



PARLIAMENT OF MONTENEGRO MUST BE INCLUDED IN CLARIFYING THE FACTS ON PRIVATIZATION OF TELEKOM MONTENEGRO

Institute Alternative (IA), Centre for Civic Education (CCE), Centre for Monitoring (CEMI), European Movement in Montenegro (EMIM) and the Centre for Development of NGOs (CRNVO) assess that the opening of parliamentary inquiry and establishing of investigation committee for collection of information on privatization of Telekom Montenegro represent the best manner to obtain legal and an adequate epilogue of the privatisation of this company that will be based on facts and at the same time will protect the public interest.

IA, CCE, CEMI, EMIM and CRNVO invite MPs, especially from the ruling majority, to support the parliamentary inquiry because there are no formal legal barriers for its opening, which is also clear from the information provided by the Ministry of Justice regarding the draft decision on the opening of the parliamentary inquiry. In particular, we call the parliamentary majority to show that there are no reasons to defend anyone from authorities in advance, both the previous ones and the current ones, and thus to assure the public in its fair and impartial approach toward their party fellows from other branches of the government. Additionally, we believe that the importance of the control mechanism of a parliamentary inquiry in the protection of public interest is underestimated. Its conduct in this particular case may contribute to the clarification of the doubts about the corrupt practices.

Given the fact that parliamentary inquiry in Montenegro has not been used since the Parliamentary Rules of Procedure were passed in 2006, its conduct would indicate the commitment of all political parties in Parliament to promote the currently poor control function of the Parliament, which the European Commission noted as well. Also, conduct of the parliamentary inquiry would mark the willingness of MPs to develop this instrument and apply it more frequently in practice in more effective manner.

Montenegrin public must promptly learn who are the people responsible for the detriment of the citizens of Montenegro, which brought them and to the persons linked with them enormous financial gains, by selling one of the most successful companies in the history of Montenegro.

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