



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

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TRANSPARENCY IN EVERYONE'S INTEREST

Centre for civic education (CCE) continuously makes efforts directed to increase of the transparency level of the University of Montenegro as well as the credibility of this high educational institution, thus contributing the fight against corruption in this area.

In this context, on the March 26, 2009, CCE filed a request for free access to the information to the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Montenegro, requesting the information on the **number and titles of the scientific projects conducted by the Faculty of the Political Sciences; number of graduates of the Faculty in academic years of 2006/2007 and 2007/2008, listed by their major**, as well as the **number of master degree graduates of the Faculty in the academic year of 2007/2008, listed by their majors**. In oral communication, a couple of days after filing the request, we've been told by a Faculty's employee that we will get an official answer to our request, and that the gathering of the materials is under way. Since they failed to answer by the legal deadline, as well as during a much longer period of time, CCE filed another, repeated request to the Faculty of the political sciences on April 24, 2009, and that one also have been ignored.

Not only that the Faculty's administration violates the Law on free access to the information by such behavior, but it also acts contrary to the public interest which is, in this case, the transparency of work of the Faculty of Political Science. Consequently, this causes the questioning of credibility of the Faculty, and certainly sends a bad message to the students who should be the ones who will make important decisions in the future. Also, such attitude towards conveying information on work can only strengthen the perception and attitudes of the citizens of Montenegro on a high level of corruption in high education.

The reason why the Faculty's administration persistently denies answering our requests is especially confusing, and such behavior cannot be in the interest of this institution nor the Faculty's administration, unless they reckon that their personal interest is more important than the interest of the public to know what, how and with whom they do business.

Centre for civic education will use all of the legal means stipulated by the Law in order to get the requested information, but we do assess that such proceedings harm the reputation of the Faculty of political science.

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