



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

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SCIENCE SHOULD BE AHEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCE POLICIES

Centre for Civic Education (CCE), regarding the information publicized in the media that the Ministry of Science and Technology will be established within the new Government, calls the candidate for Prime Minister to reconsider that decision, if the media indications are true.

CCE estimates that the establishment of this department would not be rationale taking into account the fact that the Budget of Montenegro provides only 0.26% for science. CCE considers that it is more important to increase expenditure on science than to spend already limited funds for additional administration within the field that has a budget allocation below every European standard, but also below standards of the countries in the region.

If the existing Ministry of Education and Science can't adequately respond to the challenges of development within science, it is better to think about new personnel arrangements within this department than to spend inadequately already restrictive budget for the sake of preserving someone's positions.

CCE reminds that Italian students recently protested because the state provides less than 5% of total GDP for science development, which raises the question - what would be the role of the Ministry of Science and Technology in Montenegro, where in 2010 for science was provided only 0.26% of total GDP?!

We would like to draw attention to the fact that European standard for allocation for support of science is 3%, whereas in Sweden it is even 4.3%. The country closest to us in the region, but yet so distant when it comes to this issue, Croatia, invests 1.3% .

In the previous years the situation had not been better either, since the intersection of science spending has never exceeded 0.35%, so it is logical to consider reasons for justifying the payment of a new administration. We value the expressed interest of the new Prime Minister to give more importance to this area positively, but consider that this can be done within the existing system if better organized and with more qualified people on the managing positions.

CCE appeals on the new Prime Minister to put education and science as priorities in the near future, especially considering the omnipresent corruption in education, on which we continuously point, hoping that, by joint efforts, we will contribute to its decrease.

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