

Centar za građansko obrazovanje Centre for civic education

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UNTIL WHEN ARE ILLEGAL ACTIONS GOING TO BE TOLERATED AT THE U₀M?

The Centre for Civic Education has filed to the Educational Inspection a Request for the review of legality and compatibility of legal acts. The request refers to the legality and compatibility of the Rule book of the election procedures and deadlines, the procedure for the termination of the function and the dismissal of the University of Montenegro Rector with the current Statute.

The CCE reminds that the Statute of the UoM has not suffered any changes or amendments at the time that the Rule book has been written or, if they were any changes or amendments to the Statute, they have not received official consent by the Government of Montenegro.

The CCE also warns about the possibility of individuals and UoM governing bodies trying to find ways to legalize everything *post festum*, ie. to make late changes and amendments to the existing Statute at one of the sessions of the Government, in order to make it all seem credible, thus continuing with the circle of illegality in the work of the UoM.

But, even with this scenario being used, fact is that the Rule book has to be annulled, because, at the time of its enactment, a Statute which it has not been coordinated with was valid, which had to be done because it is a senior legal act.

In short, this Rule book is illegal due to its incompatibility with the UoM Statute. The direct consequence is that it brings into question the already instituted Rector electing procedure. The CCE believes that the responsibility of the lawmakers and the governing bodies, which have brought the UoM and the Rector electing procedure into the state of illegality, should be inspected and determined, because it directly compromises this institution of higher education.

In terms of development of a society, it is very worrying that the oldest university, funded by the citizens, operates in an illegal way. Reasons for it also lie in the procedure for choosing the administration which has often neglected public interest in favor of personal of party interest, and established bad praxes which continuously degrade the quality of the educational system in Montenegro. We should remind you that similar events occurred earlier. For example, during the term of office of Mr. Ljubiša Stanković, this Rector has managed to, in the last moment of 2004, on an already adopted Statute for which the



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Government has given its consent, make a change to the provision of Article 111 "about external evaluation and control", in order to make the internal revision service, as an organizational part of the Rectorate, responsible for the financial control at the UoM. In translation, that means that the UoM administration takes care of the finances alone and controls itself, which lasts until today and results in a high-level lack of transparency of the work of the UoM, which has been confirmed by the findings of the State Audit Institution.

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