

2013 through our perspective



Gradanska alijansa

Civic Alliance - Aleanca qytetare

Annual Report

Podgorica, February 2014



Gradanska alijansa
Civic Alliance – Aleanca qytetare

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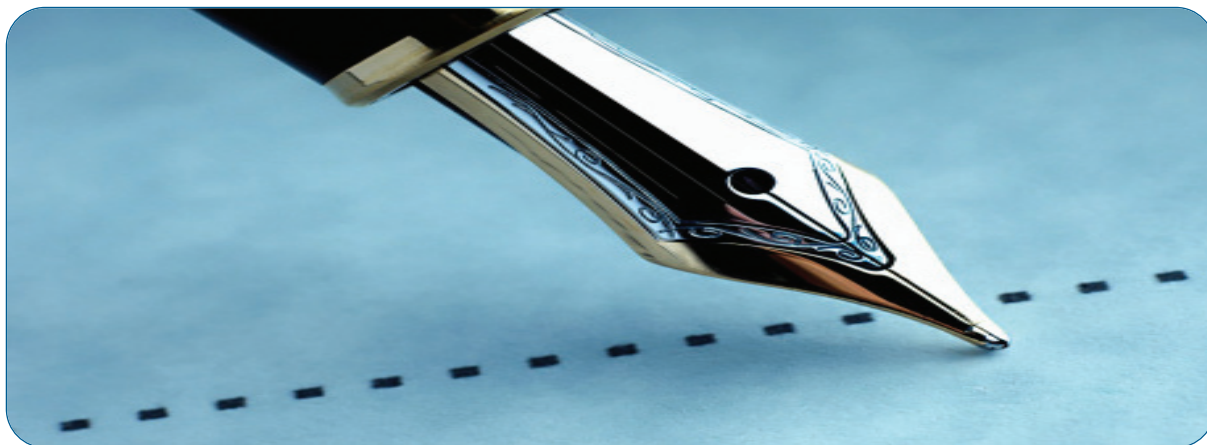


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Table of Contents

◆	<i>Introduction</i>	4
	<i>STRATEGY, PROGRAMS, ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNICATION</i>	6
	<i>Boris Raonić, President of CA</i>	
◆	<i>365 days of connecting citizens and institutions</i>	7
	<i>Ajša Hadžibegović, Program Director of CA</i>	
◆	<i>Civic and democratic society: challenge or a dream comes true?</i>	9
	<i>Edina Hasanaga Čobaj, Executive Director of CA</i>	
◆	<i>Healthy spirit and positive approach to challenges</i>	11
	<i>Darko M. Ivanović, Communication Director of CA</i>	
◆	<i>Year that confirmed the quality and media variety</i>	13
	<i>OUR PROGRAMS</i>	17
	<i>Milan Radović, Coordinator of Human Rights Program</i>	
◆	<i>Human rights, crucial determinant of our work</i>	18
	<i>Zoran Vujičić, Coordinator of the Rule of Law Program</i>	
◆	<i>The rule of law – the key social code</i>	21
	<i>Marina Bauk, Coordinator of Media Program and Milica Đokđurić, Assistant on Media Program</i>	
◆	<i>Media, positioning, different platforms</i>	24
	<i>Sanja Rašović and Edin Koljenović, Associates on Good Governance Program</i>	
◆	<i>Good governance – obligation of institutions</i>	27
◆	<i>Income and expenditure</i>	30
◆	<i>Donors</i>	31
◆	<i>Partners</i>	32
◆	<i>CA tim</i>	33



Dear Sir/Madam,

All of you who will read this report and all of you who somehow participated in our work through 2013, all of you who will use this report for better consideration of circumstances under which we worked in previous year, all dear friends, donors, partners and cooperators, all of you – dear citizens and people of good will:

This is one more report about the programmatic and organizational year behind us – through activities of Civic Alliance, established through merger of local organizations. Once only a brave idea, today is benchmark organization that has specific, sustainable, stable status and reputable status in the society, which is divided on so many grounds.

Nowadays, devoted to values that we promote, and at the same time more complex and efficient – we are the testimony that our leading principles actually have their own position in Montenegrin society, in line with our advocacy efforts.

During the previous year, we reinforced the core organizational orientation principles – openness, transparency, professionalism, and courtesy towards citizens. Also, 2013 was the year of absolute affirmation of CA and transformation into organization that monitors and often drives the processes of social changes.

Two years program plan that involved our professional and personal commitment has been fulfilled. Thus, we can freely say that our mission has become part of our lives, while the goals we strive to achieve – are mutual and in some manner natural and devoted to wellbeing of the society, to which we belong; devoted to possibility that everybody can be free in choices, be informed and aware of their rights. We reiterate our commitment to solving everyday problems of citizens, who are often far from ceremonial conferences, seminars, commissions, councils, boards, bright metropolis and comfortable hotels, big words and small changes... therefore, problems of citizens who can rarely follow the dynamics of changes of Montenegrin legislative and institutional framework, within integration of principles of the European Union.

The report you hold in your hands is the produce of devoted work on accomplishing our goals and following our mission – and here, you will find Montenegrin society in the way we see it, how we contributed to its progress through our activities, and how we somehow monitored implementation of Action Plans, why media component is important and very significant for us, and how we strived to infiltrate civic initiatives and thus control the work of public institutions. We are especially proud on the fact that we strived through all our activities to be available for all citizens for any problem, at any time, which is motivation and the value that cannot be restrained by any Statute or program activity.

On these pages, we present the diary of our activities in transparent and responsible manner, and whose implementation all of you helped a lot. We also hope you will give us your hand in 2014.

Sincerely,
Team of Civic Alliance



Gradanska alijansa
Civic Alliance - Aleanca qytetare

Strategy
Programs
Administration
Communication

365 days of connecting citizens and institutions

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In 2014, Civic Alliance continued profiling of organizational identity following the merger of more organizations. For us, last year was the year of full development. Through advancing of our basic programs, CA continued its creative projects with initiatives such as monitoring of large number of Governmental, judicial, prosecutorial, police and municipal bodies, identifying problems Montenegrin citizens face with, providing them with support in overcoming bureaucratic barriers and facilitating improved coordination between institutions. We have also strengthened the dialogue and partnership relations with public sector, on the grounds of identified problems, through formulation of constructive proposals and solutions.

CA also continued to provide assistance to smaller local NGOs, sharing its practical experience at the local level and engaging in direct communication with citizens. At the same time, CA continued to strengthen cooperation with partners in the region, and via its founder - Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR) has become one of the first Montenegrin nongovernmental organizations that shall administrate large regional EU project that will treat the problem of prison systems in Montenegro, Serbia and Albania and harmonization with anti-discrimination principles.

Through mentioned activities, Civic Alliance positioned as one of the leading national NGOs, through continued intermediation between citizens and their problems and competent institutions



that are in charge for their resolution. Avoiding politicized activities, partisan clanship relations and exaggerated appearance in media, CA proceeded with strengthening of its own operational programmatic framework for interlinking our activities in four focus areas (human rights, rule of law, good governance, and media).

CA is proud of good cooperation with all media, parties, most nongovernmental organizations and public institutions, resulting from our strong commitment to build our public image and status according to our mission and mandate, as well as confidence of citizens that approach us, and public institutions we cooperate with. We have balanced gender structure among employees, members of all ethnic, religious, ideological and geographic backgrounds. Program coordinators and administrative managers are recognized as the most neutral and professional in the field. Large number of donors recognized such success; hence - last year was marked with administrative-financial strengthening of the organization. Thus, CA was able to ensure organizational stability for the upcoming midterm period. This would encourage us to sustain focus on achieving results, not only on quest for donors and sending messages they would like to hear. We are proud of diverse structure of donors: international organizations, private foundations, embassies, and even in one small portion- the state of Montenegro, despite its compromised system of financing NGOs.

CA staff is very committed to its work or, they live the job they do. They devoted substantial part of its time to the activities for which they do not have approved projects, thus assisting everyone who would address them for help or advice. Internal statistics about the increasing number of citizens who report different problems testify these trends, as well as the number of problems we managed to solve. Our everyday communication with citizens helped us to create the image about the public system problems, while communication with institutions in constructive and professional manner helped in resolving of large number problems people faced with.

Aware of specific role of NGO sector in Montenegro that often overtakes obligations of public bodies and bearing in mind large space that these bodies create with its inefficiency, and significant needs of Montenegrin citizens for organized system of public services, Civic Alliance and its constituents continue with their work.

Next year we will focus sustainability of organization with the principal focus in activities and matters defined by Strategic plan that can be found on our web site.

Civic and democratic society: challenge or a dream comes true?

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Development and implementation of program in 2013 was primarily driven by the idea of the development of Montenegro as the society of active and informed citizens, with institutions that function in accordance with positive legislative regulations and with the goal to achieve public interest. Vision of civic and democratic society based on the rule of law determined our selection of priority areas we will deal with. During 2013, team of Civic Alliance was committed to long term planning and creating of Strategic plan for the period 2014 – 2016, which is characterized with improved harmonization with the negotiating process of Montenegro for accession to the European Union (new Strategic plan and other relevant documents can be found on our web site www.gamn.org/dokumenti.html).

Our contribution to establishing of civic and democratic society - we see in strengthening internal capacities for implementation of programs in changed social circumstances and in expanding of network of activists willing to work directly on positive changes in the society. We all constantly work on improvement of our competences for dealing with these issues. We consider this to be a responsible relationship with citizens, who we often represent.

Programmatic development of Civic Alliance relies on constant monitoring of needs and problems of citizens and identifying of inefficiency and lack of harmonization in the work of institutions of

the system. When we look back on what was achieved in 2013, besides direct results arising from four programs – human rights, the rule of law, media program and good governance program, we are particularly proud on developed partnerships and achieved cooperation with other organizations and associations that share our values, and contribute to our vision with their work. We contribute to development of our society, through the access that provides dialogue with institutions and creates the space for our findings and recommendations, to be presented in the most direct manner to responsible ones, at the same time informing public in adequate and efficient manner.

Progress is evident in our focus areas, but the road to full changes that we all strive to in our society is still too long, so – stay with us in the following period.



Healthy spirit and positive approach to challenges

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During the two years period, since the creation of Civic Alliance, efficient administration has been established and developed. First of all, it provides the support to our programs through improved operations and programmatic interlinkage.

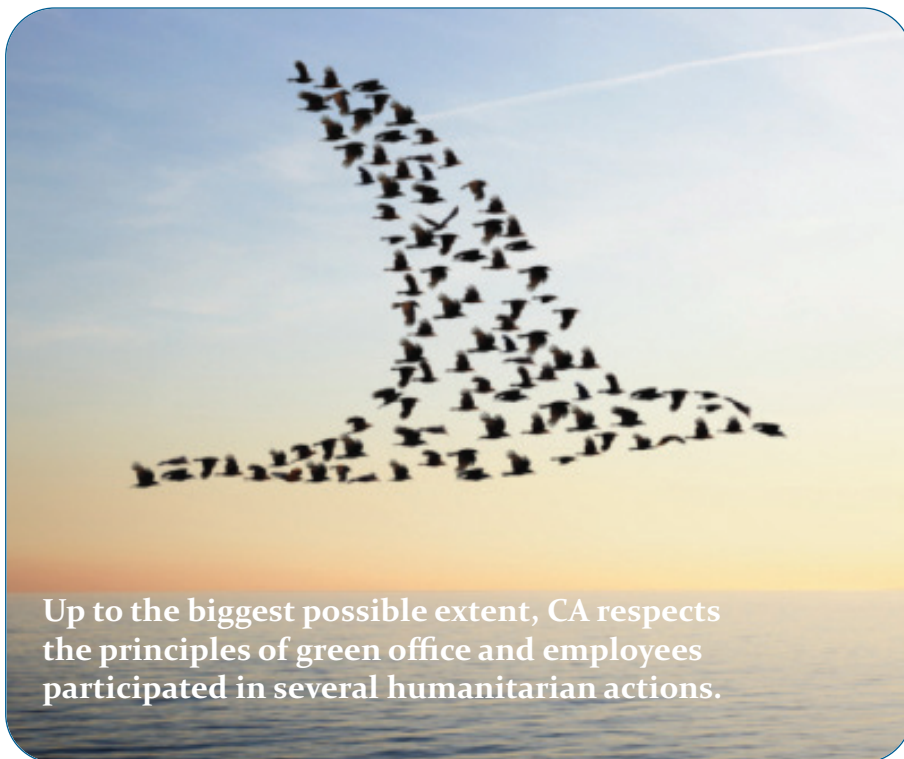
Tolerance, responsibility, equality, team work, transparency, constant learning, and cooperation are values we affirm in everyday mutual communication and in communication with our closer partners. Healthy spirit and positive atmosphere, but also transparency and debating the opposing opinions is something that CA sustains for second year in a row.

Finances of CA are public and each annual financial report is published on the web site of our organization. Yet, in the second year we have managed to insure funds that provide multiyear undisturbed work of CA, thus contributing to the sustainability of organization. For almost second year in a row, independent audit rendered positive opinion on our work, thus justifying established administrative and financial model.

Managerial team that deals with finances, IT, the office functions perfectly and would be able to organize work in even larger systems.

In 2013 CA with its constituents managed to establish more than 20 partnerships with donors and organizations that have recognized enthusiasm and mission of CA.

Last year, web site of CA was renovated with more interactive features and, at the same time, is one of the rare web sites in Montenegro that operates in three languages.



Up to the biggest possible extent, CA respects the principles of green office and employees participated in several humanitarian actions.

Year that confirmed the quality and media variety

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We started 2013 with great expectations, but we achieved more than we planned. We did not only become media attractive, but our own media program expanded in regards to both statistics and palpable and measurable perception of citizens, as the core beneficiaries of its work. We are still the only organization that has its own, unique media program. We have expanded to radio through participation in establishing the student radio Krš. On extremely heated media scene in Montenegro, we became not only relevant and professional and frequently referred source of information – owing to media exposure and professionalism of program coordinators – but also, very important player and often prevailing factor for shaping public opinion.

Our principles remained the same – we still have multidisciplinary access to communication. On the one hand, we transform the needs of citizens and institutions we cooperate with into public policies, and we use precise and solid messages, which relate to public importance via our nonprofit media. As earlier, we try to help all citizens who do not manage to obtain appropriate attention of competent institutions or to receive timely important information from the domain of work of public bodies. Also, in that manner we gave space to representatives of public sector to present their activities aimed at resolution of identified problems, responses to complaints of citizens and, explanations of their perspectives. Thus, the principle is the same, only the impact is larger and the fight for general good now has more sense.

Again, we are inevitable factor, especially our coordinators and members of the Managing board, in commenting all social trends, events and changes. It seems that this role justified our current position on NGO and media scene – CA is unavoidable factor, active participant and more often creator of social changes. Current strategy is to try not to flood media with our constant referencing, but to act where the impact for the society is the most efficient. Dominant strength in all of the above mentioned - we see in dispersion of professional participation in public life. We do not have the “leader” who expresses all standpoints of the organization, which is often the case in NGO sector, because we have a team of young people representing the organization, relying n professionalism and knowledge, not on a wish for promotion.

The fact is that our members are participants in working groups for the EU negotiations and in the public commission for resolving cases of assaults on journalists. These facts reaffirm that we have defined adequately our external PR priorities.

TV show Robin Hood, our primary media product was at the top of popularity in 2013, according to the results of IPSOS Strategic Marketing research, conducted in December 2013 for the needs of Radio and Television of Montenegro (RTCG). Vast number of cover pages of the most read newspapers and web portals covered the stories we initiated. These data reassure that Robin Hood has be-



come referential point on the media scene, often directing and creating public opinion. Impact of this TV show overcame limits of its broadcasting media outlet and builds its popularity as an independent project. However, the impact is being created and the road towards primary position is often covered with thorns. Large number of problems of people who work on this TV show testify this. Namely, the author was arrested while he was on duty, because he allegedly disturbed execution of decision on forced eviction of an old woman. This case, involving the public bodies and a lawsuit against the system, filled in cover pages for some time. In addition to this, we had the case of car burglary and threatening to the author of the project, which is, as we believe, related to abuses of public office in privatization process and health care system. This resulted in so called “Banuši affair”, with strong doubts in “setting” perpetrators of the mentioned criminal offence by the police.

Portal www.e-balkan.net is redesigned and last year had more than 170.000 visits, with the public who is profiled in the region, which is special contentment for us. In creation of the portal, we rely more and more on young people, participants in our media workshops, which also make us unique nongovernmental organization in current frames.

In the final test phase, or before final release is our specialized platform [e-Robin](http://www.erobin.me) that shall compile all cases we worked on, mapped them and open the road for new reports of citizens. Simply, we are more transparent and open. Citizens shall nominate the case for the TV show with simple application on www.erobin.me or provide automatic online access to the problem, and later to the process of resolving problems.





Our official web site www.gamn.org has also been redesigned and its features are - new access to our extern communication: each statement on mailing list sent to media and partners has a link on the web site. In this manner, we increased the number of people who use it. There are subpages for School of Democratic Leadership (www.sdr.gamn.org), Virtual School of Democratic Leadership (www.vs.gamn.org), for TV show Robin Hood (www.gamn.org/robihood), sub-page on participation in the work group for development of strategy for cooperation with nongovernmental organizations (www.gamn.org/RazvojNVO) and for the process of monitoring of human rights in accordance with the UN system of Universal Periodical Report – UPR (www.gamn.org/upr).

Social networks where we are registered as CA also show rise of interest for our activities and more and more citizens contact us via Facebook page [GA Crna Gora](https://www.facebook.com/GACrnaGora) and twitter account [@GACrnaGora](https://twitter.com/GACrnaGora) and [Robin Hood TV show](https://www.facebook.com/RobinHoodTV) on Facebook network and [@robinhudtv](https://twitter.com/robinhudtv) on Twitter.

At the same time, we have become partners and actively participated in creation of the student Radio Krš. We have signed the agreement on cooperation with NGO Safera, who founded this radio. They will participate in programs with the license of Robin Hood, and our representative is in editorial team of the radio. Mutual media-promotional platform is being expected.

If we recapitulate all of this, we have a reason to be proud and satisfied, which is a duty and obligation and a kind of a sweet burden for the following period.

Our programs



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Human rights, crucial determinant of our work

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Our focus are essential problems citizens face with in exercising and protecting their human rights before public institutions. Data on problems of citizens, CA receives according to the analysis of official reports, via SOS phone number (020 513 687) and through other forms of direct communication. One of the key problems of citizens during 2013, was absence of efficient, urgent, effective and independent reactions of competent public institutions on their complaints.

We put the accent on monitoring of quality of implementation of law, but we also dealt with researching and documenting cases of violation of human rights. CA provided free legal aid to citizens and monitored processing and representing of victims before competent courts and public bodies through activities of free legal aid.

We were focused on following areas: facing past, problems of torture and discrimination, politically motivated violence, freedom of expression, freedom of associating and gathering, protection of personal data, religious freedom, minority rights, status of displaced persons, economic and social rights.

In the first quarter of 2013, Civic Alliance published general report about the state of human rights with special focus on work of competent institutions. Report included and summed up activities from previous six years, since the beginning of independence of Montenegro until the beginning

of negotiation on access to the EU. This report stated large number of reported cases of human rights violation during the period from 2006 until 2012, underlining that the system of institutional protection of human rights was not efficient. Recommendations were presented at the round table that took place in the Parliament of Montenegro and delivered to all competent public institutions. Recommendations would serve as the basis for competent public institutions to improve their work on protecting human rights. CA shall monitor implementation of recommendations of public institutions.

CA continued active participation in the process of Universal Periodical Review (UPR) of human rights. In January 2013, Montenegro received new recommendations at the 15th session. Besides our participation in development of the Governmental report during last year, as well as development of the report on rights of a child at the pre-session in Geneva, we also finished the project “Strengthening civil society for active participation in UPR process” in cooperation with NGO CEDEM, and we also participated in the work group for development of the Action Plan for implementation of received recommendations. Result of implemented project is the report on the state of human rights after received recommendations in the second UPR cycle.

According to our previous researches and communication with citizens, we have recognized free legal aid as the type of assistance which is very important for citizens and that citizens need it on everyday basis. Therefore, CA set this issue in its focus in the frame of human rights program. Afterwards, research on functioning of the system of free legal aid in Montenegro was conducted.

The goal was to contribute to exercising of principles of availability of justice in Montenegro. This research dealt with the matters of understanding and implementation of legal norms, legal services that were covered by the system of free legal aid and in one part it dealt with financing of the system of free legal aid. The research showed that insufficient level of information about the Law, and the institute of free legal aid, represent the largest problem. Citizens were poorly informed, and additional education aiming at better functioning of the Law is important



for civil servants in all institutions that are related to this institute directly or indirectly. Also, amending of the Law on free legal aid is important for overall improvement of the quality of provision of free legal aid.

Traditionally, in cooperation with Ombudsman, Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and OSCE, CA organized ceremony of International Day of Human Rights. Topics that were discussed were 10th anniversary of the Institution of Ombudsman and freedom of gathering. Discussion gathered highest representatives of public institutions, diplomacy, international organizations, political parties, academia and NGO sector.

CA is active in monitoring of status and rights of Roma and Egyptians. In November 2013, we have established Coalition (Center for Roma Initiatives, Nikšić; Association of Egyptians, Tivat; NGO Ruža – Berane; and Forum MNE) and started monitoring of implementation of Decade of Inclusion of Roma. Results of the research and recommendations will be presented in October 2014.

Transparency of institutions and acting of civil servants is one of the key elements of modern democracy. Consequently, in its work, CA intensively uses the possibility to receive information according to the Law on free access to information. However, it is not possible to receive final verdicts before national courts, if they are required in accordance with this Law, the name of convicted person, or mentioning the number of verdict. Thus, in one proceeding, CA filed constitutional lawsuit to Constitutional court of Montenegro, with the aim to exercise right to free access to information guaranteed by the Constitution.



The rule of law – the key social code

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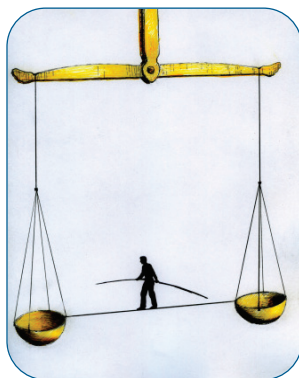


We have continued monitoring of work of judicial system and the system of health care protection, with special attention, bearing in mind intensity and the content of interaction of ordinary citizens and these parts of public system. After good results of monitoring of basic courts and institutions of primary health care in 2013, work of higher courts in Podgorica and Bijelo Polje was monitored and institutions of secondary health care (hospitals) and tertiary health care (KBC). During monitoring of these institutions, specific number of problems in their work was registered. Thanks to our monitoring, after public statements and indicating on specific problems, positive moves were made and problems were properly addressed. For example, after our initiative, patients in KBC have higher number of seats in waiting rooms. Besides that, informing about Protector of rights of patients increased and nowadays almost 74% of citizens know about this institute, which was important problem before our intervention in this regards. All analysis of monitoring were presented to competent institutions and also via our media program, with the aim to collect their standpoints and answers, and also direct contribution to finding solution.

During 2013, we published the report “Efficiency and transparency of judicial system”. Efficiency of judicial proceedings was monitored in regards to overload of cases, their backlog, time that is important for verdicts and the quality of decision making process. According to data with comparative parameters with institutions of countries that heritage the same or similar legal tradition,

it is clear that Montenegrin courts are not still have not been loaded by a number of cases from previous years, but the time equidistance that is important for finalization of cases is reducing. One of the noticed problems in work of courts is inadequate relationship with general public in regards to timely reporting and allowed public access, until the level that does not ruin principles of rights of parties in the proceeding, or the interest of the very proceeding. Also, we registered lack of good relations with public, which all judicial institutions should have, especially heads of judicial bodies. Infrastructure characteristics of court facilities do not allow appropriate level of presence of public, because of lack of technical conditions. Another notable problem is lack of quality of work in some courts in Montenegro, which is the fact that has to be researched continually and in full details, which is also part of CA project activities for 2014.

In Strategic plan for 2012 – 2013, CA stated monitoring of work of court as the specific focus and was recognized by the judiciary as relevant NGO on this field. In Action Plan for the Chapter 23, CA was envisaged as the NGO that conducts the research with Association of judges of Montenegro, among citizens and all judges in Montenegro. In this research, we examined to which level citizens believe in judiciary or how judges view the situation in its branch and how the situation can be improved. Results showed that judges and citizens have different attitudes towards situation in judiciary. For example, asked about the situation in judiciary, judges and citizens had opposite standpoints. For judges, in almost 93% of cases, situation in judiciary was very or mostly good, but for citizens, in almost 43% of cases, situation was very or mostly negative. Results of the research were published in December 2013, and can be viewed on this link www.gamn.org/images/docs/cg/Izvjestaj--o_stavovima_sudija_i_gradana.pdf.



Through the rule of law program, we oversee the work of public institutions through field monitoring of their work. For the purpose of respect of human rights of persons in closed institutions and improvement of protection from torture, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishing in Montenegro, and the contribution to faster and more efficient implementation of recommendations of international expert body (CPT) for Montenegro and improvement of cooperation of public institutions and civil sector, according to Memorandum on Cooperation with Ministry of Interior, and Supreme State Prosecutor of Montenegro that was signed last year, Civic Alliance conducted monitoring of work with persons detained for 48 hours in all Security Centers and police sta-

tions. The report “Detention system and rights of detainees” was presented in December to representatives of the Ministry and Supreme Stat Prosecutor, and media. Although rights of detained persons are generally respected, it was noted that the time when a person was released was not inscribed in files of registration of persons deprived of liberty and detained persons in a number of Security Centers or how long persons were detained. Also, names of all persons were not inscribed, or persons that were detained for too long were not inscribed. Video surveillance does not fully cover the moment from the entrance to detention premises in the Police in more Security Centers. You can view the report on the following link http://www.gamn.org/images/docs/cg/pritvorski_sistem_i_prava_zadrzanih_lica.pdf.

CA implements the project in which we would like to reveal the reasons of abolishing of large number of court decisions, so that measures for resolving such problems could finally be initiated, or to define whether the situation was the consequence of rigid rules of the proceeding, complicated and often changed material and legal basis of sentencing or even poor work of judges. Results of the research will be published during 2014.

As Montenegro as started negotiations with the EU, the rule of law presents the basis on which European partners measure success of the functional country. Thereby, Action Plans for Chapters 23 and 24 are positive frameworks for monitoring of measurability of results that the country has to achieve if it wants to be the part of European home. Following the adoption of several laws in 2013, their implementation remains the challenge that Montenegrin society would have to face with in the upcoming period. Civic Alliance shall carefully monitor these processes because the rule of law and therefore membership in the European Union do not have alternative.





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*Media, positioning,
different platforms*



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This year, team of TV show Robin Hood resolved 61 out of 200 received cases or problems of Montenegrin citizens. Until nowadays, 50% of cases were successfully resolved. The team will continue to monitor remaining cases until final resolution and at the same time will warn institutions to do their job consciously, require concrete answers and responsibility in actual cases. During 2013, most complaints we received from the north of Montenegro, even 45%; whereas 31% of problems were reported in the Capital of Montenegro, while each fourth reporting dissatisfied citizen was from the south. Even in 2013, people from abroad contacted us.

“Robin Hood” is one hour social magazine, TV show of a weekly periodic, which relies on postulates of “civic” journalism. Investigating the topics directly related to problems of citizens, with the aim to resolve them, this magazine functions as the service for citizens and generally overall civil society. Citizens report problems they have with institutions of the system on everyday basis, via open phone line, e-mail, Facebook and post. We process reported problems in the form of video reports that are presented to public, and then we invite in the studio competent representatives of the state or local administration,

responsible for resolving those problems. Robin Hood is extraordinary contribution in monitoring of public services in Montenegro and as such, has a goal to create more efficient public services.

In this season, the team of Robin Hood especially dealt with protection of rights of consumers, health of youth and the manner doctors provide health care service in Montenegro. We also revealed several cases, which we believed were related to commercial crime. Several TV shows were also devoted to violence in family, in order to encourage institutions to be more sensitive and efficient when it comes to this topic. We also fought for the rights of elderly, visited nursing homes and also published realistic image about the manner in which the country bestowed them. Our interventions on institutions to do their job often happened to change destiny of people. We worked on better treatment of children from the Institution in Bijela when they have to leave it, forced by their adultery. We are also especially focused on their competitiveness on labor market and provision of housing for them. As of 2013, Robin Hood is the promoter of energy efficiency and in almost every TV show we give advices how to save electricity.

Last year, we finished work on monitoring of health care system and judiciary – areas that note constant failures and violation of laws. Monitors of Civic Alliance sent data from 26 health care institutions and six basic courts. Data were published to Montenegrin public via TV show Robin Hood. We had the opportunity to inform leading people in institutions we monitored about the failures that slow down functioning of health care and judicial system, which resulted in considerable improvement of situation in these areas. However, some institutions traditionally stayed closed for cooperation. Institutions that seriously digressed from rules defined by law, when it comes to free flow of information and its availability, are State Prosecution Office, Capital city, and Clinical Center of Montenegro (KCCG).

Darko M. Ivanović, author and editor of the TV show Robin Hood, was arrested while he was reporting on forced eviction of an old woman Jelena Vučićević. Ivanović filed a lawsuit against the Montenegro, because he was illegally arrested while he was on duty.

In 2013, RH team introduced a novelty – short TV form with appropriate title “Believe it or not” (“Vjerovali ili ne”) where we deal with the strangest problems of Montenegrin citizens. Users of Twitter comment this during the TV show via #robinhud and for the first time in TV history of Montenegro we have this type of interaction and open forum for critics and appraisals in the functioning of the system and public apparatus.

Online part of CA media program - portal e-Balkan, promotes for three years critical opinions about actual happenings and future, and regional reconciliation and cooperation. Portal already has profiled public that regularly visits pages of online newspaper and profiles on social networks – Twitter and Facebook. Since January until December number of 175,369 unique visits was registered. Most of them were in February – 25,749. Most visitors were from Montenegro – 39,30%, then visitors from Serbia – 22,19%, and 11,99% from Bosnia and Herzegovina. From this year, e-Balkan is redesigned, which significantly had impact on number of visits, attracting new visitors from the region.

Media program of Civic Alliance was especially devoted to young people last year, so we organized several trainings for students of journalism about the manner in which they should report about youth. We were especially sensitive when it comes to Roma and Egyptian children, so we conducted trainings for journalists named “Roma and Egyptian children in media: How to overcome stereotypes?”, via our founder NGO “35mm” in partnership with UNICEF. In the frame of this project almost all Montenegrin media published several authorized articles where they positively presented the work of the group, especially emphasizing Roma and Egyptians. Even today, some of them are in the team of Robin Hood. Media program of Civic Alliance successfully ended the training for high school students and future journalists on the manner of reporting about youth, and students of the Faculty of visual art creatively represented how youth should be represented in media.

During 2013, Civic Alliance had 717 appearances in press and television, which makes it one of the most active nongovernmental organizations in Montenegro.



Good governance – obligation of institutions



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We continued to develop the good governance program with the clear vision of development of society that has to rely on concepts of general social responsibility, openness, and transparency. The program continued to conduct dominantly its main activities through well established one decade concept of School of Democratic Leadership.

School of Democratic Leadership, as the member of European Association of School of Political Studies-specially designed project of Council of Europe, intensively continued its work in 2013. Aiming to fulfill its primary task – education and encouraging overall capacities of different groups, including decision makers, media, representatives of civil and business sector, or groups that directly impact or participate in creation of policies, we continued to work with new generations of SDL, conducting its general curriculum. In 2013, we successfully finished the program related to XI generation of SDL. Among representatives of all key groups recognized through the project,

were five MPs from the actual session of the Parliament of Montenegro. After XI generation, recognizing the new social and political circumstances, SDL opened the call and formed its XII generation, for the first time devoted to young leaders and representatives of political parties in Montenegro. Implementation of the annual program will continue in 2014.

During 2013, SDL organized four modules devoted to European integrations, rule of law and human rights. Specific part of SDL program is composed of study visits to both local institutions and good examples of European practice so, in 2013 we organized several visits to national institutions and special module named “Introduction of responsible institutions” in Norway (Oslo, Lillehammer) where participants had the opportunity to meet examples of strong, democratic and responsible institutions at local and national level.

SDL participated in II World Forum of Democracy in Strasbourg (WFD) with its 24 members. Through the program of SDL, we are especially devoted to importance of international institutions, and WFD served as excellent opportunity to meet the functioning of Council of Europe, European Court of Human Rights and the Mission of Montenegro to Council of Europe, but also exchange of experiences and exchange of contacts with participants/colleagues from 17 Schools of political studies from the South East Europe.

Last year, through good governance program, CA dealt with the problem of financing nongovernmental organizations from public funds, challenged disrespect and lack of enforcement of verdicts of Administrative court related to abolishing of decisions on allocation of funds of Fund for minority and Commission for distribution of funds collected from lottery. In this regard, CA in cooperation with partners from civil sector made the first important steps aiming at resolving of this problem, which resulted in consultative hearing of Mr Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finances, at the session of the Board for economy, finances and budget. Challenging of this matter had resignations of some members of the Commission for distribution of funds collected from lottery, as the consequence, and also resignation of the President of the Commission.

We also dealt with the manner of electing of representative of NGO sector in institutions and bodies that elects the Parliament, which were placed until nowadays on wrong basis and nontransparent criteria, which allowed malversations and misuse. In this regards, CA sent specific analysis and the Initiative for amendment of existing legislation which defines this area and the session of the Board for political system, judiciary and administration was organized.

Through good governance program, we monitored implementation of the initiative of the Government for creation of more open and transparent public administration, named Open Government Partnership – OGP. The focus was on online platforms of e-petition and the platform for online reporting of violation of vehicle in official use. Accordingly, besides the presence of CA in working body for implementation of OGP as interested party, our organization sent analysis and concrete suggestions for their improvement.

During 2013, through SDL which implements its founder YIHR, CA successfully conducted the program of I generation of Regional Academy for Democracy in cooperation with six Schools of Political Studies from the region. Annual program of the first generation was devoted to the topic “Cooperation in areas of judiciary and security on Western Balkan”. In this program participated 48 representatives from seven countries and among them were seven alumni from the network of School of Democratic Leadership.

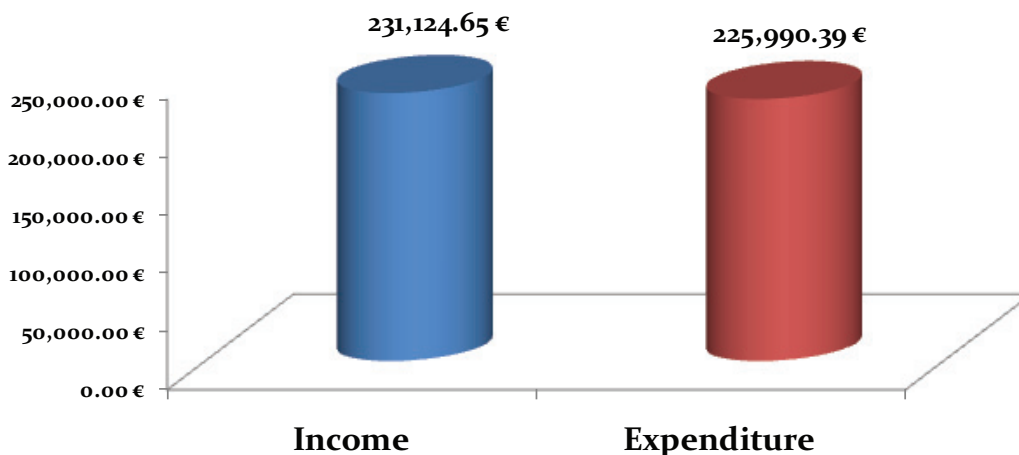
In cooperation with six Schools of Political Studies, with the support of Open Regional Fund – GIZ for energy efficiency, SDL initiated and conducted dialogue about energy efficiency in Montenegro last year. In cooperation with the key and target groups: Board for economy, finances and budget, local municipalities, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Sustainable development and Tourism, Chamber of Commerce and Engineer Chamber, and Secretariat of Energy Efficiency in Vienna, we organized several workshops, study visits, panels, and lectures on this topic.

After establishing of partnership network with local offices of civil sector from three municipalities during 2012 (Nikšić – OZON, Ulcinj – MogUL, and Berane – Luka Berane), in 2013, we continued with expansion and strengthening of our network including several new partnership organizations from the northern region (Bijelo Polje – NGO NEED, Plav – Gusinje Foundation) and student organization (NGO Safra). In the frame of strongly established network of partners, we continued to work on strengthening of civic participation and activism of citizens in their local ambient through challenging of local problems and initiating their resolving through concrete cases.



Income and expenditure

Overall income of Civic Alliance in 2013 was 231,124.65 €, while expenditure was 225,990.39 €. 94% of income are donations of international organizations.



Significant financial, administrative and program support to CA programs provide its founders “35mm” and Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR).

Audit Report of CA for 2013 may be found on our web site.

Donors

- ◆ Royal Norwegian Embassy
- ◆ Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- ◆ Royal Netherlands Embassy
- ◆ Balkan Trust for Democracy (BTD)
- ◆ Council of Europe
- ◆ EGAM
- ◆ UNDP – Montenegro
- ◆ EWMI
- ◆ Commission for Distribution of Funds Collected from lottery
- ◆ OSCE Mission to Montenegro
- ◆ Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- ◆ Criminal Justice Civil Society Program (CJCSP) – State Department, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) – United States Embassy in Podgorica

DONORS OF MEMBERS

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- ◆ GIZ – Open Regional Fund for South East Europe-Energy Efficiency (ORF-EE)
- ◆ Internews
- ◆ Council of Europe
- ◆ UNICEF

Partners

- ◆ Center for Democratic Transition (CDT)
- ◆ CEDEM
- ◆ MogUL
- ◆ OZON
- ◆ Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence (BFPE) – Belgrade
- ◆ Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR) – Belgrade
- ◆ Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR) – Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ◆ Albanian Rehabilitation Centre for Trauma and Torture (ARCT) – Albania
- ◆ International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) – Denmark
- ◆ Forum MNE
- ◆ Center for Roma Initiatives
- ◆ NGO Ruža
- ◆ Association of Egyptians
- ◆ EGAM
- ◆ NGO Krug života
- ◆ NGO Safra – Student Radio Krš
- ◆ Fund for Active Citizenship (fAKT)
- ◆ NGO Alfa Center
- ◆ NGO Need
- ◆ NGO Lim Consulting/Luka Berane
- ◆ Gusinje Foundation
- ◆ European Association of the Schools of Political Studies



CA team

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- ◆ Legal Consultant of Media Program: Aleksandar Kovačević

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- ◆ Dražen Đurašković
- ◆ Nada Labudović
- ◆ Sandra Đonović
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Gradanska alijansa

Civic Alliance – Aleanca qytetare