

Podgorica, 16 April 2008

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT OF NGOs

We inform the public that the NGOs listed below have paid a part of damages to the bank account of *Monitor* for Mr Emir Kusturica, film director and president of the Management Board of the Belgrade daily *Politika*, in order to jointly pay for his pain caused by facing the truth.

We invite citizens of Montenegro to express solidarity with the journalist and writer Andrej Nikolaidis and weekly *Monitor* and support the survival of this magazine by their symbolic monetary contributions.

By such action we wish to instigate civic solidarity with the journalists of *Monitor* at the time when judgments, such as the one against *Monitor*, force a few remaining free media into self-censorship.

Monitor has been persistent in its struggle for preservation and institution of values that should serve as basis for development of the Montenegrin society, and that is obviously getting on the nerves of those wishing to create a brighter future of Montenegro by forgetting the past.

As there have already been unsuccessful attempts to endanger the survival of *Monitor* as well as other independent media, we believe that *Monitor* will nevertheless remain a venue for presenting different opinions, a magazine offering the citizens a possibility of choice – freedom – that is today lacking in the Montenegrin society.

Let us raise our voice against the legal system that does not differentiate between warmongering and an anti-war cry.

Citizens wishing to provide monetary support may direct their payments directly to the *Monitor*'s bank account: 510-2839-59 CKB, purpose: donation (for compensation of damages according to the Higher Court final judgment).

Join us.

Human Rights Action
Centre for Civic Education
Centre for Development of Non-governmental organizations
European Movement in Montenegro
Roma Scholarship Foundation
Youth Initiative for Human Rights
Institute Alternative
Juventas
Women Voters League of Niksic
Network for Affirmation of Non-governmental Sector (MANS)
Women Safe house
Association of Jurists of Montenegro