



Centar za građansko obrazovanje Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 10 September, 2009

THE EDUCATION SYSTEM UNDER CONTROL OF THE PARTY

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) is following up, with full attention, the protests of the pupils of Cetinje Gymnasium, as well as the acting of all educational structures and the Government of Montenegro in this particular case.

We give our full support for the expressed activism of the pupils and citizens, and the willingness of parents to defend the rule of law in the Montenegrin education system along with their children.

We strongly oppose the dominant practice that only a party and politically suitable persons can be nominated for key positions in public school facilities, regardless of the interests and expressed positions of the local community, students and parents.

CCE gives a clear F from civic education to the Minister of Education and Science, his entire cabinet, but also to the persons who accepted, due to undoubted and eternal political eligibility, to be a part of a dirty game against the pupils' community to which democratic public admires. They all worked together to put into action the execution of democratic principles and confirmed that the youth is expected to, like themselves, deal with democracy and civic education solely in a demagogical and rhetorical manner instead of using convincing and functional approach.

The composition of the newly appointed school board (SB) confirmed that only old and proven eternal cadre of the ruling party is acceptable, so we do not have anything left but to conclude that the Minister of Education and Science allowed a political party to introduce a force administration in one of the most representative gymnasiums in Montenegro.

We require from the Minister of Education and Science to publicly explain why has he chosen these persons to be the members in the SB and the acting director of the Gymnasium, and to enable and encourage free declaration and participation in decision-making process and management of the legitimate representatives of the pupils, parents and employees.

In Montenegro, which is embarrassingly silent on a numerous examples of violations of the laws, rights and freedoms, the pupils of Cetinje are civic and democratic refreshment that must not be grossly ignored by the educational authorities.

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