



CENTAR ZA GRAĐANSKO OBRAZOVANJE CENTRE FOR CIVIC EDUCATION

## Podgorica, 07.02.2008 PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT AND SDP LOST IN TIME

CCE is not debating against SDP but attains the President of the Parliament, regardless of how the communications are signed. The connections between the two are not a matter for CCE as an NGO to analyse or comment, but we regretfully conclude that in Montenegro there is no clear dividing line between institutions and the ruling coalitions, which is grave obstacle to democratisation in Montenegro.

CCE will refrain from responding to Krivokapic's associates in equal measure, which would entail unearthing their private and familial connections, the ways in which he acquired certain property rights, as well as his professional and other relations with certain female members of the Parliament's staff, or with NGOs led by persons otherwise close to him.

**SDP has spent much energy these days on slandering and insulting the NGO sector on behalf of its leader**. We still believe that the problem lies in the interest group surrounding Krivokapic, not in the party as a whole. This group, and the president of the Parliament, have only confirmed the initial claim of CCE that Krivokapic is fighting against the civil sector in Montenegro, and bearing in mind that this civil sector has received support for its arguments from such international organisations as Council of Europe, OSCE and EU, Krivokapic is picking a fight also with these key international institutions. Futile attempts to divert attention from the key issues, lack of elementary culture of dialogue, slander and insults, as an integral part of all their communications, prove that Montenegro got in Krivokapic agile promoter of Milosevic's and Lukasenko's methods.

To return to the beginning where it all started: **President of the Parliament introduced violation of the law as a principle and he is responsible for the current blockade of the RTCG**. CCE has been emphasising this problem for years, and the **President of the Parliament and his associates find it most disturbing that CCE is not alone in it any more, but that its arguments represent the dominant opinion of the civil sector and of the international community.** 

As for the press release that forms the basis of the intrigues by Krivokapic's associates, we repeat: <u>CCE is only 1 of 82 organisations who supported this press release</u>. We did create that press release, we supported it and as many other we posted it on our web site. We still insist that Krivokapic's associates are pressuring our colleagues for the purposes of their showdown with the civil sector. From the media we learned about the error arising in the communication with the NGO Bono Modo, led by Leon Djokaj, coordinator of the Nansen Dialogue Centre and we do not bare any responsibility for that but the colleagues from other organisations who coordinated support to this press release.

Finally, we encourage Krivokapic and the interest group around him to go ahead and fulfil their "threat" of informing our "donors and international organisations" about our allegedly "inappropriate" behaviour. Some of them already contacted us and they anxiously wait for their letter. An, this will spare us much time and effort that we would have to waste ourselves in order to describe the environment in which we have to work and what we have to face.

Petar Đukanović, programme associate