



School of Democratic Leadership

Bulletin of Democratic Leadership

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Introduction

Dear alumni and dear friends of SDL,



The sixteenth edition of the Democratic Leadership Bulletin offers reviews of different segments of Montenegrin society. Topics covered in this release are diverse, from the situation in the judiciary, the new Law on Local Self-Governments, dealing with the past, NATO integration to the story of anti-fascism, journalistic profession, cultural heritage and efficient use of energy. The value of this publication is precisely in diversity and freedom. The space where numerous participants of the School of Democratic Leadership, now important actors on the socio-political scene, can look at all those topics that may not be so popular but certainly not even less important.

With this publication, we want to hear and understand a different opinion and try to get closer to one's own. One of the ways in which SDL is trying to contribute to the freedom of presenting opinions based on facts and in general to the culture of dialogue in Montenegro is this Bulletin, the sixteenth which is in front of you. As we do through the School program. This year we started a program for a new, 16th generation, focused on working with political parties, the non-governmental sector and the media. This year's program was focused on the various aspects of negotiation chapters 23 and 24 as the most demanding and the biggest challenges in the integration process of Montenegro. The school constantly develops and adapts its program to changes and needs of Montenegrin society, but also prominent social actors. We remain committed to it and open to all who share the same values.

*Sanja Rašović,
Coordinator of SDL*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Interview: Mark Brnovich

Judges must work on developing a better understanding of the judicial and prosecutorial case law ..2

Nikola Rovčanin

Professionalization of party cadres3

Zoran Mikić

Facing the past – one of the great challenges of our time4

Marija Mirjačić

Antifascism has to be a state of mind5

Jovan Vučurović

Letter on occupation – NATO and “principles” ..6

Danijela Lasica

“Do not say a little in many words, but a great deal in few.”8

Marko Radulović

Implementation of Law on efficient use of energy9

Biljana Kecojević

Cultural heritage – unexploited potential of Montenegro10

News from SDL11

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School of Democratic Leadership, st. Studentska, lamella 9, app. no. 5, 81000 Podgorica;
tel/fax: +382 20 513 687; e-mail: office@gamn.org; www.sdr.gamn.org

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INTERVIEW

MARK BRNOVICH

Arizona Attorney General, USA
AGInfo@azag.gov

Judges must work on developing a better understanding of the judicial and prosecutorial case law



Judges are managers of a courtroom and as such, need to be able to arbitrate proceedings utilizing court rules and procedures. Judges must also work on developing a better understanding of the judicial and prosecutorial case law, and apply the precedents as uniformly as possible.

♦ ***From your point of view and after few visits to Montenegro what are the key challenges in the prosecutor's work in Montenegro?***

Transnational criminal organizations are operating in all areas of the world. Montenegro, like the United States, understands prosecutors and investigators need training in methods of detection and prosecution which allow them to build a record of criminal activities. Criminals act without regard to borders. So the justice system needs to be equipped to tackle cyber crime, human trafficking and money laundering where the effects of those crimes are felt.

♦ ***What are your advises in the field of Judiciary and what could be in the focus of USA support to Montenegro in this field?***

Judges are managers of a courtroom and as such, need to be able to arbitrate proceedings utilizing court rules and procedures. Judges must also work on developing a better understanding of the judicial and prosecutorial case law, and apply the precedents as uniformly as possible. Exposure to similar justice systems and judges where these skills have been fine tuned, benefits all parties seeking a timely and fair legal resolution. Additionally, respect for the Rule of Law requires the judicial branch be able to recognize and resist any form of unlawful pressure on the courts and prosecutors. Sharing best practices on anti-corruption efforts benefits both countries and their citizens.

♦ ***From your point of view up to which extent are human rights and freedoms respected in Montenegro?***

Having visited both government officials and law schools, I can remark on my impression that there is a strong commitment to human rights and Constitutionally protected freedoms. Political divisions have appropriate forums for discussion and allow the country to continue to move forward with the development and uniform application of laws.



Sanja Rašović



NIKOLA ROVČANIN

Democratic Montenegro, councilor in Pljevlja municipal assembly and member of Main board
demokrate.pljevlja@gmail.com

Professionalization of party cadres

New Law on Local self-governance came to effect on 18 January 2018, bringing several changes. Despite maintaining existing concept of local self-governance in regards to the one-instance model of the local self-governance and equal jurisdictions, questions arise whether the new solutions allow for improved founding principles of the local self-governance system. Professionalism, accountability, transparency and efficiency of municipal bodies remain the aims, but the implementation of new Law cannot ensure delivery of satisfactory results. Namely, key problem is entrenched practice of employment of local civil servants on the grounds of their political party affiliation, which gave rise to the discrimination in the area of employment and introduction of big number of unprofessional but “appealing” cadres into the local self-governances.

New Law promotes “professionalization”, but only within the ranks of those that have been previously employed due to their political party affiliation. For all those that hadn’t manage to enter the system of local administration, conditions, i.e. the ladders – have been made higher. Thus, through the formal professionalization – political cadres are becoming more protected, with additional shield around them, in regard to the employment conditions, career advancement and carrying out their regular duties – which is not reachable for the majority of highly educated cadres from the Employment Bureau. With such approach, state is giving up on the knowledge of the youth, which is waiting for their chance at the Bureau, and among them, I am sure – there are number of professional people, ready to contribute to the more professional work of local authorities, while advantage is on the side of those already within the system.

The goal of every responsible state should be to keep the educated locals, and to provide the best of them the opportunity to integrate their knowledge with the public system and thus contribute to its better work. Unfortunately, our state, within the context of professionalization of public sector, did not demonstrate attentiveness to make use of resources of the youth, waiting for the employment. E.g. new Law would impose the best graduates the condition of decade of work experience before becoming eligible for the local administration functions – if they even stand a chance with political party cadres. If we add the fact that time spent on professional qualification internships is not counted as the professional experience – question remains on where the 10.000 of highly educated cadres would get necessary professional experience in order to compete for the jobs in the local self-governances. New Law is introducing stricter conditions for heads of

secretariats, directions and departments in regards to the years of necessary professional experiences, making it “8 years on same or similar positions”, in comparison to the previous “5 or 3 years on managing positions”. For their deputies, Law prescribes “4 years of relevant experience or 2 years on managing positions”. For the positions of the advisor and inspector of I rank – 5 years of relevant professional experience would be required, while for the position of senior advisor and associate 3 years would be required, all of which – within the appropriate level of professional expertise. In parallel to the existing position of Manager, new Law prescribed additional function – Chief City Architect, who will be in charge of the affairs regulated by the legislation on spatial planning and construction of objects. This position, apart of VII/1 level of education, would require 10 years of professional experience in the areas of urbanism and architecture.

New Law would make the position of Speaker of the local parliament – a professional one, with optional appointments of deputy speakers, which are limited to 2 positions. However, the most relevant legal change is the period of appointment of the heads of municipal bodies, which has been increased from 4 to 5 years, following the public competition. This presents one of the solutions with public sector professionalization potential. When it comes to the interim heads of the municipal bodies – new Law prescribes maximum duration for such arrangement to 6 months. Municipalities should align their statutes and other acts with new Law in the period no longer than 6 months since Law came into effect, while the acts on internal organization and systematization should be aligned by the 1 September 2018. The adoption of the new Law placed out of the power – previous Law on Local communities. In addition, Law introduced significant novelties when it comes to more concise methods for convening the first sessions of new local parliaments, duration of mandate, dissolution and shortening the mandate of the assembly, option for extending the mandate of the assembly in the extraordinary and emergency situations, but also – the issue of calling for new municipal elections in the cases of end of mandate before the term. To conclude, new Law did provide for formal progress in certain segments, but as it appeared – stockpiled problems from previous decades, intentionally created to serve the single party interests, cannot be solved with several legal provisions and without essential changes. Especially not – if it is expected that big number of political party cadres would transform overnight into professionals. This is not professionalization of the work.



ZORAN MIKIĆ
Executive Director of GP URA
mikiczorani@yahoo.com

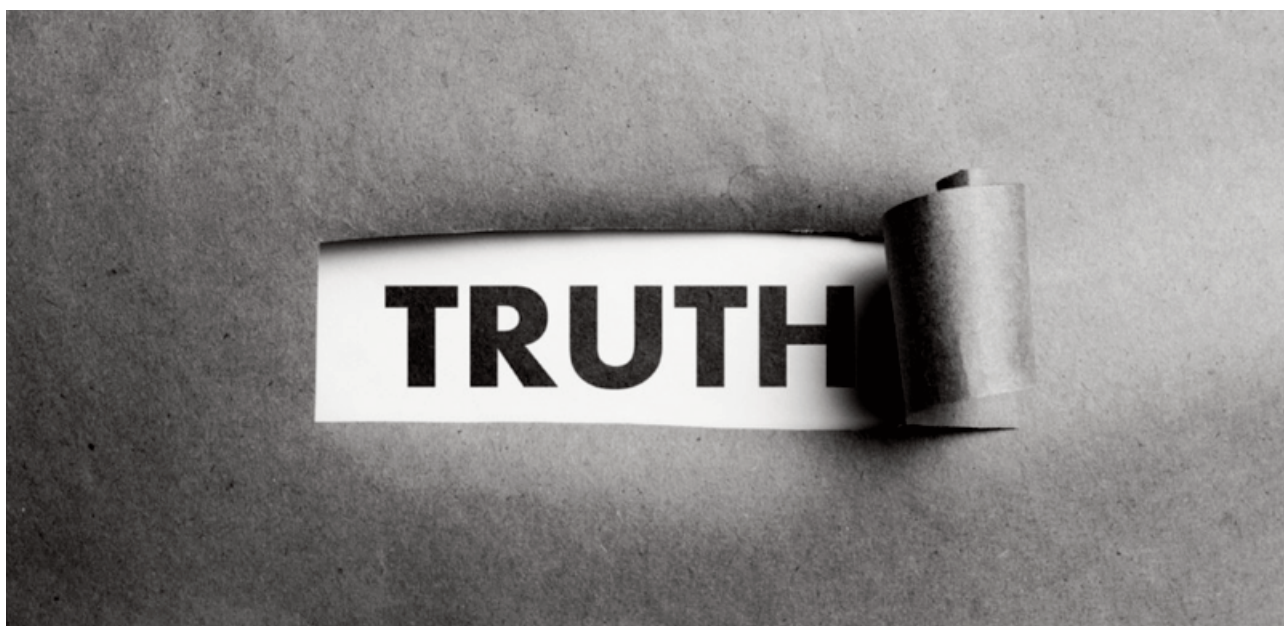
Facing the past – one of the great challenges of our time

Historia magistra vitae est – history is life's teacher, or it suppose to be. In order not to repeat the past in the future it is necessary to identify the mistakes from the past and adequately address them.

Process of facing the past is commonly related to the painful and tragic events of the 1990s, dissolution of Yugoslavia and severe war crimes that took place. It is often forgotten or overlooked that those tragic events are mere pieces of broader mosaic, which has never been put together. Montenegro still waits for systematic study of the wartime period, but also for the comprehensive historical account of XX century. As a consequence, Montenegrin pupils and students know very little of contemporary history of Montenegro. This specifically applies to the war events of 1990s, which are barely mentioned in school textbooks or treated through scarce lectures. Besides this, Montenegrin society still haven't properly faced other, more or less traumatic and improperly elaborated topics of XX century, such as "Forced conversions to Christianity of Bosniacs and muslims in 1912-13", "Crimes of Austro-Hungarian army in occupied Montenegro 1916-18", "Crimes over guerilla fighters and members of the Greens movement", "Crimes in occupied Montenegro during the World War II", "Crimes in Doli village 1943", "Slaughter and crimes in Velika village 1944", "Crimes over members of Chetniks movement and their fami-

lies", "Inform-bureau and Goli otok", and many others. Our society urgently needs a project with working title "Facing the past – war and other crimes in Montenegro during the XX century", which would allow for proper study of the abovementioned traumatic and improperly elaborated topics, followed by series of publications, collections of documents and lists of victims. Thus, we would, even only symbolically, achieve justice for the victims, but also generate lessons and messages for future generations, so the events from the past would not take place in the future.

One of the greatest problems of our society, but also entire region – is negation of the victims of other nations and exclusive emphasize on the victims from its own nation. Facing the past must be based on the respect of the facts and personal dignity of all casualties of the war. Unrevealed and unpunished war and other crimes are not the path towards reconciliation. Until we face the facts from the past, with all parties accepting the respective responsibility for the events and crimes – there would be no lasting peace and stability in the region. Systematic, instead of selective, facing with the past – is the only way to avoid the mistakes in the presence and future. Montenegro, as all countries in the region, must adopt the Law on opening the secret files and Law on lustration, if they wish to sincerely face the facts, events and crimes from the past.





MARIJA MIRJAČIĆ

Deputy Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro
 marija.mirjacic@skupstina.me

Antifascism has to be a state of mind

"You do not look at the enemy. You close all the doors and windows in front of him. That is someone else's army – fascistic. It brings violence, humiliation, torture, horror and death. Everything that it has belongs to other."

people's hero Đoko Pavićević

We learn about values in family, at school, kindergartens...from the early childhood. Education has its price and requires devotion, patience, time. However, more expensive than investment in knowledge and education is non-investment in education. It is more expensive for a family, society and the country. Therefore, antifascism has to be not only political standpoint, but the state of mind, acting, and the way of life of the wider layers of the society. It has to be the core and fundamental directive of our national future, like in all developed European countries and the world that cherish and strive to universal values: freedom, justice, equality, humanity, as the foundations of all forms of progress.

Montenegrin story about fascism, or antifascism starts with the 13 July Uprising 1941, our legitimacy before democratic Europe and the world or before our people, past, our reflection in the mirror, but most importantly – our conscience. The first association on this magnificent historical event, unique in then devastated fascistic Europe, is the resistance to fascism on the peak of its own power, on fight between David and Goliath. Uprising of Montenegrin people was an extraordinary event. One of the smallest and poorest people in Europe, started armed conflict with the most powerful army in the world in that time – Axis powers (Germany, Italy, Japan). Fascism – the greatest evil that had happened to humanity during the World War II was defeated, but has not been destroyed, and the contribution of our small Montenegro was fascinating, recognized and respected by the whole world, by victims, moral and ethical codes, which would serve to some large countries to look up to uprising Montenegro, but serve us today as the testament and the huge pledge among the NATO and the EU partners.

Nowadays, in XXI century, we are witnesses of the persistence of deep political divisions and after referendum on independence, which leads us to question what is antifascism today? Is Montenegrin society antifascist and up to which extent? This question should be asked continuously, not only for the 13 July Uprising 1941, when Montenegrins gave lesson to enslaved Europe. Antifascism is nowadays, and it has to be tomorrow, continuous answer on always opened questions of na-

tionalistic and other appetites of the ones who don't think good for mankind.

Unfortunately, some very well camouflaged fascistic ideas and smaller movements and organizations exist in Europe. Even our country is not immune on incidental situations, but is mature enough to recognize, thanks to innocent victims, evil intentions that do not lead to future. How to name people who do not recognize the state, its borders, its historical and cultural past, language, anthem, the coat of arms, the flag. The answer is fascism. History is being revised in our environment. Known enemies have been rehabilitated, leaders of the Chetniks and Ustashe movement, and even some of them tend to be proclaimed as saints. This "trend" is being tried to be transmitted to Montenegro, and how should we otherwise interpret the requests for national reconciliation, which has been completed long time ago, the requirements to erect monuments to war criminals or explain graffiti of the swastika on a monument under Trebjesa, where the name of Ljubo Čupić is among thirty-two patriots, except as the hate in the action. However, every force has resistance, and the resistance has our collective memory, as well as Euro-Atlantic and European integration.

Nowadays, antifascism is needed as it was earlier, 70 years ago, and perhaps is needed more. Fight against fascism can and should take place in all fields today. If we allow fascism to prevail, no one will be safe. Experience of a German man confirms this the best: "When the Nazis came for the Communists, I was silent, because I was not a communist. When they imprisoned socio-democrats, I was silent because I was not socio-democrat. When they arrived for a member of a trade union, I did not complain, because I was not a member of a trade union. When they took away the Jews, I was silent because I was not a Jew. At the end, they came out for me, but there was no one who could raise its voice." So, the silence and not doing anything are the same as the support to fascism. Silence is the manner of defeated and we should not allow to be losers, because fascism is the rude winner, with no boundaries, and is not even welcome within boundaries.

For that reason, parents, intellectuals, professors, workers, politicians – unite! It's important.



JOVAN VUČUROVIĆ

MP on behalf of the Democratic Front and member of Presidency of New Serb Democracy
jovan.vucurovic@skupstina.me

Letter on occupation – NATO and “principles”

By game of chances, I am writing this article in the moment of commemoration of NATO aggression on FR Yugoslavia, and almost an year from Montenegro entering this aggressive military alliance. While my friend Milan Knezevic is in the dungeons in Spuz prison, following the staged trial, in the NATO member country.

One of the key NATO documents prescribes the rule of law and observance of human rights, as one of the main preconditions to the membership.

And what do we have in Montenegro?

19 years after destruction of our country, massacre over the innocent civilians, contamination of the region with illegal weapons – NATO is still very much active in its newest member. Not through the support to the rule of law, as proclaimed in related Action plan, but through destructive actions, as a support to the violence of the regime, through “legalisation” and instigation of state terror and prosecution of political opponents to the 30 years long last dictatorship in Europe. It doesn't require some major analytical skills to conclude that in the period since the preparations of scenario for Montenegrin forcefully joining the NATO, without referendum and contrary to the will of people – main factors of that alliance gave carte blanche to the Montenegrin puppet regime to, without “burden” and free from eventual criticism of sterile and growingly insignificant EU, intensify the terror over DF, as its main political opponent, which refuses to align itself with projections and “standards” of betrayal and mere servitude to the occupying forces, as

current regime is doing.

And this what is happening to DF, Andrija Mandic, Milan Knezevic, Nebojsa Medojevic, tens and hundreds of officials and members – is not unknown to Montenegro. However, similar processes, such as Bombaska afera and Kolasinski proces or Goli otok tragedy – all took place while Montenegro was authoritarian country, while prosecution of DF is going on while Montenegro is formally at list – parliamentary democracy, and while it has been in front of, and now within – the NATO, an alliance of states of “advanced” democracy and rule of law. Who support the government which is continually in power since 1945, and has been never changed after the elections...

Nowhere in Europe today, except Montenegro, one of the opposition leaders is in jail because he fought in grand DF protests in 2015 for fair and free elections and confronted the power and unlawfulness using democratic means. Nowhere else, apart in Montenegro, are the opposition leaders are trialed in staged court and political processes... Nowhere else, apart in Montenegro, member of NATO, which is under double occupation. And citizens of Montenegro became slaves of shameful relation, because local regime is the servant of NATO's main player, who is threatening Montenegro that if turning disobedient – its leadership would suffer consequences due to criminal activities. And then they together found enemy in DF, that should be most severely attacked. And, as a promoters of violence in politics, they probably didn't think that DF would stay up on their feet and fight



back, because DF represents the Montenegro that never surrendered not sold itself, and which always stuck with traditional friends and allies, and not those artificial and forcefully imposed. Montenegro will not develop in such way, by the offsprings betraying the forefathers for other people's sycophancy and narrow-minded logic.

DF will not turn the blind eye on the truth – about 1999 NATO killings of citizens of Montenegro and treason of the regime leadership in the moment of the attack on the country.

Year of 1999 is interesting for me from other aspect also. In Niksic, I have recently participated in public forum on the topic of “Summer of love 1967 – epic transformation in music and culture”, as someone engaged in rock criticism for decades and being in love with american rocknroll, especially from that period. Beside the standard themes covered, with accent on music and various phenomena that personified the 1960s, I raised a question, first to myself – “what happened with protest culture in America, how could resistance to the Vietnam massacres be so strong, and same people are silent to the crimes committed by their country years after Vietnam...where are those people, their children and grandchildred in time of the aggressions on FR Yugoslavia, Somalia, Iraq, Afganistan, now when USA support the terrorists in Syria...” Or the “deep state” machinery just “read” its mistakes from 1960s and did its best to prevent them in future, by offering anesthetics to the public opinion in decades that followed those events, which were massive, continuous and presented the human face of USA, while their foreign policy was killing the inno-

cent people of Vietnam.

How the awareness evolved – with the elites and common USA citizens also, who was ready to give his life for the idea of peace – in Kent or elsewhere, being aware of the fact that his country committed massive and heavy crimes over people of Vietnam... and maybe the downfall of a dream, and one of the greatest examples of “evolution” – is the detail from 2012, when the “Medal of Freedom”, greatest civil award in USA – was given together to Bob Dylan and Madeleine Albright, symbol of antiwar protests and symbol of blood and war.

To come back to Montenegro – maybe I attribute too much of relevance of DF to global terms, but DF case study as well as of political situation in Montenegro, reveals many masks in international politics. “Principles” of NATO are falling down, like houses of cards, alongside the big words on how this alliance supports the independent and “reliable” judiciary, professional security services, free institutions, protection of human rights, freedom of press... Mere pile of lies, easily revealed with basic overview of the situation in which currently Montenegro and its citizens are.

19 years after the aggression on FRY, a year since joining the NATO – this organisation remains the same and doesn't change its ugly face, committed to the principles of force and in permanent quest for conflicts, servants and puppers which, like Montenegrin regime, they make use of and humiliate them in their gambles in grand geopolitical scene.

And DF would sustain. And just so we are clear – nobody from outside could bring freedom to Montenegro. We would have to fight for it on our own. Till freedom!





Pythagoras

YOU who take a riot from your living room and give support from the terrace of your home ... YOU who do not react on the cry of a child in the nearby apartment ... YOU who are silent if everyone in the medical waiting room enters without an order ... YOU who are willing to sell your vote for a job position ... How dare you to criticize, attack and insult me? What and how should I write and report so YOU can be satisfied? When we talk about politics, where is the economy; when we talk about social cases and misery, why are you so negative; when we talk about the north, then - where is the coast; when we talk about criminals, why do not we talk about successful people; too much sunshine, too little rain, too much power, too much opposition, small smugglers, and big criminals. When will you be satisfied? Do you really think YOU would do it better than me, than us? All right, let's switch to 24 hours. Come and work instead of me - to try to get the information from public bodies that do not even want to hear your voice, to record someone who is mistreated at work by the boss, someone who saw a murder, a worker who believes that the minister is not doing its job well, a bully that harasses a woman, a doctor who receives a bribe, a judge who judges as he was told, a mobster who deals with the production of cigarettes or narcotics, a deputy who steals, a politician who lies, a professor who harasses pupils, an employer who does not pay overtime work ... Come on, you should see how 'easy' it is to find all this data, interlocutors ... All of them are only waiting for YOU to appear and all the truths of this world will come out ... I started the story with a quotation, so I'll finish it the same way. It's about an unknown author, so let it belong to me - "If you do not have the will to change, you have no right to criticize."



**MARKO RADULOVIĆ**

Director General of Directorate for Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Economy
info@ee-me.org

Implementation of Law on efficient use of energy

Law on efficient use of energy, as the main document, and 40 bylaws that closely define certain issues relevant for the improvement of energy efficiency, which Ministry of Economy prepared/adopted in the previous period, are the best indicators of readiness of the Government of Montenegro to regulate the energy efficiency area in accordance with the modern standards applied in the EU and wider.

Legislative framework for energy efficiency area in Montenegro is well developed and harmonized with the EU regulations in this field. This confirms the last report of the Energy Community that says that Montenegro, jointly with Serbia, is the leader in the region in terms of implementation of the energy efficiency policy.

We should not forget the fact that the energy efficiency legislative framework is constantly developing at the level of the EU, which requires continuous work on improvement of the relevant legal framework in Montenegro.

Larger challenge than harmonization of the legal framework is implementation of defined legal solutions in practice, because it needs harmonization with the conditions in Montenegro and constant improvement in order to achieve satisfying results.

Amending of Law on efficient use of energy has been planned for 2018, which aims at improvement of certain provisions for the purpose of efficient implementation of adopted regulations and efficient implementation of the energy efficiency policy. Planned amendments will mostly be directed towards two main segments:

Strengthening of the inspection oversight for the energy efficiency area, through development of specific inspection that will monitor implementation of Law on efficient use of energy by all stakeholders.

Improvement of solutions that define the energy management in public sector and provision of certain tools for work, primarily central monitoring system of the energy consumption and the central system for monitoring and verification of energy saving.

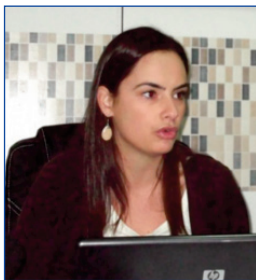
It is also important to take into consideration the need for amending of Law on efficient use of energy in the part related to defining of new goals in accordance with the requirement of Directive on energy efficiency. Valid indicative goal of the energy efficiency is related to period 2010-2018, and the achievements of the previous period will be known next year. At the moment, it is important to consider the obligations

in terms of defining the new indicative goal, in accordance with the overtaken obligations in the framework of the Energy Community membership, and give adequate legal ground through amending of the Law. Speaking about the policy implementation, it is important to mention the cooperation with the German Bank for Development (KfW) that supports the Ministry of Economy in development of frameworks for the energy efficiency of buildings and development of software for calculation of energy characteristics of buildings. Conditions for energy certification of buildings in Montenegro are expected to be created during 2020. Besides, in the framework of cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and German Association for International Cooperation (GIZ), Ministry of Economy actively works on establishing of frameworks for labeling the energy efficiency and introduction of requirements of the eco design product that impact on energy consumption. New obligations for suppliers and distributors of these products in Montenegro are intensively promoted through round tables and media campaign at the end of last year and at the beginning of this year.

The implementation in practice, at the Montenegrin market approaches, and the involvement of the Administration for Inspection Affairs is needed. Ministry of Economy has achieved excellent cooperation with the Administration in the previous period.

It is also important to mention the implementation of energy efficiency projects in public sector facilities and in households, where the benefits of implementation of energy efficiency measures are best visible, but not only in regards to energy saving, but the improvement of the life/work comfort.



**BILJANA KECOJEVIĆ**

Team "Bedem 360"

biljanakecojevic@gmail.com

Cultural heritage – unexploited potential of Montenegro

When we want to praise Montenegro to a stranger, or a random traveler or to a deliberate tourist, besides the tourist potential and natural beauty, we always proudly emphasize the rich cultural and historical heritage; heritage that is important to us, because we are aware of the great special characteristics of towns, which make them unique and tell a story through the history. However, when we find ourselves as tourists in European metropolis, we quickly realize that we did not protect what we're proud of and that the potentials of our state is stagnating or failing. The cultural heritage of Montenegro is the result of development trends and overlaps of both eastern and western civilizations. And all we have is in that arrangement. Even large, and economically more powerful countries often raise the issue of protecting their goods, but they have already valorized them. However, according to development plans and documents, and the actual Sustainable Development Strategy 2030, Montenegro is well aware of its wealth and the problems this sector faces. Largely devastated and degraded goods often remain at the level of the perceived problem and are condemned on further degradation. We must preserve what defines us, what has always defined us. Our history and tradition, cultural heritage and the monument of culture as the monument we have raised and which we preserve for our children. Cultural and historical heritage of Montenegro is definitely the potential we have never valorized so we can live of it, so we can have a good life with it. Today, it serves as the reminder that we are so distant from the hundred percent of coexistence with historical and other forms of modern culture.

Sometimes, certain examples are sufficient to give us hope that institutions of the system conscientiously do their job, and that there is strength out of these institutions, civil society that is interested to give its contribution to a very important area of development of Montenegro.

Therefore, Bedem 360 is an idea that will bring a new creative drive on the Nikšić fortress, and give a new life to a ruined and neglected and mostly devastated protected space in the heart of Nikšić. Bedem 360 is destined to be the aorta of the old city of

Anderva, and a positive example of how to treat it. This is the idea that returns the beauty and essence to the fortress which is the Nikšić landmark sight, which will revive the culture of the town and its tourism, its youth and generations. Adaptation and revitalization of centuries old stone, and centuries old roads where the history intertwined with culture and created our heritage that we are obliged to preserve. To adapt and revitalize and then bring the purpose of the entire space of the Nikšić fortress, to create the 360 brand that will represent Nikšić and Montenegro and for which we can proudly say that it is our product, our preserved history and life we wish for ourselves and our children.

Andrei Tarkovsky says that the beauty is a symbol of truth, not the visually appealing beauty, but the harmonious beauty, beauty that a person feels when confronts it. So, Bedem 360 is the real truth, the projection of cultural and tourist beauty of Nikšić. Beauty is like a miracle testified accidentally by a man, and the idea of the Bedem 360 is a story of a beauty and its purpose that the generations will testify.

A socially responsible attitude towards the nature that surrounds us, and towards the history and culture that inhabits it, is necessary, because our goods are the treasury of unused goods and with its valorization we can become not only culturally, but also stronger in tourist and economic regards.



NEWS FROM SDL



opened H.E. Margaret An Uyehara, USA Ambassador to Montenegro, H.E. Mladen Chervenjakov, Ambassador of Bulgaria and H.E. Arne Sanes Bjørnstad, Ambassador of Norway. After the opening ceremony, Ms Gordana Djurovic, Professor at the Faculty of Economy and the President of the Pan-European Union held the introductory lecture on topic „Current position of Montenegro in the EU integration process“.

Opening of XVI generation of SDL

The team of School of Democratic Leadership formed the commission for selection after dozens of applications arrived after the call for the XVI generation. The Commission elected candidates who passed the first round and after interviews and consultations formed the list of the new generation that will pass this year's programme. This generation is composed of 22 participants. Among them are functionaries from political parties, representatives of executive and legislative power, civil society and editors in chief and journalist of almost all media in Montenegro. At the beginning of February, opening ceremony and the introduction panel for the new SDL generation, took place at the EU Info Center in Podgorica. This year's programme for XVI generation

The first seminar devoted to negotiation chapter 23

The first module in the framework of the program for XVI generation of SDL took place from 16 until 18 March 2018, at the Hotel "Residence" in Pržno, Budva. Topic of this seminar was "Chapter 23 – challenges and the negotiation process". Members of this generation are representatives of political parties, media, civil society, executive and legislative power, and on the topic related to Chapter 23 spoke Dragan Đurić, Program Manager at Regional School for Public Administration – RESPA; Branislav Radulović, member of Senate of the State Audit Institution; Vesna Simović Zvicer, member of the Judicial Council; Miodrag Ilić, judge of the Constitutional Court; Vanja Čalović Marković, member of the Council of Anticorruption Agency; Miloš Šoškić, Prosecutor at the Higher Public Prosecution Office; Kristina Četković, Coordinator of the Media Programme in Civic Alliance; Milan Radović, Coordinator of Human Rights and the Rule of Law Programme in Civic Alliance; Siniša Bjeković, Deputy of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, Leon Gjakaj, Director General of Directorate for Improvement and Protection of Minority Population Rights.



Development of informal Green Parliamentary Group

In the framework of the project supported by the Open Regional Fund for the South East Europe – Biodiversity and Energy Efficiency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), School of Democratic Leadership initiated establishing of informal Green Parliamentary Group at the Parliament of Montenegro. The goal of this initiative is development of the Parliamentary group in order to provide deserved priority for environment topics and to place them as the focus of decision making processes. This project envisages additional education of MPs through meetings of informal Green Parliamentary Group in Serbia and in the EU countries. Interested MPs signed the Charts that oblige them during their mandate to actively work on: promotion, initiating and implementation of initiatives at the local, national, and regional level in accordance with the values and principles of protection of environment and sustainable development; involvement of public and civil society in decision making process in the field of protection of environment and sustainable development and attaining of knowledge and skills in the field of protection of environment and sustainable development.



New, redesigned site of the SDL

The new, redesigned site of the SDL is active. Visit <http://sdr.gamn.org/>.



Škola demokratskog rukovođenja

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