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FOCUS OF THIS ISSUE

The projects the EU promised to fund in Montenegro after the Vienna summit - safer railroad and better electricity

Interview

President of the Board of Institute Alternative, Stevo Muk

Challenges in the EU

How the EU members deal with the refugee crisis

Foreword: 2060.



Vladan Žugjić

At the European Union – Western Balkans conference in Vienna, Montenegrin Prime Minister **Milo Đukanović** estimated that Montenegro could reach the EU's level of income by 2060, as our economy grows at an expected rate of over 3% whereas that of the Union ambles along at 1% per year.

This is probably the most realistic forecast of the Montenegrin economy Đukanović uttered in the past 26 years. So far he has rather been partial to optimistic promises, such as the 2012 one about the 40 000 new jobs that were to spring up in the economy by 2016, or the one about the billions euro in investments that are bound to arrive any moment now to, for instance, the Great Beach in Ulcinj.

What I would like to know next is how long we will take to reach the European levels of the rule of law and fundamental values.

The August arrests in Budva, which rounded up 14 town officials, eight of them members of the ruling DPS party, seem like a reply of the previous two arrests of more or less the same persons. All they do is resurrect speculations about whether or not this is all aimed at bringing to justice - and to heel - one of the most influential men in the ruling party, **Svetozar Marović**.

The only difference this time are the accusations coming from the government-controlled media that concern the alleged leaks of information and exclusive footage of the arrests by the Supreme State Prosecutor **Ivica Stanković**, the Special State Prosecutor **Milivoje Katnić** and "Vijesti". The ruling elite appears to be trying to engineer a tabloid reality that would cover up the fact that the foot soldiers of its own party have been handcuffed. The accusations have given rise to alternative theories - some like to think that this might be evidence that Ivica Stanković and Milivoje Katnić are in fact showing signs of independence, others claim the event is nothing more than a continuation of a clan war within DPS, and yet others believe that the government has chosen to sacrifice some of its own in exchange for the invitation to NATO and a pat on the shoulder from the EU, whose annual Progress Report is due in October.

We should probably wait a few more months before we pass a judgment on the new prosecution.

To earn our confidence, and to restore the trust in parliamentary elections and the electoral system - another of the EU's demands vis-a-vis Montenegro - Stanković would also have to score a few points in the "Recording" affair, the same one that had completely discredited his predecessor **Ranka Čarapić**.

If we were to do better in fighting crime, corruption, nepotism, clientelism and tabloid speculations, Montenegro might reach the EU's level of income even before 2060.

Calendar

- August 4 **Đukanović tried to replace Drobnič** / According to Slovenian news agency *STA* the Prime Minister **Milo Đukanović** has been trying to finagle the replacement of the Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro **Mitja Drobnič**, due to the latter's criticism of the Montenegrin government. Citing the article "Head of the Delegation on tabloid covers" by *Delo* from Ljubljana, the Slovenian agency claims that Drobnič is under attack by some in the government, and that his replacement was requested in Brussels and Ljubljana. Brussels officials have on several occasions reiterated that Drobnič represents the views of the EU.
- August 13 **Russia imposes sanctions on Montenegro** / Russian Prime Minister **Dmitrij Medvedev** signed a resolution on the expansion of food embargo to Montenegro, Albania, Iceland and Lichtenstein, and introduced special conditions for Ukraine. Bans on the imports of some food products to Russia have thus been extended to the states outside the EU that had backed the western sanctions against Russia.
- August 26 **Demarcation agreements signed with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo** / Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina signed the agreement on the common state border in Vienna, in the first act of that kind to be signed between the former Yugoslav states. Parallel to this, Montenegro signed the agreement on demarcation with Kosovo. The parties emphasised that this was an example of how open disputes should be handled in the rest of the Western Balkans.
- August 27 **Đukanović: Montenegro incomes to reach the EU level by 2060** / "Expected average growth in Montenegro during the period 2015-2017 is above 3% - slightly above the regional average. Should we maintain this growth trend, while the economy of the EU grows at a rate of 1%, Montenegro will reach the EU' level by the year 2060", Prime Minister **Milo Đukanović** told EU-Western Balkans conference in Vienna.
- August 27 **Not to block each other on the path to EU** / High governmental officials of Western Balkan states adopted the text "Declarations on bilateral issues" during the summit in Vienna, in which they committed to resolve bilateral issues in a manner that would ensure that no Western Balkan state blocks, or causes obstruction to the process of European integration of any of its neighbours, as has been the case on a few occasions in the recent past.

Montenegro – a small country with a strong commitment to EU membership



By: Anneliese Dodds

The author is a MEP, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee

Montenegro is leading the way among EU candidate countries, having already opened 20 negotiation chapters out of 35, with two being provisionally closed. Montenegro's advanced position in the accession talks has much to do with the strong commitment from all sides towards membership. When I talk with government officials, opposition politicians, NGO activists and members of the public, all share the same goal of EU membership.

As Chair of the EP Delegation to EU-Montenegro SAPC, I am co-presiding over the Committee together with the Speaker of the Montenegrin Parliament. The joint committee meets once a year in the European Parliament and once in Montenegro.

During our last SAPC meeting, among other very important issues, we discussed about the reforms relevant to the negotiation chapters 23 and 24 (on the rule of law and fundamental rights). These two chapters are the key for the successful continuation of the accession process. They were the first to be opened and will be the last to be closed to give enough time for reforms to take place. The fight against corruption is a crucial element of these. Important legislative work in this area has already taken place but this needs to be accompanied by real progress in implementation and enforcement. The proper prosecution of high level corruption, in particular, remains the litmus test for the independence of the judicial system. NGOs and the free press play an important part in the effective fight against corruption and the competent authorities in Montenegro need to create an environment in which they can work without fear. Unfortunately however, the 2015 World Press Freedom Index (based mainly on data from 2014) ranks Montenegro as taking 114th place out of 180 places. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatović, has stressed the importance of "measures to strengthen media self-regulation and the fight to end impunity for attacks against journalists in the country" in her recent meeting with Prime Minister Milo Đukanović. So,

more action is still needed in this area.

We also talked about the situation of disabled people in Montenegro and the EU disability strategy. The values of dignity, autonomy, equality, participation and inclusion are central EU principles and I am therefore pleased that Montenegro is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. While there have been improvements in the legal framework over the last few years, further actions are needed to comply with the EU acquis. Legislation has to translate into real change on the ground. Just to highlight one important point, the vast majority of public buildings are still not accessible for people with disabilities. This includes the 13 buildings which the government selected for priority adaption - with the very positive exception of the parliament where construction works to make it accessible for disabled people are currently ongoing and should be finished next month.

Our focus was also on the policies in the area of environment. As the famous poet Lord Byron once said: "The most beautiful contact between the earth and sea took place at the Montenegrin littoral." It is very important that Montenegro protects its exceptional environment. One example in this area is the Salina in Ulcinj, the most important resting area for migratory birds on the East Adriatic coast and home to millions of birds such as rare Dalmatian pelicans and spotted redshanks. Until very recently the habitat of these birds was in danger. In July 2015, the government of Montenegro took the first crucial steps to protect biodiversity there, but more needs to be done to save the Salina and the birds that live there, including designating the Salina as a protected area.

To conclude, Montenegro is currently the only candidate country which is continuously opening new negotiation chapters and is pressing forward fast with negotiations. However there are still important issues which need to be addressed, most notably in the area of rule of law and fundamental rights.

Source: europeanwesternbalkans.com

European Union granted €45 million to Montenegro for two projects

As of 2017, rail journey from Bar will be safer and faster, and the power supply better and perhaps even cheaper



By: Svetlana Pešić

After the Vienna summit on the Western Balkans, Montenegrin Prime minister **Milo Đukanović** announced that the European Union was planning to allocate EUR 600 million to Western Balkan states, €45 million of which will be granted to Montenegro for two projects: one concerning electricity transfer, the other railroad transport.

Mitja Drobnič, Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, talked to the *European pulse* about these projects, and about the timeframe and manner of their implementation.

“Before answering this specific question, allow me to emphasise that the €45 million represents the first step within the Western Balkan Investment Framework (WBIF) co-financing programme for 2015. So there is still a possibility for Montenegro to apply and receive funds for mature projects in the coming years” Drobnič said.



Mitja Drobnič

He further specified that the European Union will secure 20 million for the Montenegrin part of the Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor (I), and another 25 million for the Montenegro-Serbia railway connection which is part of the Orient/East Med Core Network Corridor.

These €45 million represent the first step of the co-financing programme of the Western Balkans Investment Fund (WBIF) for 2015. So there is still a possibility for Montenegro to apply and receive funds for mature projects in the coming years, Drobnič said

“The first investment will contribute to the establishment of a Western Balkans regional electricity market through the creation of a 400 kV transmission corridor between Montenegro, Serbia and BiH, which would then be connected to the EU via the Italy-Montenegro submarine cable, due to be completed in 2017. Through this project, Montenegrin power transmission system will be integrated into the wider European energy market. These investments will improve the quality and security of the electricity supply to Montenegro and the wider region. Citizens will have direct benefits reflected in the reduced transmission losses and additional electricity generators, potentially leading to lower electricity prices. In addition, power supply will be more secure and outages will be less likely”, said the EU representative in Montenegro.

He said that the second investment is an extension of the Orient/East-Med Corridor into the Western Balkans, which is approximately 580km long and runs from the Serbia-Romania border via Podgorica to Bar. *“Within the framework*

of this project, about 167km of electrified railway track between the Port of Bar and the Serbian border at Vrbnica will become fully functional, modern signalling will be placed on approximately 9km of railway line and 5.5km of bridges will be renovated. Hence, this project will enhance security and efficiency of rail transport for around 750 000 passengers using the Bar-Vrbnica railway route on an annual basis with travel time significantly reduced”, Drobnič clarified.

Speaking about the total amount of resources for these two projects and the participation of Montenegro, Drobnič said: *“The total cost of the electricity transmission project is €127 million. In addition to the EU contribution, it is estimated that the KfW will provide a €25 million loan, the EBRD will provide a €60 million loan, while Montenegro will participate with €17 million through its own contribution and other grants. In the case of railways, in addition to the EU contribution, the EIB will provide a €20 million loan.”*

When asked if there are conditions to allocate those EU resources, such as, for instance, projects done by Montenegro and neighbouring states, determined routes or similar, Drobnič told that the projects to be co-financed under the connectivity agenda are determined in partnership with all states of the region.

The aim is that the investment takes place in parallel on both sides of the borders, so that, for instance, trains from Podgorica to Belgrade do not slow down after the border. There is a commitment from Western Balkan states to work simultaneously on the same networks. This is part of a global plan where priority infrastructure has been identified and decided at the regional level, while the implementation of specific projects takes place at national level”, Drobnič said.

He added that within this framework the governments of six Western Balkan states are expected to put in place credible sectoral strategies to support investment in transport and energy infrastructure, and to set up National Investment Committees that would prioritise strategic and viable investment projects.

Drobnič pointed out that this decision of the EU is important on many fronts both for Montenegro and the wider Western Balkan region. *“These projects involve building and connecting transport and energy infrastructure which is a driving force for economic growth and creation of jobs. This will also help attract investments and will create more opportunities not only for business, but for links between people across borders in the region and with the EU”, he told.*

The pre-identified projects

The Vienna Summit identified as significant another 24 infrastructural projects. Among the so called “pre-identified” projects are the highway from Niš in Serbia to Pristina and the Albanian coastal town of Dures, as well as the highway from the Croatian to the Greek border via Montenegro and Albania. The EU will also co-finance Bosnian-Croatian interconnection at the Mediterranean corridor, as well as the railway connection between Serbia and Macedonia. According to some estimates, these projects should add about 1% to the growth of each Western Balkans state, leading to creation of approximately 200 000 new jobs.

Renewable energy sources an opportunity for Montenegro

In its reply to the *European pulse*, the Ministry of Economy said that after the EU's announced its willingness to support investments in the West Balkan region at the Berlin Conference in August 2014, the European Commission adopted the final proposal for a new methodological framework for the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF). This framework will constitute the main mechanism for the channelling of EU support in the upcoming seven-year period.

"After the Government of Montenegro gave its consent to the said methodology, the National Investment Commission was established to oversee the use of the WBIF and other EU funds in the upcoming period. The National Commission adopted the Methodology for the selection and prioritisation of infrastructural projects, and based on this it formed four sectoral working groups whose task is to select and rank infrastructural projects in energy, transportation, environment and social services (justice, health and education). The projects were subsequently approved based on the pre-determined methodology and level of project readiness. We remind that the European Commission defined three indicative lists of projects (green, yellow and red list) which specify the extent to which the projects are ready for implementation", the Ministry of Economy stated.

The Ministry stressed the importance of the EU's decision to approve funding for the Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor, which falls into the jurisdiction of this Ministry, especially in view of the likely increase in electricity trade in the Western Balkans region. Growing demand is anticipated in Montenegro, BiH and Serbia, as well as through the new interconnection between Montenegro and Italy.

"This connection will secure further integration and development of 400 kV of network in the three states and reduce congestions which arise due to the flows from Romania and Bulgaria towards Serbia, then Montenegro, then Macedonia and Greece. The importance of connectivity projects is not just better cooperation within the region – it also enables newer and less risky investments in national projects, especially production of energy from renewable sources. With solid connectivity in the region, the investors will be more interested in investing in the entire national economy. This decision shows the extent to which the legal and strategic readiness of states is important in the implementation of these projects. Surely this decision constitutes a sort of seal of approval on our previous efforts and a confirmation of our abilities to implement the investments", Ministry of Economy stated.

"The European Union has recognised the will of the leaders of six Western Balkan states when they met in Berlin last year, to bring a new dynamic spirit to regional cooperation. Bearing in mind that the improved connectivity both within the region and of the region with the EU is important for further economic development and building bridges among the Western Balkan peoples, the EU

has placed connectivity very high on its agenda in the enlargement process, which was also stressed during the recently held Western Balkans Vienna Summit", stressed the Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro.

President of the Board of Institute Alternative Stevo Muk

Little has been done to de-politicise public administration since the affair “Recording”

Stevo Muk, president of the board of Institute Alternative (IA), said that little has been done to de-politicise public administration since the affair “Recording”.

In the interview for *European pulse*, Muk talked about de-politicisation of public administration. This has been one of the key demands of the European Commission, especially after the affair concerning abuse of state resources for electoral purposes.

“Most of the incentive for that came after we were granted the status of candidate for EU membership, and through the referencing of de-politicisation of public administration as one of the preconditions for the start of membership negotiations.

However, despite the declarative tendency to reform public administration, two-three years after the start of negotiations with the EU, we still witness situations in which the “allocation” of public offices is determined by coalition agreements of political parties. According to IA's data collected in the study *Professionalization of public managers: Between state and politics*, more than half of high officials in public bodies are members of political parties which are currently in power.

» *Based on the monitoring you conduct, to what extent would you say that the Law on civil servants and state employees is being implemented in practice three years after its adoption? What are the main problems that you have identified?*

The law is implemented in practice, along with some omissions and abuse by state bodies and decision-makers who manage to find shortcuts, modify relatively strict rules of human resource management or simply circumvent them. Our latest annual monitoring report on recruitment and promotion in public

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institutions found that the achievements of the Law on civil servants and state employees (LCSaSE) in establishing a merit-based system of public administration are limited precisely because of the inconsistent application of new rules and poor competition for the existing vacancies.

In spite of some improvements, LCSaSE failed to respond adequately to the need to limit the discretion of superiors over recruitment to the public service. The number of candidates from among which a superior can choose his or her preferred employee is three times higher than the number of candidates who pass the aptitude test. Promotion of civil servants and state employees practically does not exist. According to the available data, there was no solution to the problem of promotion during the reporting period. The legal provision, which prescribes that the promotion based on excellent performance is possible only in higher salary grades, is obviously not the right answer to need of stimulating and keeping professional staff.

» *Are there still problems in the application of this law?*

Fundamental problems in the application of the law, which I have already described, as well as the technical problems, such as the lack of an updated database of all employees of public administration, are also obstacles to de-politicisation.

Merit-based employment is the fundamental remedy for politicization, or the use of public resources, especially jobs in



Stevo Muk

public administration, as the “personal pray” of influential politicians and parties.

» *The Government prepared a draft Strategy for the reform of public administration for the period 2016–2020. What is your assessment of this document?*

This document was prepared in just three days, just before the start of public holidays, and was put up for public debate during the vacation season. There is thus no doubt about the poor quality of the current draft. It is true that this document identified some of



Stevo Muk

the priorities which we also stressed over the previous years of our work, starting with the need to employ the most skilled people to the necessity of delineation between professional and political functions in public administration. However, much more needs to be to

draw up a workable list of priorities and enforceable measures, which is why we will push for greater involvement of the public at later stages of its preparation and implementation.

» *What needs to be done to make public administration in Montenegro more efficient, de-politicised and effective?*

Firstly, it is necessary to define these terms meaningfully and adapt them to the Montenegrin context, as well as to the time period within which a more efficient and less politicised state administration would be feasible. This should in fact be the main task of the new Strategy for the period 2016–2020.

It is important to mention that a completely de-politicised administration does not exist. Still, it is necessary to strengthen professionalism of the civil servants and managers, who are the most responsible for the continuity of reforms and equal treatment of all citizens, precisely in order to ensure a more effective provision of public services, regardless of the party currently in power.

Therefore, effectiveness and de-politicisation are two closely related goals, which we will realise once we define the principle of political neutrality, intensify the criteria and review of the accountability of managing officials, simplify administrative procedures, ensure free

Efficiency and de-politicisation are two closely related goals, which we will realise once we define the principle of political neutrality, intensify the criteria and review of accountability of the managing officials, simplify administrative procedures, ensure free access to information and introduce the culture of citizen-oriented public service to replace that of a closed state apparatus, alienated from those whom it should serve

Instead of falling, the number of public employees rose by 1270

» *The current impression is that implementation of the Law on civil servants and state employees is particularly poor at the local level. What were the findings of your monitoring in this segment?*

It is true that it is particularly poor. While there is some sort of legal and regulatory framework for the employment and civil service system at the national level, when it comes to management of human resources at the local level, some things are just not regulated. The reason is that the Law on civil servants and state employees should be applied to the local level, and that is just not possible, nor do the municipalities have the ability to prepare for aptitude tests and selection of civil servants in the way the national bodies do. This is why municipalities conduct these procedures at their discretion.

Regardless of the surplus of at least 2300 employees in Montenegrin municipalities, local self-governments still keep expanding the payrolls.

This number could get ever higher, given that this figure was “calculated” based on the projections of redundancies outlined by the Plan of internal reorganisation of the public sector. Compared to 2012, instead of falling, the number of people employed in municipalities increased by 1270.

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V. Žugić

How do the EU employees spend their EUR 7000?



EU officials spend more than EUR 100 million every year, by using their special credit cards to pay for food and accommodation, and even for parties, according to the recently leaked information. The reports have been fuelling demands for greater transparency in the spending of EU officials, but so far Brussels refuses to

disclose the information on the use of these cards.

The UK *Telegraph* wrote that approximately 13 000 employees in the EU and related agencies received cards to cover accommodation and other expenses, including personal costs. EU officials, who work abroad due to the nature of their profession, receive on average 83 pounds a day, depending on the state they are in. This figure does not cover the cost of hotels. In some cases, the EU employees can even ask for the “compensation for the costs for parties”.

In 2013, EUR 103.4 million were withdrawn from these cards, not counting the cost of transport. This equals an annual amount of EUR 7000 for each employee. Cards are issued in order to provide financial aid to EU officials, but they are also linked to their personal bank accounts. European bureaucrats report their spending to the Commission, or to their EU service, within 60 days, and ask for reimbursement into their account based on the credit card transactions.

Given that bank accounts are private, EU officials can use those cards to cover personal costs. EU will not follow the model of the United Kingdom and publish spending based on credit card by items, because this “data is linked to private accounts of employees”, according to EU officials.

The EU still without an effective response to the Greek crisis and ISIL



According to the latest poll of the *Opinium* agency, around two thirds of Europeans believe that the EU failed to react effectively to its two biggest challenges – the rise of the Islamic state and the Greek debt crisis. Citizens of western EU states are equally unimpressed with the European approach to the migrant

crisis. The results also confirmed that a higher percentage of the citizens of the southern EU members supports further integration of Union, compared to those in the North.

Commission's new idea on maternity leave



After its controversial proposal to extend maternity leave fell through, the European Commission is now working on new ideas to increase the participation of women in the labour market. Seven years ago, the European Commission proposed to extend the mandatory maternity leave from four to 18 weeks, six of which would be deducted immediately after the birth. The Committee for the rights of women upheld the report of the Portuguese member of European Parliament in which she asked for the extension to 20 weeks, but that proposal was rejected by the plenary vote in the European Parliament. Some of the member states in the Council of Ministers were also against the proposal, which was eventually abandoned.

“Three quarters of working age men in the EU are employed, but this is only true for a little over 60% women. This is both a moral and a social problem because it places women at a greater risk of poverty”, said the first vice president of the Commission **Frans Timmermans** at the presentation of the plan for getting Europe back to work and the challenges of work-life balance.

Germans sympathize with asylum seekers and offer aid



From January to June 2015, 202 assaults on asylum seekers were recorded in Germany, which is considerably more compared to the same period in 2014, according to the data published by German authorities. However, the inflow of refugees is also much higher this year, which results in the incidence of attacks of about one per 1 000 refugees.

The increase of hostility towards refugees who think of rich Germany as a promised land is more than compensated by the outburst of sympathy and support for the people who are looked upon as victims of poverty or violence. During recent months, Germans have been rushing to join welcome committees for asylum seekers. Students, pensioners, and even a member of the conservative party, are welcoming refugees in their homes, while others have created websites for channelling the aid to refugees.

Why are people fleeing the Balkans, where there is neither war nor famine nor threat of torture as in Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan

The failure of Balkan politicians



By: Verica Spasovska

War, hunger and torture are no longer commonplace in Kosovo, Albania, Serbia and Macedonia. For a decade and a half now, the states of the former Yugoslavia and their neighbors have been living in peace. Croatia and Slovenia have joined the European Union. The other Balkan countries have been working toward membership for years. There is thus no basis for comparison with the situation in Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan, where people are dying every day because of war and terrorism. And yet, people are leaving the Balkans to seek asylum in Germany. They're fleeing from poverty and a lack of opportunity, disappointed and frustrated by the political and economic stagnation in their countries. And it's mainly the political elite who are responsible for this lack of growth.

Wasted EU assistance

The billions of euro in reconstruction aid from the EU haven't really brought about economic development or greater democracy. And even the promise of EU membership doesn't seem to be spurring politicians on to implement reforms. As long as they're not in the European Union but continue to receive money from it, the countries don't owe Brussels anything and can continue to benefit from the advantages of this association.

In the western Balkans, unemployment has been between 20 and 50 percent for two decades now. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, more than 60 percent of young men are out of work. Even well-educated young academics can barely find suitable jobs. Sleaze, corruption and patronage obscure any chance of fairness in the job market. The political parties have extended their influence over whole swathes of society. Indirectly, they are among the

Indirectly, politics is the biggest employer. The party in power decides who becomes a manager or a doorman, no matter what skills or qualifications the candidate has.

Almost half of Germany's asylum applicants come from the Balkans. Why are they coming, and what are they fleeing from? The responsibility for the exodus rests with the region's political elites

biggest employers. The relevant governing party decides who becomes a manager or a doorman, no matter what skills the candidate has. Given such circumstances, many people increasingly feel helpless. Many become official party members only because they hope that will give them better career chances, not because they're interested in actively shaping politics. More than half of young, qualified people want to emigrate from Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia.

Lack of social infrastructure

After the old system collapsed, people in positions of responsibility often failed to invest in social infrastructure, such as functioning health systems. Roma, relegated in many countries to the lowest step on the social ladder, are most affected by this. In addition to being discriminated against because of their ethnicity, they also suffer acutely under the lack of a social welfare net. Often, they simply can't afford to see a doctor. They come to Germany for the "pocket money" that they receive while their asylum applications are being processed and because here they have access to free health care.

Autocratic structures

Autocratic structures have become entrenched in many countries. Montenegro, for example, has been firmly in the hands of the clan surrounding government leader **Milo Đukanović**. In Macedonia, the right-wing government stands accused of spying on its citizens and using death threats to intimidate independent journalists. Kosovo, which has been a de facto EU protectorate since its independence from Serbia in 2008, has similar authoritarian structures. Despite the presence of the European Rule



of Law Mission in Kosovo, corruption and a tight network involving the political elite and organized criminals blight the political landscape. Many members of parliament and functionaries of the governing party have ties to the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), the former underground militia. According to research carried out by **Dick Marty**, a special envoy from the European Council, the army is linked to numerous war crimes, shootings and kidnappings. In the multinational state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, politicians continue to harp on about national resentments 20 years after the war instead of helping to implement reforms. Half of all young Bosnians want to leave the country. Fewer people are opting to start families, which presents a serious threat to a country that has already seen so many leave.

EU can and must exert more pressure

The slow pace of change in the former Yugoslavia has led to an understandably high level of frustration in the European Union, which has turned its attention to places such as Greece and Ukraine. However, the mass exodus of people from the Balkans could put the region back on the radar. It would be good if Brussels were to more intensively address the lack of reform in Europe's backyard, even stopping the flow of aid should reforms not be implemented. Balkan elites are wasting their most important social capital. The longer skilled young people continue to leave, the less dedicated they will be

Balkan elites are wasting their most important social capital. The longer skilled young people continue to leave, the less dedicated they will be to the process of social transformation in their countries. It's a comfortable situation for the region's political establishment. But it's a disaster for the people. Even though the Balkans are not plagued by war, hunger or torture, it seems that hopelessness can also create a dictatorship from which people want to flee

to the process of social transformation in their countries. It's a comfortable situation for the region's political establishment. But it's a disaster for the people. Even though the Balkans are not plagued by war, hunger or torture, it seems that hopelessness can also create a dictatorship from which people want to flee.

Source: dw.com

Chapter 32: Financial control



By: Marko Sošić

The chapter on *Financial control* refers to both the control of national resources, and to the protection of financial interests and currency of the EU. The chapter covers four areas in which Montenegro must align its legislation and practices with those of the EU: public internal financial control (PIFC), external audit, protection of financial interests of the EU, and the protection of euro from forgery. In first two areas, there is no formal *acquis* that ought to be incorporated into the national legislation, but the country is expected to apply the existing international standards and best EU practices. In the other two areas, however - protection of financial interests of the EU and protection of euro from forgery – the *acquis* contains specific EU regulations.

Public internal financial control (PIFC) as a concept and a strategy was developed by the European Commission during the nineties of the last century, in order to help candidate states understand and implement well developed and efficient systems of internal controls during their accession to the Union, as well as reduce corruption in the public sector and improve the poor state financial management that had been typical of former communist states. External audit of the public sector is one of the main instruments used

to strengthen accountability of public officials and increase trust in the public sector. Its main task is to inform the citizens in a comprehensive and accurate manner whether the public funds are being used in line with the regulations, and whether the recipients of public funds have fulfilled the objectives for which they received funding in the first place. Protection of financial interests of the Union includes operative cooperation between member states, which must be capable of effective cooperation with the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), and ready to report suspected irregularities and fraud in the use of Union's funds. Reforms in this field aim to ensure that the EU funds are protected in the same way as the national, public funds. Protection of euro from forgery implies the obligation of state institutions to withdraw forged banknotes and coins from circulation as well as to establish a systems of effective institutions and clear procedures that would guarantee protection from forgery.

Montenegro is still at an early stage of implementation of the public internal financial control (PIFC) system. Efforts in this area began with the adoption of the Strategy for development of PIFIC in 2007, and Law on the system of internal financial controls in the public sector in 2008. Another important step was the establishment of a special department within the Ministry of Finance – Central unit for harmonisation, which serves as initiator and coordinator of the entire process. That was accompanied by adoption of a series of necessary bylaws which for the most part completed the legal framework in this field. The implementation of the existing legislation is, however, seriously lagging behind, and Montenegro has just began to establish the systems of internal controls.

In the area of external audit, State Audit Institution (SAI) is the autonomous and supreme body of state audit, which was established with the adoption of the Law on state audit institution, in April 2004, as the source institutional, external, independent,





professional and objective control over the spending of budget resources and management of public property in Montenegro. The number of audits is increasing annually, along with gradual increase of SAI's capacities and the implementation of new, more demanding types of audits. SAI prepared the five-year Strategic plan of development, in which it indicated current problems, measures to overcome them, and SAI's development objectives.

External audit in Montenegro is still not fully aligned with international standards. The biggest problem lies in the lack of financial independence of SAI, regarding planning and management of funds necessary for the functioning of this institution. The current legal framework allows the executive to correct the budget plan of SAI, prepared by the Senate, and thus to interfere with the autonomy of that institution. In 2012, for instance, the Ministry of Finance reduced the original budget plan of SAI by more than 20%. Another problem with the external audit, closely related to the lack of financial independence, is the shortage of auditing staff - only 30% of the posts envisaged by SAI's organisational scheme have been filled - as well as the high rate of staff turnover. As the recent amendments on the Law on financing of political parties gave SAI the authority to conduct mandatory audits of the financial statements of political parties on annual basis, the institution is likely to face even graver challenge in fulfilling all of its tasks in the area of external audit.

Regarding the protection of financial interests of the EU and protection of the euro from forgery, Montenegro is yet to take steps that would align its legislation with the Convention on the protection of financial interests and its protocols. Establishment of administrative cooperation with OLAF and development of an effective service for the fight against fraud is also a challenge for the future. The next important task will be to establish a network of agencies in charge of combating fraud and forgery of the euro. Finally, new legal and administrative provisions must be put in place to guarantee efficient protection from the forgery of euro. Current regulations contain some protective measures but do not go far enough, which is why it is necessary to further align the national laws with the *acquis* which includes additional measures of protection, to be incorporated into the Criminal Code.

Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), already established the general principles of cooperation between Montenegro and the EU in the area of internal control and external audit, focusing on development of a transparent, effective and cost-effective public internal financial control and independent systems of external audit in Montenegro.

Regarding the forgery of currency, Montenegro committed itself to close cooperation with the European Community in the fight against the



forgery of banknotes and coins, and promised to suppress and sanction every forgery of banknotes and coins that may occur on its territory. In terms of prevention, Montenegro is expected to implement further measures derived from the relevant legislation of the EU, and comply with all international conventions in this area. The EU can support Montenegro through exchange, provision of assistance and education in the area of currency protection.

When it comes to PFIC and termination of negotiations, the European Commission's criteria require implementation of the adopted legislation and the existence of an efficient system of internal financial controls. Given that all budgetary units are obliged to ensure the functioning of systems of internal controls through one of the legally prescribed methods, Montenegro must apply the existing regulations in practice and develop a system that would yield results. The first and most difficult step is to recruit the necessary trained personnel and continued training of internal auditors and managers for financial management and control.

For external audit, prerequisites for the successful completion of negotiations are to secure financial independence and reduce the influence of executive power on SAI's budget as much as possible. That would indirectly also solve SAI's second biggest problem – the lack of administrative capacities for greater audit coverage and more advanced types of

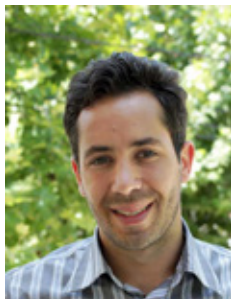
All efforts invested towards harmonisation in this area will have a direct impact on the lives of Montenegrin citizens, as they contribute towards creation of a system that would ensure a legal, efficient, effective and cost-beneficial spending of taxpayers' money.

audits. In addition to these, constitutional guarantee of functional immunity of the members of SAI's Senate and a greater emphasis on the follow-up monitoring of recommendations from the audit reports will be essential for further progress in this chapter.

Regarding the protection of financial interests of the EU and the fight against euro forgery, significant steps should be taken to meet the EU criteria, as the European Commission warned that there has been only very limited progress so far. Establishment of institutional framework and investment in the network of competent services and their research capacities will be the main criteria for assessing the future efforts in this area.

*Montenegro uses euro as a legal tender, which is another reason to prioritise full harmonisation with the *acquis* in the area of protection of euro from forgery.*

Asylum crisis and the Balkan route



By: mr Vladimir Vučković

We have been witnessing a massive exodus of refugees from the area of the Middle East and Northern Africa during the last few months, all of them trying to reach the EU via the Balkan Peninsula. They come from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia, Egypt and Morocco, fleeing from devastations of war, political persecutions and poverty, seeking shelter in one of the member states of the European Union.

The record of refugees flocking to the EU member states is not that recent. In the beginning of the 1990s, a great number of refugees from the territory of former Yugoslavia found shelter within the Union, and many exiles from Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia and Libya sought political exiles in some of the European Union member states during the “Arab spring”. A new, intensified wave of refugees from the Middle East and Northern Africa swept the European Union in the beginning of 2014, reaching its peak in mid-2015. While earlier these refugees tried to reach Europe across the Mediterranean and Italy, a new route was recently found through the Balkans.

The new Balkan transit route proved to be a much safer way to reach the European territory and apply for asylum. Continental transit to Hungary takes place across Turkey, Greece, Macedonia and Serbia. Macedonia and Serbia were particularly affected with the new wave of refugees - according to UNHCR, the number of asylum seekers in these states increased to 20 000 in 2014, and so far more than 22 000 refugees had already applied for asylum in Serbia this year. Additionally, the EU Frontex agency, in charge of harmonized control of the borders of EU member states, claims that the number of illegal migrants who come to EU across the Western Balkans had increased significantly. According to their estimates about 44 000 persons illegally crossed the Balkan route in 2014, and 32 000 immigrants

entered the EU area during the first three months of this year.

The growing number of refugees across the Balkan Peninsula led to an increase in the number of smugglers, who offer to transfer immigrants to one of the desired destinations in exchange for large amounts of money. Refugees often end up being conned and left in the original place, and some have also lost lives in their effort to reach Europe.

It is thus no surprise that the topic has come to dominate the discussions at the Summit of Western Balkan states, European Union, Germany and Austria, held in Vienna on 27 August 2015. More precisely, the main topic of the conferences was the refugee crisis, with special emphasis on Serbia and Macedonia, which became the key migrant transit routes during recent months for the migrants coming from Greece and trying to reach other EU members. The EU offered EUR 1 million in assistance to help the refugee crisis in Serbia and Macedonia. However, given the current situation, this amount will likely not be enough. The EU member states, as well as the non-EU states, have to intensify cooperation and align their views on how to resolve the burning issue of the refugee crisis that is shaking up the Western Balkans. It is especially important to maintain active and continuous communication in order to build up a more adequate strategy that would allocate the migrants equally through a system of quotas, taking into account the level of development and economic power of each state and its potential capacities to host refugees. Moreover, in order to lessen the impact of the refugee crisis, the EU should increase financial assistance for the Western Balkan states, to enable them to respond in a timely and adequate manner to the growing challenge of migration which in this moment is placing a serious burden on the region.

How the EU countries handle
the refugee crisis

Two faces of Europe

The enormous flood of refugees from the Middle East, that has been welling up since May, had caught Europe entirely unprepared. It is estimated that over 300 000 refugees have crossed the European Union borders by August. The rules on asylum that have been in force until now, and which stipulate that the decision on asylum, as well as the subsequent care for those approved should be provided by the state in which they are first registered have created enormous pressure on the border states - Italy, Greece, and Hungary - and they have responded either by breaching the rules and letting the refugees continue their trip towards the richer northwestern member states, or by attempting to push the refugees back, sometimes in the most inhumane ways.

In the past month, Hungary in particular has acquired notoriety for a battery of measures that recall the worst times of Communism: building a razor-wire fence on the border with Serbia, threatening those who cross the border illegally with prison, and even unleashing physical force on the refugees.

Germany and Austria, for their part, first promised to accept all the refugees that reach that territories, only to announce a mere fortnight later that their capacities are overflowing and that they will be taking in no more. Negotiations for a system of allocation of refugees that would distribute the burden in a more even manner among all EU member states are ongoing, but there is as yet no solution in sight.

Meanwhile, non-governmental organisations and human rights advocates recall that this is but the first step. The real question is what will happen to the refugees later, when the crisis subsides and the attention of the media moves elsewhere.

Because, not only is the EU lacking a good plan for reallocation of refugees, there is also

no harmonised policy for the treatment of the asylum seekers. Their fate thus depends to a very large extent on the accident of landing their application in one or another EU member state.

The Netherlands – Strictest asylum policies in Europe

Despite hefty criticism from human rights organizations, the Netherlands passed the toughest laws on asylum in the EU in 2010. Two out of three applications are rejected. Once rejected, an applicant has 28 days to leave the country.

Meanwhile, they are offered a minimum level of care, which has come to be known as "bed, bath, and bread." After a night in a sleeping hall and breakfast, they have to leave the facility. Failed applicants who don't want to go back to their home countries eventually lose even this support and have to make do without shelter and food.

German courts have frequently taken issue with the fact that refugees facing homelessness who enter Germany illegally cannot be taken back to the Netherlands. Somalians are especially affected. In 2013, the Netherlands became the first EU country to declare Somalia safe and start deporting people back. Despite this, the number of refugees entering the Netherlands is increasing. At the end of July, the country had received 26,600 people - more than during all of 2014.

Sweden – Topping the statistics

Compared to other EU states, Sweden's asylum policies are seen as relatively generous. Sweden is leading the EU-wide statistics when it comes to the number of refugees it accepts in relation to its population size of 9.6 million people. Right behind Germany, it is a top destination for asylum seekers. In 2014, 81,300 people applied for asylum there, and 30,600 were immediately accepted. Refugees from Syria have the greatest chance of being granted asylum in Sweden.

The Swedish government has made it a goal to integrate the migrants as quickly as possible into the job market. It offers special language and cultural courses as well as job preparation courses and internships.

But even Sweden is having a hard time on some fronts. A lack of apartments, small communities that feel overwhelmed, unemployment among migrants... Despite the government's efforts to integrate asylum seekers, Swedish society is divided, and that is beginning to be reflected in politics. The right-wing populist, anti-immigration party Sweden Democrats now has 20 percent popular support according to the latest polls.

Austria – Popular alpine republic

In relation to its population of 8.4 million, Austria is one of the most popular destinations for refugees in Europe. More than 27,000 people applied for asylum there in the first half of 2015 – three times as many as in the same period the year before. The increase in the influx of people and the need to distribute the applicants among the initial reception centers and across all federal states has led to a variety of problems.

Only three of the nine states – Vienna, Lower Austria, and Vorarlberg – are fulfilling their share of the agreed quotas, while Burgenland on the border with Hungary is overwhelmed with refugees. Political tensions are mounting. The Austrian government now wants to change the constitution to force states and communities to accept refugees in future. But that is causing opposition in some states, and provoking anti-foreigner protests, from which the right-wing populist Freedom Party of Austria is benefiting. At the same time, people across Austria are organising themselves at the grassroots level to better support refugees.

Poland: Christians only, please

Ukraine, Russia, and Tajikistan are the main countries of origin for refugees coming to Poland to apply for asylum. In 2014, 8,020 people filed an application, much fewer than in the previous year. Around half of the applicants are Russian citizens, most of whom are Chechens (91%). A little over 2,200 applicants are from Ukraine. In 2014, only 325 Russians were granted asylum,

while around 130 Syrians were accepted. Poland's treatment of refugees has been strongly criticized by human rights organizations. The state cares for them, but the majority of the reception centers are located in former army barracks or workers' recreation centers. In these locations, there is a lack of integration opportunities or chances to make contact with Polish people, activists say.

Poland is considered to be a transit country for migrants that want to end up in the West. After Poland announced that it would accept an additional 2,000 refugees to ease the burden on Italy and Greece, there were several protests by nationalist groups. But it's not just extremists that have reservations: In an opinion poll released in July, 70% of people said that they did not want refugees from Muslim or African countries in Poland. Syrian refugees who are Christians, on the other hand, are welcome. Slovakia has also recently asked for the right to "choose" its refugees, announcing that it is willing to take another 200 persons, but only if they're Christians.

Spain – No entry to Europe

Recently, many refugees tried to gain entry to Europe by storming the border fences in the North African exclaves Ceuta and Melilla. But for three months now, Spain has ceased to be a significant entry point for migrants and refugees. In 2014, border protection agency Frontex estimated that 7,800 people had illegally entered Spain. That was just a fraction of the estimated 39,000 illegal immigrants in 2006. According to the Spanish Interior Ministry, the numbers are going down because of a border control cooperation scheme with Morocco. In addition, Madrid signed deportation agreements with states such as Senegal, Mauritania, and Nigeria, preventing many Africans from attempting to flee to Spain.

A more rigorous attitude to migration shifted the largest migration route to Europe from the western to the eastern Mediterranean which is why the largest number of refugees from the conflict ones such as Syria and Iraq are now looking for a way to Europe via Turkey and the Balkans.

Source: DeutscheWelle

Recommendations of the Civil Society Forum from the Western Balkans summit in Vienna



Stronger regional cooperation, media freedom, job creation

civil society organisations that took place in the course of May and June 2015 in Tirana, Belgrade and Sarajevo.

Strengthening the regional cooperation

Regional networks and civil society organisations expect to receive broader support in their efforts to develop and strengthen regional cooperation. To make such initiatives successful, Western Balkan governments should also become involved. Civil society stakeholders should also be involved in the drafting of plans for regional economic development, as well as in those that are not directly related to their usual activities, such as energy or infrastructure cooperation, as their involvement could accelerate the process of integration and implementation of reforms on the path to the EU.

In addition to this, an important aspect of regional cooperation is, according to recommendations, facing the past and raising the level of mutual trust in the region. Regional cooperation is beneficial in numerous areas, but greater cooperation and research on the periods of grave conflict in the region's history are still an important aspect where the civil sector could and should play a major role.

Regional cooperation is viewed as a way to amplify human resources and exchange best practices. Civil society representatives can contribute to the policies and strategies for improvement of regional cooperation in the area of social development and assist with the improvement of institutional and legal framework for the civil sector.

Civil society representatives from the Western Balkans asked European leaders to strengthen regional cooperation, deprive the state institution of the ability to curb freedom of expression and help job creation.

Civil Society Forum was organised as part of the Western Balkans Summit in Vienna, hosted by the Austrian president **Heinz Fischer**, federal chancellor **Werner Faymann** and minister of Foreign Affairs **Sebastian Kurz**.

Six elected representatives of civil society from the Western Balkans participated in the debate with six political leaders, seeking solutions to the key issues discussed at the Summit – strengthening regional cooperation, securing freedom of expression, and fostering employment and a clear development perspective. Recommendations derived with the help of the civil society should be implemented by the next Summit, to be held in August 2016 in France.

The abovementioned recommendations are a product of three preparatory workshops of





Western Balkans Summit Vienna 2015 Civil Society Forum

Media free of the influence of state authorities

Civil society representatives urged public broadcasters and regulatory bodies to free themselves of the direct or indirect influence of authorities. Procedures for the election of board members for public broadcasters ought to be transparent, impartial, and based on professional standards, and the working methods of these bodies should be clearly defined. The public should at all times be able to know the ownership of all media, and such information should be provided in a straightforward and transparent manner. Monopolies in the media market as well as in the distribution of media content must be prevented.

Additionally, legal protection of journalists ought to be strengthened, and working conditions improved through social dialogue with employers, in order to reduce job insecurity and thus vulnerability to pressures. Media owners should respect the laws on employment and working conditions.

Successful job creation and a clear perspective for development in the common labour market

States of region should develop active labour market policies by actively involving all stakeholders as responsible partners. Instead of improving commercial activities, they should emphasise support to productive activities and high value-added manufacturing, as well as integration into the EU supply chains, high production rate and manufacturing activities with added value, as well as their involvement in the chain of supply within the EU, while taking into account the economic structure of the region which is largely based on micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Modernisation and provision of support to agriculture should also be emphasised.

Civil sector stakeholders should also be involved in the economic planning from the get go, and free market competitiveness should be complemented with joint regional and cross-border planning of economic development.

Prepared by S.P.

Delegation of German SPD paid a visit to CCE



Executive director of the Centre for Civic Education (CCE) **Daliborka Uljarević**, and her colleagues **Boris Marić**, senior legal advisor and **Ana Vujošević**, European integration programme coordinator, met on 26 August 2015 with the delegation of twelve members of the German Social Democrat Party (SDP), led by **Josip Juratović** and **Martin Rosemann**, members of Bundestag. Along with them was also **Frederick Brutting**, mayor of Heubach, as well as number of associates.

The discussion focused on the process of European integration of

Montenegro and the effectiveness of the reform process. Members of the delegation were particularly interested to know what kind of support Montenegro expects from the EU and Germany. Emphasis was placed on the current socio-political situation, as well as on the specific issues such as corruption, the role of the NGO sector in the Europeanization of the country and the challenges faced by the NGOs in Montenegro, the place of local self-governments in the democratisation of society and the situation of minority communities.

Civilian courage in times of war and peace

In Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, a youth conference was held on 27-30 August, on the topic *“There is always a choice – civilian courage in times of war and peace”*, organised by the Association of high school students from BiH, Association of teachers and professors of history of BiH, German Forum ZFD (Forum Zivilier Friedensdienst/Forum Civil Peace Service), international organisation Humanity in Action, Post-Conflict Research Centre PCRC from Sarajevo, in cooperation with Youth resource centre Tuzla, Network for the establishment of peace, association IPAK Youth Creates the Future from Tuzla, association “Young Volunteers” Visoko from BiH, and with support of many other institutions.

The aim of this conference was to bring together young people from the region to discuss the moral values and citizen courage and responsibility with the intention of stimulating a humane and civic manner of thinking and acting for a more peaceful and less violent world under the slogan: *“You can't always be a hero, but you can always be a human being”* (J.V. von Goethe).

About a hundred conference participants came from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Croatia, Germany and Italy. During four working days, the participants had the opportunity to simultaneously attend lectures in five different locations, as well as to watch and analyse documentaries on the topics of non-violence, civilian courage, humanitarian action, critical opinion, but also to see series of exhibitions regarding the aforementioned topics, such as the photography exhibitions “Saviours” from the project “Everyday heroes” by PCRC and “MONUMENTI” by Forum ZFD on the transformation of identity since the beginning of XX century, as well as to watch numerous shows and performances.

Željka Četković, programme associate, participated at the conference on behalf of the Centre for Civic Education (CCE).

In the framework of the educational programme

"Contemporary tendencies of critical thought"

and in response to popular demand

CCE presents, for the fifth time in Montenegro, the world-renowned

PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMME (PEP)

This programme of weekly, hour-and-a-half long workshops, lasts for 10 consecutive weeks. It is created by The Prem Rawat Foundation, with the purpose of helping participants to discover inner resources, recognize their innate value, develop positive life skills and explore the possibility of personal peace.

The programme will be facilitated by PEP Manager in Montenegro, **Mrs Caroline Jovičević**, and the workshops will be held in the CCE premises, every Thursday at 5:30 p.m, from 22 October 2015 to 24 December 2015. The programme is conducted in Montenegrin and English and is offered free of charge.

To apply, send your short biography (name, phone number, e-mail, date of birth, current occupation, etc.) to the e-mail address info@cgo-cce.org, with the subject "*For Peace Education Programme.*"

The capacity for this course is 50 persons. Applications will be accepted until this number is reached. You will be informed of acceptance by-email within 72 hours of sending your application to the CCE. We recommend that you apply early for this very popular course, as we expect places to fill fast.

For more information on the [Peace Education Programme \(PEP\)](#) please visit:

www.tprf.org/en/programs/peace-education-program and www.porukamira.org.rs/program-educacijom-do-mira/

A.V

Fellowship in Humanities at the University of Cologne

The **Morphomata Center** for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Cologne is pleased to invite applications for fellowships for the academic year 2016/17. Fellowships are granted for a period of 3 to 9 months. Fellows must be in residence in Cologne during the fellowship period. The letter must include the months of October through February and/or April through July.

To be eligible for a Morphomata Fellowship, the candidate:

- Must have the status of at least assistant professor (or equivalent) and a strong research record in biography/ life writing and/or portraiture;
- Scholars with particular interest in the theory of the formation, dynamics, and mediality of cultural figurations are also invited to apply;
- Fellows are required to participate actively in the interdisciplinary and intercultural life of the Center and the University of Cologne. Morphomata Fellows are expected to participate in weekly events at the Center.

Fellows will be provided with office space including work facilities and will participate in the academic life of both the Center and the University of Cologne. The actual amount of the grant is negotiated on an individual basis.

Applications should be submitted to martin.roussel@uni-koeln.de. Applicants are required to provide the following documents:

- Cover letter of one or two pages that indicates the preferred time slot for the fellowship;
- Curriculum vitae;
- List of publications;
- Title and a proposal for a research project (maximum 2000 words) related to the above mentioned topics;
- Summary of maximum 200 words that clearly indicates to readers from other disciplines where the special significance of the project lies;
- Applications in German must be supplemented with an English title and summary.

Deadline for applications: 2 November 2015.

For more information please visit: <http://www.morphomata.uni-koeln.de/en/center/archive/2015/fellowship-program-2016-2017/>

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