

CENTRE FOR CIVIC EDUCATION

Podgorica, 10 January 2007

CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES TO SPEAK PUBLICLY ON RTCG COUNCIL

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) urged today the members of the RTCG Council nominated on behalf of the civil society (media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations) Esad Kočan, Svetozar Bulatović, Šerbo Rastoder, Nikola Perković and Ljubomirka Asović to interrupt the silence of RTCG over the existence of a grave social problem and to distance themselves from breaches of the Law, unprofessional and irresponsible actions on the part of certain members of the Council.

"By speaking openly and clearly and by initiating a session of the Council where you will begin the procedure for dismissal of those members who have been violating the Law, you will do a great service to the public, your colleagues who are genuinely dedicated to the development of RTCG and to the RTCG itself in preserving its repute and credibility" – states the letter sent by CCE to the members of RTCG Council.

CCE believes that the civil society representatives in the RTCG Council must speak publicly, because of the obvious lack of responsibility and intellectual honesty on the part of their colleagues who have been blatantly violating the Law, thus contributing to the erosion of the basic principles underlying the Law on PBS RTCG.

CCE also appeals on the RTCG Council to use its recommendations to bring this issue to attention of the editorial board of RTCG. CCE reminds that, unlike in some other situations, RTCG has been depriving its subscribers who regularly pay their monthly fees of any information on the issue which is currently shaking the Montenegrin public, and on which all the other media have been reporting. CCE wants to believe that such an attitude in the editorial board of RTCG is not a result of the very same political influence which we are trying to shed light onto: the fact that people favoured by the Government, Ćalić and Mirković, are illegally sitting in the RTCG Council, the illegality of which has been confirmed yesterday by one of the authors of the Law on PBS RTCG, Mr Abaz Beli Džafić.

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