

GENUINE CARE ABOUT MARGINALIZED GROUPS INSTEAD OF SELF-PROMOTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

Centre for anti-discrimination "Ekvista" and Centre for Civic Education (CCE) note that the decision of the Government of Montenegro of founding of the Council for protection from discrimination has been brought in non-transparent manner, without consultations with with civil society.

It is a step backward compared to the practice that has gradually begun with developing of establishing the Council for cooperation of the Government with nongovernmental organizations.

Particularly worrying is the fact that this decision was not preceded with consultations of most important marginalized groups, especially people with disabilities (PWD).

We call upon the Government to withdraw its decision in communication with civil society organizations and marginalized groups that are confronting with discrimination on daily base and to shape its necessary amendments.

Additionally, the explanation given by the Government, in response to the unique views of PWD organizations, that the Council for fight against discrimination at its first meeting will make a decision for establishing of a special working body that deals with protection of PWD is concerning. That indicates the absence of active listening and practice of “done deal” in terms of the announcements of the future decisions of the body which is still not formed.

We call upon the Government to, instead of its European self-promotion, take an approach to listen and respect the needs and expectations of discriminated groups.

Centre for anti-discrimination "Ekvista"

Centre for Civic Education (CCE)