



**FOCUS OF
THIS ISSUE**
Can Montenegro
enhance its
administrative
capacity for the
process of accession
to the European Union

INTERVIEW
Rado Genorio, PhD,
High Official of the
Government of
Republic of Slovenia,
Leader of process
of accession to EU

ANALYSES

Why nearly 4/5 of
Montenegro's citizens support
accession to the European Union





FOREWORD

While Montenegro's political scene is boiling with preparations for the referendum both front and backstage, a small team of the government officials is getting ready for the upcoming second round of negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement. These negotiations are supposed to take place on 21 and 22 February 2005, with the representatives of the European Commission. Public attention is naturally being focused on the fist issue, which has been the burning one in the past few years, burdening all other areas of social life. Only now it seems reasonable to expect that this problem will soon be taken off the agenda, so that Montenegro can finally face some vital obstacles. In other words, to take a good look at itself, to decide where it stands and what it needs in order to approach the club of the serious, orderly states; to see which ailments have been bothering it and how to finally cure them.

Up until now, we have swept all such maladies under the carpet, waiting for a better moment to tackle them, which is a perfect excuse for irresponsible politicians not to tackle them at all: to do as little as possible and to maintain status quo. Because voters were ready to forgive anything – one group just to see restored Montenegrin statehood, the other to finally overthrow the regime and lead them back under the fraternal wing of Belgrade. Once we make it clear which of these options has won, the game will have new rules. When the time comes, those who make sweeping promises at the elections will be very careful to fulfil them. Voters won't be so forgiving any more, abandoning their interests for the sake of some higher goals.

Whoever gains power after this turn will be in charge of implementing the European rules: breaking monopolies, fighting criminal and corruption...At the same time, if they wish to progress in the association process, they will have to gain credibility in the eyes of Brussels: first of all, they must prepare a sound programme for the strengthening of the administrative capacity. This, among others, is the main topic of this January issue of EIC Bulletin, also addressed by Judy Batt, PhD, a renowned expert of the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) based in Paris, in her article on administrative capacity. Dr Batt will be regularly writing columns for EIC Bulletin. If you yourself should have any suggestions or contributions to the magazine, please forward it to: eicbilten@cg.yu. N.R.

AFTER SIX MONTHS OF BRITISH PRESIDENCY OVER THE EUROPEAN UNION

Austria at the head of the 25

After United Kingdom, it is now Austrian turn to preside over the EU in the next 6 months. With a promise to make the Old continent "a strong and reliable partner for the world", Austrian officials announced that their primary area of concern would be the everyday problems, such as unemployment and economic growth, together with new efforts to re-establish trust in the European project among the citizens of Europe".

Key matters of concern within EU-25 are the questions of constitution, budget and further enlargement. According to the Austrian officials, enlargement is to be one of the first goals. They have already scheduled a ministerial conference for March, where EU representatives will be joined by those of the Western Balkan countries, whose accession ambitions have been heartily supported by Austria.

In Montenegro, Austria has quickly gained the status of a "friendly" member state, wherefore Montenegrin officials expect that Austria could play an important role with respect to the international support of its future independence, provided it has been gained through a democratic vote in April referendum.

The president of Austria, Heinz Fisher, recently stated that state union of SM is use-



ful, but that no one can deny the right of the Montenegrin citizens to decide their future in a referendum.

According to the calculations of the Austrian government, their presidency will cost 57 millions of euros. The basic budget to be managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will amount to 40 million euros. These funds will be allocated for the so-called "basic services", such as translations, transportation, technical equipment, as well as further expenses for organizing conferences etc.

Costs of additional security measures should amount to some 13.4 million, which will be left at discretion of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. A further 3.7 million will also go under the heading of "security", to be managed by the Ministry of Defence.

LAST WARNING FROM EUROPE TO BELGRADE

General to stop negotiations?

European officials have sent the last warning to the government in Belgrade, stating that general Ratko Mladić must appear at the court in The Hague as soon as possible, or they might consider stopping the process of negotiations about Stability and Association Agreement with Serbia and Montenegro. If that happens, Montenegro, whose expert teams are preparing for the next phase of negotiations on 22 February 22, will once again have to pay the bills it didn't make. European Commissioner for enlargement, Olli Rehn, after his meeting with the ICTY Chief prosecutor for war crimes, Carla del Ponte, said that interrupting negotiations with SM is certainly an alternative, and that he expects Belgrade officials to take this messages seriously, lest they force EU to take such action. Rehn said that this event could prove detrimental to the whole process of association agreement

with SM, and that no one can expect this agreement to be concluded successfully before the requirements of cooperation with the tribunal have been met.

"Serbia must decide between its nationalist past and its European future", said Rehn.

Del Ponte repeated for the press that she believes Ratko Mladić to be hiding in Serbia "protected by a part of the military". She said that the problem lies in the lack of cooperation of the Serbian government, as the government in Podgorica has been on very good terms with the Hague tribunal.

According to some government officials in Serbia, it is generally believed that negotiations will not be interrupted at this point, but they expect this problem to resurface in the last phase of negotiations, when EU might refuse to sign the agreement until general Mladić is delivered to The Hague.



by dr Judy Batt

EU integration presupposes functional states. In Serbia and Montenegro, this is seen almost solely in terms of resolving the problem of the State Union, but this is by no means the end of the story. Whether the State Union dissolves or not, Serbia and Montenegro face enormous challenges in becoming functional for the purposes of EU integration: capable of implementing the EU's common laws, rules and standards, and trustworthy players according to the 'rules of the EU game'.

The very demanding obligations of EU membership are set out in the more than 80,000 pages of the *acquis communautaire* – the EU's book of rules and policies governing the operation of the single market, cooperation in justice and internal affairs, and the common foreign and security policy. Serbia and Montenegro face a massive legislative agenda that will put a heavy strain on their parliaments. But passing EU-compatible laws is not enough – the EU will be closely checking that laws are implemented in practice. This calls for huge improvements in administrative capacity, a major area of concern to the EU, highlighted in the Commission's recent reports on the Western Balkans countries. What is to be done?

First of all, governments must recognise the scale of the adminis-

You need to mobilise new forces for new challenges

trative burden of preparing for EU integration. There are just too few competent and hard-working professional administrators to go round. This is an especially serious problem for small countries such as Montenegro, which eventually will have to implement all of that 80,000-page *acquis* with a much smaller pool of

Some administrative staff will prove unable or unwilling to adapt, and will have to be retired or demoted – no easy matter, but unavoidable if resources are to be released to meet new needs.

administrative staff. All countries must launch a massive programme of retraining in both modern management and specialist technical issues. Are the universities ready to provide this? Resources are severely limited, and so is the necessary high-level expertise. Even general courses on EU law and institutions are only just beginning throughout the region.

Some administrative staff will prove unable or unwilling to adapt, and will have to be retired or demoted – no easy matter, but unavoidable if resources are to be released to meet new needs. Another key problem is attracting and retaining competent professionals in public employment. This means higher salaries, but it is hard to compete with what the private sector can offer. However, dedicated public-sector professionals are motivated as much by the prospects for promotion, and the opportunity to work in a dynamic team with an exciting mission – transforming their

country – as they are by their salary alone. Such motivation is only fostered where the government is credibly committed to reform, and where recruitment and promotion is by merit, not according to personal 'connections' or political favouritism.

Building administrative capacity is costly. This a priority area for EU support to Western Balkans countries under the CARDS programme in 2006, and, from 2007, under the new 'Pre-Accession Instrument' (IPA). Training can be provided on the spot by visiting EU experts, or civil servants can be sent on courses at universities and schools of public administration in EU countries. The well-established 'twinning' mechanism, which sends experts from EU member states to work in candidate countries' administrations, is now extended to Serbia and Montenegro. Short-term secondment to Brussels or member state administrations is a very useful way for civil servants to gain experience and build personal contacts to turn to for advice in the future.

The EU is ready to help, and has amassed great experience in this field from the last enlargement. The new member states have especially valuable know-how to offer too. Western Balkans governments now must prepare their civil service to take advantage of such assistance by implementing the necessary legal and institutional reforms.

The author is renowned expert for Western Balkans from Paris based European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

CAN MONTENEGRO ENHANCE ITS ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY FOR THE PROCESS OF ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

This is the end of nepotism and party preference

Despite its efforts to improve human resources for the complex process of accession to the EU, Montenegrin government will still need a lot of time, and sensibility, to enhance its administrative capacity, which is one of the main prerequisites of a successful journey down the road that leads to the club of orderly European states.

Feasibility study for Serbia and Montenegro, which was approved by the European Commission on 12 April 2005, indicates that the government of Montenegro must work on strengthening its human resources potential.

"Sustainable efforts are required... to secure development of a stable, professional, and independent government administration" reads one of the recommendations in this document.



Recent report of the European Commissions on the progress of Serbia and Montenegro from No-

vember 2004 confirmed the need for a serious approach to this problem. For the Montenegrin government and those who are in charge of policy design, judiciary independence and the growth of administrative capacity will be among the greatest challenges in the coming period.

European Integration Minister, professor **dr. Gordana Đurović** is, however, optimistic as according to her "evaluations of Montenegrin administrative capacities are getting better by the day".

"Much has been done in the last two years. Consider just the improvement of the intensive dialogue with Europe, quarterly reports, the fact that we are now in the European partnership, we received a positive Feasibility study, joined negotiations...If you try to imagine the year 2008, I am confident that in the meantime many good things will happen to Montenegro with respect to the quality of integration process" says dr. Đurović.

Her optimism may appear founded, seen that in the next year Montenegro will see the first generation of Master graduates from the programme of European economic integration. Faculty of Economics of the University of Montenegro will open a one-year master programme in this field in February. At the same time, we begin with the implementation of the twinning programme, which involves foreign experts from the EU member states coming to share their experiences with the host state.

According to minister Đurović, a

NEXT YEAR 30 MASTER GRADUATES IN EUROPEAN INTEGRATIONS

Dean of the Economic faculty, professor **dr Vujica Lazović**, expects some 30 students to enrol for European Economic Integration programme that opens in February, among a total of 120 places in postgraduate study programmes. In this way, Montenegro will for the first time next year have a generation of students with a master degree in the area of European integration, who have not been educated abroad.

Beside resident professors of the faculty in Podgorica, Lazović says he expects a number of lecturers to come from other countries in the region. Professor dr Gordana Đurović will be appointed head of the department.

Tuition fee per semester will be 650 euros, which, according to Lazović, is a "fairly low" price considering the costs of studying in other universities in the region, and generally abroad.

"A number of students with the highest GPA will be given tuition waivers", adds the dean.

He expects this programme of post-graduate studies to attract not only the current students, but also a number of private business entrepreneurs who "have come to understand more and more the importance of European integration process".

number of young people will be sent to study at European universities at the expense of the government, whereas some of the administrative officials have already had the chance to expand their knowledge through specialisation courses in Montenegro and abroad.

In her opinion, it is positive that an increasing number of young people, after having studied abroad with scholarships from the various European institutes, decide to return and seek jobs in Montenegro. Unfortunately, Montenegrin mentality is still characterised by nepotism, where people are employed mostly according to their party affiliations. Qualifications and skill are often secondary. These and other similar comments, which are frequently found in the media and heard from the opposition, are obviously taken into consideration by representatives of the European Union, to reappear in their analyses.

European Integration Ministry, which many would consider as the most successful in the ?ukanovi?'s cabinet, has only one criterion for its employees, and that is their level of qualification, claims Đurović, denying any political influence.

Admitting that earnings in the government institutions are low, 250 euros a month on average, she recognises that this factor may work to dissuade ambitious academics from seeking their carrier in this sector. On the other hand, she warns that these institutions offer an unparalleled opportunity for learning.

Also, she emphasises that "investing in knowledge quickly bears fruit".

Analysing the current ratings of the public administration in Montenegro, we must consider the fact that all transition countries had to face a lack of administrative capacities in the beginning. However, it is precisely their experience that warns us that this problem cannot be solved overnight.

Croatia, for example, which

FATAL INFLUENCE OF INTEREST LOBBIES

How big is the influence of interest lobbies and politicians on the creation of the professional policy in Montenegro is perhaps best shown in the example of master studies in European integration, a programme which was organised by the Centre for International Studies under the guidance of **professor dr Milenko Popović**.

"If you analysed all the details telling you why this project failed and why it was not financially supported by the University, you could write a criminal novel", says dr Popović.

This ambitious project was supported by **Mr. Branko Lukovac**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro at the time together with the University Rector **Mišo Obradović**. The funding for this project was provided by the Centre for European Integration from Bonn, who offered to sponsor 40% of the programme, while the rest would be supplied by the University itself and through tuition fees.

"26 students applied for this programme, but even before the first term began in January 2003 we already had many problems. We insisted that this 2-year programme should not be started until all the necessary requirements for executing a programme of postgraduates studies were met, including the recruitment of the secretary and everything else. However, Obradović pressed for it, promising that these postgraduate students will receive all the necessary assistance, and so we began with project implementation. In the meantime, some argued that these studies should be moved to the Faculty of Economics, even though, because of only one person from that Faculty, I could not receive for months a certificate saying that I occupied a work post in that university unit, which was among the provisions of the agreement", says Popović.

In the beginning of the following year, the new minister of Foreign Affairs, **Dragiša Burzan**, decided to oppose the whole project of the Centre for International studies, whence he was joined by the new University Rector, **Ljubiša Stanković**. Both of them, notes Popović, belong to the same party – Social Democratic party of Montenegro

He claims that all the problems surrounding the Centre came from the fact that he was involved with the Group for Changes, although he was never explicitly approached for this.

"Seen that University had never signed any papers saying that they will finance the Centre, the new Rector just decided not to give us anything. At the beginning of the third semester, when I already couldn't afford to pay hotel room for one of the foreign lecturers, we decided to end the project", says Popović.

In the meantime, he adds, behind the doors there were already rumours that he had forfeited huge amounts of money that were sent to the Centre.

"The only fair gesture from their side was to allow the students of European Integration programme to transfer to other postgraduate programmes at the Law Faculty, and they recognised all of their courses up to that point" argues Popović.

Professor dr. Ljubiša Stanković, who is currently Rector of tje University of Montenegro, denies these accusations by Mr. Popović. He warns that the fact that these studies have been cancelled has nothing to do with politics. In a short statement for the EIC Bulletin, he said that University is willing to support all postgraduate programmes, as long as they are financed from separate resources. This has not been the case with the programme led by Mr. Popović. "Nobody can expect University to take money away from its undergraduate budget in order to finance postgraduate programmes. Postgraduate studies must be self-sustainable. Finally, they were supposed to be financed by the government. We also have newly opened programmes in Bijelo Polje and in Budva. If they do not prove to be sustainable, we will have to close them too", says Rector Stanković.



dr Milenko Popović

HOW DOES EU HELP US



Regina de Dominicis

Specialised studies for Montenegrin civil servants at prestigious European universities have been supported by the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) since 2002 and 2004.

These are 10 civil servants who, within the framework of "Public Administration Reform in Montenegro- PARiM", or within the Young Professional Programme attended postgraduate studies and specialised programmes in this period.

Once they completed their studies in Bruges, Amsterdam, Bonn, Glasgow or Berlin, according to **Ms Jadranka Vojinović**, Project Manager within PARiM, each of them has returned to work for the government of Montenegro. Their contract contained a clause that, within a year or two, depending on the nature of their programme, they must return and apply their knowledge and skills in working for various government bodies.

Regina de Dominicis, Manager within EAR Office in Podgorica, says these programmes were very successful.

"All students returned and received promotions", emphasises de Dominicis.

EAR also financed English-language training for some 60 government officials.

They assisted the newly formed governmental Human Resource Agency to develop its capacities by securing expert and financial assistance in order to enhance quality in their work: selection, recruitment and management of human resources for public administration. Within this programme, information system of civil servants will be developed.

"EAR was also engaged in the formation of the Judicial Training Centre. With 500.000 euros we assisted the building of an appropriate space for the Centre and the Human Resource Agency. We did a lot, and it's only now that we can begin to evaluate the real effects of our work" says Regina de Dominicis. **N.R.**

already has candidate status, is still facing a serious lack of civil servants who would be entirely capable of implementing the *acquis*, says the spokesperson of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European integration, **Ms. Ivana Grgić**.

"In the Opinion by the European Commission on the request of Croatia for membership in the EU, it says that Croatian administrative

capacity is not level yet, and that we still need to improve implementation of legislation. In 2005 Progress report of the European Commission stated that "although there have been improvements in the public administration reform, it is still an open process: further steps will have to be made in order to enhance reforms and to create "professional, efficient, responsible, transparent and inde-

pendent public service", says Grgić.

High official of the Republic of Slovenia, **dr Rado Genorio**, who has conducted the process of European integration in this country since the very beginning, emphasises that, during the early and mid-90's, they also had received serious warning signals from Brussels regarding administrative capacities.

"When Slovenia first began negotiations for full membership, European Commission warned us that with our existing administration we were not even to implement our own, not to mention European legislation", says Genorio.

"Before that we have already worked a lot on education of our administration", he added.

With regard to Montenegro's position, Genorio emphasises as an advantage the fact that the civil sector already seems a lot stronger that it was in Slovenia during her first steps toward Europe.

"In the integration process, a strong civil sector is an asset. Active participation of non-governmental organisations is capable of forcing to action government and other system institutions. If you wish to manage this complex, all-encompassing process, you must bring everybody inside the machine", argues Genorio.

European Integration Ministry has developed cooperation with University, Media Institute, seven NGOs from Montenegro and a few from Belgrade, and it receives significant help from a number of donors, which is exceptionally important for the implementation of the communication strategy. Montenegro also has the advantage of being able to learn from the experience of other countries in the region, which have already been through various stages of the association process.

Minister Đurović emphasised the accession experience or the EU 10 of the enlargement in 2004 as being the most valuable for Montenegro, most of all that of Slovenia and Hungary, where Montenegrin public

CROATIA TO INVEST 300.000 EUROS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

More than 150 students have been sponsored by the government of Croatia to study in various universities in the UK, France, Belgium and the Netherlands during the last 8 years. They have been bound by a contract to return and work for government for a period of 3 to 5 years, says the spokesperson of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European integrations, Ms. Ivana Grgić.

Grgić explains that these programmes have been partially supported by the host governments of the EU countries, highlighting the example of the tripartite contract between the UK, University of Sussex and the government of Croatia.

Her ministry alone allocates some 300.000 euros a year for the postgraduate studies abroad. "Besides, these processes have been recognised by the Croatian private sector. Since 2004, some of the more successful companies, such as T-com, Ericsson Nikola Tesla, PBZ and Končar have been co-financing scholarship programmes for postgraduate studies" emphasises Grgić.

Part of the cadre who will be involved in the European integration process is studying at home, but Grgić says that the Croatian government is giving much attention to these students as well.

At the Law Faculty in Zagreb there is one-year studies programme "European Studies", whereas the master programme "EU Law" in Rijeka takes 2 years to complete. There is also a 2-year master programme "Croatia and Europe", at the Political Science department of the University of Zagreb.

administration servants have already been sent for training. Of great assistance are also the experiences of the present candidate countries: Macedonia and Croatia.

Besides the new educational programmes of the national universities, one of the standard experiences in the strengthening of administrative capacities, which has been used by Montenegro, is the so-called "contractual financing".

Once they complete their studies abroad, scholarship students are obliged to return to the country and pay back their due by serving in the public administration for a period of time.

Đurović couldn't give us the exact number of those who are currently studying abroad at the expense of the government, but she said that there were such examples in her ministry, ministry of finance, secretariat for legislative affairs, and others.

"Anything above 3 months of intensive training is considered as an investment in human resources and is subject to a contract which can bind the person in question to

remain working in public governance for a minimum of 2 years", explained Đurović.

She announced a more intensive usage of the contractual financing method, but she added that Montenegro is a small system, which cannot afford too many scholarships because, first of all, "it cannot guarantee such absorption power".

Precisely in order to avoid fixed-number recruitment of a large number of people who would burden the budget beyond its powers, she emphasised project approach, which has been practiced in Montenegro, and is more appropriate for small

systems. It involves periodically contracting international or national experts for concrete tasks and projects.

According to minister Đurović, staff training for the Montenegrin government will be financed within CARDS programme. Two million euros from this programme in the period 2005–2006 are allocated primarily for training and European integration. Twinning programme will also take place within CARDS framework.

"Significant support for the staff training is expected to arrive with EU experts in February through the programme of twinning, when we expect two colleagues from Slovenia. As for the concrete financial resources of our Ministry, it can be used for the promotion of European ideas in Montenegro, through communication strategy...I cannot tell you exactly how much we can spend, but we are talking about app. 200 000 euros to be used in various programmes of communication strategy, cooperation contracts, round tables etc." says Đurović.

As for the opposition, SNP believes that quality professionals are not lacking in Montenegro. "We have the cadre, but it isn't in the government", said Srđo Milića, SNP MP in charge of European integration, in his address at the final seminar of the European Integration School, in December last year.

Vladan ŽUGIĆ

SLOVENIA HAD 2000 EXPERTS

Negotiations process for the full membership in the EU is a huge process, which must be led by highly expert professionals. To illustrate this point, we should only take the example of Slovenia, which, during its 10-year long journey to EU contracted some 2000 professionals to work in this project.

Rado Genorio explains that the government of Slovenia only realised the number of people working in the negotiation process when in 1998 they began with the *screening* (detailed revision of the extent of harmonisation between domestic and European legislature, an activity jointly conducted by representatives of the government of a candidate country and the officials of the European Commission).

"We checked the hotel bills and reservations for our people, and we realised we were 2000" says Genorio.

TWINNING PROGRAMME: HOW THE EUROPEAN UNION HELPS MONTENEGRO TO STRENGTHEN ITS ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

Experts from Slovenia are coming



Building of the Government of Montenegro

During the EU association process Montenegro will not be abandoned to its own devices. Twinning programme is a project of close cooperation between a county member state of the EU and another country in the process of association, which is designed to help strengthen administrative capacities of the states attempting to join this elite society. As a part of this programme, **Renata Vitez** will arrive in Montenegro in February this year. As the representative of the Republic of Slovenia, she will be working extended periods of time in Montenegro, in order to pass Slovenia's abundant experience onto her Montenegrin colleagues.

"Renata Vitez worked for the government of the Republic of Slovenia during the whole time of negotiations and the accession process, and her experience is invaluable. She isn't only an expert in coordination of European affairs, but also for negotiations in foreign trade, which we will need right now, as we are negotiating the agreement for the opening of the market, which is

mainly a matter of economics", says minister for European integrations of the Montenegrin government, **Dr. Gordana Đurović**.

Together with Renata Vitez, Montenegrin government will be assisted by Elektra Tsisoridas, also an expert in accession matters of the Slovenian government.

"Their role will be most of all to give an objective assessment of Montenegro's administrative capacities, to tell us where we stand with respect to their own experience, and where we should focus the most. They will also assist us in negotiation, and at the same time help us to adopt new regulations and create new institutions or transform the existing ones, in accordance with new rules and the current European practice. Simply, they will work with us and help us out in daily proceedings, because they have the necessary skill and experience" explained minister Đurović.

European Union's twinning programme consists of close administrative collaboration, where Renata Vitez will assume the role of a permanent

representative of the Republic of Slovenia. Further into the programme, Montenegro will occasionally receive expert groups who will, once they define their plan of activity, spend two years working with the government of Montenegro, transferring their specific experiences from the process of EU integration.

"Not theoretically, not within a strategy of communication with the citizens, but through that elaborate and sometimes even tedious work which a government must perform through administration. This is where our colleagues from Slovenia and France will assist us throughout the seven phases of the project, arriving occasionally and with specific tasks – summary of the current situation, overview of priorities, implementation of certain regulations, establishment of new institutions, monitoring of certain processes..." said Dr. Đurović.

Twinning programme became a part of candidate preparations for EU membership already in 1998, under the conditions of PHARE assistance programme.

Since summer 2002, twinning was introduced as a part of the CARDS programme as well. For the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, twinning was executed solely through a partnership with EU member states. Nowadays, in accordance with the rules set out at the European Council summit in Thessalonica in 2003, for the countries of the Western Balkans, twinning partners can also be countries candidates for membership. This rule concerns particularly the ten states which have entered EU on the 1 May 2004, as well as the three candidate countries – Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey. **N.R.**

DR RADO GENORIO:
HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA,
LEADER OF PROCESS OF ACCESSION TO EU

Losers will be those who sleep and who refuse to adjust to Europe



Dr. Rado Genorio

Already in 2004, introducing the twin-track approach, Europe recognised that Montenegro will go faster on its own down the road EU integration. In this way, EU admitted that the existing structures in Montenegro are very different from those in Serbia, that structural problems regarding harmonisation with the EU are also very diverse. We have recognised and accepted this fact, which your country should take as a clear signal, and now it is up to you to work it out, says **Dr. Rado Genorio** in his interview for EIC Bulletin. Dr. Genorio is a high official of the government of the Republic of Slovenia, who has led the process of Slovenian accession to the EU ever since the beginning of the 90's.

● **Some officials claim that Montenegrin negotiations for association and stabilisation agreement should not last long, as Montenegro hardly has the reason to protect much of its economy. What is your opinion?**

I agree. Now, in February, agriculture will be on the agenda, and I can see that Montenegro is working hard on

improving animal health measures, veterinary control, in order to be able to market its products in the European common space. Nobody will let you into the common market, if your production does not meet the standards, and Europe is very restrictive about food industry. Association process will help you meet the requirements; they will even offer you financial assistance in some areas.

● **What will Montenegro gain from signing the Association and Stabilisation Agreement with the EU?**

First of all, road to the future membership will be wide open, but also that leading to the common market. For your youth, there will be plenty of opportunities for studying in Europe, through various community programmes, such as Tempus. You will gain access to more

pre-structural funds, and beginning in 2007, there will be IPA programme which will unite all the current assistance funds. Structural funds will bring a lot more money, but they are only available after the membership, however, this is the phase in which you must learn how to manage this money.

Between 1992 and the accession, Slovenia received some half billion euros, which was the base for going further. Part of the money is given with the aim of strengthening the administrative capacity, about one third, and the rest is investment capital, which should help you learn how to implement European regional and structural policies.

● **Seen that you spend a lot of time in Montenegro, could you tell us which issues, in your opinion, will be the key bone of contention in the following**

CROATIA IS NOW LIVING THE SHOCK THAT WE HAD IN 1998

● **How long did it take for Slovenia to adjust its laws to EU regulations?**

So long that, while we worked on the first national programme for the adoption of the *acquis*, we realised that by the end of 2002 we will have to rewrite or readjust again some 276 laws and 700 regulation.

● **And you began this process in the early 90's?**

We did, but we had to keep adding to it, which is serious business. What is the purpose of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement? To open toward the EU, to gain an asymmetrical trade regime: so that you will be free of all export taxes, while you can still charge custom duties on the products you import from the EU.

The point of this asymmetry is to help your industry and other sectors, to speed up the process of structural adjustment and to force you to technically harmonise your products if you wish to export to the EU. You cannot be selling in the common market something that isn't compatible, nor will they let you do it.

Right now Croatia is living through the shock that we received in 1998, when we realised this is no laughing matter. If you want your country to do well in this process and to achieve successfully your own transition goals, you must take it as serious business: you cannot go into it with a semi-illiterate administration.

negotiations?

When I look at the structure in Montenegro, I see that with respect to agriculture, your situation is very different from that of Serbia or Croatia, or other predominantly agricultural countries in the region, because Montenegro is a net importer of food, not an exporter. In that, you are more similar to Slovenia, because it was easier for us to agree on export rates, and everything else.

The most important issues for you are transport, service sector, tourism and ecology. If you didn't solve matters of ecological importance, you cannot develop tourism. In Europe there is a principle governing pollution: the one who is responsible must pay for it. Knowing your economic and budgetary potential, EU will be willing to help you in this, as they have helped us.

● **What exactly did you mean when you mentioned transport? Which obligation is Montenegro expected to fulfil?**

I meant harmonising your road and railway infrastructure with the European

standards, but also the reform of the whole system governing this infrastructure. It also involves safety measures in road and rail traffic, as well as the harbour of Bar.

● **And in tourism?**

If your wish to succeed in this area, you must live up to the standards. The basis for this is solving all ecological problems, because Europe is very restrictive in these matters. Besides, how do you expect to develop tourism if you haven't solved transportation problems? Transportation and ecology are economic assets, a prerequisite for the success of this branch that is so important to Montenegro.

● **According to you, how long will it take for Montenegro to reach that level where it can be considered eligible for the status of EU candidate country?**

Well, there you go, Macedonia was granted that status promptly after signing the SAA. It isn't necessarily a process that takes five or ten years, it can happen within two or three years. Slovenia signed its partnership agreement in 1996, and after a year and a half we



From the lecture at the final seminar of the European Integration School

already had the candidate status.

● **In the case of Slovenia, which branches of your economy were the main losers in the accession process?**

We worked on strengthening the main pillars of the Slovenian economy, and we invested in road infrastructure. We did it on purpose, and for you it is very important as well, if you wish to develop your service sector. We also restructured our steel industry very early in the process. All industries that have depended on the Yugoslav market had to fail, but we solved our ecological problems. We still didn't manage to resolve problems of textile and footwear industry, especially in the less developed regions of Slovenia where this industry employed almost exclusively female workforce. This is where we're lagging, you see, especially now in the era of globalisation when it's impossible to be competitive against the Asian tigers whose cheap textile products are all over Europe.

● **In your opinion, who will be the losers in Montenegro?**

Finally, you know, the losers are those who sleep and who refuse to join early in the process of adjustment and re-structuring of their area of work.

Nedeljko RUDOVIĆ

THE MOST DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS ARE AT HOME

● **One of your arguments is that the most difficult negotiations are done at home, not with the European representatives?**

You must harmonise your legislation with the European legal order and make sure you implement it as well, and this involves all of the subjects at home, economic as well as social ones. Accepting European standards in various areas of economic activity you will break down monopolies, arbitrariness, establish order in the society, but also send many people to the streets because you had to make structural adjustments to the common market. This is why you must negotiate at home, this is why we included all the civil servants, non-governmental sector and chambers of commerce in this process, in order to reach consensus about the timing of certain measures.

We said that we couldn't implement all ecological standards of the EU before 2015, because we need this time to solve the problem of industrial water management.

● **What are these standards?**

That every settlement should have its own water supply and drain system. That's something that you will have to do as well, because you mustn't pollute Adriatic. So we sat down and calculated the cost of it, and we said we will need another 10 years, as well as 2 billion 800 million euros of assistance. So far, before the accession, we received 150 millions from the EU.

● **How much of the project was financed by the EU?**

Through cohesion funds in the next financial period we will receive huge amounts of money. EU will pay 85%, and we will finance 15%. You see, this is what you are going to negotiate.

WHY NEARLY 4/5 OF MONTENEGRO'S CITIZENS SUPPORT ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

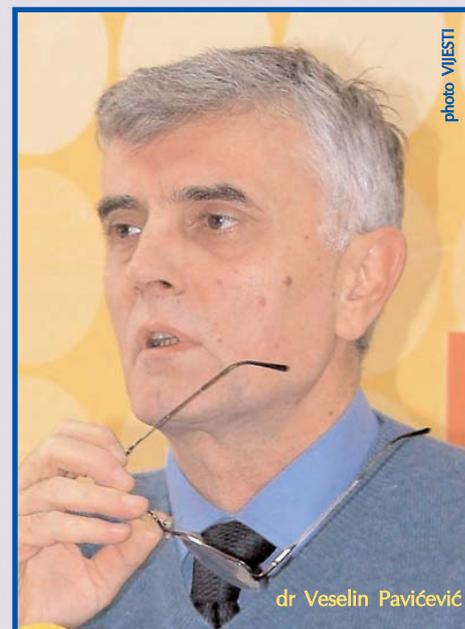
The quest for prosperity cancels all Montenegrin divisions

Not so long ago Montenegrins expressed their pride in being Yugoslavian through undivided, uncritical support for unification of all South Slavs under one flag. Today, this sentiment has been replaced with a new identity – being European. With the difference that today, instead of that surge of emotions which has left Montenegro without a state in the beginning of the last century, motivations that govern their preference for these new integrations appear to be of a rather practical nature.

Economic prosperity, social security, peace and stability, benefits of travelling and studying abroad are among the main reasons motivating the citizens of

Montenegro to declare themselves as adamant supporters for the accession to the club of European nations. According to the last survey of public opinion done by the Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CEDEM) 81,2% of the citizens of Montenegro support Montenegro's efforts to join European Union, only 4,8% are against, while 14% of the citizens was undecided.

Such all-Montenegrin consensus is a true picture of Montenegro as it is today, with all its disadvantages: a picture of Montenegro burdened by corruption, criminal, low living standard, slight chances for improvement, nepotism, unemployment...All of these factors influence the



dr Veselin Pavićević

citizens to turn toward an ideal image of European Union, believing that membership in this elite society will make all of their problems disappear into thin air.

The Head of CEDEM's team for empirical studies, **professor dr Veselin Pavićević** warns that the story of Montenegro's accession to the EU might not be sufficiently articulated and explained to the citizens, which results in such high numbers of people hoping for a swift membership, believing that it will automatically improve their socio-economic standing. With a reservation regarding CEDEM research, which didn't dwell on citizens' hopes and expectations, but had only noted the general level of approval, dr Pavićević says that the results only point at the fact that EU is a "political desire".

"People do not realise all the consequences of the accession process. For instance, EU requested significant job cuts in public administration. If people knew that, they probably wouldn't run so eagerly after the membership. Montenegro will benefit from this membership in the long run, but in the meantime there will be problems", claims professor Pavićević.

High numbers of EU advocates in both government as well as opposition parties reflect this wide-ranging support among the citizens. Montenegro, which is so deeply divided on the question of the country status demonstrates surprisingly high levels of unity when it comes to the EU– 91,6% percent of those who support

	Better	Same	Worse	No comment
March	53,2%	19,7%	20,8%	6,3%
June	52,0%	19,0%	21,0%	8,0%
November	53,5%	18,6%	19,2%	8,7%

Source: CEMI

Expectations in regard to the living standard in five years

MONTENEGRINS AND IRISH CHAMPIONS OF EU SUPPORT

Among the countries with the most positive attitude toward the EU, Montenegro is at the very top. Romania is there with 76% of the citizens thinking all the best about the EU, then Ireland with 75%, Italy with 64%, while Turkey and Bulgaria have each 63%.

Of the 25 member states, Austria and the United Kingdom are the champions of Euroscepticism, with only 32 and 33% respectively of the citizens who believe that membership in the EU has been a good thing for their country.

Following these two are Latvia (36%), Finland (38%), and Hungary and Sweden (39%).

On the other hand, among the countries that believe the membership to be a good thing are Luxemburg and Ireland whose 82% and 73% of the citizens consider the EU membership to be good for their countries.

Even though they rejected the constitution at the referendum in June, 70% of the Dutch citizens support the membership of their country.

Some 32% of the Swedes think that their country "has certain advantages from being a member state", while only 36% of Austrians and 37% of the British agree with this statement.

On the other side are the Irish, 86% of which are satisfied with what they get from Brussels, the same as 69% of Danish population.



mr Đuro Stojanović

Montenegrin independence claims their allegiance to the EU accession projects. On the other hand, 77,3% among the unionists do so as well, albeit most of them in the early 90's were in favour of that conservative thought which professed that, for defence of the Serbian national interest, it was legitimate to wage war on their neighbours and on the whole world.

Among the voters who support parties in power, 59,9% is in favour of the accession, and only 1,5% against, while among those who vote opposition, which is mainly in favour of the State Union with Serbia, these numbers are respectively 50,4% and 7,5%.

Results of the CEDEM research are in accordance with those of the November survey done by the Centre for monitoring (CEMI) showing that 72,2% of the citizens of Montenegro believe that membership in the European Union will be good for Montenegro, which is some 3,7% more than in June, while 67,5% believes that this event will be improve their personal lives. For the greatest number of people, European Union stands for economic

prosperity (27,7%), peace (25,5%) and freedom of movement (20,7 %).

18,6% of the citizens believes that membership will be neither good nor bad, while the percentage of those who believe that membership will be bad is extremely low (3,8%). That membership will bring both advantages and disadvantages is the opinion of 19,8 % of the surveyed, 14,9% believes that it will bring great improvements, while 4,6% thinks it might bring certain disadvantages. The number of citizens who believe that the membership will bring many disadvantages is only 1%.

As for the EU itself, 50% of its citizens consider it to be a good thing, 30% thinks it is neither good nor bad, and 16% believes it is bad.

President of the Governing Board of the Centre for Monitoring, Đuro Stojanović, says that these survey results reflect a "largely idealised picture of EU".

"Citizens of Montenegro still do not know what EU is asking from us. At the moment, the only condition they know to exist is delivering the alleged war criminals to The Hague, and in a way, this is how they form their opinion. Once we enter the process, once that detailed lists of concrete requests start coming in, things are probably going to change", argues Stojanović.

He gave the example of Croatia where civic support for integrations has been falling as Croatia approaches the date of membership.

"From the one time 70% in support of the membership, now there are only 50%", says Stojanović.

Even Slovenia could never boast exceptionally high support for the membership, although it is considered to be a country that both economically and culturally has always been the closest to the EU member states. Members of the Slovene government on the eve of the membership referendum gave cautious predictions of 60%, even though final

EU TO BE TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS

Although we are yet to discover what brings the membership in the EU, great number of the citizens of Montenegro – 43,4%, believes that their knowledge of the EU is satisfactory. On the scale one to five, they graded themselves 3 on average.

A fair number of the surveyed stated that their level of information is not really sufficient – 19,7% graded themselves 2, as well as those who said they know nothing at all – grade one, 18,8 %. Those who believe themselves to be well informed are 12,8% (grade 4), while those who said they are extremely well informed are a 4,2%.

With respect to June survey, the number of those who consider their knowledge to be satisfactory has grown (increase of 4,4 %) as well as of those who believe their knowledge to be excellent (2,5%), while an encouraging decrease has been noted among those who claim that their knowledge is insufficient (7,6%).

As regards personal experience and contacts with the EU countries, numbers did not change significantly since June, except that the number of citizens who have never visited any of the EU members states decreased in 3,5%. At the moment, this category covers 58,3 % of the citizens.

Support for introducing EU studies in elementary and secondary school curriculum remains steadily high in all researches – around 81 %.

numbers counted more than 70% of the Slovenes in favour.

Membership in the EU does not automatically improve your standards. This is evident from the surveys which have been conducted in the new member states. According to the latest "Eurobarometer", 44% of the Czechs, 46% Slovaks and 47% of Latvians claim that the membership has made their lives "neither better nor worse".

"In the countries who joined the EU in the last wave of enlargement, citizens probably found that their expectations have not been fulfilled, but it also did not make their lives any worse," says Stojanović. N.R.

	Better	Same	Worse	No comment
Cyprus (Northern part)	65%	20%	6%	9%
Romania	56%	25%	10%	9%
Montenegro	53%	19%	19%	9%
Turkey	53%	23%	13%	11%
Croatia	41%	35%	15%	9%
Bulgaria	28%	36%	15%	21%

Source: CEMI

Expectations in regard to the living standard in five years (countries candidates and Montenegro)



by Damir Šehović

Why do I want to be a citizen of Europe?

Speaking about alternative views and interpretations of the European Union and its values, as of the problems related to the European integration process, we may observe two distinct approaches. Those who support integration strive to present it as the highest of all goods, a process that on its own will bring about better standards of living, lower the unemployment, skyrocket GDP, balance the wages, weed out corruption, establish rule of law, and generally improve all aspects of life. Those who doubt or openly oppose integrations suspect them to be just another guise of imperialism, a sly weapon for the EU to seize dominance in politics, economics and culture. Seen from this point, integration means loss of identity and yielding your own sovereignty to somebody else's rule, reducing a citizen to a mere consumer.

What does it really mean to be a citizen of Europe? Which new values are brought in with the European integration process? Can we influence the character of relationships already existing within the EU? Do we have, at all, the freedom of choice?

Breaking away from ideologies and dogmas of the past, abandoning those prejudices that, unfortunately, have loomed over our heads for many years, we are now facing problematic of European integra-

tions. In this process, we have often replaced the old, worn out paraphernalia of the populist past with a new, "modern" one, without necessarily comprehending the essence of the problem. In that sense, I must emphasise that the core of Montenegro's harmonisation with the EU system, its basic value, must be transforming the ways of thinking and breaking away from deeply rooted stereotypes about society and its functions. Already Keynes (the greatest economist of the XX century) explained that the main difficulty is not in adopting new ideas, but in getting rid of the old ones, which have already sprouted branches "in every corner of our mind".

Or, in the words of Herman Hesse: "A bird struggles out of an egg, egg is the world, the one who wishes to be born must destroy a world". Here I mean a particular mental transition, which is based on the abandon of the ancient logic of mercantilism, self-sufficiency and closure. This logic has only brought us limits of competition, crippling of growth, innovation and productivity, and deterioration of life standards. This transition signifies a step away from the "Newtonian era" into an "era of scholasticism", where all games are played out in the market, and not around party, or even worse, bar tables.

Although it may seem strange at the first sight, we must agree that the problem is not in these notorious 80.000 pages of rules, but in us, in our perception of the world and reality. The essence of life is always in small things, is it not? If we wish to

become citizens of Europe, and I hope we all do, we must start with changing our value system, as soon as possible, because the change is long due, so we must run faster than others in order to stay in the run. We cannot rely on anybody else to solve our problems, wherever he or she may come from. Others cannot set our path; they can walk along, but not instead of us. We will soon have the chance to measure our strength against competition from Europe. Or at least we hope we will.

Signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, its ratification in the European Parliament as well as the Member States parliaments, will gradually establish a free trade area between Montenegro and EU25, opening Montenegrin market for the European market, 600 times larger than ours, counting some 440 million people. The result will be "compression of time and space" – a situation which will require new game rules. These rules can be summarised as follows: "If one community can produce something cheaper and more efficiently than other, then that community should specialise for the production of only such articles, and exchange them for others". Simply, every state should specialise for what they can do best – which leads to an increase of productivity, decrease in prices and focusing on just few products, in other words, we will export what we produce and import what we need.

Therefore, instead of the old national self-sufficiency and isolationism, we arrive at all-encompassing trade and mutual dependence of

nations, where product promotion is the foundation of a successful development programme. Indeed, opening to international trade and embracing the famous "fundamental freedoms" (freedom of movement of goods, services, capital, workers) has aided many countries before to achieve faster growth than they would otherwise. However, just to shatter the black-and white picture of the world (and by no means to disqualify integrations as such) it is worth asking some of the following questions: Which countries do profit the most from the level playing field in trade, as Noam Chomsky would call it? Is it equally the developed and the less developed, or no? Is there such thing as "excess of freedom" (economically)? If yes, can such freedom be detrimental to a society at a certain stage of its development? What does this have to do with Stabilisation and Association Agreement and Montenegrin government's negotiation platform?

Freedom means choice. The basis of economy is also choice. The act of choice is freedom itself. Such light-hearted, sonorous syllogism can bear monumental consequences. Wars, poverty, violence, corruption, all of the above are potentially results of freedom. Even Adam Smith, whose model is still the basis for the "ideology" of free market, repeatedly emphasised that, in order to function, the system requires clear property rules, as well as powerful institutions and courts to implement and protect these rights. Only if these conditions are met, the market forces will draw on the premise of profit motivation to lead an econo-



my toward more efficient results, as if by some invisible hand. Modern economics examined many more conditions for this credo of Smith's to really work.

Smith's motto, for instance, wouldn't be quite applicable in the case of transitional economies, where information is partial and markets incomplete, so that results are lower than the expected efficiency. Making this motto an ideology, in the words of Stiglitz, we create an "effect of economic jungle of primal accumulation" – privatising the state and its functions, dissolving it into a network of narrow groups for whom political power is only a means to augment private wealth. Solution, then, is a gradualist approach, and this must be taken into consideration in the next round of negotiations, when we decide how fast will we open our market to

the European one. Of course, this is only relevant for those products where Montenegro has a comparative advantage relative to its neighbours.

On the other hand I should emphasise that within the EU, all countries are equal, but some are "more equal" than others. Here we must ask ourselves whether we can have, being citizens of a tiny country such as Montenegro, any voice in resolving this problem. Do we have any choice at all? Of course the answer to the first question is no – we must be aware that, having 650 000 inhabitants living on 13 500 km², we cannot really expect to set policies and export political models to Europe, although I wouldn't be surprised to hear the opposite too, given our traditional delusion about the historical role of Montenegro and its great significance.

The answer to the second question is also mostly negative. Integration is unavoidable, and in order to integrate, we will, sooner or later adopt the philosophy of the EU, regardless of the formal date of our accession. Might makes right, no? The key here is accepting European values, not membership as an end in itself. However, an additional motive for stepping firmly and quickly onto the path of integration is that negation of European ideals leads to "ghettoisation". In such societies, citizens become "prisoners" of their national elites. Do you see a connection here?

The author is an assistant teacher at the Faculty of Economy, University of Montenegro, Podgorica. He attended III generation of the European Integration School.

PROFESSOR ČEDOMIR ČUPIĆ CLAIMS THAT IN APPROACHING THE EU MONTENEGRO WILL COMPLETELY CHANGE ITS FACE

Monopolies in economics and politics will disappear

In my opinion, EU accession process will completely change all the features of the country: from the potential for economic development to employment, from changes in the given social status to those of the so-called "existential discontent", and finally, some of the cultural traits – says **dr Čedomir Čupić**, professor at the Faculty of Political ScienceS in Belgrade and a lecturer at the European Integration School, which is conducted by the Centre for Civic Education (CCE), Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations (CDNGO) and European Movement in Montenegro (EMIM), with support of the Foundation Open

Even those who managed to get rich through monopolies will soon loose their wealth if they're not capable of facing this challenge. This is why it is very important to remember that association process will also solve other social and political problems, social injustices, because you will have to adopt democratic standards

Society Institute, Representative office in Montenegro.

In his interview for EIC Bulletin, dr Čupić explained that in a country of 650 000 people, which is just about the size an average town in some developed countries, it shouldn't be too difficult to put things in order.

"It would be enough to build two highways: one in the direction of Bijelo Polje, Berane and Rožaje, and

another heading to Plužine and then Bosnia. In this way, you would valorise comparative advantages of Montenegro, such as agriculture and tourism. There is an immense potential for development there", states Čupić.

Discussing the economic potential of Montenegro, he added that emphasis should be on tourism and agriculture, especially health food industry.

"You can't really expect people nowadays to remain in these mountains, living in poverty and neglect. But if tomorrow they have a road, and an opportunity to place their products on the market, it will be a completely different thing. You know that today in the EU the most valued products come from ecologically clean environments, where no chemicals have been used. These products are sold at soaring prices, which means that they'll have a chance in the market", said Čupić.

According to him, as long as the country is closed, all sorts of economic monopolies are possible, but as the country approaches the EU, these monopolies will disappear.

"There will be other producers and so this problem will be solved. Even those who managed to get rich through monopolies will soon loose their wealth if they're not capable of facing this challenge. This is why it is very important to remember that association process will also solve other social and political problems, social injustices, because you will have to adopt democratic standards", claims professor Čupić.

He stressed that EU integration



dr Čedomir Čupić

will establish principles of change of the party in power and democratise parties in general.

"It is a process of filtering, people will not be afraid any more to do their job in the common interest, and then to step down and go back to their profession, as they do in the West, instead of staying in one position forever".

He believes that those who lead Montenegro down this path will remain in the minds of citizens and in the history as founders of a new era.

"On the other hand, people in high positions must realise that nobody in political life is irreplaceable. People are unique only in their personal lives, while in politics everyone can and should once be replaced", concluded professor Čedomir Čupić. **N.R.**

INTRODUCING THE EU INSTITUTIONS

European Commission



If we analyse the European Integration progress, as well as the further efforts for a closer partnership between 25 member states of European Union, we may conclude that European Commission is the most important EU institution. It isn't without a reason that they call it "engine of integration" and "guardian of the treaties": European Commission is charged with proposing new regulations, implementing all the common policies, but also with acting as prosecutor at the European Court of Justice against member states who for some reason failed to implement EU laws: regulations, directives or decisions.

The role of EC is to defend common interests of the EU against individual interests of the member states – which is made evident through the work of its members – commissioners.

Commissioners are obliged to act in favour of the common interests of the EU and to be absolutely independent from the interests of individual member states, including their own, regardless of the fact that, within their own country, they are usually well known political figures.

European Commission is made up of 25 members plus the president. Currently occupying this post is **Jose Manuel Barroso**, the former prime minister of Portugal. Before the new wave of enlargement in 2004, when the number of member states was nearly doubled with the accession of the 10 states from Central and Eastern Europe, the number of seats in the Commission was divided so that France, Italy, Germany, Spain and Great Britain had two representatives each, whereas all the others had only one. Commissioners are elected for 5 years mandate, just as the members of the European Parliament.

Members of the Commission are chosen by European Council, which is made up of prime ministers or heads of state of the 25 EU countries, and these nominations are later approved by European Parliament.

European Commission is divided into 38 Directorates General (DG), general and specialised offices. Each of these offices has a director in chief, who is directly responsible to the commissioner who is in charge of that particular area of work. Commission employs more

that 25000 people, a quarter of which are working in translation.

Commission tasks are to prepare drafts for new regulations, which are later decided upon by the Council of Ministers; to apply EU common policies and to make sure that they have been implemented; to supervise implementation of the European law and distribution of EU financial means. It is also up to Commission to represent EU in international negotiations, whether directly or through its permanent representatives around the world. Its exclusive right to propose legal regulations is the most important function of the Commission, because there is no other way to administer legally binding acts. In preparing a new regulation, European Commission can ask the opinion of the member states governments, representatives of industry, enterprise, syndicates and other interest groups that might be affected by that particular regulation.

However, Commission's right to propose regulations is limited in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, as well as in the area of Justice and Home Affairs. In these, the so-called 2nd and 3rd pillar of the EU, this right is shared between the Commission and the Member States.

In case of violations of the EU law by individual member states, or in such instances where the law has not been implemented at all, European Commission is supposed to forward its complaint to European Court.

At times, the accused can be individuals or companies, but most often than not it is the member states who refuse to obey European law. In most of these cases, the problem concerns violations of the Competition Policy, such as monopolies or cartels. Commission has the right to control government subventions to certain industries and to supervise merging big companies, always with the aim to sustain fair competition policy.

European Commission website is www.europa.eu.int/comm

For those who would like to do an internship with European Commission, we recommend to check all the details at <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/stages>. The application deadline is March 2006. **N.R.**

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPEAN UNION

ECAS



ECAS (European Citizen Action Service) is a Brussels-based NGO. Its mission is to enable NGOs and individuals to make their voice heard with the EU institutions by



Caroline Gonthier

providing advice and useful resources on how to lobby, fundraise, and defend European citizenship rights. ECAS promotes better access to the EU structural funds for NGOs, runs a legal advice service free of charge for any European citizen and develops policy research on transparency and communication between the EU and citizens. ECAS also provides training to NGO representatives from the new member states and neighbouring countries to become EU experts and familiarise with EU policies, decision-making processes, and how to cooperate with EU institutions and NGO networks (ngos@ecas.org).

In addition, ECAS offers one of the most cost-effective EU Funding Guide on the market; it provides you information on all the questions you might ask yourself: what funds are available for what type of projects? What are the main errors I should avoid?

ECAS also provides membership services. You can get a voice in shaping ECAS' yearly programme and establish new grounds for partnerships within the framework of ECAS' activities. You can be provided personalised assistance to develop your EU strategy, including advise on EU funding, the design of EU lobbying campaign, and the tackling of your legal issues. You also receive a monthly newsletter with relevant policy developments, calls for proposal, tender, calendar events, free copies of ECAS publications and access to conferences.

For more information about ECAS activities, visit www.ecas.org, or contact ECAS via email info@ecas.org.

*Prepared by Caroline Gonthier,
ECAS Press and Communication Officer*



After the final seminar in Bijela

Another generation of the European Integration School successfully finished the programme, with the final exam taken on the 9 January.

This is fourth generation of the school in Podgorica, and the first one of the regional school in Bijelo Polje, organised by Centre for Civic Education (CEE), Centre for Development of Non-governmental Organisations (CDNGO) and European Movement in Montenegro (EMiM). These 53 participants have completed a 4-month programme where they learned about institutions and ways of functioning of the European Union, a series of lectures that

Another successful generation of EIS

ended at the final seminar in Bijela from the 22 to 25 December.

Similar to the previous three generations, they had a chance to listen to a number of renowned lecturers, university professors, well-known NGO activists but also EU ambassadors based in Serbia and Montenegro, who twice a week came to share their knowledge and experiences of the history and political thought of European Union, the logic of its creation and sustenance, as well as the complex methods of EU functioning and decision making.

European Integration School has managed to create a unique centre for educational activity in the area of European Integrations, which is organised, well established in both methodology and subject matter, and a potential source of wide implementation and acceptance of European standards and values in general.

The main goal of the School is to

enhance the potential of human resources in Montenegro, where participants should come – as they did this time – from a wide variety of social sectors: students, government and civil servants, journalists and judges, NGO activists, as well as representatives of political parties and economic enterprises.

CCE, CDNGO and EMiM conducted this project with the support from Foundation Open Society Institute, Representative Office in Montenegro (FOSI-ROM).

As until now, candidates for the next generation of the school are welcome to apply regardless of their gender, nationality, religious or other beliefs, while priority will be given to those candidates who demonstrate high levels of social activism and whose professional lives happen to be of relevance to the so-called "public scene". For more detailed information about school, study programme, students and lecturers, see www.sei.cg.yu

CEMI Winter School

Within the second phase of the project "Get to know European Union", Centre for Monitoring (CEMI) organised winter school of peer education, from 17 to 21 December, in Tivat.

Participants were mainly high school students, aged 16 to 18, coming from 20 different townships in Montenegro. The selection criteria were based on activism and creativity that each of them had shown in a school workshop organised during the first phase of this project, as well as on the results of a trial paper titled "The future of our youth in European Union".

At the end of the school, participants took the exam about European Union and peer education, wherefore they received diplomas giving them the title of CEMI peer educator.

This project was supported by the embassy of Federal Republic of Germany and of United Kingdom.

The school was declared open by the head of the German Embassy office in Podgorica, **Mr Bernard Zobel**.

New rules for fighting corruption

Centre for development of non-governmental organisations (CDNGO) within the project "Non-governmental organisations and European integrations" organised, on 9 December, 2005 a public debate in the PR Centre. This debate concerned Strategy for fighting corruption and organised criminal – how to combat the so-called "big corruption".

The panel speakers were **Nebojša Medojević**, Executive director of Group for Changes, **Petko Spasojević**, Head of economic criminal department of the Montenegrin police, **Srdan Milić** from the Socialist People's Party, **Milka Tadić**, a journalist from Monitor and **Petar Stojanović**, judge for criminal justice cases of the Supreme Court of Montenegro. **Mr Petar Komnenić**, journalist, was moderating the event.

On this occasion, Spasojević announced new measures of secret surveillance to be implemented for a larger number of criminal activities, instead of being restricted only to organised criminal, which was the case up to date. He said that police needs new technology for



From debate

collecting proofs about corruption.

Nebojša Medojević said that Montenegro must change its power structure, since at the moment nobody dares to fight "members of the interest clique".

"One man who tried to do so paid his daring with his life. This clique "weights" millions of dollars, it employs mercenaries for protection. These are difficult and dangerous matters – the octopus has seized the country", says Medojević.

This CRNVO project is supported by European Integration Fund, a programme financed by EU through European Agency for Reconstruction in cooperation with the European Movement in Serbia.

FOR THIS ISSUE WE RECOMMEND:

Scholarships for Masters Programmes in International Relations Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, Switzerland

Master in International Studies (MIS)

The Master in International Studies (MIS) is a two-year programme that will replace the current Institute DEA programme as of October 2006. It is designed for students wishing to develop expertise in one of the disciplines of the Institute (International Economics, International History and Politics, International Law, Political Science). The programme prepares students for doctoral studies, research and careers requiring strong professional skills in the public and private sectors. The degree specifies the discipline of specialization.

The curriculum involves intensive training at an advanced level in the main discipline in specialized courses and seminars, writing a master's thesis, as well as some familiarization with at least one other discipline. Students are also offered the opportunity to focus their studies on international policy issues in which the Institute has developed a strong competence given its location and the profile of its faculty.

Master in International Affairs (MIA)

The Master in International Affairs (MIA) is an innovative two-year programme designed to prepare students for an international career in the public, non-profit and private sectors. The curriculum is primarily designed for students with a Bachelor's degree in one of the four disciplines of the Institute and provides them with a unique opportunity to develop an inter-disciplinary approach to international issues.

The curriculum combines a theoretical preparation in economics, history, law and political science, courses, three areas of concentration (global and regional integration, security and conflict management as well as global society), interdisciplinary seminars and electives. The curriculum also emphasizes the development of the technical skills necessary for effective analysis and decision making (quantitative methods but also negotiation and project management) and encourages internships during the course of study.

Website:

<http://hei.unige.ch/adm/aide.html>

School of Advanced International Studies

The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna Center, is a full-time graduate school that offers a graduate level international relations program in Europe under the American system. Established in 1955, the center has promoted an international composition of students, faculty and staff. More than 30 countries are represented on the student body each year. Over 5,500 graduates of the center now work in 100 countries around the world. The Bologna Center offers an interdisciplinary program of studies, with an emphasis on European studies, international economics, politics and history.

Applications from non-US students are due in Bologna by February 1, 2006.

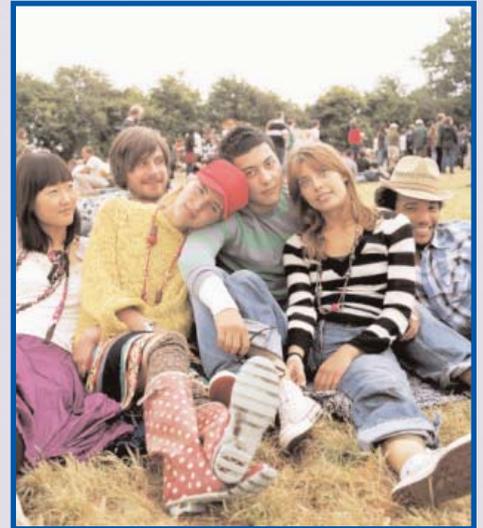
Website:

<http://www.jhubc.it>

M.A. In Advanced European and International Studies

Location: Istanbul, Nice, Berlin

Duration: 9 months (From October



2006 to July 2007)

Deadline: The deadline for applications is on July 31st 2006.

A limited number of scholarship is available

Curriculum Highlights:

Students who successfully complete the program acquire 60 ECTS credits. In addition to the stays in Istanbul, Nice, Berlin, the Institute offers a study trip to European and international organizations in Geneva, Strasbourg, Brussels, and Paris.

Subject Areas: International Relations, European Integration, Democracy and Society, Federalism. This program is supported by the European Union.

Website:

www.iehei.org

The Second European Summer University

3-22 July 2006 at the University of Grenoble

Topics are: Comparative Politics, International Relations, European Studies Modules in English, with the ECTS credits

Second, Third and Fourth year students from Europe and beyond are eligible.

Partial funding from the EU and French government is gratefully acknowledged.

Website:

<http://www.epsNet.org/esu>

Conference "Where is the European Union Heading? Where Should It Head? A World Perspective on the EU" Brussels, Belgium

Deadline: February 9, 2006

During this one day conference there will be high profile panel discussions among experts in these fields of high importance to Europe's future strategy:

- * Agriculture and its related trade Aspects.
- * Enlargement of Europe and Neighboring Policy.
- * Competition Policy.
- * Migration and Justice, Freedom and Security.

Conference participants will be officials of the EU institutions, politicians, diplomats, academics, businesspeople, think-tank representatives, journalists and members' representatives of NGOs.

Website:

<http://eu-perspectives2006.tripod.com>

EFRI Summer School Faculty of Economics Rijeka, Croatia

Date: July 3rd –15th 2006

Deadline: June 11th 2006

Open to: Undergraduate and graduate students of economics and other social studies

The goal of the EFRI Summer School is to introduce students of economics, law and other related studies to the basics of the economic integration process in Europe (focusing on Croatia and South East Europe), and to point out the advantages and challenges of economic integration in everyday life. The course work will consist of lectures, workshops and an assignment to be completed in groups with the support of course supervisors. Due to its specific approach to the European Union & the International

Environment, this course will suite students who already have a basic knowledge of EU matters and those who want to know more.

The Summer School programme is developed in cooperation with the local community, successful Croatian companies, domestic and foreign institutions.

Classes will be held by lecturers from Croatian and European Universities and by experts from state and other institutions. Classes are completely in English and will be held at the Faculty of Economics Rijeka.

Participants will learn about Europe and will be awarded 6 ECTS credits.

All participants will be provided with a bus pass.

APPLICATION

The EFRI Summer School is open to both undergraduate and graduate students of economics and other social studies. Fill in the application form available at EFRI summer school web site.

FEE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A total fee of 550 EUR covers tuition, study materials, organized trips, public transportation, accommodation, breakfast and lunch.

A limited number of full or partial scholarships are available.

Website:

http://www.efri.hr/admin/dokumenti/Program_ljetne_skole2006.pdf

VII. Bled Forum on Europe – Foresight Conference on Global, European and Regional Governance

Date: March, 3.–4.2006

Venue: Bled/Slovenia, Hotel Golf www.hotel-golf-bled.com

The organisers of this conference are: Bled Forum on Europe, Slovenian Research Agency, Austrian Science and Research Liaison Office Ljubljana (ASO Ljubljana)

With this conference the organisers want to contribute to the further advancement of foresight research in Europe and especially also to the development of scientific capacities for foresight research (technological and socioeconomic foresight) in so called Western Balkan countries (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, Macedonia, and Albania).

Main topics of the conference will be:

- Global challenges (AC UNU Millennium Project) and the role of Foresight for global governance.
- European challenges (Lisbon process and beyond) and the role of Foresight for European policy making.
- Governance challenges for Southeast European or Western Balkan countries and the role of Foresight for policy making in and towards this region.

The conference also aims at providing a basic overview on who is doing what in foresight research in SEE countries. In addition, researchers from SEE countries active in foresight research shall get an opportunity to find out about >state of the art< in foresight research, about global, and Europe-wide programmes and networks on foresight research in order to facilitate the integration of SEE foresight researchers in existing networks and programmes.

Furthermore the conference aims at giving an impetus to regional foresight studies focusing on SEE region (comparable to the European Commission/IPTS Enlargement Futures-Project)

For further information (Conference Programme, Registration Form, ect.) please visit also the ASO Ljubljana Homepage (www.aso.zsi.at) and Bled Forum on Europe Homepage (www.bledforum.org, which will be launched on the 1st of February 2006).

European Information Centre



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