



Centar za građansko obrazovanje Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 11.10.2010.

SITUATION AT THE LAW FACULTY IS STILL DISTURBING

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) again urges the authorities of University of Montenegro (UMNE) and rector to immediately start activities in order to solve problems at the Law Faculty and to provide all conditions for the academic work of students and professors.

On Thursday, 07/10/2010, CCE addressed the Board of Directors of the UMNE and filed a formal request for early elections for the post of Dean of the Law Faculty, due to the publicly known months long alarming state of affairs amongst students and professors that was caused by the work of the current dean. The reasons for this are incompetent and negligent performance of duties by the current dean and failure in performing duties that are prescribed by law and statute which largely damaged the UMNE and the Law Faculty. Prolongation of this problem to the regular election in May 2011 can significantly affect not only the Law Faculty but the credibility of the UMNE.

CCE welcomes the decision of Rector Miranovic to convene a session of the Council at the Law Faculty, which was held on 09/10/2010, in order to contribute to the functioning of the regular state of the affairs at the this faculty. At the above mentioned session, certain key and undisputed issues are resolved, representatives of the Law Faculty for Senate of the UMNE and Vocational Council elected, the information on the verification of grades from summer semester adopted, as well as the decision to publicise call for applications for MA and PhD studies. Still, that session which lasted for six hours did not lead to the solution of many other pressing issues that are important for students and professors. This applies primarily to the question of confidence to the dean Ranko Mujovic whose request for dismissal was initiated by a group of professors, then to the issue of election of members of the Commission for MA and PhD studies, as well as the election of professors into academic level, issue of quorum of the Council and many others bodies, for which the continued presence of the Rector is necessary. The held session of the Council did not substantially change the atmosphere full of tension that prevails at the Law Faculty. Additionally, the matters of concern are inappropriate threats of the dean to the professors and assistants with criminal charges and dismissals if they confront him.

CCE calls educational and other relevant inspections to perform inspection oversight within different segments of the work of the Law faculty in order to obtain a complete picture and access to further corrective measures.

The rights and obligations of students and professors are prescribed by the Law on higher education and the Statute of UMNE, as well as other regulations that University committed itself through the implementation of the Bologna declaration. Accordingly, these provisions must be observed and apply.

Respectfully, Snezana Kaludjerovic, Legal Adviser

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