 23 February, the Committee considered the proposal for Miomir Mugoša to be appointed the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Montenegro to the Republic of Slovenia, on residential basis, in Ljubljana. The proposal was supported by a majority of votes of the Committee members. At the 49th meeting of 9 March, the Committee gave positive opinion, by a majority of votes, on Željko Perović, candidate for the position of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador-permanent representative of Montenegro to the United Nations on resident basis in New York. At the 53rd meeting of 13 May, the Committee gave positive opinion on Ivan Milić candidate for the position of the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of Austria, on residential basis, in Vienna. At the 54th meeting of 13 May, the Committee gave positive opinion, by a majority of votes, on the proposal for appointing Aleksandar Eraković to be the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Portuguese Republic and the Kingdom of Spain, on non-residential basis, in Podgorica. At the 56th meeting of 26 June, the Committee gave positive opinion on Vladimir Radulović, the candidate for the position of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Kingdom of Belgium, on residential basis, in Brussels. At the 57th meeting of 26 June, the Committee gave positive opinion on Damir Grbović, the candidate for the position of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Swiss Confederacy, on residential basis, in Bern. At the 63rd meeting of 9 October, the Committee gave positive opinion on Borislav Banović, the candidate for the position of the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on residential basis, in London. On the 66th meeting, the Committee unanimously gave positive opinion on the proposal for appointing Milorad Šćepanović as the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of South Africa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union (AU), on a non-residential basis. On 29 December, at the 68th meeting, the Committee provided positive opinion on Ranko Vujačić, candidate for a position of extraordinary and plenipotentiary Ambassador of Montenegro in the Federal Republic of Germany, on a residential basis in Berlin.



*Chairperson of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants receives Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Hungary*

**The Committee on European Integration** held 24 consultative hearings, with regard to the consideration of the following: reports on negotiation chapters 16 - Taxation and 29 - Customs union (on 16 February); Fourth quarterly report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, for the period October - December 2014 and Fourth quarterly report on the implementation of obligations arising from the Montenegro's Programme of Accession to the European Union for the period 2014-2018 (on 13 March); action plans for negotiation chapters 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights and 24 - Justice, freedom and security (on 27 March); Second semi-annual report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, for the period July - December 2014, and the degree of implementation of recommendations adopted at the IX SAPC meeting (on 2 April); Fifth quarterly report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, for the period January - March 2015, Montenegro's Programme of Accession to the European Union for the period 2015 - 2018 and Fifth quarterly report on the implementation of obligations arising from the Montenegro's Programme of Accession to the European Union for the period 2015-2018 (on 8 June); reports on negotiation chapters 4 - Free movement of capital and 11 - Agriculture and rural development (on 10 July); reports on negotiation chapters 6 - Company law and 7 - Intellectual property law and 32 - Financial control (on 28 July); the degree of implementation of recommendations adopted at the X SAPC meeting (11 December); Third semi-annual report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, for the period January - June 2015, Sixth and Seventh quarterly report on the overall activities within the integration process of Montenegro to the EU, for the period April - June and July - September 2015, Second and Third quarterly report on the implementation of obligations arising from the Montenegro's Programme of Accession to the European Union for the period 2015-2018 and Information on bilateral cooperation of Montenegro and EU member states.

**Gender Equality Committee** held one consultative hearing in the reporting period.

On 15 December, the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** held a control hearing of Edina Dešić-Perazić, acting Director General of Directorate for Labour Market at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Nikola Vukićević, Director General of Directorate for Budget at the Ministry of Finance, Branislav Radulović, member of the State Audit Institution, Angelina Mededović, Chief Inspector at the Division for Inspection at the Administration for Inspection Affairs, Vukica Jelić, Director of the Employment Agency, Slavica Radusinović, Head of the Fund for Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, Marina Vujačić, Executive Director of the Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro, and Goran Macanović, President of the Council of the Fund for Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities on the topic: "Efficiency of using funds from contributions to professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities", initiated by MPs Snežana Jonica and Radosav Nišavić.

**Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held two joint meetings with the **Anti-corruption Committee**; at one of the meetings a control hearing with regard to introduction of a new criminal offence "illicit enrichment of public officials", in line with Article 20 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, was held. The meeting was attended by invited responsible representatives of: Zoran Pažin, Minister of Justice; Raško Konjević, Minister of Interior; Ivica Stanković, Supreme Public Prosecutor; Đurđina Ivanović, Special Prosecutor; Mladen Vukčević, Chairperson of the Judicial Council; Slobodan Leković, Chairperson of the Commission for Prevention of Conflict of Interests; Vanja Čalović, Executive Director of the NGO MANS; Boris Marić, representative of the Centre for Civic Education; and Zoran Vujičić, representative of the Civic Alliance.



*Joint meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee and Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration*





At the joint meeting with the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, the **Committee on European Integration** held a consultative hearing on the topic of “Efficiency of the use of IPA funds and the performance of the Audit Authority responsible for the audit of EU funds” was (on 11 May), and at the joint meeting with the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants, it considered the 2014 Performance Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (on 30 June).

*Table No. 7 –Control and consultative hearings at meetings of the working bodies of the Parliament for the period 1 January - 31 December 2015, with comparable data for the same period of 2014*

Working bodies	Control hearings		Consultative hearings	
	2014.	2015.	2014.	2015.
<b>Constitutional Committee</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Legislative Committee</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration</b>	1	1	6	2
<b>Security and Defence Committee</b>	2	-	-	1
<b>Committee on International Relations and Emigrants</b>	1	1	12	12
<b>Committee on European Integration</b>	-	-	9	24
<b>Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget</b>	3	1	2	-
<b>Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Gender Equality Committee</b>	-	-	-	1
<b>Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning</b>	-	-	1	-
<b>Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports</b>	1	-	-	-
<b>Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare</b>	1	2	1	1
<b>Anti-corruption Committee</b>	2	2	2	-
<b>Administrative Committee:</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Joint meetings</b>				
<b>Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and Committee on European Integration</b>	-		1	
<b>Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and Anti-corruption Committee</b>				1
<b>Committee on European Integration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget</b>				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>43</b>

### 3.2.2 OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING BODIES

#### Legislative Committee

- Delegation of the Legislative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro took part in the IV International Conference of Legislative Parliamentary Committees, in the period 31 May - 2 June 2015, on the topic: “Human Rights and Possible Limitations, as well as the Protection of Consumers on the Internet”;

- Delegation of the Committee paid a study visit to the Parliament of the Republic of Italy, in the period 20-26 September 2015 in Rome, Republic of Italy.



*Meeting of the Legislative Committee*

#### **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration**

- Members of the Committee took part in the Interparliamentary meeting titled “Smart Borders Package: European challenges, national experiences, the way ahead”, hosted by the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, on 23 and 24 February 2015 in Brussels.
- On 10 June, representatives of the Committee held a meeting with co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Chairperson of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Rifat Rastoder and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee Snežana Jonica participated in the meeting on behalf of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration. The visit was a part of the monitoring visit to Montenegro, focusing on the main European standards in the field of local democracy, the European Charter of Local Self-Government ratified by Montenegro in 2008, and evaluation of the state of local democracy in Montenegro for the purpose of preparing the Report on the state of local democracies in the Council of Europe member states;
- In cooperation with the NGO Civic Alliance, Constitutional Court of Montenegro, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro and the Embassy of the Great Britain to Montenegro, the Committee hosted the conference on the occasion of marking 800 years since the adoption of “Magna Carta Libertatum” (more information in the part Cooperation with the civil sector).
- Chairperson of the Committee Rifat Rastoder, Deputy Chairperson Snežana Jonica and members of the Committee Marta Šćepanović and Slaven Radunović attended the Interparliamentary Conference titled: “Towards independent and modern judicial systems in the enlargement countries”, held in Budva on 18 and 19 June. The participants discussed, inter alia, the rule of law and judiciary independence as fundamental criteria for accession to the EU, modernisation of the judicial systems, including eJustice as well as experience of countries undergoing the accession process.



*Meeting of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration*

- On 16 September, members of the Committee visited the Public Prosecutor's Office and met Supreme Public Prosecutor Ivica Stanković. Delegation of the Committee was composed of: Chairperson of the Committee Rifat Rastoder and members Snežana Jonica, Husnija Šabović, Veljko Vasiljević and Azra Jasavić. The Supreme Public Prosecutor informed the MPs on ongoing activities of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, highlighting spatial and other work conditions of the Supreme Public Prosecutor, Special Public Prosecutor's Office and High Public Prosecutor's Office.
- On 15 October, Chairperson of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration Rifat Rastoder and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee Snežana Jonica held a meeting with members of the GRETA delegation, who were paying a visit to Montenegro within second round of evaluation of implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. Delegation of the Committee informed GRETA experts on the manner of addressing the issue of trafficking in human beings, primarily through legislative activity. They emphasised the importance of ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, but also the importance of amending the Criminal Code on the basis of previous recommendations of GRETA, while the special accent was placed on the activities of working bodies aimed at strengthening the position of women and children.
- On 27 November, Chairperson and Delegation of the Committee met representatives of the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection of the Federal Republic of Germany, headed by State Secretary Stefanie Hubig. At the meeting, they discussed activities of the Committee, and shared experiences on current issues from the field of media, judiciary, fight against corruption and administration field.

### **Security and Defence Committee**

- On 4 February, members of the Committee held a meeting with Head of the Western Balkans Division of the European External Action Service Eduard Auer;
- Chairperson of the Security and Defence Committee Mevludin Nuhodžić and Deputy Chairperson Snežana Jonica met Chris Socha, Senior Policy Advisor at the US Senate.
- On 20 March, members of the Committee held a meeting with Belgian Parliament Friendship Group for Cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia;



*Meeting of the Security and Defence Committee*

- Members of the Committee participated in the XVII meeting of the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, devoted to the topic “Human Rights and Gender Equality in the Security and Defence Sector”, held on 28 and 29 April, in the organisation of the Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro;
- On 19 May, members of the Committee held a meeting Vice Marshal of the Polish Sejm Jerzy Wenderlich.
- Deputy Chairperson of the Security and Defence Committee Snežana Jonica and member of the Committee Obrad Mišo Stanišić took part in the seminar for MPs “21st Century Transnational Security Challenges: Role of the Parliament”, held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, on 30 June and 1 July.
- Members of the Committee Luid Ljubo Škrelja and Darko Pajović participated in the Regional UNODC Workshop titled “Challenges posed by a preventative criminal justice response to terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters“, held in Bucharest, on 8 and 9 October.
- Chairperson of the Committee Mevludin Nuhodžić and Obrad Mišo Stanišić participated in the Fifth conference “Current state of security in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, held in Vitez, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 4 and 5 November, organised by the Joint Committee on Defence and Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly, with the support of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), OSCE Mission to BiH, UNDP Office in Sarajevo and NATO Headquarters in Sarajevo;
- Deputy Chairperson of the Committee Snežana Jonica and member of the Committee Obrad Mišo Stanišić participated in the gathering titled: “Regional parliamentary dialogue on migration management, refugee protection and combating organised crime – responses at the national level and regional cooperation”, held in Belgrade, on 26-27 November, in the organisation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, with the support of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF);
- On 1 December, members of the Committee took part in the seminar titled “Recent Developments and Strategic Priorities in Fostering Police Integrity in Montenegro”, in the organisation of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and OSCE Mission to Montenegro in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and Parliament of Montenegro;
- Members of the Committee took part in the round table dedicated to the use of police powers during the October gatherings in Podgorica, held on 2 December, in the organisation of the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations, in cooperation with non-governmental organisations “Human Rights Action” and “Civic Alliance”;
- Deputy Chairperson of the Security and Defence Committee Snežana Jonica and member of the Committee Radivoje Nikčević took part in the “Regional parliamentary roundtable on overseeing intelligence services in the Western Balkans”, held on 15 December in Ljubljana, in the organisation of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

#### **Committee on International Relations and Emigrants**

- On 10 February, Community of Montenegrins in the Republic of Macedonia presented a certificate of thanks to Chairperson of the Committee and members of the Committee for a special contribution in improving the cooperation with emigrants from Montenegro;
- On 21 February, Delegation of the Committee attended the presentation of a newly-established association of Montenegrin emigrants in Kosovo “Montenegrin Intellectual Circle”;



- MPs Miodrag Vuković and Srđan Milić participated in the Crans Montana Forum, held in the Kingdom of Monaco, Dakhla, in the period 12-14 March;
- On 19 March, Delegation of the Committee attended the Fifth Annual Assembly of the Montenegrin Community in the Republic of Macedonia;
- Delegation of the Committee participated in the meeting of chairpersons of foreign affairs committees of South East Europe parliaments, held in Belgrade on 15 and 16 April.;
- On 15 April, members of the Committee held a meeting with members of the Committee on European Affairs of Republic of Portugal;
- Delegation of the Committee attended the meeting of chairpersons of foreign affairs committees of South East Europe parliaments, held in Belgrade on 16 April;
- Delegation of Parliament of Montenegro participated in the manifestation “Day of Montenegrins of Kosovo”, Delegation was composed of Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić and MP Jasmin Sutović.
- On 27 October, the Committee held a meeting with the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo;
- Regional workshop of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development “COMPSUD” was held in the period 4 - 6 November.
- On 14 December, Chairperson of the Committee held a meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia.



*Meeting of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants*

### **Committee on European Integration**

- On 3 July, the Committee organised a public debate on the topic “Legislation of Montenegro and the EU in chapters 15 - Energy and 19 - Social policy and employment”;
- On 30 March, the Committee organised four debates on accession of Montenegro to the EU, with students of grammar schools in Danilovgrad, Bar, Podgorica and Ulcinj. In addition, members of the Committee held debates with leadership of the said municipalities on the topic of usage the pre-accession funds at the local level.
- On 1 and 2 February, Delegation of the Committee took part in the Chairpersons of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the EU (COSAC), held within parliamentary dimension of the Latvian Presidency of the EU in Riga;
- On 11 February, members of the Committee met Paul Gaskell, Head of Western Balkans and Enlargement Department in Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom;
- On 10 and 11 March, Delegation of the Committee took part in the X meeting of the Conference of the Parliamentary Committees on European Integration/Affairs of the States Participating in the Stabilization and Association Process in South East Europe (COSAP), held in Belgrade;
- On 20 March, members of the Committee held a meeting with members of Montenegrin and Belgian Parliamentary Friendship Group;



- On 15 April, members of the Committee held a meeting with Delegation of the Committee on European Affairs of the Republic of Portugal Parliament.
- On 16 and 17 April, Delegation of the Committee paid a study visit to the Kingdom of Netherlands, upon the invitation of Malik Azmani Chairperson of the Standing Committee on European Affairs of the Dutch Parliament.
- On 8 May, members of the Committee, together with other parliamentarians, held a meeting with young from the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA);
- On 11 May, members of the Committee took part in the working dinner with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia Edgars Rinkēvičs;



*Meeting of the Committee on European Integration*

- Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee held on 19 May a meeting with Vice Marshal of the Polish Sejm Jerzy Wenderlich;
- Delegation of the Committee took part in the 53rd plenary session of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC) ), held within parliamentary dimension of the Latvian Presidency of the EU in Riga, from 31 May to 2 June;
- On 16 June, members of the Committee met Chairperson and members of the Friendship Group with the Parliament of France;
- On 7 July, members of the Committee held a meeting with Christian Danielson, Director General of the Directorate General for European Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations at the European Commission;
- On 1 September, members of the Committee held a meeting with a delegation from the Bundestag, which paid a visit to Montenegro, aimed at the election of candidates for the International Parliamentary Scholarships (IPS);
- Members of the Committee held a bilateral meeting with members of the European Integration Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, on 2 and 3 September in Budva;
- On 19 October, members of the Committee took part in the gathering on the strategic planning of the Programme of cooperation between Montenegro and United Nations (UNDAF), for the period 2017 – 2021, held in Budva.
- Delegation of the Committee took part in the regional parliamentary conference titled: “Working to strengthen regional cooperation in the Western Balkans: achievements and prospects”, held on Jahorina, on 26 and 27 November;
- Delegation of the Committee took part in the regional conference titled: “Results in using the EU pre-accession assistance in Montenegro 2007-2013”, held in Budva, on 8 December.

#### **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**

- Members of the Committee Zoran Jelić, Almer Kalač and Strahinja Bulajić attended the final meeting of Twinning light project - Audit Quality Control in the State Audit Institution of Montenegro”, held in Podgorica on 4 February.
- Regional parliamentary conference on the topic: “Parliaments and budgetary and financial oversight in the Western Balkan countries” was held in Tirana, on 20 and 21 February (more information in the part Cooperation with foreign and international organisations);
- Final conference: “How to enhance the control role of the Parliament” within the project “Analytical Monitoring of the

Oversight Function of the Parliament” was held in Podgorica on 27 February (more information in the part Cooperation with the civil sector);

- Members of the Committee Aleksandar Damjanović, Damir Šehović and Filip Vuković took part in the conference titled: “Determining the first estimates of managing the public finance and macroeconomic stability”, held in the Parliament of Montenegro on 5 March.



*Meeting of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget*

- Meeting of members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget with members of State Audit Institution Senate was held on 29 April. The meeting was attended by Chairperson and members of the Committee: Aleksandar Damjanović, Zoran Jelić, Filip Vuković, Almer Kalač, Strahinja Bulajić, Milutin Đukanović and Goran Tuponja. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the “Institute Alternative”;
- Members of the Committee held a bilateral meeting with members of the Committee on European Integration and Regional Cooperation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska in Trebinje on 19 June. The meeting was organised by the Regional Network of Parliamentary Committees on Economy, Finance and European Integration of the Western Balkans, with the support of the Westminster Foundation for Democracy. The meeting was attended by Chairperson of the Committee Aleksandar Damjanović and members Veljko Zarubica and Strahinja Bulajić.
- Meeting of the Committee members with Director of the Energy Community Secretariat was held in Podgorica on 30 September. On behalf of the Committee, the meeting was attended by: Chairperson of the Committee Aleksandar Damjanović, Deputy Chairperson and members of the Committee Damir Šehović, Nik Gjeloshaj and Filip Vuković. Members of the Committee met Director of the Energy Community Secretariat Janez Kopač, who presented the Third annual report on the implementation of the Energy Community Strategy to the Committee;
- Interparliamentary conference on the topic: “Economic governance and job creation in the EU and in enlargement countries” was held in Sarajevo on 15 and 16 October. The conference was organised by the European Parliament in cooperation with the Regional Cooperation Council, and Chairperson of the Committee Aleksandar Damjanović and member of the Committee Filip Vuković attended the gathering.
- Delegation of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget visited the Parliament of the Kingdom of Sweden on 10 December 2015. The following paid a visit: Aleksandar Damjanović, Chairperson of the Committee, Veljko Zarubica, Zoran Jelić and Goran Tuponja, members of the Committee.
- First meeting of the Parliamentary Plenum of the Energy Community was held in Vienna on 14 December, in the organisation of the Energy Community Secretariat. On behalf of the Committee, the meeting was attended by Chairperson of the Committee Aleksandar Damjanović and member Filip Vuković.

### **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms**

- Meeting of Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković and Deputy Chairperson Ljiljana Đurašković with Head of the Montenegro Unit within the European Commission Directorate General for EU Enlargement Dirk Lange was held in the Parliament of Montenegro on 27 February.
- Public debate titled “The Rights of the Child – Foster Care” was held in Herceg Novi on 2 March.;



*Meeting Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms*

- Members of the Committee visited Special Psychiatric Hospital “Dobrota” in Kotor on 2 March 2015.
- Visit by members of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms to Children’s home “Mladost” in Bijela was held on 2 March.
- The Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee took part in the panel discussion “Ethics of MPs: from Standards to Practice”, held in Publi Relations Center, Podgorica on 17 April;
- Meeting of Chairperson of the Committee Halil Duković and Deputy Chairperson Ljiljana Đurašković with representatives of the NGO Federation of Associations of Parents of Children and Youth with Developmental Disabilities “Our Initiative” was held in the Parliament of Montenegro on 24 April;
- Participation of Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković and member of the Committee Rešad Sijarić in the Third regional conference of parliamentary bodies in charge of human and minority rights and gender equality on the topic “The role of commissions in parliamentary oversight of the human rights field”, held on 23 and 24 November 2015 in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo;
- Conference on the occasion of marking the International Human Rights Day on the topic: “It is my aspiration that health finally will be seen not as a blessing to be wished for, but as a human right to be fought for - Kofi Annan”, in light of the signed Barcelona Declaration on Tuberculosis, organised jointly by the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare, was held in the Parliament of Montenegro on 9 December;
- Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms Halil Duković took part in the conference on the occasion of marking the International Human Rights Day on the topic “Migration and Refugee Crisis”, organised by the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro, OSCE Mission to Montenegro and NGO “Civic Alliance”.

#### **Gender Equality Committee**

- On 15 May, Chairperson of the Committee Nada Drobnjak took part in the conference “Power of woman” within the panel discussion “Status of women’s entrepreneurship in Montenegro from the viewpoint of regional women parliamentarians”. Participants of the Conference discussed on the institutions encouraging the development of women’s entrepreneurship in Montenegro and the region, their strengthening and networking, as well as alternatives and connection of market, good practice and examples of entrepreneurship and strengthening of capacities of business organisations dealing with women’s entrepreneurship and challenges carried by it.





*Meeting of the Gender Equality Committee*

- Chairperson of the Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the conference “Women and Heritage – Towards the founding of Women’s Museum of Montenegro”, held in Cetinje on 29 May. The Conference was organised by the NGO NOVA Feminist Culture Centre, under the auspices of the UNESCO Participation Programme, and in cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro.
- Chairperson of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak participated in the Conference “Education of women in Montenegro in the function of the gender equality”, held in Budva, in the period 7-9 July. The following took part in the conference: representatives of the responsible ministries, Parliament of Montenegro, Bureau for Education Services, Employment Office of Montenegro, Trade Union, University, Directorate for Development of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, UNDP, economy, etc. The Conference was organised by the Center for Vocational Education and Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, with the support of the Hanns Seidel Foundation.

#### **Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning**

- Chairperson of the Committee on Tourism, Ecology and Spatial Planning Predrag Sekulić and Deputy Chairperson Jelisava Kalezić held a meeting with representatives of Productive Activity, Trade and Environment Committee of the Albanian Parliament, in Podgorica on 15 May. At the meeting, the interlocutors spoke about joint activities of the two committees in the field of the environment and possibilities for establishing the cross-border protected area in the Prokletije, equalizing the level of protection of Skadar Lake and joint promotion of tourism in the border area.
- Chairperson of the Committee Predrag Sekulić and member of the Committee Danko Šarančić took part in the seminar “Reform of the 2013 Common Agricultural Policy - impact on the accessing countries”, held in Brussels, in the organisation of the European Parliament. Leading principles and elements of common agricultural policy were presented at the seminar: direct payments, single market organisation, rural development, horizontal legislation regulating rules on financing, managing and monitoring the common agricultural policy and its perspectives in the future.



*Meeting of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning*

#### **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports**

- Delegation of the Committee composed of: Deputy Chairperson Radosav Nišavić and members Saša Pešić, Rešid Adrović, Branka Bošnjak and Srđan Perić paid a study visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, on 1 and 2 July, in the organisation of Montenegro's Embassy to the Federal Republic of Germany.
- IV national conference on fight against corruption in education "Only knowledge should get you the title" was held in Podgorica on 9 July, in the organisation of the Centre for Civic Education and Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP). The Conference was attended by Chairperson of the Committee Branka Tanasijević and member of the Committee Srđan Perić;
- Balkan Conference of the S&D group was held in Brussels, from 12 to 15 October, in the organisation of the European Parliament. Views on EU enlargement and the situation in the Western Balkan countries were exchanged at the Conference, and Chairperson of the Committee Branka Tanasijević attended thereof;
- Conference for the support to the fight against TB, in light of the signed Barcelona Declaration, was held in the Parliament of Montenegro on 9 December, in the organisation of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare. The aim of the Conference was promotion of the Barselona Declaration, the fight against tuberculosis, raising awareness about this disease, support to patients and their families, as well as the support to all actors dealing with prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of TB.

#### **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare**



*Meeting of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare*

- Members of the Committee Srđan Perić i Andrija Popović attended the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Employment and Social Affairs, held in Riga on 22 and 23 February.
- Chairperson of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare Zoran Jelić held a meeting with President of the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations Aleksandar Saša Zeković, with regard to employment of persons with disability in police, employment of members of minorities and other minority national communities in police and employment of LGBT members in police;
- Member of the Committee Novica Stanić participated in the thematic meeting of the Igman Initiative titled: “Free Movement of Labour Force between the Countries Signatories of the Dayton Agreement Using the Experiences of the Nordic Model of Cooperation”, held in the Croatian Parliament, Zagreb, on 12 May.
- On 10 July, members of the Committee Andrija Popović, Izet Bralić and Srđan Perić held a meeting with representatives of American NGO “The Advocates for Human Rights”;
- Chairperson of the Committee Zoran Jelić and member Radosav Nišavić attended the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Social Affairs, held in Luxembourg on 19 October 2015.
- On 27 October, members of the Committee held a meeting with members of the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare of the Republic of Kosovo, whose members were paying a study visit to the Parliament of Montenegro.

### Anti-corruption Committee

- At its 38th meeting of 23 June, the Committee established a list of five candidates for the election of members of the Council of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption with an explanation on the procedure for the election of members of the Council.



*Meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee*

### Administrative Committee:

- Members of the Administrative Committee Rifat Rastoder and Rešad Sijarić participated in the meeting of 7 October on the topic “Plan for Greater Consideration of Gender Aspects Through Work of the Parliament”, organised by the Gender Equality Committee and OSCE Mission to Montenegro.





*Meeting of the Administrative Committee*

### **Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure**

- At its 20th meeting of 22 April, the Commission considered privatisation procedure of the TC “PKB Herceg Novi” JSC Zelenika and 2014 Performance Report of the Commission
- On 3 April, Chairperson of the Commission Janko Vučinić held a meeting with Deputy Basic Pulic Prosecutor Ana Kalezić, during which he outlined specific information and explanations on the privatisation process of the company “Crnogoraput”- JSC Podgorica;
- At its 21st meeting, held on 12 June, the Commission considered the previous course of the privatisation procedure of the Institute “Dr Simo Milošević” JSC Igalo and the invitation for participation at the First Western Balkan Evaluators Conference.
- At the 22nd meeting of the Commission, held on 9 July, the Commission considered the course of privatisation of the mineral water factory “Bjelasica-Rada” JSC Bijelo Polje;
- 23rd meeting of the Commission, held on 21 July, was devoted to following of the privatisation procedure of “Adriatic Shipyard” JSC, Bijela.



*Meeting of the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure*

### **3.2.3. TEMPORARY WORKING BODIES**

The Parliament of Montenegro of the 25th convocation at the Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session in 2015 of 16 July reached a Decision on opening parliamentary inquiry and establishing the Inquiry Committee for collecting information and facts on the events relating to the actions of competent state authorities in the protection of state property and public interest during the sale of assets of the JSC Tobacco Plant Podgorica in bankruptcy. At the Nine Sitting of the First Ordinary Session in

2015 of 31 July 2015, the Parliament of Montenegro reached a Decision on establishing the Inquiry Committee, which came into force on 26 August. During 2015, the Inquiry Committee held 10 meetings and one continuation, in duration of 19 hours and 45 minutes. Within the said meetings, in line with the Law on Parliamentary Investigation, the Committee took statements from 13 persons and gathered documentation from the representatives of administration authorities of Montenegro, Bankruptcy Administrator of DKP JSC in bankruptcy, and President of the Board of Directors of DKP in bankruptcy. In line with Article 67 of the Parliament's Rules of Procedure, meetings of the Inquiry Committee were followed by representatives of the NGO "Institute Alternative" and representatives of the new Trade Union of the Tobacco Plant in bankruptcy.



*Meeting of the Inquiry Committee*

### 3.3 CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS

In 2015, 25 conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro were published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro. Of that number, 19 conclusions are related to acceptance/adoption of reports.

With regard to consultative hearing on the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, at its 92 meeting of 4 June, determined assessments and positions (three), which were submitted to the Ministry of Justice for the purpose of preparing the information on the implementation thereof. The information on the implementation of the assessments and positions has not been delivered to the Parliament. With regard to consideration of the 2014 Annual Report on performance of the Judicial Council and general state of the judiciary, the Committee, at its 96th meeting of 9 July, proposed to the Parliament to adopt a Conclusion accepting the 2014 Annual Report on performance of the Judicial Council and general state of the judiciary. At its 97th meeting of 16 July, the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt Conclusions (seven) with regard to consideration of the 2014 Performance Report of the Prosecutorial Council. With regard to consideration of the 2014 Annual Performance Report of the Prosecutorial Council, the Committee, at its 97th meeting of 16 July, proposed to the Parliament to adopt a Conclusion accepting the 2014 Annual Performance Report of the Prosecutorial Council. On 23 July, at the third joint meeting with the Anti-corruption Committee, the Committee adopted the Report with regard to the consultative hearing from the second meeting, with assessments and positions (three) on the manner of proposing the introduction of a new criminal offence "illicit enrichment of public officials", in line with Article 20 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The assessments and positions were submitted to the Ministry of Justice, with regard to preparation of information on the implementation thereof. The information on the implementation of the assessments and positions has not been delivered to the Parliament. With regard to consideration of the 2014 Performance Report of the Commission for Prevention of Corruption, the Committee, at its 105th meeting of 19 November, proposed to the Parliament to adopt a Conclusion accepting the 2014 Performance Report of the Commission for Prevention of Corruption. With regard to control hearing on the topic: "Application and effects of the Law on Enforcement and Security and Law on Public Enforcement Officers", the Committee at its 109th meeting of 22 December proposed to the Parliament to adopt Conclusions (five). Proposed Conclusions were not adopted at the sitting of the Parliament.

In the reporting period, the Security and Defence Committee considered 28 conclusions adopted at previously meetings, and adopted 59 conclusions. At its 39th meeting, on the occasion of considering the 2014 Report on performance and status in administrative areas under the competence of the Ministry of Defence and 2014 Report on the Status in the Military of Montenegro, members of the Committee devoted a special attention to the implementation of five conclusions adopted at the 25th meeting of this working body, when it considered 2013 Report on performance and status in administrative areas under the competence of the Ministry of Defence and 2013 Report on the Status in the Military of Montenegro. At its 41st meeting, the Committee considered the 2014 Report of the Ministry of Interior on performance and situation in the administrative fields and 2014 Report on the Protection and Rescue System in Montenegro. On that occasion, the Committee also discussed the implementation of 13 conclusions adopted at the 26th meeting when the Committee discussed the performance of this institution. At its 42nd meeting, the Committee discussed the 2014 Performance Report of the National Security Agency. On that occasion, the Committee was informed on activities undertaken during the subject period,



with special reference to measures and activities implemented in the context of current security threats and challenges, as well as the implementation of five conclusions adopted at the 27th meeting during the discussion on the 2013 Performance Report. In the context of the implementation of the four conclusions adopted by the Parliament at the 46th meeting of 18/19 October 2014, members of the Committee, at its 47th meeting, considered the information on the undertaken measures and activities of the responsible institutions with regard to current security situation in Montenegro. At its 50th meeting, the Committee noted that the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and National Security Agency, in line with the conclusion from the 39th Committee meeting of the 24th convocation of the Parliament, had submitted the analytical reports on spending the allocated budgetary funds for 2014.

Of 21 conclusion adopted by the Parliament in 2014 from the field followed by the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, the Committee considered the implementation of all conclusions - 5 adopted with regard to consideration of the 2013 Performance Report of the Commission for Concessions (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 31/14) and 5 adopted with regard to control hearing held for the purpose of obtaining information on bankruptcy procedure in the Saltworks "Bajo Sekulić" JSC Ulcinj (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 31/14). In addition, the implementation of 11 conclusions with regard to adoption of the Proposal for the Law on the 2013 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro were considered. When it comes to the implementation of the conclusions relating to the Commission for Concession, the Committee noted the following: conclusion 1 - implemented, conclusion 2 - in the implementation phase, conclusion 3 - implemented significantly, while conclusions 4 and 5 have not been implemented. With regard to the said, at its hearing held at the 101st meeting, the Committee proposed that the Parliament adopt six new conclusions. When it comes to the implementation of five conclusions of the Saltworks "Bajo Sekulić" JSC Ulcinj, considered at the 103rd and 120th meeting, the Committee noted the following: conclusion 1 - relating to connection to an electricity supply has been implemented; conclusion 2 - relating to the request for making the service continuous and paying overdue earnings has been partly implemented. With regard to conclusion 3 and business and technical cooperation related to enabling the continuation of the salt production, and which is also connected to the conclusions by the Government of Montenegro which say that conditions should be provided for including the concessionaire to the business operations, the Committee noted that the said amendment has not been implemented. When it comes to conclusion 4 and proposal of the Parliament of Montenegro that, for the purpose of resolving the obvious problems in functioning of the Saltworks JSC, the Government and Municipality of Ulcinj should jointly discuss the possibility of selling the adequate national or the assets of the Municipality, in order to provide the necessary funds for the continuation of the core business of the Saltworks JSC, it was noted that the Committee was not provided with clear and precise information, because the meeting was not attended by the representative of the Municipality of Ulcinj, due to his previously undertaken obligations. With regard to conclusion 5 relating to considering possibilities for returning that major shares of the Saltworks "Bajo Sekulić" to state ownership, it was noted that the Committee was not provided with clear and precise information due to the absence of representatives of the Ministry of Finance. On 27 December, the Committee, also considered the implementation of 11 conclusions systematised through 16 items adopted by the Parliament of the 25th convocation, at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2014, with regard to consideration of the Proposal for the Law on the 2013 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro and Annual Report on performed audits and activities of the State Audit Institution for the period 2013 - October 2014. With the aim of implementing the parliamentary conclusions, the Government of Montenegro adopted the Action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the State Audit Institution, while Ministry of Finance, on three occasions - on 29 May, 22 September and 17 November 2015, submitted the Information on the implementation of the Action Plan for the first, second and third quarter of 2014. On the basis of insight to the SAI Report on Audit of the Final Budget Statement of Montenegro for 2014, which contains the segment "Implementation of recommendations from the previous report", and having in mind three quarterly reports, as well as discussion from the meeting, the Committee noted that of 16 recommendation, divided into 11 fields, 6 had been completely implemented, 6 partly implemented and 4 have not been implemented. At its 95th meeting, the Committee considered again the implementation of parliamentary conclusions adopted in 2012 and 2013, namely: 18 conclusions relating to KAP, namely: - of 29 February 2012, (No: 00-72/12-2/13, Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 14/12; - of 8 June 2012, No: 00-72/12-2/24, Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 31/12; - of 30 April 2013 (No: 00-72/12-2/36, Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 21/13) and - of 27 December 2013, No: 00-72/12-2/42, Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 61/13). With regard to consideration of the said reports, the Committee proposed and Parliament adopted two conclusions (No 00-72/12-2/36, Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 20/15). At its 99th meeting, while considering the 2014 Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum, the Committee also considered the implementation of the conclusion No 2 from November 2013, adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to consideration of the 2012 Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 56/13), requesting from the Financial Stability Forum, in line with Article 11 paragraph 2 of the Law on the Financial Stability Forum, to submit the 2014 Report on risks of the fiscal sector. The Committee noted that the 2014 Fiscal risks analysis was submitted, as follow-up to the said report. They said that it was necessary to submit a special report in the manner defined by the parliamentary conclusion. A special report was submitted to the Parliament on 20 May 2015.

At its 49th meeting of 13 May 2015, in addition to consideration of the 2014 Status Report on Personal Data Protection and Access to Information in Montenegro, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms also followed the implementation of conclusions by the Parliament adopted with regard to consideration of the 2013 Status Report on Personal Data Protection and 2013 Report on the Access to Information in Montenegro. Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning at its 45th meeting of 28 May 2015, considered the implementation of four conclusions by the Parliament of Montenegro of 27 December 2014 (Official Gazette of MNE No 1/15), relating to the environmental issues in the municipality of Pljevlja. The conclusions urge the responsible authorities to undertake all measures in order to protect and improve the environment in all its segments and in line with the law. With regard to that, the Committee determined the Proposal for Conclusions at its 47th meeting of 30 June and submitted those to the Parliament for adoption. The Parliament adopted conclusions on 16 July 2015.

## IV PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

Numerous activities of the President, vice presidents and delegations of the Parliament of Montenegro at the international level occurred during the reporting period. In the period of 1 January - 31 December 2015, numerous visits were organised to states, parliaments, foreign and international organisations and other institutions. The Parliament of Montenegro also hosted a number of high officials and representatives of parliaments, foreign and international organisations, delegations from European, regional and world countries. The important part of parliamentary cooperation is also achieved through parliamentary assemblies of the OSCE, NATO and Council of Europe, and very important activities are carried out within regional initiatives - Central European Initiative (CEI), South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP), Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII) and Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States participating in the Stabilisation and Association Process (COSAP).

### 4.1 EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

In 2015, Montenegro has continued the implementation of activities aimed at achieving further progress in accession negotiations with the European Union.

Additional six negotiation chapters have been opened at intergovernmental conferences: 9 - Financial services, 14 - Transport policy, 15 - Energy, 16 - Taxation, 21 - Trans-European networks and 30 - External relations, thus Montenegro opened 22 negotiation chapters in total, of which to have been temporarily closed (25 - Science and Research and 26 - Education and Culture). In accordance with its responsibilities, the Committee on European Integration in 2015 considered three draft negotiation positions for chapters 13 - Fisheries, 15 - Energy and 19 - Social policy and employment. The Committee unanimously adopted positive opinions on these. In addition, the Committee considered seven reports on negotiation chapters, for chapters 4 - Free movement of capital, 6 - Company law, 7 - Intellectual property law, 11 - Agriculture and rural development, 16 - Taxation, 29 - Customs union and 32 - Financial control. Within its responsibility to consider information on negotiation process, the Committee on European Integration also considered a number of other reports, cooperated with other parliamentary committees and organised consultative hearings (see above).

Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), composed of members of the European Parliament and Parliament of Montenegro, in 2015 was in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. In the reporting period, SAPC held two meetings, adopting declarations with recommendations. The Tenth meeting, held in Budva on 8 and 9 April, was focused on topics such as: the current state of accession negotiations and relations between the European Union and Montenegro, reforms and activities necessary for progress in chapters 23 and 24, the position of persons with disabilities in Montenegro and the European Disability Strategy, social policy, employment, and economic developments. The Eleventh SAPC meeting, held in Strasbourg on 16 and 17 December, was devoted to the current state of accession negotiations and relations between the European Union, protests, protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, electoral legislation and rule of law, issues of sustainable development, protection of the environment and fiscal economy.

The progress in the European integration process is clearly visible through regular annual progress reports on Montenegro, prepared by the European Commission. In November, a document titled "Montenegro 2015 Report" was published, comprising the period from October 2014 to September 2015. The Report says that Montenegro has made good progress towards meeting opening benchmarks for chapters such as Agriculture and rural development, Energy, Employment and social policy, and Regional policy and preparation for structural instruments. Particular attention needs to be paid now to fulfilling the opening benchmarks in chapters like Competition policy and Environment and climate change, which are challenging for Montenegro. With the aim of monitoring the assessments of the European Commission on the progress of Montenegro, the Committee on European Integration organised a meeting at which representatives of the EU Delegation to Montenegro presented main aspects of the Report. Also, the Committee considered contributions sent to the EC for the need of drafting the Report, for the period of 1 September 2014 to 1 April 2015, and for the period 1 April to 1 September 2015.

Members of the Parliament of Montenegro regularly participate in meetings organised within parliamentary dimensions of presidency of the EU. In the reporting period, MPs participated in meetings of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC), namely at the meeting of chairpersons and plenary session held during the Latvian presidency (1-2 February and 31 May - 2 June), as well as on the same meetings held during the Luxembourg presidency (12 - 13 July and 29 November - 1 December). In addition, MPs participated in four more parliamentary meetings, organised during the Latvian presidency of the EU: Conference Pursuant to Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (TSCG), Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Employment and Social Affairs, Inter-Parliamentary Conference on

Common Foreign and Security Policy and on Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP) and Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on the Economic and Digital Affairs. In the framework of the Luxembourg presidency, the Parliament was represented at six meetings: Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Common Foreign and Security Policy and on Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP), Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Social Affairs, Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union, Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Development Cooperation and Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments.

Members of the Parliament of Montenegro also participate in activities organised within Assistance programme of the European Parliament to help aspirant countries prepare for EU membership. In the reporting period, representatives of the Parliament participated in the international gatherings devoted to topics such as: independence of judiciary and the reform of the judiciary system, media public services and parliaments, economic governance and job creation in the European Union and countries in the accession process, the role of the ombudsman in a modern parliamentary democracy, the reform of the 2013 Common Agricultural Policy - impact on the countries in the accession process. Within this programme, the Parliament of Montenegro in hosted the Interparliamentary conference titled “Towards independent and modern judicial systems in the enlargement countries”.



*Eleventh meeting of the European Union - Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee*

## 4.2 VISITS OF OTHER STATES REPRESENTATIVES

### *ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT*

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić, in the reporting period, hosted a number of officials and representatives of parliaments, foreign and international organisations, including the following:

- On 16 January, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Hashim Thaçi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo. President Krivokapić and Deputy Prime Minister Thaçi assessed that bilateral relations of Montenegro and the Republic of Kosovo were good, fulfilled with mutual understanding.
- On 26 January, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Péter Sztáray, Ambassador of Hungary to NATO. Krivokapić and Sztáray devoted the conversation to NATO integration of Montenegro, in light of the fact that Hungary has recently overtaken the role of NATO contact point embassy for Montenegro.
- On 30 January, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received for a farewell visit H.E. Sue K. Brown. President Krivokapić expressed satisfaction and gratitude for the intensive and partnering cooperation with the US Embassy to Podgorica, as well as for personal contribution to important reform processes in Montenegro, given by Ambassador Brown.
- On 10 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Jean Eric Paquet, Director for the Western Balkans at the Directorate General of the European Neighbourhood Policy and Negotiations for Enlargement of the European Commission. President Krivokapić stressed that the Parliament had been continuously recognised in the EC reports as the institution which gave strong and often a key contribution to Euro-Atlantic integration.



- On 11 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Paul Gaskell, acting Head of Western Balkans and Enlargement Department in Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The interlocutors emphasised good bilateral relations of Montenegro and the Great Britain and United Kingdom at all levels. President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić stressed that Montenegrin Parliament had been working devotedly to build and strengthen its full capacities, especially in the part of the oversight and control.
- On 11 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Krisztian Posa, Ambassador of Hungary. The interlocutors emphasise good bilateral relations of Montenegro and Republic of Poland, assessing that they were in the stage of intensifying.
- On 16 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium. The interlocutors emphasised good bilateral relations of Montenegro and the Kingdom of Belgium at all levels. President Krivokapić pointed out that, for Montenegro, the Kingdom of Belgium was an important partner both in bilateral sense and as the state and political centre of the European Union.
- On 17 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Ivica Dačić, OSCE Chairperson and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia. The interlocutors pointed out intensive relations and cooperation between Montenegro and the OSCE, as well as good bilateral relations between Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia.
- On 23 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Margaret Ann Uyehara, newly-appointed Ambassador of the United States of America. President Krivokapić pointed out that the United States were an important political partner, as confirmed by the meaningful and strong relations between the two countries.
- On 25 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Speaker of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Sweden Urban Ahlin. Ahlin estimated that Montenegro was very successful in leading the EU integration in the region of the Western Balkans, while President Krivokapić pointed out that Sweden, with its tradition as the state of social justice and security, represented a role model for Montenegro.
- On 27 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Jean-Daniel Ruch, Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation. The interlocutors emphasised good bilateral relations of Montenegro and Switzerland, and agreed that Montenegro had a great tourist and in investment potential, particularly in the north of Montenegro, which deserved valorisation and development, what would make a possibility for creating better living standard for citizens.



*Meeting of President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia Edgars Rinkēvičs*

- On 2 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Krisztian Posa, Ambassador of Hungary. President Krivokapić voiced gratitude to Ambassador Posa regarding the support that Hungary had been providing to Montenegro on its integration path to NATO.
- On 3 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received a delegation of the Foundation “Sveti Petar Cetinjski” - President of the management board of the Foundation Dragoljub Rašović and Branislav Radulović. Foundation “Sveti Petar Cetinjski” is about to initiate the project of drafting the publication “The 100 most eminent persons from Montenegrin history”. It was decided that the Council, whose president would be Ranko Krivokapić, would be in charge of

monitoring the project implementation and reaching of final decisions, while members of the Council would be representatives of important cultural institutions in Montenegro.

- On 16 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Nebojša Stefanović. The interlocutors pointed out that cooperation between Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia was good at all levels, with room for further improvement.
- On 19 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić spoke with H.E. Miroslav Lajčák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovakia. Krivokapić and Lajčák agreed that the integration process had no alternative and that it has been bringing Montenegro closer to the union of free and democratic states. Krivokapić thanked Slovakia for the support it had been providing to Montenegro since gaining its independence, especially regarding the integration processes, while Montenegro was a leader of integration in the Western Balkans region, confirming that the enlargement process existed, lived and continued.
- On 20 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received members of Montenegrin and Belgian Parliamentary Friendship Group: David Geerts, Meryame Kitir, and Olivier Destrebecq, as well as H.E. Leo D'Aes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Montenegro. The interlocutors noted that cooperation between Montenegrin and Belgian parliaments was good. The MPs of the Belgian Parliament pointed out the significance of reforms being implemented by Montenegro on its path towards the EU, and added that it had full support of Belgium in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration. President Krivokapić also discussed with the MPs the challenges that Montenegro was facing in the field of combating corruption and organised crime, as well as the rule of law as the essential element of fully rounded democracy.
- On 20 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić spoke with newly-appointed, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Canada to Montenegro H.E. Philip Pinnington. President Krivokapić and Ambassador Pinnington noted excellent relations between Montenegro and Canada, particularly in the field of parliamentary cooperation. The interlocutors also agreed that for Montenegro investments coming from Canada were of great importance, and that the work on improving the economic cooperation should be continued.
- On 23 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić Bujar Nishani, President of the Republic of Albania. President Ranko Krivokapić and President Bujar Nishani emphasised good relations between the two countries, and assessed that relations between Montenegro and the Republic of Albania could serve as a model of good neighbourly relations and friendship in this region. During the meeting, President Krivokapić assessed that the two countries were on the same European path, which meant facing similar challenges.



*Meeting of President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić  
and US Assistant State Secretary Victoria Nuland*

- On 7 April, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Executive Director of the Onassis Foundation Petros Eftimiu spoke on the initiative for opening of the humanist study programme at the University of Montenegro, which would treat the Hellenic culture. Krivokapić and Eftimiu stated that it was necessary to enrich educational programmes, by making them more comprehensive and diversified, and in that manner enable youth to upgrade their knowledge by rich philosophy of the other countries, such as Hellenic.



- On 22 April, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić spoke with Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia David Usupashvili, who was paying an official visit to Montenegro. President Krivokapić and Speaker Usupashvili agreed that Montenegro and Georgia had friendly relations and noted good parliamentary cooperation of the two countries.
- On 4 May, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received senators of the Senate of the Republic of Italy Aldo di Biagio and Stefano Collina. Krivokapić and the senators expressed satisfaction with the good parliamentary cooperation between Montenegro and Italy, which was, as agreed, contributed by the Friendship Group between the Parliament of Montenegro and the Parliament of Italy, as well as the announcement of the formation of parliamentary friendship group with Montenegro in the Senate of Italy. Krivokapić and his interlocutors also noted the good cooperation between the two countries in the field of agriculture and ecology, but also in the field of police cooperation between Montenegro and Italy.
- On 8 May, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić hosted resident ambassadors of the European Union countries and the USA. President Krivokapić said, after the meeting, that Montenegro was small but an important factor in the victory over fascism, and therefore a part of the message which was the essence of the existence of the European Union. The Parliament, as Krivokapić stressed, fulfilled its obligations quickly and efficiently, and added that commitment of institutions of the state in creation of results was now crucial, primarily in the area of the rule of law.
- On 12 May, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia Edgars Rinkēvičs. President Krivokapić and Minister Rinkēvičs talked about relations between Montenegro and Latvia, with a focus on cooperation between the two parliaments. Krivokapić and Rinkēvičs agreed that parliaments as institutions in contemporary democracies had an important role in the democratic process in society. Krivokapić and Rinkēvičs concluded that the process of harmonisation of Montenegrin legislation with the EU *acquis* was demanding, and noted that the achievement of the rule of law, fight against organised crime and corruption were of key importance for the further reform path of Montenegro.
- On 20 May, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Vice Marshal of the Polish Sejm Jerzy Wenderlich spoke on relations of Montenegro and Poland, focusing on cooperation of the two parliaments. Krivokapić and Wenderlich agreed that parliaments had an important role for democratic process in the society, especially in young democracies. President Krivokapić stressed the Parliament of Montenegro has strengthened its constitutional mechanisms and that it showed its full capacities through Euro-Atlantic integration process, while Wenderlich said that Montenegro may count on the support of Poland, particularly when it comes to sharing of experiences in the integration process.
- On 26 September, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received President of the Republic of Italy Sergio Mattarella. President Krivokapić and President Mattarella stressed traditionally good and friendly relations of the two states. They assessed that Montenegro and the Republic of Italy have been strongly connected through history, which would be additionally strengthened by Euro-Atlantic future. President Krivokapić emphasised that he considered the visit as the expression of friendship and support to Montenegro's path to the NATO and European Union.
- On 4 June, President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Tamar Beruchashvili. Krivokapić said that Montenegro had good cooperation with the Parliament of Georgia, as confirmed by the friendship groups of parliaments of Montenegro and Georgia, and added that the good parliamentary cooperation between the two countries continued through constructive cooperation in the OSCE.
- On 4 June, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Speaker of the Croatian Parliament Josip Leko. Krivokapić and Leko noted good, friendly relations of Montenegro and Croatia, whose indispensable part, as they concluded, was a strong parliamentary cooperation of the parliaments of the two countries. Krivokapić and Leko spoke on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro. In that context, Leko stressed that Montenegro had a partner support of Croatia in its aspirations to become a member of the EU and NATO. Krivokapić and Leko also spoke on strengthening the cooperation between the two countries in the field of economy.
- On 4 June, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić spoke with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State at the US State Department Hoyt Brian Yee. Krivokapić and Yee noted that Montenegro and the United States of America had friendly relations, and they expressed pleasure over the intensive cooperation they had been having in order to achieve Montenegrin strategic priority – fully fledged NATO membership. It was pointed out at the meeting that the USA had been following the progress in the key area for Montenegrin NATO membership – the rule of law, and it was emphasised that the USA remained a strong advocate and supporter to Montenegro's path towards the Alliance.
- On 5 June, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Special Presidential Envoy for the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL General John Allen. In his conversation with President Krivokapić, Presidential Envoy Allen commended a committed and partnership relationship of Montenegro towards NATO. The interlocutors pointed out as especially significant the adoption of amendments to the Criminal Code punishing recruitment, enlistment and training of people to go into foreign battlefields.

- On 11 June, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg. President Krivokapić expressed gratitude regarding all the support that the NATO had been giving to Montenegro and, in that context, he highlighted the contribution of the Secretary General of the Alliance. President Krivokapić conveyed to Stoltenberg the maximum dedication of Montenegro to everything that represented the Euro-Atlantic values, as well as that our country was proud to share those values with free, democratic and prosperous countries that made up the NATO Alliance.
- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received members of the Friendship Group of the French Parliament, Patrice Verchère, Philippe Gosselin and Genevieve Gosselin-Fleury. Members of the Friendship Group expressed satisfaction over the cooperation with members of the Parliamentary Friendship Group of the Parliament of Montenegro. President Krivokapić informed his interlocutors about the dynamics of the Parliament and said that the work of MPs was extremely dynamic, and added that, in the opinion of many, the Montenegrin Parliament stood as the leading one in the region in terms of openness, access to information, but also by the number of parliamentary hearings and investigations.
- On 26 June, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Nikos Kotzias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic. President Krivokapić expressed gratitude for all the support and understanding that the Hellenic Republic was giving to Montenegro on its Euro-Atlantic path. The interlocutors emphasised that Montenegro and Greece had traditionally good and intensive friendly relations at all levels, and that there was still room for further strengthening, which would be used in the upcoming period.
- On 1 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received for a farewell visit Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Montenegro Nils Ragnar Kamsvåg, who thanked to the President of the Parliament on cooperation, voicing pleasure over the good relations of Norway and Montenegro. Krivokapić and Kamsvåg deemed as commendable the constructive cooperation of the two countries in numerous projects related to strengthening of the rule of law and judiciary in Montenegro. Ragnar Kamsvåg said that Norway would be a partner to Montenegro in the future also when it comes to the reform process in the field of rule of law which, as he stressed during the conversation, was of key importance for Montenegro's path to the EU.
- On 2 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Pekka Orpana, Ambassador of the Republic of Finland to Montenegro. President Ranko Krivokapić expressed gratitude for the support that the Republic of Finland was giving to Montenegro on its European integration path. The interlocutors pointed out that Montenegro and Finland had good and friendly relations, with significant room for further improvement.
- On 3 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina Igor Crnadak. President Krivokapić and Minister Crnadak, in addition to good relations of Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina, stated mutual pleasure over the solving of issue Sutorina, which, as they agreed, unnecessarily burdened interstate relations of the two states. Krivokapić and Crnadak spoke on the upcoming signing of the agreement on interstate border, as well as on joint cooperation of the two states in the field of agriculture and development of infrastructure.
- On 12 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Victoria Nuland, US Assistant State Secretary. Krivokapić and Nuland pointed out good and intensive bilateral relations between Montenegro and the United States of America in all fields and especially in Euro-Atlantic integration. The interlocutors pointed out that a parliamentary dialogue on NATO and other key topics regarding integration and development challenges was inevitable for further strengthening of democratic processes in Montenegro. President Krivokapić emphasised that Montenegro was fulfilling the agenda of commitments on its Euro-Atlantic path with dedication, especially pointing out the activities on strengthening the rule of law.
- On 17 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received for a farewell visit H.E. Andrej Nesterenko, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Montenegro. The interlocutors pointed out long tradition of diplomatic relations between Montenegro and Russia, and emphasised the importance of diplomacy and dialogue for mutual understanding. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić pointed out that the parliaments of the two countries had good communication on many levels, which represented confirmation of continuous strengthening of parliamentary diplomacy, which was very important for promotion of relations and better mutual understanding.
- On 23 July, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić held a meeting with ministers of foreign affairs: Péter Szijjártó (Hungary), Grzegorz Schetyna (Poland) and Bogdan Aurescu (Romania) President Krivokapić stressed that the Parliament has been fulfilling its obligations devotedly, particularly in the part relating to adopting and amending laws, leading to strengthening of the rule of law and strengthening democracy and institutions. The ministers pointed out that the results that our country had made in the Euro-Atlantic path were visible, and that they encouraged the further continuity of these processes. It was assessed that Montenegro would be supported in the activities that result in the achievement of the common values of the Member States of the Alliance.



*President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić receives for a farewell visit H.E. Frantisek Lipka, Ambassador of Slovakia to Montenegro*

- On 29 January, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received for a farewell visit H.E. Sue K. Brown. Krivokapić and Tanilir deemed the cooperation of the two countries in numerous fields as commendable, and expressed hope that the cooperation will be improved and deepened. The interlocutors assessed that Montenegro's membership to the NATO was extremely important for the stability of the Western Balkans, but also for the stability of the whole region, particularly since that membership would complete NATO line in the Mediterranean.
- On 26 August, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received members of the German Bundestag Josip Juratović and Martin Rosemann with a delegation of the Social Democrats (SDP) of Germany. During the meeting with the delegation headed by Member of the Bundestag Josip Juratović, the interlocutors discussed the EU and NATO integration of Montenegro, media freedom and political developments. President Ranko Krivokapić stressed good relations and cooperation of the two parliaments, and declared intention for further strengthening and deepening of the cooperation.
- On 11 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Krisztian Posa, Ambassador of Hungary. The interlocutors concluded that the parliaments should be used for cooperation and dialogue in reaching mutual goals and interests.
- On 15 September, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Gjorge Ivanov, President of the Republic of Macedonia. The interlocutors emphasised good bilateral relations of the two states at all levels, stressing that Montenegro and Macedonia, as two former Yugoslav republics, may serve as an example in the region as states with no open issues, with full mutual understanding and respect. Speaking on the refugee crisis, the interlocutors concluded that that problem required a collective response, and that the countries must show its humane dimension and understanding towards everybody who suffer the consequences of different persecutions and instabilities.
- On 16 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Krisztian Posa, Ambassador of Hungary. During the meeting, a constructive cooperation of the two countries was noted, based on the shared understanding with mutual desire to promote it and deepen it. President Ranko Krivokapić stated that Montenegrin Parliament was open and ready for intensifying parliamentary dialogue leading to stronger cooperation of the two countries.
- On 16 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Irena Tatarzynska – the newly appointed Ambassador of Poland to Montenegro. Ambassador Tatarzynska and President Krivokapić expressed satisfaction over the good relations of Montenegro and Poland, and assessed that Montenegro had been making a continuous progress in Euro-Atlantic integration.
- On 16 September, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Faisal Fahad Al Shay, Chair of the Parliamentary Friendship Group of the National Assembly of Kuwait. During the meeting, they estimated that Montenegro and Kuwait had good bilateral relations, as well as that there was great room for improvement of cooperation, especially in the segment of economy. During the talk, they estimated that the National Assembly of Kuwait was a particularly good example among the Gulf countries as a very strong parliament which efficiently implemented its competence of control over the executive branch of power.

- On 18 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Krisztian Posa, Ambassador of Hungary. Ambassador Galip expressed pleasure over the existing bilateral relations. They estimated that there was room for creation of a suitable atmosphere for linking mutual state interests in the segment of tourism, with focus on strengthening economic relations.
- On 6 October, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Chairman of the Politiken Foundation Jørgen Ejbøl. Krivokapić and Ejbøl discussed the challenges faced by the independent media in the Balkans region. During the meeting they estimated that the society as a whole must find the answers to increasingly greater and clearer abuse of media tools for the purpose of propaganda and kompromat. The interlocutors said that the free public, responsible and professional media were the lifeblood of every democracy, and that the problems in that segment represented problems of the society which should be resolved through institutions.
- On 4 November, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Mitja Močnik - the newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia. During the meeting, friendly and substantive relations between Montenegro and the Republic of Slovenia on all levels were emphasised.
- On 5 November, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Zsolz Németh, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Hungary and H.E. Krisztián Pósa, Ambassador of Hungary to Montenegro. During the meeting, friendly and substantial relations between the two parliaments were stressed.
- On 10 November, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received Dirk Lange, Head of the Montenegro Unit within the European Commission Directorate General for EU Enlargement and H.E. Mitja Drobnič, EU Ambassador to Podgorica, with regard to publishing of the 2015 Progress Report on Montenegro. On this occasion, the ceremonial presentation of the Report was organised in the Parliament, attended by representatives of the legislative, executive and judicial authorities, prosecution office, academic community, civil society, media outlets and diplomatic corps.
- On 17 November, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić received H.E. Juichi Takahara - the newly appointed Ambassador of Japan, and H.E. Henk van den Dool - newly appointed Ambassador of the Netherlands to Montenegro. Ambassador Takahara noted that Montenegro had Japan's full support and that the foundation for developing bilateral relations was cooperation which followed in the field of economy, culture, education, and health. During the meeting between Krivokapić and Dool, they noted constructive cooperation of the two countries aspiring to intensively deepen the relations in order to achieve a common diplomatic and political success in the future, as well as that the only path that Montenegro should take was the path of honouring the rule of law.
- On 8 February, the President of the Parliament hosted President of the Chamber of Deputies of Romania Valeriu Stefan Zgonea, who paid an official visit to Montenegro, upon his invitation.
- On 11 December, the President of the Parliament received H.E. Harry Richard James Kandou, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Montenegro. They assessed at the meeting that there was a room in the further cooperation of the two countries for creating the atmosphere of mutual state interests in the field of tourism, with the focus on strengthening economic relations.

#### *ACTIVITIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE PARLIAMENT*

- On 5 March, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with Deputy Speaker of Kazakh Majilis and special envoy of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Sergey Dyachenko. Mustafić pointed out that Montenegro was committed to European and NATO integration, economic and legal reforms, and that it was open for good neighbouring and friendly cooperation. Mustafić said that there was a possibility for a broad cooperation in the field of trade, tourism, traffic and culture, but that it was necessary to work on signing certain agreements.
- On 20 May, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović received in an official visit Vice Marshal of the Polish Sejm Jerzy Wenderlich. On the occasion, the two officials discussed political, socio-economical and security situation in the European Union, Poland and Montenegro, as well as the EU enlargement policy and Montenegro's integration capacities.





*Meeting between Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović and H.E. Serhat Galip, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Montenegro*

- On 10 June, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with the Delegation of co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, headed by Gaye Doganoglu and Henrik Brade Johansen, who are staying in Montenegro within the monitoring visit aimed at assessment of the state of local democracy. The meeting addressed key European standards in the field of local democracy, European Charter of Local Self-Government ratified by Montenegro in 2008 and assessment of the state of local democracy in Montenegro for the purpose of drafting the Report on the state of local democracy in the Council of Europe member states.
- On 19 June, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with members of the Parliament of Azerbaijan Aydin Mirzazadeh, who is the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Security and Defence, and Ilham Mammadov. Vice President Mustafić pointed out that Montenegro was committed to European integration, that it awaited the NATO Alliance membership invitation, as well as that it aspired to the rule of law and establishment of a better legislative framework which would enable greater attraction of foreign investments.
- On 1 September, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Milutin Simović met with Ulrich Petzold, Member of the German Bundestag, and Guido Heinen, Head of the Bundestag's Department of Research Services Directorate. Uwe Meerkotter, Deputy German Ambassador to Montenegro, also attended the meeting. Vice President Simović voiced gratitude for the overall support provided by Germany to Montenegro in development of democracy, and during numerous economic challenges that Montenegro had gone through and those that still awaited it. They also reviewed previous cooperation in numerous fields reviewed and announced initiatives for improving cooperation.
- On 18 September, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić received H.E. Serhat Galip, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Montenegro. At the meeting, they reached an agreement on further intensifying of political and economic cooperation, particularly with regard to possibilities that Montenegro offered for foreign investments, as well as support provided by the Republic of Turkey to Montenegro in the process of acquiring the full-fledged NATO membership. Vice President Mustafić pointed out that relations between Montenegro and Turkey were very good and friendly and that they were continuously being advanced and developed through substantive cooperation in all fields and intensive political dialogue.





*Meeting between Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić and Sergey Dyachenko, Deputy Speaker of Kazakh Majilis and special envoy of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan*

- On 18 September, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Milutin Simović met with the newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Montenegro Serhat Galip. The interlocutors agreed on and voiced pleasure over the intensifying communication and economic cooperation between the two countries.
- On 4 November, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with Director of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) for Serbia and Montenegro Norbert Beckmann-Dierkes. It was noted at the meeting that the Konrad Adenauer Foundation with its project activities contributed to development of democracy and social and political environment of Montenegro.
- On 7 December, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Milutin Simović received Hugo Maldonado, Chairperson of the Committee on Economy of the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Argentine Nation. The meeting proceeded in a constructive conversation during which they agreed on the need for a more intensive political and economic cooperation, especially with regard to opportunities for foreign investments offered by Montenegro.

## 4.3 VISITS ABROAD

### *ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT*

President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić paid a number of official visits. We would like to point out the following:

- During the official visit to the United Arab Emirates on 12 January, President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President Emeritus of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić met President of the Federal National Council of the Parliament of the UAE Mohammed Ahmed Al Murr. President Krivokapić and Al Murr emphasised a high level of cooperation between the two countries, noting that it represented a quality ground for its further strengthening in all fields of mutual interest. President Ranko Krivokapić informed his interlocutor on political challenges that Montenegro had been facing at the moment, pointing out that joining the EU and NATO were key challenges in the process of further democratic maturing of the country.



*Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament at the UN General Assembly in New York*

- On 4 February, President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President Emeritus of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Ranko Krivokapić paid a visit to the United States of America on the occasion of Prayer Breakfast, hosted by President of the USA Barack Obama. President Krivokapić met with Celeste Wallander, a Special Assistant to President Barack Obama and Senior Director for Russia and Eurasia on the National Security Council of the United States of America. The interlocutors have exchanged opinions regarding the intensified and focused dialogue by which Montenegro was meeting conditions for receiving an invitation for full-fledged membership to the NATO. They jointly noted the progress, but also pointed out the fields that required putting in of additional effort.
- On 20 February in Vienna, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with President of the Republic of Austria Heinz Fischer and with his Austrian counterpart, President Doris Bures. During the meeting, they discussed important infrastructure projects, which should give a strong incentive to development and growth of the economy. They particularly singled out projects such as the Adriatic-Ionian highway as well as the Trans-Atlantic pipeline (TAP), significant both for transport connection with Europe and development of energy potential as a prerequisite for further development of the economy. The interlocutors agreed that the rule of law, strengthening of institutions and sustainable economy were priorities whose fulfilment represented sure steps towards the full-fledged membership in the European Union.
- On 24 March in Brussels, President Ranko Krivokapić met with Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament. During the meeting, President Krivokapić expressed pleasure over the fact that in one of the crucial years of the European integration and a decisive year for NATO integration of Montenegro, the leader of European parliamentarianism President Martin Schulz had provided a strong support to key advocates of struggle for implementation of European ideas in Montenegrin society and highlighted the leadership position of Montenegro in European integration in the Western Balkans region. It was assessed at the meeting that it was especially significant that, immediately after the adoption of conclusions of the European Parliament on Montenegro, the emphasis had been put on measurable and sustainable results in the field of the rule of law.
- On 29 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić headed the Vienna process which was held in the German city Leinsweiler, gathering the Russian and Ukrainian Parliamentary Delegations in light of the efforts for deescalation of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis. In his introductory speech, President Krivokapić recalled the activities of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly aimed at deescalation of the crisis and establishment of the Vienna Process for the dialogue between the Russian-Ukrainian parliamentarians.
- On 7 July in Helsinki, President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President Emeritus of the OSCE PA Ranko Krivokapić met with Speaker of the Finnish Parliament Maria Lohela. During the meeting, President Ranko Krivokapić stressed the role of Montenegrin Parliament in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration – as the institution which, according to assessment of European and regional addresses – has a reputation of the most transparent, most open and a politically strong parliament.
- On 1 September, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić participated in the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments, which was being held in the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. The Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments dedicated to the topic “Parliamentary oversight: Challenges and opportunities”

gathered more than 120 presidents of parliaments from all over the world. On this occasion, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić had a bilateral meeting and a working lunch with Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki-Moon. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the importance of strengthening parliamentary mechanisms, the role of parliament as a pillar of democracy and the need that the parliament should be an increasingly stronger carrier of political processes aimed at strengthening institutions, keeping peace, and general social progress. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić also addressed the participants of the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the UN General Assembly, and on that occasion said that the parliaments were the very place which must open the space for unpleasant truths and take responsibility for painful changes.

- During his visit to the United States of America, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić had meetings with the officials of the National Security Council (White House), the State Department, and Freedom House. On 5 September in the White House, President Krivokapić met with Charles Kupchan, Special Assistant to the American President and Senior Director for Europe at the National Security Council. The interlocutors focused the conversation on the issue of Montenegrin membership to the North Atlantic Alliance. During their conversation, they welcomed participation of our country in the peace missions, and Montenegro was estimated as a reliable partner in advocacy for peace. In Washington, President Krivokapić met with John Heffern, Deputy Assistant to the State Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland. During the meeting in the State Department, they said that the USA appreciated the efforts and steps that our country was making on its path towards the NATO membership. They said at the meeting that Montenegro would have a strong support for the processes which contributed to security and stability of the region, advocacy for peace, as well as strengthening of democracy through stronger rule of law.
- On 17 October, during the official visit to Hungary, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić had meetings with President of Hungary H.E. János Áder, Speaker of the Hungarian Parliament László Kövér, and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary Péter Szijjártó. At the meeting with President Áder, President Krivokapić emphasised the gratitude to Hungary for their support to Euro-Atlantic integration. The interlocutors assessed bilateral relations between the two countries as excellent, and stressed the good economic cooperation. Krivokapić and Szijjártó discussed the challenges of the migrant crisis, pointing out that Europe and the region must possess a wise and responsible policy that goes significantly further than the mandatory sense. During the conversation, they pointed out potentials that our country had in terms of investments, and Hungary showed willingness to invest in our agriculture and energy sectors.
- On 28 October, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić paid a two-day visit to the USA, on the occasion of holding of the Parliamentary Intelligence-Security Forum, which gathered parliamentarians from more than 20 countries. President Krivokapić had a series of bilateral meetings with influential congressmen and senators such as: Michael Turner, President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly; Senator John McCain, Chairman of the US Senate Committee on Armed Services; Senator Roger Wicker, co-chairman of the Helsinki Commission, and Congressman Doug Lamborn, Co-Chair of Montenegrin Caucus. During the meeting, it was assessed that the United States strongly supported Montenegro's membership to the NATO Alliance, but they also stressed the need for further efforts in the field of the rule of law and combating corruption.



*President of the Parliament of Montenegro in Brussels with Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament*





- On 29 October, President of the Parliament Ranko Krivokapić met with Senator Chris Murphy in the USA. The interlocutors stressed the importance of support of the United States of America to Montenegro's membership in NATO, and assessed that Montenegro must continue more intensely and resolutely with the reform process it has begun.
- On 30 November, during his official visit to Brussels, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić met with Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations and his Belgian counterpart Siegfried Bracke, President of the Belgium Chamber of Representatives.

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE PARLIAMENT**

- On 13 February, during his stay in Istanbul on the occasion of participating in the meeting of the General Committee on Justice, Home Affairs and Security Cooperation "SEECF", Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić met with representatives of emigrants' association from Montenegro "Yugoslavia - Montenegro" and association "Bosnia - Sandzak". Vice President Mustafić pointed out that all citizens of Montenegro and all persons originating from Montenegro who live abroad were considered emigrants, with or without Montenegrin citizenship, as well as those who: perceive Montenegro as their home country or country of origin, identify themselves with Montenegro in the state, national, cultural and civilizational sense, and regard Montenegro as a democratic, independent, sovereign, civic, multi-ethnic and multicultural country.
- On 5 March, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović paid an official visit to the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic. Vice President Radulović and the Czech parliamentarians discussed the current situation and the future of the European Union in the field of economics, integration and security; integration experiences of the Czech Republic and its future, as well as the current situation in Montenegro and the Western Balkans.
- Upon the invitation of Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Albania Arta Dade, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić attended the Conference of Foreign Policy Committees of the Western Balkans parliaments which took place in Tirana on 13 March. Vice President Mustafić stressed that the joint integration aim of the regional countries – membership to the European Union - was not possible to achieve without the active role in the regional cooperation and contemplation of the foreign policy in the regional context. Vice President Mustafić also met with representatives of three active associations of emigrants from Montenegro in the Republic of Albania.
- On 19 March, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović paid an official visit to the Parliament of Portugal. During the visit, Vice President Radulović met with Deputy Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament Julio Miranda Calha, chairpersons and members of the European Affairs Committee, Committee on Economics and Public Works, Committee on Budget, Finance and Public Administration and Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Rights, Freedoms and Guarantees. The subject of conversation among Vice President Radulović and Portuguese parliamentarians were the current situation and future of the European Union on the economic, integration and security level, with a special reference to the state of affairs and experiences of Portugal as well as the state of affairs and perspective of Montenegro and the Western Balkans.
- On 23 April, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović paid an official visit to Iceland. The visit was hosted by Speaker of the Icelandic Parliament Einar Guðfinnsson. Vice President Radulović also met with chairpersons and members of the Budget Committee, the Economic Affairs and Trade Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Constitutional and Supervisory Committee. The visit was organised with the aim of sharing views about the current political, social and economic situation in Iceland, state of affairs and future of the EU, the issue of survival of the Eurozone, security challenges in Europe and the rest of the world as well as complex situation in Montenegro and in the Balkans. During the visit to Iceland, Vice President Radulović visited the biggest world group in aluminium production and processing Rio Tinto Alcan and spoke with executive director of the Company Rannveig Rist.
- On 23 April, Vice President of the Parliament Suljo Mustafić participated in the XII Conference of the Speakers of the Parliaments of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative - AII (see more in *Regional Initiatives*).



*Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić  
at the conference “Intercultural dialogue and cooperation in support of a sustainable Mediterranean” in Paris*

- On 14 May, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić and MP Jasmin Sutović attended the event organised on the occasion of marking the Day of Independence of Montenegro in Kosovo “Day of Montenegrins of Kosovo“, held in Prishtina. The event “Day of Montenegrins of Kosovo“, being held for the first time, had gathered a great number of representatives of Kosovian institutions, emigrants from Montenegro, representatives of international community, people from business and cultural life of Kosovo as well as friends of Montenegro. During the visit to Kosovo, Vice President of the Parliament Suljo Mustafić had a bilateral meeting with Deputy Speaker of the Kosovian Parliament Duda Balje. At the meeting, they referred to importance of parliamentary cooperation through establishment of friendship groups as well as cooperation of parliamentary working bodies through different fields.
- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić participated in the Third World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, which was held in Baku, on 18 and 19 May. This year’s forum was opened by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and on that occasion he emphasised the significance of education as a mechanism in a global fight against terrorism, extremism, and fundamentalism. Vice President Mustafić was one of the keynote speakers at the Plenary Session dedicated to the topic “Dialogue as mechanism of building global trust”. On that occasion, Mustafić pointed out that the world was witness to new conflict hotspots, conflicts without end in sight, which indicate that new energy was needed, created and emitted by these kind of gatherings.
- On 29 May, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović paid an official visit to the Swedish Riksdag. During the visit, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović met with first Deputy Speaker of the Riksdag Tobias Billström as well as with chairpersons and members of the Committee on the Constitution, Committee on European Union Affairs, Committee on Finance, Committee on Defence and Committee on Industry and Trade. During conversations with the Swedish parliamentarians, the interlocutors exchanged views on the current political, security, socio-economic and integration situation in the European Union and on the global level. On that occasion they also discussed numerous challenges that the EU and its member states were facing, and how to overcome them in order to solve the problems in a quality manner.





*Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović in an official visit to the Swedish Riksdag*

- On 6 June, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić paid an official visit to the Republic of Slovenia, where he met with officials of the Slovenian Parliament and representatives of associations of emigrants from Montenegro living in Slovenia. Vice President Mustafić held meetings with President of the Upper House of the Parliament of Slovenia (National Council) Mitja Bervar, Vice President of the Lower House (National Assembly) Primož Hainz, chairpersons and members of the Committee on Foreign Policy and the Committee on Defence of the National Assembly of Slovenia, and Head of the Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group with the Parliament of Montenegro in the Parliament of Slovenia Uroš Prikl. The common conclusion after meetings held in the Parliament of Slovenia was that relations between the two countries were very good and friendly, which was evident at all levels of relations.
- On 14 June, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Branko Radulović paid an official visit to Lithuania. During his visit, Vice President Radulović met, in separate meetings, with his counterparts: First Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Lithuania Vydas Gedvilas, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Lithuania Irena Degutienė, and Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Lithuania Algirdas Sysas, as well as with long term MP and former Speaker of the Parliament Česlovas Juršėnas, who is also a signer of the Act of the Re-Establishment of the State of Lithuania and chief reformer, and also with former Minister of Foreign Affairs and current MP Audronius Ažubalis. In Seimas, Vice President Radulović also met with chairpersons and members of the following: Committee on Budget and Finance, Committee on Economics, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Committee on European Affairs, Committee on Legal Affairs, and Anticorruption Commission. The Lithuanian officials emphasised that the visit by Vice President Radulović would strengthen the cooperation between the two parliaments, as well as progress in cooperation in numerous fields.
- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić took part in the Tenth Conference of Presidents of the Parliaments of Small European States, held in Monaco in the period from 12 to 14 October. The conference addressed the following topics: “Challenges in relations with the EU and accession negotiations”, “How to keep and maintain economic attractiveness in the time of crises” and “Mobility of students in small European countries - obstacles and opportunities”. In his addressing to participants of the conference, Vice President Mustafić voiced pleasure over the previous course of Montenegro’s negotiations on EU membership and results achieved by the negotiating team. At the end, the Joint Declaration was adopted, containing key aspects and conclusions from the Conference.
- Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić took part in the conference “Intercultural dialogue and cooperation in support of a sustainable Mediterranean”, held in Paris on 15 October. The conference, organised by the National Assembly of France, in cooperation with the Union for the Mediterranean and Anna Lindh Foundation, was opened by Minister of State for Development and Francophony Annick Girardin and President of the National Assembly of France Claude Bartolone. The conference addressed the following topic: “Together for a common future of the Mediterranean: leaders of civil society and presidents of the parliaments of the member countries of the Union for the Mediterranean”. Mustafić also met with Chair of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee Elisabeth Guigou, who expressed support to Montenegro in the process of European and Euro-Atlantic integration on all levels, particularly the parliamentary one.
- On 11 December, Vice President of the Parliament Suljo Mustafić met in Sarajevo with Head of the BiH Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Senad Šepić. It was emphasised at the meeting that relations between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro were very good, friendly and developed in all fields.

- On 17 December in Ljubljana, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić participated in traditional annual meeting of emigrants originating from Montenegro, organised by the society “Izvor” from Kranj. On this occasion, Mustafić emphasised the importance of applying the existing solutions with the interactive relationship between the state and its institutions on one side and immigrants and their organisations on the other.

#### 4.4 PERMANENT DELEGATIONS

Intensive activities of members of permanent delegations of the Parliament of Montenegro in parliamentary assemblies of international organisations, or participation in ordinary sessions, meetings, and forums, were also continued in 2015.

##### Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)



During 2015, members of the Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe participated in all four ordinary sessions of the PACE and in several meetings of its working bodies.

At the Winter Session, held in Strasbourg from 26 to 30 January, the PACE adopted Resolution 2030 (2015) “The honouring of obligations and commitments by Montenegro”, deciding to close the monitoring procedure and to engage in a post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro. On that occasion, the PACE welcomed the progress made by Montenegro in the previous two-year period with regard to fulfilling obligations resulting from accession to the Council of Europe, and called to further implementation of reforms by the end of 2017, in order to complete the stage of the post-monitoring dialogue. Agenda of this session, among other things, included debates on: intolerance and discrimination in Europe; humanitarian crisis in Ukraine; terrorist attacks in Paris; media freedom; credentials of the Russian delegation to PACE; equality and inclusion for people with disabilities. Head of Delegation Predrag Sekulić and members of Delegation Draginja Vuksanović, Goran Tuponja, Damir Šehović, and Snežana Jonica participated in the session.

The PACE Spring Session was held in Strasbourg from 20 to 24 April, with special focus on: migration flows in the Mediterranean; consequences of political and security situation in Ukraine; budgets and priorities of the Council of Europe in the period until 2017; humanitarian consequences of the actions of the terrorist group known as “Islamic State”, equality and non-discrimination in the access to justice. Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro in the following composition: Predrag Sekulić, head of Delegation, Goran Tuponja and Snežana Jonica, members of Delegation, participated in the session.

Special interest at the PACE Summer Session, held in Strasbourg from 22 to 26 June, was sparked by addresses of the UN Secretary General, the President of Malta, and the Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Agenda of this session included debates on: improving the protection of whistle-blowers; the annulment of the previously ratified credentials of the delegation of the Russian Federation; situation in Hungary following the adoption of PACE Resolution on the opening of a monitoring procedure in respect of this country; issue of missing persons during the conflict in Ukraine; increasing transparency of media ownership; media responsibility and ethics in a changing media environment. Head of Delegation Predrag Sekulić and members of Delegation Goran Tuponja, Marija Maja Čatović, Damir Šehović and Snežana Jonica participated in the session.

The final ordinary PACE session in 2015 was held from 28 September to 2 October 2015 in Strasbourg. Agenda included debates on: migration and refugee crisis in Europe; challenges met by the countries of transit for refugees and migrants; European asylum system; implementation of judgements of the European Court of Human Rights; freedom of religion; activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); the Parliamentary Assembly’s monitoring process. Head of Delegation Predrag Sekulić and members of Delegation Goran Tuponja and Snežana Jonica participated in the session.

##### Parliamentary Assembly of the North Atlantic Alliance (NATO PA)



In the reporting period, Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro participated in the NATO PA 2015 Spring Session, held in Budapest from 15 to 18 May. Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro consisted of Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Branka Bošnjak. At the meeting they considered the proposal for the Declaration on NATO Enlargement which, among other things, notes that the aspirants must continue with necessary preparations to fulfil the requirements of NATO membership as set out in Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, and stresses that NATO enlargement poses no threat to any nation but rather enhances the security and stability of the entire

Euro-Atlantic region. This documents urges the governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to “deliver the support agreed at the Summit for aspirant countries, and to decide on Montenegro’s invitation by the end of 2015”.

The 88th Rose-Roth seminar of the NATO PA, titled: “Serbia, Western Balkans and Euro-Atlantic Community”, was held in Belgrade, from 31 March to 2 April 2015. Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro consisted of Head of the Permanent Delegation Mevludin Nuhodžić and member Borislav Banović. The Seminar gathered around 200 participants, including parliamentarians from the NATO and partner states, representatives of governments, international organisations, NGO sector, universities, and representatives of public opinion, and it was marked by debates on the following topics: “Serbia in the Euro-Atlantic Community”, “The Western Balkans and Euro-Atlantic Integration”, “Regional Cooperation in the Western Balkans”, “Foreign Fighters in the Middle East and North Africa: A Common Challenge”, “The Fight against Corruption and Organised Crime in the Western Balkans”, “Defence Management Reform and Integrity Building”, “The Brussels Dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina: The Way Forward”.

The 89th Rose-Roth seminar of the NATO PA, titled: “Security and Stability in the South Caucasus: Fostering Enduring Regional Peace”, was held in Yerevan from 18 to 20 June 2015. The Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro was represented by its member Borislav Banović. The Seminar gathered around 160 participants, and it was marked, among other things, by debates on the following topics: “Closed borders: Challenges for Economic Development, Stability and Peace”, “Energy Security in the South Caucasus”, and “Political Developments and Civil Society in the Region”.

The 61st Annual Session of the NATO PA was held in Stavanger, Norway, in the period from 9 to 12 October 2015. On this occasion, Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro consisted of Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Rifat Rastoder. During the debate on the Resolution, NATO PA President Michael Turner and NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the North Atlantic Council Jens Stoltenberg welcomed Montenegro’s progress in defence and security sector reforms which, as they said, should be an example to other membership candidate countries as well. In continuation, among other things, delegates of NATO PA adopted the Resolution on Strengthening Security and Stability through NATO’s Partnership and Open Door Policies, by which, among other things, NATO PA “underlines the complementarity of NATO’s Partnership and Open Door policies, and notes that the prospect of further enlargement and the spirit of co-operative security have advanced stability in Europe; stresses that NATO’s co-operation with partner countries rests on common values and aims to promote co-operation, confidence and stability, as well as increasing members’ and partners’ capacities to address new security challenges; urges member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to continue delivering the support agreed at the Wales Summit for NATO aspirant countries, and to extend Montenegro an invitation to join the Alliance”.

“Moldova’s European Future: The Regional Context and Internal Challenges” was the title of the 90th Rose-Roth seminar of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which took place in Kishinev, Moldova, from 11 to 13 November 2015. On this occasion, the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro was represented by Mevludin Nuhodžić. The Seminar, supported by the Swiss government, gathered approximately 110 participants, and it was aimed at providing room for dialogue at the parliamentary level and it was dedicated to issues of relationship between Moldova and the Euro-Atlantic community, including cooperation with the NATO.

During the reporting period, the gathering of the NATO PA, i.e. the Joint Seminar of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group and Sub-Committee on Transatlantic Economic Relations took place in Florence, Italy, on 26 and 27 November 2015, and member of the Security and Defence Committee Luid Ljubo Škrelja participated in the gathering.

### OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA)



President Emeritus of the OSCE PA and President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and members of the Permanent Delegation Milutin Simović and Goran Danilović took part in the XIV Winter Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which was held in Vienna, from 15 to 18 February. The focus of this year’s Winter Meeting was the OSCE’s response to resolution of the crisis in Ukraine. In that respect, the need for leading a dialogue was

emphasised both on the local as well as regional and national levels, which would lead to permanent peace in the region. In addition, the necessity of honouring the measure pack provided through the Minsk Agreement was pointed out, and it was concluded that finding all the available means for resolving the issue of refugees, and honouring of human rights, as well as ceasefire and reconciliation of the warring parties remained the priority of the OSCE PA Agenda.

The OSCE PA Mediterranean Forum focused on issues of common interest for countries belonging to the Mediterranean Sea. They also discussed security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region, and the participants agreed that it was necessary to nourish values of the gathering with regard to fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings, and improving energy efficiency and gender equality.

Head of Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the OSCE PA and initiator of the Vienna Process participated in the meeting within the Vienna Process, which took place in the German city Leinsweiler on 28 and 29 March, gathering the Russian and Ukrainian parliamentary delegations in light of the efforts for deescalation of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis.

In his introductory speech, President Emeritus of the OSCE PA Ranko Krivokapić recalled the activities of the OSCE PA aimed at deescalation of the crisis and establishment of the Vienna Process for the dialogue between the Russian and Ukrainian parliamentarians. He pointed out that in the parliamentarians of both countries had shown a high level of responsibility and decisiveness to sit at the table in time of crisis and talk about the best parliamentary responses.

The 24th Annual Session of the OSCE PA took place in Helsinki from 5 to 9 July, focusing on “Helsinki +40” process, i.e. significance of the anniversary of signing the Final Helsinki Act, representing the articulation of innovative and comprehensive security concept. At the gathering, bringing together more than 300 parliamentarians from the OSCE region, it was emphasised that the future of the OSCE depended on preservation of the Helsinki principles, mirroring the existence of political will, commitment to dialogue and compromise, and building of trust and joint action towards addressing the challenges in the field covered by the OSCE.

In his farewell speech, Secretary General of the OSCE PA Spencer Oliver stressed that the OSCE PA President Emeritus and President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić had set the foundation for and initiated the Helsinki +40 process, for which he was particularly grateful.

In his first address in that capacity, the newly elected Secretary General Roberto Montella stressed that he owed his gratitude to President Krivokapić for his contribution and help in carrying out activities of the OSCE PA. President Emeritus of OSCE PA and President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić, Vice President of the Parliament Milutin Simović and MP Goran Danilović participated in the Annual Session on behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro.

## 4.5 REGIONAL INITIATIVES

During 2015 as well, the Parliament of Montenegro actively participated in the work of the Central European Initiative (CEI), the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII), and the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP).

### **Parliamentary cooperation within SEECP PA, CEI-PD and AII**

The second parliamentary session of the SEECP, gathering 12 countries of the South East Europe, was held in Tirana on 23 May, and a special debate was dedicated to the topic “The role of parliaments in the integration processes and the exchange of experiences and contributions in this framework”. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić, who took part in the session, said to participants that these types of organisations were an opportunity to better understand challenges dividing the countries of the region, and they were also a place where joint responses could be more easily created. In numerous conversations that President Krivokapić had during this gathering, efforts and results of our country on its Euro-Atlantic path were welcomed and further steps for obtaining an invitation for the NATO membership were encouraged.

Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro and a member of the Permanent Delegation to the SEECP PA Suljo Mustafić participated in the meeting of the General Committee on Justice, Home Affairs and Security Cooperation, within the Initiative, which took place in Istanbul on 9 and 10 February. The following topics were discussed at the meeting: “Regional cooperation: Opportunities for cooperation in the field of justice”, “Legal status of refugees: Syrian refugees in Turkey”, and “International judicial cooperation in preventing cross-border organised crime”. The two-day meeting of the General Committee ended with adoption of the Report and the Resolution containing conclusions from the meeting.

Furthermore, member of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the SEECP PA Dritan Abazović participated in the meeting of the General Committee on Economy, Infrastructure and Energy of the SEECP PA, which took place in Sofia, on 20 and 21 March. The Proposal for Resolution, established at the meeting, invites the SEECP member states to continue their work on providing security of energy power supply of the region and whole Europe. In 2015, meeting of the Standing Committee of SEECP PA and the International Conference titled “Regional Synergy, Strategic Cooperation and Parliamentary Diplomacy” took place in Sofia in the period from 5 to 7 November, within the Bulgarian presidency of the SEECP PA. Deputy member of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the SEECP PA Snežana Jonica participated in the gathering.

In the reporting period, Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić and member of the Parliament Dritan Abazović participated in the meetings of the ad-hoc Working Group of the SEECP PA, which took place in Tirana, in the period from 16 to 18 April. On that occasion, among other things, they discussed proposals for the budget and headquarters of the Secretariat of the Initiative.

### **Central European Initiative Parliamentary Dimension (CEI-PD)**

This year’s meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly held in Skopje, in the period from 9 to 11 December, within Macedonian presidency of the Initiative, covered the following topics: “Emigrant crisis as a global problem and a challenge: How realistic is



just a regional solution (Europe, CEI, Western Balkans)?" and "Interconnection of the CEI region in the EU context". The plenary meeting was preceded by meetings of three general committees of the CEI PD. At the meeting, in which Chairperson of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and Head of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Dimension of the CEI Miodrag Vuković took part, it was emphasised that emigrant crisis should be viewed not only as a regional but also as a European and global problem, hence the EU member states and governments had been called to undertake concrete measures to overcome the existing situation. They underlined that the solution may be found primarily by joint and synchronised action, and that each one-sided move might cause the chain reaction and problems to countries in the region. Furthermore, they emphasised the necessity for recognising the distinction between the refugees, who were leaving the war-affected areas, and economic migrants, whose aim was primarily to improve the quality of their lives.

One of conclusions from the annual meeting was the position that integration of the Western Balkans countries into NATO would contribute to providing peace and stability in the region and to accelerating their membership to the EU. At the end of the meeting, a Joint Declaration was unanimously adopted, summarising conclusions from the meeting.

Chairperson of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants and Head of Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the CEI-PD Miodrag Vuković participated in the Meeting of the General Committee on Cultural Affairs of the Parliamentary Dimension of the CEI, which took place in Rome, on 2 November. This year's conference addressed the following topics: "Cooperation among CEI member states in education - universities within European integration", "Mobility of students and teachers", and "Recognition of academic qualifications within the protection of linguistic minorities". Stressing that education and knowledge had no boundaries, the Conference particularly emphasised the need for further common actions and improving the framework agreement among the CEI countries, especially in the field of exchange of students and development of the teaching staff.

### **Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII)**

On 22 and 23 April, in Neum, within Chairmanship of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the XIII Conference of the Speakers of the Parliaments of the Adriatic-Ionian initiative took place. The conference, in which Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro Suljo Mustafić took part, covered the topics of connecting the region in order to strengthen sustainable tourism, better connection and building of infrastructure as well as engagement of parliaments in achieving goals of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative. At the end of the Conference, a Joint Statement was adopted.

### **Cetinje Parliamentary Forum (CPF)**

Cetinje Parliamentary Forum "Human Rights and Gender Equality in the Security and Defence Sector", took place in Cetinje, in the period from 28 to 29 April, organised by the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro. The XVII Forum covered the following topics: "Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for the Security and Armed Forces Personnel", "Gender and Security Sector Governance and Reform", "Legislative and Institutional Framework, Human Rights and Gender Training in Practice". The CPF gathered members of parliamentary committees on security and defence, as well as gender equality committees from the countries in the region, CPF members, as well as representatives of prominent international organisations. On day two of the Forum the participants adopted the Joint Declaration.

In 2015, the XVIII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum was held dedicated to the topic: "Women in Business".



*XVIII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum*



The Forum, held on 8 and 9, was organised by the Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, RCC (Regional Cooperation Council), and GTF (Regional Center for Gender Equality). The XVIII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum ended with the adoption of the Joint Declaration.

Cetinje Parliamentary Forum represents the autochthonous regional initiative of parliamentary cooperation of South East European countries on the European integration path, and it is an important form of encouragement and promotion of parliamentary dialogue between the countries of the region.

## 4.6 COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

**In the reporting period, cooperation with foreign and international organisations was continued.**

### **Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)**

In the first half of 2015, a three-year Western Balkans Programme was completed, and a new three-year Western Balkans Programme 2015-2018 had begun, within which further strengthening of cooperation was planned. Within the Programme, in 2009, the Network of Parliamentary Committees on Economy, Finance and European Integration of the Western Balkans (NPC) was founded for the purpose of strengthening parliamentary cooperation among the parliaments in the Western Balkans region, and for encouraging competitiveness, economic growth, and European integration. The Programme provides support for improvement of parliamentary control and supervision over using of the IPA funds, and is aimed at assisting the Western Balkans countries in meeting the required criteria for continuation of the European integration.

Within the Programme, the Regional parliamentary conference on the topic: “Parliaments and budgetary and financial oversight in the Western Balkan countries” took place in Tirana, on 20 and 21 February. The following participated on behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro: Aleksandar Damjanović, Chairperson of the Committee, Veljko Zarubica and Almer Kalač, members of the Committee, as well as Genci Nimanbegu, member of the Committee on European Integration. MP Damjanović assessed that introduction of the programme budget was a key mechanism for strengthening transparency and fiscal responsibility in the process of planning, adopting and monitoring the execution of the state budget, without which the State Audit Institution would not be able to point out to key essential weaknesses while auditing the performance. In the reporting period, a bilateral meeting of parliamentary committees on budget, finances and European integration of the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska and the Parliament of Montenegro took place in Trebinje on 19 June, covering such topics as the process of harmonisation of national legislation with the European acquis, as well as possibilities for intensifying a joint approach of the Republic of Srpska/Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro towards the EU funds, especially in the field of cross-border cooperation or in the context of promoting economic cooperation and attracting foreign investments. The following participated on behalf of the Parliament of Montenegro: Aleksandar Damjanović, Chairperson of the Committee; Veljko Zarubica, Strahinja Bulajić, members of the Committee, and Šefkija Murić, member of the Committee on European Integration.

Within the programme, the NPC, with support of the WFD, also organised trainings for professional services of parliamentary committees of the Western Balkans countries, attended by employees of the Secretariat of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. One of them was a regional training on the topic: “Parliamentary oversight of energy markets policies in the Western Balkans countries”, which took place in Tirana on 5 and 6 December.

## V TRANSPARENCY OF WORK AND OPENNESS OF THE PARLIAMENT

In 2015, numerous and intensive activities of the Parliament of Montenegro with respect to transparency and openness of work were continued. In addition to the media regularly following parliamentary events and reporting on them, regular activities in this field include publishing of all relevant information on the work of the parliament and of documents created in the legislative process on the parliamentary website, and publishing of action plans, annual and other types of performance reports, reports on use of funds with the report on public procurement, as well as monthly newsletter "Open Parliament". Furthermore, live broadcasting of all sittings of the Parliament via online streaming is enabled, as well as following them via a YouTube channel. An important segment of openness of the parliament is providing unrestricted access to the building of the Parliament. As of November 2015, the building of the Parliament has been accessible for persons with reduced mobility. Namely, in June 2015, a tender procedure was carried out to select a contractor in accordance with the Project for Adaptation of the building of the Parliament to persons with reduced mobility, by the Directorate for Public Works, after which a contract was signed with the selected company.

From July to November, all activities envisaged by the first stage of the project were completed (procurement and installation of inclined platform lift for the transport of disabled persons enabling them to have access to ground, first, and second floor of the building, procurement of vertically-inclined platform lift for access to the plenary hall and construction works were completed on the toilet for persons with disabilities).

In addition to that, the Parliament of Montenegro strives to make the web pages of the Parliament accessible and easy to use for the broadest public. With this goal in mind, the Parliament provided accessibility to its website for the blind and the visually impaired, by making its content compatible with the popular reading software.

In this group of activities, collective and individual visits of citizens to the Parliament are certainly significant. The Parliament also regularly responds to all requests for free access to information, in accordance with the law.

Participation of representatives of the civil sector in meetings of the working bodies, as well as addressing the working bodies in writing, was also recorded in this reporting period, and the practice of answering all questions from the media has also been continued.

Students and teachers continue to show interest in participation in the educational programme Democracy Workshops "Barbara Prammer".

Below you can find more detailed information on several aspects of transparency of work of the Parliament, such as: cooperation of the Parliament with the media, requests submitted to the Parliament in accordance with the Law on Free Access to Information, cooperation with the civil sector organisations, visits to the Parliament, exhibitions, newsletter "Open Parliament", as well as Democracy Workshops "Barbara Prammer" programme.

### 5.1 PARLIAMENT AND MEDIA

During the reporting period, Department for Public Relations and Protocol of the Parliament of Montenegro issued 277 permanent credentials for journalists and camera crews/photo-reporters, as follows: individually, for journalists, 203 permanent credentials, and 74 permanent credentials for camera crews/photo-reporters from 23 electronic and printed media, 10 out of which have editorial offices outside of Montenegro. Furthermore, a total of 163 daily credentials were issued.

In the same period, 132 individual questions by the journalists, regarding parliamentary activities, were processed and answered.

The citizens are able to ask questions via the website [www.skupstina.me](http://www.skupstina.me), and in the period from January to December 2015, 36 such requests have been addressed to the Department for Public Relations and Protocol.

During the said period, a total of 31 press conferences were held in the Parliament of Montenegro.

## 5.2 FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Parliament of Montenegro, in this reporting period as well, continued with the practice of regular responding to all requests for free access to information, within deadline prescribed by the Law. Furthermore, the Parliament of Montenegro regularly publishes on its internet presentation decisions and other individual acts which are significant for rights, obligations, and interests of third persons, as well as information for which access was granted upon request. In December 2015, research done by Center for Democratic Transition was published, showing that the Parliament of Montenegro publishes on its website 100% of required information relating to free access to information. Out of all 12 indicators, the Parliament of Montenegro is the only state body which meets 100% of the requirements.

In 2015, as in the previous period, the requests for free access to information were most frequently submitted by the NGOs. In the reporting period, a total of 46 requests for free access to information (with 47 items/subrequests) were submitted to the Parliament of Montenegro. For comparison, in 2014, a total of 161 requests for free access to information (with 186 items/subrequests) were submitted. Responses to the requests submitted in 2015 were as follows:

- for 23 requests access was granted (for three of these requests, the access to a part of information was partially limited due to privacy protection, and for one of these three requests access was partially denied in the interest of prevention of investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of criminal offences and performing official duties);
- for two requests the information was already available on the website of the Parliament of Montenegro (response by announcement);
- the submitters abandoned three requests;
- for eight requests access was partially granted, mostly because of lack of possession of all the requested information, while for three of these eight requests, the access to a part of information was partially limited due to privacy protection;
- for eight requests access was denied because the Parliament did not possess the requested information.
- for one request access was denied because the requested information was confidential.

Preparation of response to one request is ongoing.

In the reporting period, more accurately in January 2015, three requests, which were submitted after 24 December 2014, were responded to.

The appendix of this Report contains a detailed tabular overview with data on submitters of requests for free access to information, date of reception and of response, number of items, as well as the type of response.

## 5.3 COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SECTOR

Interest of representatives of civil sector in participation/attendance in the working bodies' meetings, as well as in other activities, was substantial during this reporting period as well.

In 2015, there were the following activities implemented in cooperation between the Parliament of Montenegro and civil sector organisations:

**De Facto Consultancy:** In 2015, with the support of the British Embassy to Montenegro, the Parliament has continued its cooperation with the agency De Facto Consultancy on the project "Strengthening capacities of Parliament's administration to prepare and evaluate public policies based on data analysis". Within the project, on 3 April, the Conference "Making data available for the purpose of creating effective public policies in Montenegro" was held, in which Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Siniša Stanković took part, and on that occasion he said that strengthening of the Parliament's work was "a process demanding a continuous improvement of capabilities and knowledge of employees, in order to make support to MPs in making informed decisions as effective as possible". The participants were also addressed by Deputy Head of Mission at British Embassy to Montenegro Lyndon Radnedge and representative of De Facto Agency Olivera Komar, who emphasised previous successful cooperation with the Montenegrin Parliament. The gathering was an opportunity for representatives of state institutions and NGOs to share opinions on issues, such as whether it was possible to plan without systematic keeping of usable data, how best to use resources of all those who collect and process data in Montenegro, public sector, NGOs and international organisations, science institutions and business sector, what are the benefits of the so-called open source data etc.

Within the same project, two-day training for the staff of the Parliament was held, with participation of the representative of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom David Hirst. Hirst shared with his Montenegrin counterparts experiences from working in the parliamentary library of the British Parliament, with special reference to drafting of parliamentary researches.

**NGO “Centre for Civic Education” (CCE):** Attendees of the 19th generation of the School of Human Rights, implemented by the Centre for Civic Education (CCE) with support of the US Embassy, visited the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms of the Parliament of Montenegro. The visit was organised within the Work Programme of the School of Human Rights, which, in this generation, was attended by 26 secondary school students from all over Montenegro, and the Programme envisaged visits to institutions dealing with promotion and protection of human rights. The Chairperson and members of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms informed attendees of the School of Human Rights on competencies and numerous activities of the Committee, implemented within the legislative and control role of the Parliament.

**NGO “Institute Alternative”:** The final conference “How to Enhance the Oversight Function of the Parliament” within the project “Analytical Monitoring of the Oversight Function of the Parliament” took place in Podgorica, on 27 February. The organiser of the Conference was the NGO “Institute Alternative” with the support of the Foundation Open Society Institute - *Think Tank* Fund. Participants from the Parliament of Montenegro included: Ranko Krivokapić, President of the Parliament; Aleksandar Damjanović, Chairperson of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget; Rifat Rastoder, Chairperson of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration; Predrag Bulatović, Chairperson of the Anti-corruption Committee; Marta Šćepanović, MP; and Svetlana Rajković, negotiator for a negotiating chapters 23 and 24. President Ranko Krivokapić opened the Conference and on that occasion he emphasised that the NGO sector was indispensable to small countries in particular, and that civil society in Montenegro added more value in the process of democratisation of a society.

**NGO „Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro“ (UMHCG):** Chairperson of the Committee on European Integration Slaven Radunović participated in the Conference on the topic “Employment of persons with disabilities”, organised by the Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro as a part of the project “Enhancing capacities with the aim of strengthening changes”, supported by the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro. In his introductory speech, the Chairperson of the Committee said that the process of joining the European Union implied the strong social changes which should be felt by all citizens, and particularly by vulnerable categories of citizens, such as persons with disabilities. The participants of the Conference agreed that the European values were most visible in practices addressing the rights of vulnerable social categories, and that it was necessary to improve those practices through improvement of application of the relevant laws and other available mechanisms.

**NGO “Centre for Development of NGOs” (CRNVO):** On 9 June, Chairperson of the Anti-corruption Committee Predrag Bulatović participated, as a panellist, in the conference “Chapter 23 – State of reforms and how to ensure progress”, organised by the Center for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations with the support of the British Embassy to Montenegro. Reforms achieved so far in the fields covered by this chapter were presented in detail at the conference: judiciary, corruption, fundamental rights and cooperation with civil society, and problems in implementation of reforms and all challenges in further implementation of the Action Plan for this chapter were also discussed. The goal of the Conference was to enable an open dialogue on obligations arising from Chapter 23, particularly in the light of preparation of the new progress report on Montenegro. Furthermore, on 7 December, NGO “Centre for Development of NGOs” organised a regional conference “Civil society decides?”. President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić held an introductory speech at the opening of the regional conference.

**NGO “NOVA Feminist Culture Centre”:** On 29 May in Cetinje, NGO “NOVA Feminist Culture Centre”, under the auspices of the UNESCO Participation Programme, and in cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro, organised the Conference “Women and Heritage – Towards the founding of Women’s Museum of Montenegro”. Chairperson of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak spoke on the topic “Gender equality politics and inclusion of gender approach in managing cultural heritage in Montenegro”. The idea of organising the Conference stemmed from the initiative for founding of the Women’s Museum of Montenegro, which was established at the end of 2013. The Conference was opened by Secretary General of the National Commission for UNESCO Marija Ražnatović.

**NGO “Civic Alliance” (CA):** Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro, in cooperation with the NGO Civic Alliance, Constitutional Court of Montenegro, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro and the British Embassy to Montenegro, hosted a conference on the occasion of marking 800 years of the adoption of Magna Carta Libertatum. The Great Charter of the Liberties was adopted on 15 June 1215 and represents a constitutional document limiting the power of English kings. The Charter influenced the principles of the English constitutional freedom, but it was also a model for constitutions of countries worldwide. The speakers at the gathering were: Ranko Krivokapić, President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Desanka Lopičić, President of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, Zoran Pažin, Minister of Justice, Šučko Baković, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, H.E. Ian Whitting, British Ambassador to Montenegro, and Boris Raonić, President of the NGO “Civic Alliance”. By marking this important date, Montenegro has joined the global action of celebrating *Magna Carta Libertatum*.



Furthermore, the Council for Civilian Control of Police Operations, in cooperation with the NGOs **“Human Rights Action”** and Civic Alliance, held a round table dedicated to use of police powers during the October protest gatherings in Podgorica. Members of the Security and Defence Committee participated in the round table, held on 2 December.

The NGO **“Women’s Safe House”**, in cooperation with the Gender Equality Committee, organised an international conference dedicated to implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, which took place in Podgorica, on 24 and 25 November. The topic of the Conference was **“General and specialised services of assistance - guarantees of quality of service”**.

Cooperation was also continued with the NGO **“Center for Children’s Rights of Montenegro”** on organising the Children’s Parliament, and you can find more information on that in Visits, *exhibitions and other events*.

## 5.4 VISITS, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER EVENTS

- On 20 February, representatives of the NGO Active Zone from Cetinje (20) visited the Parliament of Montenegro;
- On 12 and 13 March, two groups of students of “School of Business Skills” (62), student organisation of the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Montenegro, visited the Parliament of Montenegro;
- On 16 March, representatives of the Student Association for International Cooperation – SAMS (46) visited the Parliament;
- On 23 March, members of Montenegrin Association of Political Science Students - MAPSS (25) visited the Parliament;
- On 8 May, representatives of the Association of Local Democracy Agencies - ALDA (27) visited the Parliament;
- On 10 June, students of the Primary School from Trpezi, Municipality of Petnjica, visited the Parliament of Montenegro;
- On 8 March, the exhibition of art works of the young Montenegrin artist Katarina Zlajić was opened awaiting the Fourth Session of the “Women’s Parliament”. The exhibition contained 15 art works, examples of unique jewellery and sculptures. The video projection of her art was also shown;
- On 31 October in the Parliament of Montenegro, on the occasion of marking Parliamentarism Day, an exhibition was opened, consisting of archival documents from the period 1905-1914 and from 1946 to the present day.
- On 31 October, on the occasion of marking Parliamentarism Day, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Head of the European Union Delegation to Montenegro Mitja Drobnič ceremoniously opened the Data Centre of the Parliament of Montenegro, a project implemented with the EU support. Parliamentarism days, which this year symbolise 110 years of Montenegrin constitutionality, were also marked by organising the First Parliament of Art. The Parliament of Art gathered, at the plateau in front of the Parliament, the youngest artists of the kindergarten age, primary school children – attendees of Democracy Workshops as well as students and professors of Montenegrin academies of art, who through drawings, recitations, music, singing and dancing supported the motto of manifestation “*Libertati viam facere*”, i.e. “*Making a road to freedom*”.
- On 3 December, a day after Montenegro received an invitation for the NATO membership, the Parliament of Montenegro organised a ceremonious sitting. In addition to addresses by President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić and Prime Minister Milo Đukanović, the attendees were also addressed by President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly David Hobbs. In addition to representatives of the executive power and the MPs, the ceremony in the Government House in Cetinje was also attended by representatives of the diplomatic corps in Montenegro, civil society (NGOs), editors-in-chief of Montenegrin media, as well as other numerous distinguished guests.

## 5.5 DEMOCRACY WORKSHOPS



In 2014, a total of 203 workshops were organised, attended by 4,458 students, as well as 276 teachers from 59 primary schools from all over Montenegro. In the course of 130 workshops on the topic “Democracy and Parliament”, 20 workshops on the topic “European Union”, and 53 workshops on the topic “Human Rights”, a total of 111 children’s newspapers, 50 radio features and 42 TV features were created.

In the second half of 2015, the first mobile workshops were held, i.e. 18 mobile workshops, in 10 Montenegrin primary schools, in the territory of 7 Montenegrin municipalities (Podgorica, Nikšić, Plužine, Gusinje, Herceg Novi, Mojkovac, and Žabljak). During 2015, the following participated in the workshops: MP Andrija Popović, Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro Siniša Stanković, as well as Head of Political and Economic Section of the US Embassy in Podgorica Erik Holmgren. The democracy workshops programme, as well as its results, were presented at the meeting of the parliamentary Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports of 30 April, upon the invitation by the Chairperson of the Committee, as well as during workshop titled “Good governance and participation of youth in political life”, which was organised by the Institute Go-Governance from Vienna, the City of Vienna, the Capital City of Podgorica and the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, on 20 October.

## 5.6 CHILDREN’S PARLIAMENT

In 2015, the Seventh Session of the Children’s Parliament was held, opened by President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić. Participants in the Children’s Parliament stressed that school should be a place where logical and critical opinion was required, potentials recognised and skills strengthened, preparing children to be responsible citizens of the 21st century. Specific problems were also presented: number of classes, manner of assessing, quality of textbooks, but also peer violence. The children also reminded the adults of the initiative from the earlier session of the Children’s Parliament on establishing the “Day of Open Door for Children”, and addressed the MPs with hope that these children’s sessions would influence them.



*Seventh Session of the Children’s Parliament*

This year’s session was attended by 47 representatives of local children’s parliaments from 23 municipalities, representatives of the Government of Montenegro, representatives of MP groups in the Parliament of Montenegro, representatives of domestic institutions and international organisations dealing with rights of the child as well as members of diplomatic corps.

## 5.7 WOMEN’S PARLIAMENT

The “Women’s Parliament” is organised by the Gender Equality Committee, on the occasion of 8 March, International Women’s Day, with a view to promoting women’s human rights in Montenegro and the need for greater participation of women in political and public life, in order to get - through dialogue among the Parliament, the Government and the civil society - an overview of the situation in the field of gender equality and identify areas where additional efforts are required for the purpose of achieving more significant results, with a view to promoting women’s human rights in Montenegro. The session was also attended by representatives of diplomatic corps, international organisations, and local administration, MPs and Heads of MP Groups.

On 9 March, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić opened the Fourth Session of the “Women’s Parliament”, where representatives of the Government of Montenegro answered the questions posed by participants, representatives of women’s associations of parliamentary parties, as well as representatives of civil society. President Krivokapić pointed out that even in the historic plane, the woman in Montenegro stood behind all great heroic deeds, in-

cluding those of war, and that, since those times of being a worker in silence, the woman had received full affirmation, by joining the time of workers of equality and justice, to which the Parliament of Montenegro also contributed by launching the Women's Parliament.



*Sitting of the Women's Parliament*

He estimated that the Women's Parliament represented affirmation of women in Montenegro, and a model enabling them to express their views and their achievements on this platform, and that this technique should be a part of our lives, and not a part of obligations, to become a part of culture in which the mythical, the traditional, and the cultural were linked together. In her introductory address, Chairperson of the Gender Equality Committee Nada Drobnjak, among other things, said that in the year marking two decades since the adoption of the Beijing Platform and Action Programme at the IV Women's World Conference and in which the Millennium goals were supposed to be achieved, it was significant that on 8 March we should remember all women who fought for achieving economic, political, and social rights of women.

## **5.8 RECORDING AND BROADCASTING OF SITTINGS**

The Parliament continues the practice of broadcasting the sittings of the Parliament using its own capacities. In the reporting period, a total of 99 days of sittings of the Parliament have been covered, and 592 events such as committee meetings or other meetings, as well as press conferences. Among other things, the following events were implemented: the Fourth Session of the "Women's Parliament", SAPC meeting, XVII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, XVIII Cetinje Parliamentary Forum, Students Parliament on European Integration, as well as VII Session of the Children's Parliament.



## VI ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITIES

### 6.1 HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2015, a new Human Resources Development Strategy was drafted, which meant defining new vision and mission of the Parliamentary Service. The reason behind the drafting of the new Strategy is the need of the Service to prepare for a new stage in its work, in which special focus would be placed on establishing internationally recognised standards in quality of management and work, and on creation of conditions for taking over and performing new tasks after obtaining the status of a member of the European Union. New definitions of the vision and mission even more accurately reflect the function of the Parliamentary Service, and express what the Service should aspire to in the future, as an organisation in which the best parliamentary practices are applied, and which is a reliable support both to the MPs and the overall public.

In addition to the Strategy, the Programme for Professional and Special Training and Development was also adopted, defining specific trainings needed for the employees of the Parliamentary Service in order to further enhance their knowledge and skills and thus improve their work performance.

Furthermore, it is important to note that the Human Resources Plan of the Parliamentary Service was adopted, as a document comprising of collective and individual data on employees of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro, and the requirements for new hiring in 2015. The adoption of the 2015 Human Resources Plan is an obligation stemming from Article 149 of the Law on Civil Servants and State Employees.

On 31 December 2015, there were 161 employees in the Parliamentary Service. That number also covers the following: Secretary General, Head of the Cabinet of the President, two assistants to the Secretary General, 13 advisors to the President and vice presidents of the Parliament of Montenegro, and 144 civil servants and state employees.

The total number of employees does not include one advisor to the Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro, which is exercising his right upon termination of office.

Date	Total number of employees	Number of civil servants and employees
31.12.2014.	153	136
31.12.2015.	161	144

As in the previous years, significant attention was paid to training and development of employees. In March, 2015 Training Plan was adopted, as an integral part of the 2015 Special Programme for Professional Training and Development, together with new Human Resources Development Strategy for the period 2015-2017. The Training Plan envisaged nine trainings for employees in the Parliament of Montenegro, and for each of them the following was clearly determined: target group, purpose of the training, time of implementation, as well as partner for implementation of the training, if the training is organised in cooperation with other organisations.

In the reporting period, a large number of trainings were held, on which the Human Resources Management Bureau continuously keeps records. In the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015, 72 trainings were held, attended by a total of 276 attendees. Out of this number, seven trainings were implemented from the 2015 Training Plan. The employees attended 25 trainings organised by the Human Resources Administration, while additional 40 trainings were provided through cooperation with other domestic, foreign, and international organisations.

The practice of awarding the best civil servants and state employees of the Parliament also continued in 2015. At the awarding ceremony, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ranko Krivokapić thanked the employees on their contribution of dedicated work and efforts and presented awards to the best civil servants in 2015: Zorana Baćović, Milica Ivanović, Jovana Adžić, Ljubica Simanić, Vjera Prelević, Mirko Milošević, and Dragan Mrdović. Commemorative gifts were presented to Slobodan Dragović, Nevenka Ilić, Momir Joksimović and Zoran Vujošević, due to their retirement.





*President of the Parliament with the best civil servants and state employees in 2015*

In the first quarter of 2015, analysis of workload of employees in the Parliamentary Service was carried out, and its results, in addition to all other inputs, were used in drafting of amendments and supplements to the Rulebook on Organisation and Job Scheme of the Parliamentary Service.

Furthermore, in the reporting period, analysis and review of regulations regulating the work of the Parliamentary Service was carried out. In that respect, the following was adopted: Rulebook on Office Operations in the Parliament of Montenegro, along with Classification Labels of Case Files and Acts in the Parliament of Montenegro, as well as Internal Communication Development Strategy 2016-2018, and the following was prepared: drafts of Rulebook on Internal Order in the Parliament of Montenegro and the Book of Procedures (with internal standards), along with all the ancillary documents (forms) for keeping records, i.e. monitoring the status and mobility of movable property of the Parliament of Montenegro, and it will be adopted in the upcoming period.

## 6.2 LIBRARY AND RESEARCH

During 2015, in the Library and Documentation Centre, regular tasks were performed, such as: work with users, preparation of lists of new book titles for procurement, procurement of daily newspapers and weekly periodicals, keeping of inventory record books, technical processing of books, as well as other tasks relating to documentation, i.e. collection, keeping records, looking after and providing for use the acts created during regular activities in the parliament.

In January, a license for shared cataloguing was also obtained (licence A for monography publications, COBISS2). After meeting some additional requirements, the Commission granted the issuing of license for working in COBISS3 environment. First bibliographic writings in the electronic catalogue were created, thus starting the process of automatisation of professional processing of library records and forming of electronic catalogue of the library of the Parliament of Montenegro.

In 2015, the Research Centre prepared and published a total of 15 research papers, containing a total of 405 pages, responding to all the submitted requests in accordance with the prescribed procedures. The number of requests for research by the MPs in relation to the previous year was increased, and thus 13 papers were written upon requests by the MPs and two papers upon requests by the Secretary General. The research papers are available on the website of the Parliament of Montenegro, and an appendix of the Report lists all research papers written in 2015. In the reporting period, the Research Centre continued to actively cooperate with the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD), and it drafted and sent replies, in the form of brief information drafted in English, to 77 requests sent by members of the ECPRD network.

## 6.3 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

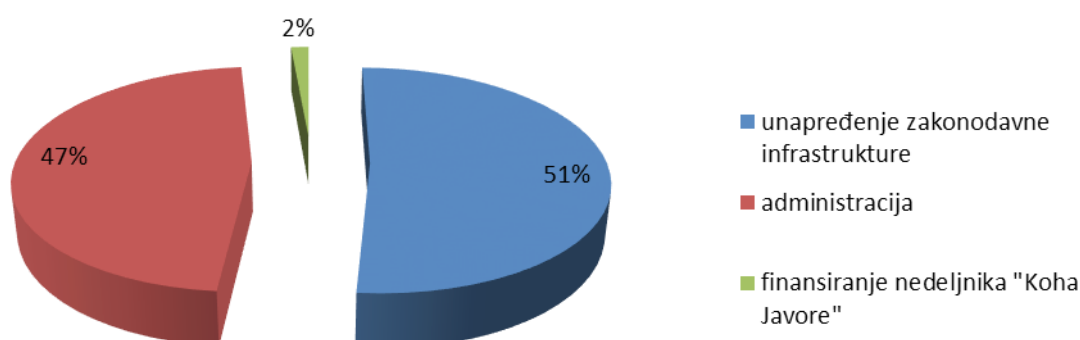
During 2015, information and communication infrastructure of the Parliament of Montenegro was significantly improved. The first stage of the project “Montenegro - Parliamentary Legislative Information System”, which was fully financially supported by the EU Delegation, was successfully implemented. This stage of the project meant establishing infrastructure, which is a prerequisite on the path towards establishing an electronic parliament. The Parliament of Montenegro received a modern Data Centre, equipped in accordance with all the standards in the said field, as well as modern communication equipment. The installing of a 150kVA generator resolved the issue of alternative energy supply of the building of the Parliament of Montenegro. The Data Centre was officially launched on 31 November 2015.

## VII FINANCES

According to the 2015 Budget Law of Montenegro, the planned funds for the Parliament of Montenegro amounted to **7,060,889.50€**. The Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro amounts to 1.04% of the operating Budget of Montenegro or 0.36% of the total Budget of Montenegro.

The funds were allocated for three programmes:

- Programme - Enhancing Legislative Infrastructure - 3,628,603.00€
- Programme – Administration – 3,332,286.50€
- Programme – Funding of the weekly “Koha Javore” – 100,000.00€



*Graphic overview of the Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro structure, by programmes, for 2015*

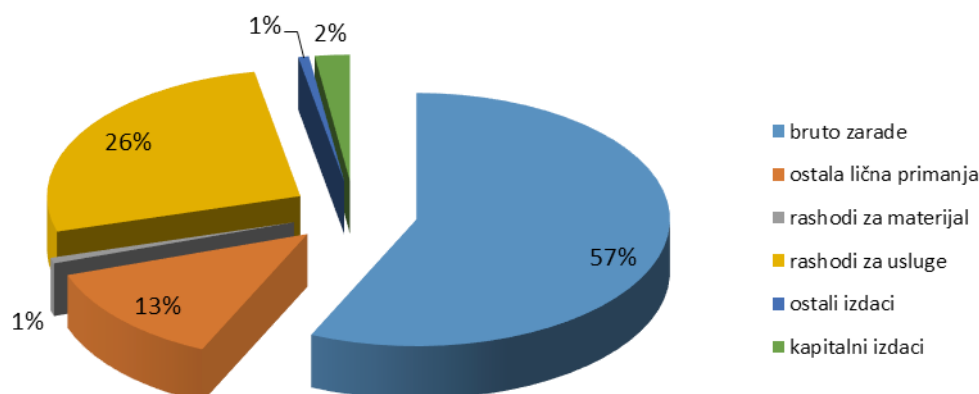
Total expenditures of the operating 2015 Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro amounted to **6,902,974.75€** or 97.76% of the overall funds planned by the operating 2015 Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro.

Spending by programmes amounts to:

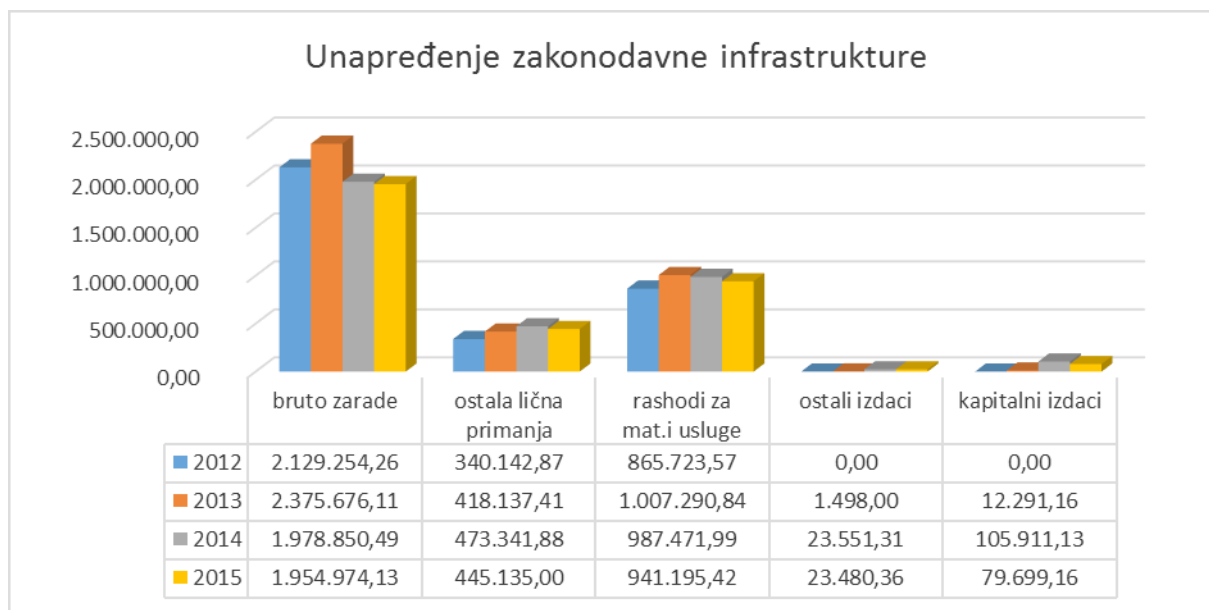
- Programme - Enhancing Legislative Infrastructure - 3,444,484.07€ or 94.93%
- Programme – Administration – 3,358,490.75€ or 100.79%
- Programme – Funding of the weekly “Koha Javore” – 99,999.93€ or 100.00%.

### ENHANCING LEGISLATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME

The approved amount of funds for the Enhancing Legislative Infrastructure Programme for 2015 amounted to **3,628,603.00€**, and a total of **3,444,484,07€** or **94,93%** was spent.



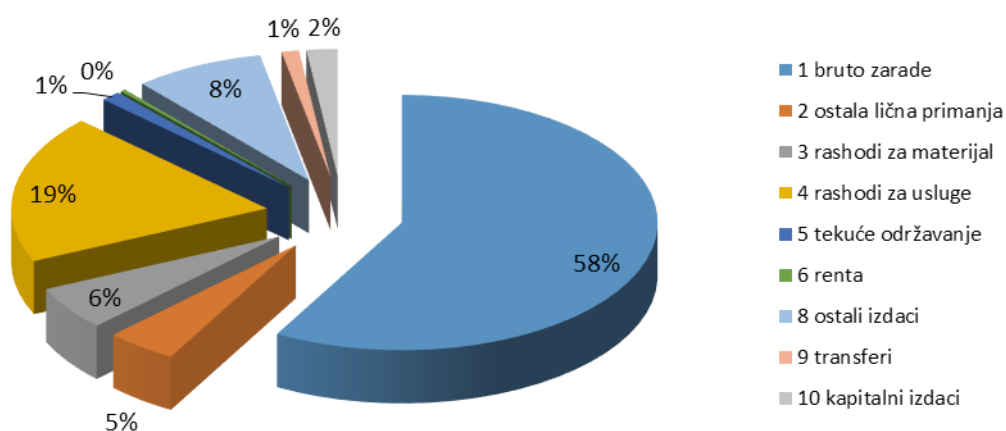
*Graphic overview of the 2015 Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro spending structure on the Enhancing Legislative Infrastructure Programme*



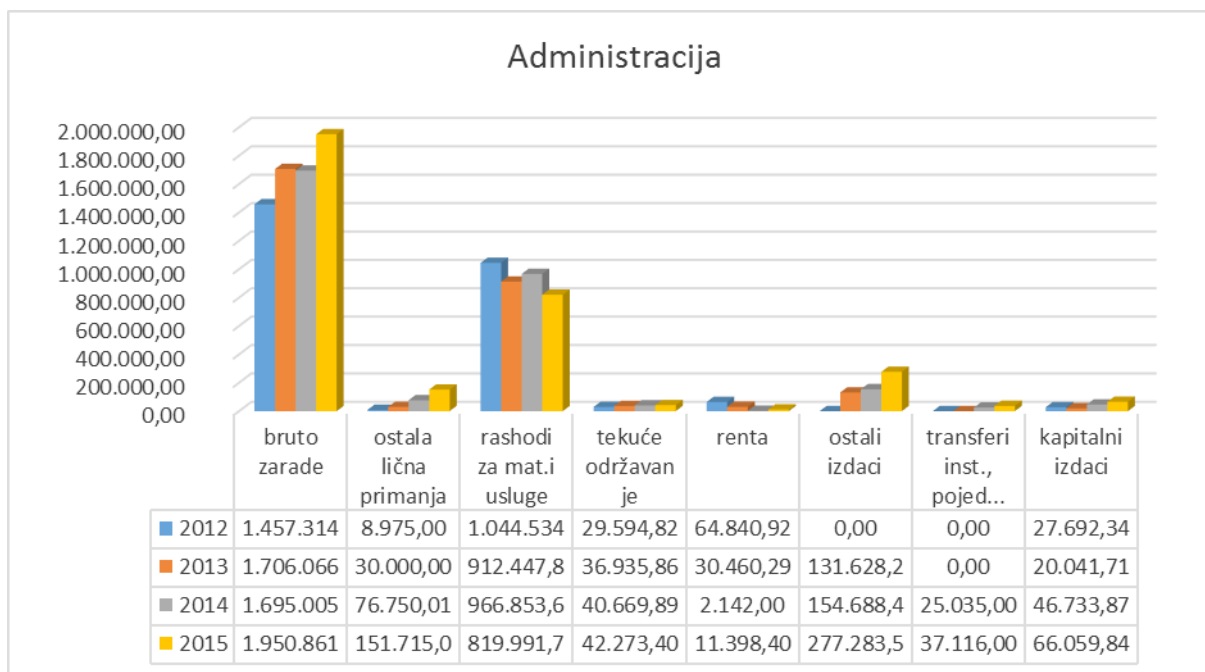
*Graphic overview of spending, by positions on the Enhancing Legislative Infrastructure Programme – comparison for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015*

## PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATION

Planned amount of funds of the operating budget allocated for the Administration Programme for 2015 amounted to 3,332,286.50€, and a total of 3,358,490.75€ or 100.79% was spent.



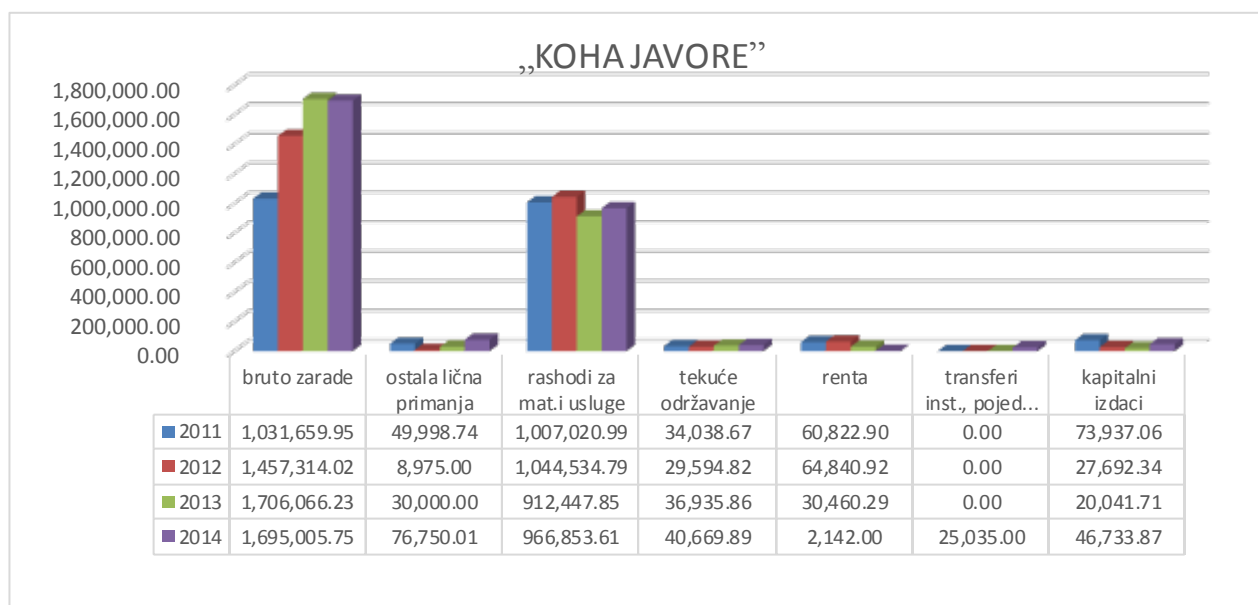
*Graphic overview of the 2015 Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro spending structure on the Administration Programme*



*Graphic overview of spending, by positions on the Administration Programme – comparison for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015*

#### PROGRAMME: FUNDING OF THE WEEKLY “KOHA JAVORE”

The 2015 Budget of the Parliament of Montenegro planned funds amounting to 100,000€ for funding of weekly “Koha Javore”. The weekly in the Albanian language is published within the National Council of Albanians in Montenegro, and is funded from the programme 201013872 – Funds for funding of the weekly “Koha Javore” allocated to the Parliament of Montenegro in the 2015 Budget of Montenegro. A total of 99,999.93 € or 100.00% of the planned funds of the operating budget for this programme was spent.



*Graphic overview of spending by positions on the “Koha Javore” Programme – comparison for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015*



## VIII APPENDIXES

### APPENDIX I: LIST OF ADOPTED LAWS

#### Sitting of the First Extraordinary Session

1. Law on Amendments to the Law on National Security Agency;
2. Law on Amendments to the Law on Tax Administration;
3. Law on Amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax;
4. Law on Amendments to the Law on Immovable Property Tax;
5. Law on Amendment to the Law on Mandatory Social Security Contributions;
6. Law on Amendments to the Law on Fees for Access to Certain Services of General Interest and for the Use of Tobacco Products and Electro-Acoustic and Acoustic Devices;
7. Law on Coffee Tax;
8. Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro;
9. Law on Public Prosecution Office;
10. Law on Special Public Prosecutor's Office;
11. Law on Courts;
12. Law on the Judicial Council and Judges;
13. Law on Arms;
14. Law on Ratification of the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between Montenegro and the European Police Office;
15. Law on Amendments to the Law on Travel Benefits for Persons with Disabilities;
16. Law on Strike;
17. Law on Amendments to the Law on Energy;
18. Law on Amendments to the Law on Inspection Control;

#### Sitting of the Second Extraordinary Session

19. Law on Supplement to the Pension and Disability Insurance Law;

#### First Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session

20. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and Government of the Republic of Austria for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and on Property;
21. Law on Ratification of the Convention on Nuclear Safety;
22. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and the European Union on the participation of Montenegro in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism;
23. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) on recognising Interpol Travel Documents;
24. Law on Amendments to the Criminal Code of Montenegro;

#### Second Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session

25. Law on Amendments to the Law on Enforcement and Security;
26. Law on Amendments to the Law on Extra-Judicial Proceedings;
27. Law on Amendments to the Law on Free Legal Aid;
28. Law on Consensual Financial Restructuring of Debts to Financial Institutions;
29. Law on Amendments to the Law on Regional Development;
30. Law on Amendments to the Law on Employment and Exercising Rights with respect to Unemployment Insurance;
31. Law on Amendments to the Law on Voters' Register;
32. Law on Amendment to the Law on Administrative Procedure;



### **Fifth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session**

33. Law on Ratification of the Framework Agreement between Montenegro represented by the Government of Montenegro and the European Commission on rules for the implementation of the Union's financial assistance to Montenegro under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II);
34. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Slovakia on Economic Cooperation;
35. Law on Ratification of the Decision on Montenegro's Accession to the World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Government Procurement;
36. Law on Supplement to the Law on Public Procurement;
37. Law on Amendments to the Law on the Judicial Council and Judges;
38. Law on Amendment to the Law on Foreigners;
39. Law on Compensation of Victims of Criminal Acts;
40. Law on Amendments to the Law on Gender Equality;
41. Law on Bankruptcy and Liquidation of Insurance Companies;
42. Law on Amendments to the Law on State Surveying and Cadastre of Immovable Property;
43. Patent Law;
44. Law on Amendments to the Law on Consumer Protection;
45. Law on Amendments to the Law on Accreditation;
46. Law on Amendments to the Law on Air Protection;
47. Law on Amendment to the Law on Integrated Prevention and Control of Pollution of the Environment;
48. Law on Cooperatives;
49. Law on Amendments to the Law on Tobacco;
50. Law on Amendments to the Law on Yachts;
51. Law on Amendments to the Law on Amicable Settlement of Labour Disputes;
52. Law on Cinematography;
53. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on Police Cooperation;
54. Law on Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Institutional Framework of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe;
55. Law on Ratification of the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center;
56. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters;
57. Law on Ratification of the Energy Charter Treaty;
58. Law on Ratification of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea adopted in 1974 and the Protocol of 2002 to the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea adopted in 1974;
59. Law on Ratification of the Safety and Health in Construction Convention, No. 167 of the International Labour Organisation;
60. Law on Ratification of the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, No. 187 of the International Labour Organisation;
61. Law on the Protection of Consumers-Users of Financial Services;
62. Law on settling obligations towards the workers of the Aluminium Plant who, due to bankruptcy of the company, fulfilled conditions for retirement pension;
63. Law on Supplements to the Law on Social and Child Welfare;
64. Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Prosecution Office;
65. Law on Amendment to the Criminal Code of Montenegro;

### **Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session**

66. Law on Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code;
67. Law on Execution of Sentences of Imprisonment, Fines and Security Measures;
68. Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities;

### **Ninth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session**

69. Law on Cooperation of Montenegro with Diaspora;
70. Law on Ratification of the Protocol between Montenegro and the Republic of Slovakia together with the Agreement

between the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia on Regulation of Legal Relations in Civil, Family and Criminal Matters of 20 January 1964;

71. Law on Amendments to the Law on Data Confidentiality;
72. Law on Registers of Temporary and Permanent Residence;
73. Law on Amendments to the Law on Flammable Liquids and Gases;
74. Law on Ratification of the Agreement on Establishing the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF);
75. Law on Amendment and Supplement to the 2015 Budget Law;
76. Law on Amendment and Supplement to the 2015 Budget Law;
77. Law on Amendment and Supplements to the Law on Safety of Maritime Navigation;
78. Law on Ratification of the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control;
79. Law on Amendments to the Law on Temporary Residence Fee;
80. Law on Amendments to the Law on Animal Welfare;
81. Law on Amendments to the Law on Game and Hunting;
82. Law on Amendments to the Law on Water;
83. Law on Amendments to the Law on Planting Material;
84. Law on Amendments to the Law on Seed Material of Agricultural Plants;
85. Law on Amendments to the Law on Plant Health Protection;
86. Law on Amendments to the Veterinary Law;
87. Law on Amendments to the Law on Livestock Farming;
88. Law on Amendments to the Law on Forests;
89. Law on Amendments to the Law on Marine Fisheries and Mariculture;
90. Law on Amendments to the Law on Animal Identification and Registration;
91. Law on Amendments to the Law on Volunteerism;
92. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between Montenegro and the Republic of Turkey on Social Welfare;
93. Arbitration Law;
94. Law on Amendments to the Law on Civil Procedure;
95. Law on Personal Bankruptcy of Consumers;
96. Law on Conversion of Loans in Swiss Francs CHF into Euros EUR;
97. Law on Supplements to the Law on Social and Child Welfare;
98. Law on Supplement to the Law on Health Care;
99. Law on Amendments to the Deposit Protection Law;
100. Law on Supplement to the Law on Higher Education;

#### **Sitting of the Fifth Extraordinary Session**

101. Law on Confiscation of Assets Acquired from Criminal Activity;
102. Law on Training Centre for Judiciary and Public Prosecution Office;
103. Law on Food Safety;
104. Law on Amendments to the Law on Forest Reproductive Material;
105. Law on Removal and Transplantation of Human Tissues and Cells for Therapeutic Purposes;
106. Law on Ratification of the 38. Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance;

#### **First Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session**

107. Law on Ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency;
108. Law on Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania in the context of Economic Cooperation;

#### **Second Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session**

109. Law on Customs Service;
110. Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organisation of Montenegro;
111. Law on Amendments to the Law on the Capital City;
112. Law on Amendments to the Law on Local Self-Government;
113. Law on Amendment to the Law on Local Self-Government Financing;
114. Law on Health Care;
115. Law on Health Insurance;
116. Law on Amendments to the Law on Restriction of the Usage of Tobacco Products;
117. Law on Energy;



### **Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session**

118. Law on the 2014 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro;
119. Law on Amendments to the Law on Personal Income Tax;
120. 2016 Budget Law of Montenegro;
121. Law on Ratification of the Agreement on State Borders between Montenegro and the Republic of Kosovo;
122. Law on Ratification of the Treaty on State Borders between Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina;
123. Law on Ratification of the Sectoral Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the European Commission determining rules on governance and implementation of the EU financial assistance in Montenegro within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development (IPARD);
124. Law on Amendments to the Law on Local Self-Government Financing;
125. Law on Supplement to the Law on Personal Bankruptcy of Consumers.

### **APPENDIX II: NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS PER MP**

1. Jasmin Sutović – one question;
2. Radivoje Lala Nikčević – one question;
3. Miodrag Vuković – one question;
4. Saša Pešić – one question;
5. Branko Čavor – one question;
6. Luid Ljubo Škrelja – one question and one supplementary question;
7. Filip Vuković – two questions and one supplementary question;
8. Milorad Vuletić – three questions;
9. Obrad Mišo Stanišić – two questions;
10. Zoran Jelić – four questions and one supplementary question;
11. Marta Šćepanović – seven questions and three supplementary questions;
12. Maida Bešlić – two questions;
13. Halil Duković – three questions and one supplementary question;
14. Branka Tanasijević – two questions;
15. Žana Filipović – two questions;
16. Radovan Obradović – one question;
17. Nada Drobnjak – two questions;
18. Marija Čatović – one question;
19. Nikola Gegaj – four questions;
20. Izet Bralić – one question;
21. Ljiljana Đurašković - four questions;
22. Branka Bošnjak - six questions and two supplementary questions;
23. Milan Knežević – six questions and one supplementary question;
24. Janko Vučinić – six questions and three supplementary questions;
25. Nebojša Medojević – two questions;
26. Predrag Bulatović – four questions;
27. Goran Danilović – two questions;
28. Strahinja Bulajić – four questions;
29. Slaven Radunović – two questions;
30. Koča Pavlović – six questions and one supplementary question;
31. Vladislav Bojović – six questions;
32. Emilo Labudović – five questions and one supplementary question;
33. Milutin Đukanović – six questions;
34. Veljko Vasiljević – two questions;
35. Jelisava Kalezić – ten questions and one supplementary question;
36. Zoran Miljanić – four questions;
37. Srđan Milić – eight questions;
38. Danijela Danka Marković – eleven questions;
39. Snežana Jonica – seven questions and one supplementary question;
40. Danko Šarančić – ten questions;
41. Aleksandar Damjanović – ten questions;
42. Radosav Nišavić – ten questions and one supplementary question;
43. Almer Kalač – three questions;
44. Suljo Mustafić – three questions;



45. Rešad Sijarić – two questions and one supplementary question;
46. Ljerka Dragičević – eight questions and two supplementary questions;
47. Andrija Popović – seven questions;
48. Nik Gjelošhaj – two questions and one supplementary question;
49. Genci Nimanbegu – seven questions;
50. Azra Jasavić – seven questions;
51. Srđan Perić – eight questions;
52. Goran Tuponja – eight questions;
53. Novica Stanić – six questions and one supplementary question;
54. Neven Gošović – eight questions and one supplementary question;
55. Dritan Abazović – eight questions;
56. Mladen Bojanić – six questions;
57. Velizar Kaluđerović – eight questions;
58. Obrad Gojković – six questions;
59. Damir Šehović – one question and one supplementary question;
- 59.60. Borislav Banović – one question.

### APPENDIX III: TABULAR OVERVIEW OF SPENDING IN 2015

	Parliament of Montenegro	2015 Budget Law	2015 Operating Budget	Spent in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015	% of spending compared to the 2015 Budget Law
20101		7.060.889,50 €	6.910.889,50 €	6.902.974,75 €	97,76%
2941	Programme: Promotion of legislative infrastructure	3.628.603,00 €	3.445.124,77 €	3.444.484,07 €	94,93%
4	Expenditures	3.628.603,00 €	3.445.124,77 €	3.444.484,07 €	94,93%
41	Running costs	3.548.603,00 €	3.365.413,55 €	3.364.784,91 €	94,82%
411	Gross wages and employer contributions	2.229.598,00 €	1.954.974,13 €	1.954.974,13 €	87,68%
4111	Net wages	1.305.000,00 €	1.126.251,72 €	1.126.251,72 €	86,30%
4112	Income tax	215.068,80 €	198.830,17 €	198.830,17 €	92,45%
4113	Employee contributions	475.205,20 €	418.447,09 €	418.447,09 €	88,06%
4114	Employer contributions	201.991,88 €	181.620,44 €	181.620,44 €	89,91%
4115	Municipal dues	32.332,12 €	29.824,71 €	29.824,71 €	92,24%
412	Other personal income	447.000,00 €	445.320,88 €	445.135,00 €	99,58%
4122	Compensation for rent and separate living	10.000,00 €	8.150,00 €	8.146,92 €	81,47%
4125	Severance pay	2.000,00 €	579,00 €	579,00 €	28,95%
4126	Compensation to MPs	400.000,00 €	403.500,00 €	403.317,20 €	100,83%
4127	Other compensations	35.000,00 €	33.091,88 €	33.091,88 €	94,55%
413	Materials expenses	31.155,00 €	25.106,00 €	25.105,80 €	80,58%
4135	Fuel expenses	31.155,00 €	25.106,00 €	25.105,80 €	80,58%
414	Services expenses	815.850,00 €	916.532,18 €	916.089,62 €	112,29%
4141	Business trips	625.750,00 €	775.750,00 €	775.609,78 €	123,95%
4142	Representation	26.600,00 €	33.000,00 €	32.965,16 €	123,93%
4143	Communication services	70.000,00 €	63.782,18 €	63.782,18 €	91,12%
4144	Banking services and negative exchange differences	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	999,96 €	100,00%
4147	Consulting services, projects and studies	24.000,00 €	0,00 €	0,00 €	0,00%
4148	Professional training services	2.000,00 €	230,00 €	223,11 €	11,16%
4149	Other services	66.500,00 €	42.770,00 €	42.509,43 €	63,92%



<b>419</b>	<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>25.000,00 €</b>	<b>23.480,36 €</b>	<b>23.480,36 €</b>	<b>93,92%</b>
4195	Membership contributions to domestic and international organisations	25.000,00 €	23.480,36 €	23.480,36 €	93,92%
<b>44</b>	<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<b>80.000,00 €</b>	<b>79.711,22 €</b>	<b>79.699,16 €</b>	<b>99,62%</b>
<b>441</b>	<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<b>80.000,00 €</b>	<b>79.711,22 €</b>	<b>79.699,16 €</b>	<b>99,62%</b>
4415	Equipment expenses	80.000,00 €	79.711,22 €	79.699,16 €	99,62%
<b>2951</b>	<b>Programme: Administration</b>	<b>3.332.286,50 €</b>	<b>3.365.764,73 €</b>	<b>3.358.490,75 €</b>	<b>100,79%</b>
4	Expenditures	3.332.286,50 €	3.365.764,73 €	3.358.490,75 €	100,79%
<b>41</b>	<b>Running costs</b>	<b>3.249.285,50 €</b>	<b>3.262.313,73 €</b>	<b>3.253.523,91 €</b>	<b>100,13%</b>
<b>411</b>	<b>Gross wages and employer contributions</b>	<b>2.120.021,00 €</b>	<b>1.953.415,98 €</b>	<b>1.950.861,71 €</b>	<b>92,02%</b>
4111	Net wages	1.248.078,07 €	1.147.078,07 €	1.145.861,37 €	91,81%
4112	Income tax	189.146,80 €	169.819,44 €	169.803,00 €	89,77%
4113	Employee contributions	455.208,71 €	415.516,05 €	415.472,40 €	91,27%
4114	Employer contributions	199.328,70 €	195.528,70 €	194.253,72 €	97,45%
4115	Municipal dues	28.258,72 €	25.473,72 €	25.471,22 €	90,14%
<b>412</b>	<b>Other personal income</b>	<b>31.000,00 €</b>	<b>152.570,00 €</b>	<b>151.715,04 €</b>	<b>489,40%</b>
4125	Severance pay	1.000,00 €	1.400,00 €	1.389,00 €	138,90%
4127	Other compensations	30.000,00 €	151.170,00 €	150.326,04 €	501,09%
<b>413</b>	<b>Materials expenses</b>	<b>171.505,00 €</b>	<b>190.464,25 €</b>	<b>187.457,74 €</b>	<b>109,30%</b>
4131	Administrative materials	95.000,00 €	102.517,00 €	99.567,78 €	104,81%
4133	Special purpose materials	50.000,00 €	66.642,25 €	66.616,83 €	133,23%
4135	Fuel expenses	26.505,00 €	21.305,00 €	21.273,13 €	80,26%
<b>414</b>	<b>Services expenses</b>	<b>636.759,50 €</b>	<b>634.403,23 €</b>	<b>632.534,05 €</b>	<b>99,34%</b>
4141	Business trips	14.250,00 €	14.250,00 €	13.310,98 €	93,41%
4142	Representation	9.509,50 €	9.509,50 €	9.482,94 €	99,72%
4143	Communication services	90.000,00 €	84.579,73 €	84.579,73 €	93,98%
4144	Banking services and negative exchange differences	1.000,00 €	1.000,00 €	607,21 €	60,72%
4147	Consulting services, projects and studies	428.000,00 €	418.000,00 €	417.859,43 €	97,63%
4148	Professional training services	18.000,00 €	7.234,00 €	7.234,00 €	40,19%
4149	Other services	76.000,00 €	99.830,00 €	99.459,76 €	130,87%
<b>415</b>	<b>Running costs of maintenance</b>	<b>45.000,00 €</b>	<b>42.500,00 €</b>	<b>42.273,40 €</b>	<b>93,94%</b>
4152	Running costs of buildings maintenance	5.000,00 €	5.500,00 €	5.323,17 €	106,46%
4153	Running costs of equipment maintenance	40.000,00 €	37.000,00 €	36.950,23 €	92,38%
<b>417</b>	<b>Rent</b>	<b>35.000,00 €</b>	<b>11.500,00 €</b>	<b>11.398,40 €</b>	<b>32,57%</b>
4171	Facilities lease	30.000,00 €	0,00 €	0,00 €	0,00%
4172	Equipment lease	5.000,00 €	11.500,00 €	11.398,40 €	227,97%
<b>419</b>	<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>210.000,00 €</b>	<b>277.460,27 €</b>	<b>277.283,57 €</b>	<b>132,04%</b>
4191	Expenses on the basis of payment of service contracts	60.000,00 €	233.424,00 €	233.397,18 €	389,00%
4193	Software development and maintenance	30.000,00 €	24.670,00 €	24.661,57 €	82,21%
4194	Insurance	20.000,00 €	19.366,27 €	19.224,82 €	96,12%
4199	Other	100.000,00 €	0,00 €	0,00 €	0,00%
<b>43</b>	<b>Transfers to institutions, individuals, NGOs and public sector</b>	<b>30.000,00 €</b>	<b>37.200,00 €</b>	<b>37.116,00 €</b>	<b>123,72%</b>
<b>431</b>	<b>Transfers to institutions, individuals, NGOs and public sector</b>	<b>30.000,00 €</b>	<b>37.200,00 €</b>	<b>37.116,00 €</b>	<b>123,72%</b>
4318	Other transfers to individuals	15.000,00 €	14.200,00 €	14.116,00 €	94,11%



4319	Other transfers to institutions	15.000,00 €	23.000,00 €	23.000,00 €	153,33%
<b>44</b>	<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<b>53.000,00 €</b>	<b>66.250,00 €</b>	<b>66.059,84 €</b>	<b>124,64%</b>
<b>441</b>	<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<b>53.000,00 €</b>	<b>66.250,00 €</b>	<b>66.059,84 €</b>	<b>124,64%</b>
4415	Equipment expenses	50.000,00 €	61.000,00 €	60.809,84 €	121,62%
4416	Expenses for investment maintenance	3.000,00 €	5.250,00 €	5.250,00 €	175,00%
<b>46</b>	<b>Payment of debt</b>	<b>1,00 €</b>	<b>1,00 €</b>	<b>1.791,00 €</b>	<b>179100,00%</b>
<b>463</b>	<b>Payment of liabilities from previous years</b>	<b>1,00 €</b>	<b>1,00 €</b>	<b>1.791,00 €</b>	<b>179100,00%</b>
4630	Payment of liabilities from previous years	1,00 €	1,00 €	1.791,00 €	179100,00%
<b>3872</b>	<b>Programme: Funding of weekly "Koha Javore"</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>99.999,93 €</b>	<b>100,00%</b>
4	Expenditures	100.000,00 €	100.000,00 €	99.999,93 €	100,00%
<b>43</b>	<b>Transfers to institutions, individuals, NGOs and public sector</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>99.999,93 €</b>	<b>100,00%</b>
<b>431</b>	<b>Transfers to institutions, individuals, NGOs and public sector</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>	<b>99.999,93 €</b>	<b>100,00%</b>
4319	Other transfers to institutions	100.000,00 €	100.000,00 €	99.999,93 €	100,00%

#### APPENDIX IV: TABULAR OVERVIEW OF DATA ON REQUESTS FOR FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

No.	Submitter of request	Date of reception	Date of reply	No. of items	Reply
1.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-1 12.1.	27.1.	1	granted
2.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-2 16.2.	3.3.	1	granted
3.	Independent Daily Vijesti	00-41/15-3 5.2.	20.2.	1	granted
4.	Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations CRNVO	00-41/15-4 6.2.	20.2.	1	partially granted, and partially limited
5.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-5 10.2.	25.2.	1	granted
6.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-6 11.2.	26.2.	1	partially granted, and partially limited
7.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-7 18.2.	5.3.	1	denied



8.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-8 9.3.	11.3.	1	announcement
9.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-9 17.3.	1.4.	1	denied
10.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-10 17.3.	1.4.	1	denied
11.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-11 17.3.	1.4.	1	denied
12.	Independent Daily Vijesti	00-41/15-12 3.4.	17.4.	1	granted
13.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-13 9.4.	24.4.	2	denied
14.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-14 9.4.	24.4.	1	partially granted, and partially limited
15.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-15 24.4.	24.4.	1	announcement
16.	Centre for Democratic Transition CDT	00-41/15-16 7.5.	19.5.	1	partially granted, and partially limited
17.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-17 18.5.	2.6.	1	partially granted, and partially denied
18.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-18 18.5.	9.6.	1	granted
19.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-19 27.5.	9.6.	1	granted
20.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-20 28.5.	23.6.	1	conclusion
21.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-20/1 1.6.	16.6.	1	granted
22.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-21 1.6.	16.6.	1	granted
23.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-22 4.6.	23.6.	1	conclusion
24.	Centre for Democratic Transition CDT	00-41/15-23 19.6.	3.7.	1	granted





25.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-24 22.6.	7.7.	1	denied
26.	Institute Alternative	00-41/15-25 29.6.	30.6.	1	granted
27.	Daily Newspapers Dan	00-41/15-26 3.7.	17.7.	1	granted
28.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-27 10.7.	31.7.	1	denied
29.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-28 10.7.	23.7.	1	granted
30.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-29 12.8.	24.8.	1	granted
31.	Independent Daily Vijesti	0-41/15-30 10.9.	22.9.	1	granted
32.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-31 16.9.	1.10.	1	granted
33.	Natural person	00-41/15-32 23.9.	25.9.	1	granted
34.	Natural person	00-41/15-33 25.9.	25.9.	1	granted
35.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-34 28.9.	21.10.	1	partially granted, and partially denied
36.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-35 28.9.	21.10.	1	denied
37.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-36 28.9.	21.10.	1	denied
38.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-37 28.9.	21.10.	1	partially granted, and partially denied
39.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-38 28.9.	21.10.	1	partially granted, and partially limited
40.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-39 28.9.	21.10.	1	partially granted, and partially limited



41.	Company for sanitary and ecological protection and production LTD “SLA-VISAN DDD”	00-41/15-40 30.9.	16.10.	1	granted
42.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-41 27.10.	11.11.	1	partially granted, and partially denied
43.	Centre for Civic Education	00-41/15-42 2.11.	17.11.	1	partially granted, and partially denied
44.	Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector - MANS	00-41/15-43 12.11.	4.12.	1	granted
45.	Natural person <sup>13</sup>	00-41/15-44 22.12.		1	
46.	Centre for monitoring and research CeMI	00-41/15-45 23.12.	29.12.	1	conclusion

13 The reply will be sent in January.

## APPENDIX V: RESEARCH PAPERS

1. Overview of data on criminal offences in European countries and Canada
2. The manner of implementation of forcible execution on salary, pension, and other regular earnings of the executive debtor - legal solutions in Croatia and Serbia
3. Temporary child support through the alimony fund - experiences of countries in the region
4. Financial support to families with children - legal solutions in Croatia and Serbia
5. Establishing and manner of funding of MP groups
6. A comparative overview of legal solutions on temporary residence fee - Montenegro, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia
7. A comparative overview of legal solutions for certain elements of value added tax in several countries in the region
8. A comparative overview of legal solutions for certain elements of corporate profit tax in several countries in the region
9. A comparative overview of legal solutions for certain elements of personal income tax - Montenegro, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia -
10. A comparative overview of legal solutions relating to real estate tax and turnover of real estate tax - Croatia and Serbia
11. The conditions for exercising the right to a survivor's pension of a spouse after the death of the insured person - legal solutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, and Serbia
12. Comparative experiences in valorisation of military facilities or cultural monuments for tourism purposes
13. Entitlement of extramarital spouses to a family pension - Croatia, France, Italy, Germany, and Slovenia
14. Brief information on the course of Iceland's negotiations with the European Union
15. A comparative overview of structure of departments for international relations and offices of secretary generals in parliaments of countries in the region and certain European Union member states



## APPENDIX VI: TABULAR OVERVIEW OF CONDUCTED TRAININGS AND DEVELOPMENT

### TRAININGS FROM 2015 TRAINING PLAN

No.	Date	Name	Organiser	Venue	Participants
1	1-2 April	<i>Strengthening capacities of Parliament's administration to prepare and evaluate public policies based on data analysis</i>	Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with De Facto Consultancy	Podgorica	10
2	14 September 23 October	<i>Traineeships in the European Parliament (Fellowship Programme)</i>	European Parliament	Brussels, Belgium	1
3	16 November	<i>"Training on personal data protection"</i>	Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	24
4	20 November	<i>"Change Management"</i>	Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	14
5	26 November	<i>"Linguistic Dilemmas"</i>	Parliament of Montenegro	Podgorica	50
6	27 November	<i>"Leadership"</i>	Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	13
7	10 December	<i>"Training on Confidential Data"</i>	Parliament of Montenegro in cooperation with Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	13

### TRAININGS BY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

No.	Date	Name	Organiser	Venue	Participants
1	3 March	<i>Prohibition of discrimination</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	1
2	4 March	<i>European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	1
3	7 April	<i>Disciplinary procedure</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	1
4	14 April	<i>Health and Safety at Work</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	2
5	20-21 April	<i>Public policy evaluation</i>	Human Resources Administration in cooperation with ENA	Danilovgrad-Podgorica	1
6	28 April	<i>The Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund of the EU</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	3
7	8 May	<i>Drafting and adopting laws</i>	Human Resources Administration	Podgorica	1





8	13 May	<i>Roles and responsibilities of employees in units for human resources management</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
9	25 May	<i>Personal Data Protection</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	2
10	23 June	<i>“Ethics in State Administration - Challenges and Best Practice in France and Montenegro”</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration, Ministry of Interior, EU Delegation to Montenegro</b>	Podgorica	1
11	1 July	<i>Creating and Implementing Public Campaigns</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	3
12	3 July	<i>Ethics and integrity</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	3
13	7 July	<i>Management skills</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
14	8 July	<i>IPA II in the current financial perspective 2014-2020</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
15	9 July	<i>Legal and technical rules for drafting regulation with guidelines for harmonising regulation with the EU acquis</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	2
16	15 October	<i>Free Access to Information</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
17	16 October	<i>Drafting and adopting laws</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	3
18	26-27 October	<i>Presenting of the new Law on Administrative Procedure</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	3
19	27-28 October	<i>From idea to successfully implemented project</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
20	16 November	<i>Public Procurement</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
21	23-24 November	<i>Presenting of the new Law on Administrative Procedure</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	3
22	26 November	<i>EU Enlargement Policy and Montenegro - political, technical, economic, and social aspects</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
23	8 December	<i>Data Confidentiality</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
24	10 December	<i>Disciplinary accountability</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1
25	15 December	<i>Financial and accounting tasks in state bodies</i>	<b>Human Resources Administration</b>	Podgorica	1

**OSTALE OBUKE**

No.	Date	Name	Organiser	Venue	Participants
1	22 January - 12 February	<i>Program on Security Sector Capacity Building</i>	<b>George Marshall Center</b>	Garmisch-Partenkirchen*	1
2	14-27 February	<i>Study program</i>	<b>Parliament of Canada</b>	Canada, Ottawa	1
3	25 February - 25 March	<i>Programme on Security and Terrorism studies</i>	<b>George Marshall Center</b>	Garmisch-Partenkirchen*	1
4	2-3 March	<i>Study visit to the European Commission and the European Parliament</i>	<b>European Parliament</b>	Brussels, Belgium	1
5	23-27 March	<i>Bosch Conference Systems</i>	<b>Bosch Academy</b>	Amsterdam	1
6	2 March	<i>Basics of the service system of procedures for making decisions on rights and obligations of civil servants and state employees through practice of the Appeals Commission</i>	<b>Parliament of Montenegro</b>	Podgorica	8
7	10-13 May	<i>Second Seminar on Transition of Military Education Systems in SEE</i>	<b>RACVIAC</b>	Zagreb, Hrvatska	
8	9-14 March	<i>Study visit to the German Bundestag</i>	<b>German Bundestag</b>	Berlin, Njemačka	2
9	13 March	<i>Management skills</i>	<b>Parliament of Montenegro</b>	Podgorica	14
10	16 March	<i>Emotional intelligence</i>	<b>Parliament of Montenegro</b>	Podgorica	29
11	17 March	<i>Cloud workshop</i>	<b>"TeleGroup d.o.o" Belgrade and Belgrade Chamber of Commerce</b>	Beograd, Srbija	2
12	20 March	<i>Accounting records as the basis for preparation of financial statements in accordance with the new Strategy of the Government of Montenegro for the introduction of the "accounting basis" in the budget accounting; The system of internal controls in the public sector; Establishing a unique register of state property and real estate register and practical application of the new Law on Foreigners</i>	<b>Institute of Certified Accountants</b>	Podgorica	2
13	30 March - 24 April	<i>Organisation of Work of the Parliament</i>	<b>National School of Public Administration (ENA)</b>	Pariz	1
14	31 March	<i>Workshop on data protection regarding video surveillance</i>	<b>European Commission Delegation to Podgorica</b>	Podgorica	2



15	7-25 April	<i>Programme on Countering Narcotics and Illicit Trafficking</i>	<b>George Marshall Center</b>	Garmišpartkenkirhen	1
16	16-17 April	<i>Communication, digitalisation, and transparency in the Parliament</i>	<b>ECPRD</b>	Brussels, Belgium	2
17	21 April	<i>Balance between the freedom of expression and the right to privacy</i>	<b>The Council of Europe Office in Belgrade with support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway</b>	Podgorica	3
18	23 April	<i>Cloud workshop</i>	<b>"TeleGroup d.o.o" Belgrade and Belgrade Chamber of Commerce</b>	Belgrade, Serbia	2
19	7-20 May	<i>Planning and building infrastructure for Montenegro in 2015</i>	<b>The Government of Montenegro in cooperation with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Academy on International Business Officials (AIBO) at the Chinese Ministry of Commerce</b>	Beijing, China	1
20	11-13 May	<i>Work of parliamentary research services in the Western Balkans</i>	<b>National Democratic Institute (NDI)</b>	Bečići	4
21	19 May	<i>General principles - Articles 34-36, Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)</i>	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration</b>	Podgorica	2
22	29-30 May	<i>Key issues for European parliaments: Fiscal policy aimed at strengthening accountability, social security, and technological development</i>	<b>European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD)</b>	Warsaw, Poland	2
23	1-2 June	<i>Business Secretary/Personal Assistant "Time management, advanced business correspondence and management of clients by a predetermined profile"</i>	<b>Iconsult LLC</b>	Belgrade, Serbia	2
24	11-12 June	<i>Participation of public in the process of drafting and adopting laws</i>	<b>European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD)</b>	Zagreb, Croatia	2
25	7-13 June	<i>Study visit to Italy within the Working Group for Negotiation Chapter 22 Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments</i>	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration in cooperation with Ministry of Finance and a project for Decentralised Management of Instrument for Pre-accession EU assistance</b>	Venice, Bologna	1
26	24 June	<i>Training on communication management</i>	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration</b>	Podgorica	1
27	29 June – 2 July	<i>21st Century Transnational Security Challenges: The Role of Parliament</i>	<b>George Marshall Center</b>	Garmisch-Partenkirchen <sup>8</sup>	1



28	30 June	<i>The budget system in Montenegro, concept, plan and execution of the budget; The initiative for harmonisation of the Law on Local Self-Government Financing and secondary legislation to the Law on Budget and Fiscal Responsibility; introduction of the system of internal control and accounting system of public sector accounting in terms of IPSAS-1 and IPSAS-2</i>	<b>Institute of Certified Accountants</b>	Podgorica	2
29	26-30 August	<i>Transatlantic Threats: NATO and National Challenges</i>	<b>George Marshall Centre Macedonia Alumni Association with support of the George Marshall European Centre for Security Studies from Garmisch-Partenkirchen</b>	Ohrid, Macedonia	1
30	7-11 September	<i>The 9th cycle of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Training Programme - orientation course</i>	<b>European Security and Defence College with financial support by the TAIEX</b>	Brussels, Belgium	1
31	11 September	<i>Interactive workshops organised by the service of parliamentary committees responsible for issues from the field of energy</i>	<b>Secretariat of the Energy Community</b>	Vienna, Austria	1
32	16 September	<i>Workshop "Monitoring and evaluation of the Communication Strategy implementation process"</i>	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration</b>	Podgorica	1
33	24-25 September	<i>Libraries and research services in the function of openness and transparency of parliaments</i>	<b>European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD)</b>	Budapest, Hungary	2
34	5-15 October	<i>MATRA Patrol European Public Procurement Training</i>	<b>Ecorys Academy with financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands</b>	The Hague, The Netherlands	1
35	6-7 October	<i>Mentor training: "Communication and resolving stressful situations" with topics: Business Communication; Effective Communication Techniques; Communication in Business Meetings; Non-verbal Communication; Reactions in Conflicts; Who are difficult co-workers and how to identify them; Assertive Communication.</i>	<b>Iconconsult LLC</b>	Belgrade, Serbia	2
36	19-23 October	<i>Use and abuse of the electronic surveillance systems</i>	<b>DCAF</b>	Kranj, Slovenia	1





37	20-24 October	<i>Congress of Accountants and Auditors of Montenegro "Financial reporting aimed at improving the management process"</i>	<b>Institute of Certified Accountants and Faculty of Economics Podgorica</b>	Bečići	3
38	4-7 November	<i>ECPRD Network Seminar titled "The practicalities, advantages and disadvantages of unicameral and bicameral parliamentary systems",</i>	<b>European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD) in cooperation with the Parliament of the Netherlands</b>	The Hague, The Netherlands	1
39	5-6 November	<i>ECPRD Seminar "E-parliament/ICT service"</i>	<b>European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD)</b>	Ankara, Turkey	2
40	7-9 November	<i>Public Policy School</i>	<b>Institute Alternative</b>	Bečići	2

