



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 25 October 2010

IN WHOSE INTEREST IS THAT THE LAW FACULTY VIOLATES THE LAW?

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) expresses its concern regarding the failure in solving numerous problems at the Law Faculty over a longer period of time.

In addition to addressing the public and appeal for effective approach to solving the problems in this academic institution, CCE has sent the management of the Law Faculty a request for access to information on a number of grounds.

Namely, by the request sent on 14 October 2010, the CCE sought the following information from the Law Faculty: **copy of the Council's decision on hiring professor Stevo Nikić for Sociology; information regarding the number of the commissions established at the Law Faculty, as well as their names, information regarding number and structure of members of every Commission individually.** Special issue that the CCE put the emphasis on was related to the information about the amounts of fees (excluding travel orders, salaries and the cost of education) which was received by teaching assistants of the Law Faculty in 2008, 2009 and 2010 up to the date of request submission, for each assistant individually and not cumulative for all years.

The Law Faculty, whose mission is to educate those who will create and enforce laws, do not respect the same itself, so it has not either respected the Law on Free Access to Information, which opens further the issue of responsibilities of managers in the institution.

CCE believes that the public is entitled to know, despite the often emphasized justifications from this university unit regarding who and on what principle is being employed, how much money is being allocated for fees and on what basis, how and why assistants are being paid, especially when there is a reasonable doubt that there are no same evaluation criteria and equal opportunities for all, namely that individuals receive extremely high fees, while others even do not have them, because they are not equally represented in the previously mentioned Commissions or not represented at all.

CCE indicates that there is nothing in the nature of these information which should be a secret of any kind and therefore it is incomprehensible why the dean of the faculty refused to answer these questions which, according to the Law on free access to information, professional ethics, and several months of media interest, he is fully obliged to.

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