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EVERYONE HAS TO TAKE HIS/HER SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR RTCG

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) warns that those responsible for the resolution of the current problems in RTCG Council have began to shift responsibility among themselves, attempting to water down the case and avoid reaching a final solution, instead of taking up the final steps towards solving the issue.

The Law on PBS RTCG is clear and according to it the responsibility resides with: RTCG Council, responsible nominators (in this case the Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro and the University of Montenegro) and the Parliament of the Republic of Montenegro. Individual responsibility certainly lies with Mr Branislav Ćalić and Mr Žarko Mirković. Bringing in the Law on the Conflict of Interests is a clear attempt to make the issue relative and to absolve the individuals in question of the responsibility for the current situation, which is not conducive to effective and legal resolution of the cases of Ćalić and Mirković. Contrarily, it creates a climate for saying that it is nobody's fault, as nobody has the will to admit or even awareness of his own guilt – and we know that resignation is a forgotten institute in the Montenegrin system. Unfortunately, this shows that the rest of the system does no function either!

CCE emphasises that the case of Mirković could not be clearer. His creative reading of the Law can only lead to an initiative for amendments to the Criminal Codex, introducing the following provision: "Those who break the law only temporarily or as temporary executives of a certain function will not be sanctioned for their actions".

CCE urges once more the members of the RTCG Council Esad Kočan, Svetozar Bulatović, Šerbo Rastoder, Nikola Perković and Ljubomirka Asović to act according to the Law and to summon a meeting of the Council in order to initiate dismissal of Ćalić and Mirković. There is no need for "a process in order to establish incompatibility among the functions and offer the incriminated members an opportunity to express their opinion", which suggestion the citizens were able to find in the reaction of the daily Vijesti, because all the proofs have already been established. All that is left is for the Council to recognise the offence, hear the explanation of Ćalić and Mirković, create a recommendation for their dismissal and forward it to the Parliament, which automatically initiates the procedure for the nomination of new members, and suspending Ćalić and Mirković according to the paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Article 22 of the Law.

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CCE emphasizes that the Parliament of Montenegro and its President Ranko Krivokapić have to assume full responsibility. By nominating Ćalić and Mirković contrary to the legal requirements they introduced illegality as a principle. If this can be done by the supreme legislative power without any sanctions, we find ourselves in a dangerous field of complete absence of the rule of law, encouraging other actors to decline their responsibility too.