



Podgorica, 14 November 2011

DINOSA IS DEMONSTRATING IRRESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE END OF MANDATE

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) at the meeting of he Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms, held on 24 October 2011 which was control hearing of the Minister Ferhat Dinosa, through the President of the Committee submitted questions on the effects of implementation of the Law Against Discrimination, work of minister Dinosa and his cabinet.

CCE assess that the answers to the following questions can be a valuable indicator of means and effects of implementation of the Law Against Discrimination, as well as the work of the Ministry in charge: Has the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights developed a strategy of anti-discrimination policy and what is the Ministry concretely undertaking to promote anti-discrimination? What is the allocated budget for activities in this area? Why did the Council for the care of persons with disabilities ceased to exist? Was it based on analysis of the effects of work of this body or any other analysis that would indicate the need for the abolition of this body, and the establishment of a new one? Why there was not reaction from the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights concerning the statement of Metropolitan Amfilohije related to insults and direct call for discrimination of LGBT population? What is the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights undertaking concerning human rights situation in the closed institutions, with special emphasis on the Department for executions of criminal sanctions?

At this meeting, CCE got the promise from the president of the Committee that in the next 10 days questions will be answered by the minister and his cabinet, and that the president of the Committee will take particular care for the respect of the deadline. However, although the 10 days have passed CCE has not received an official response, which was the reason for CCE to remind today the Parliamentary Committee about this issue.

This clearly shows that the Minister Ferhat Dinosa is not accountable to anyone and he doesn't feel obliged to explain to anyone how he defended the interests of the citizens of Montenegro, especially certain vulnerable social groups. Clearly, coalition agreement released him of any accountability to citizens or other parts of the authorities.

Also, at the end of his term of office Dinosa is consistently confirming that human and minority rights are not relevant to the current democratic process and the establishment of the rule of law in Montenegro. In addition, this indicates that there is no effective control of executive power by the Parliament, considering that even at the request of the Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms, this Ministry does not provide answers which is concerning form the point of building and strengthening of the institutions.

In every moment, ministers must be prepared to answer questions within their jurisdiction, as well as those that might affect their decision-making process. Without such an accountability system we cannot establish rule of law with which we begin and end negotiations with the European Union, and which establishment democratize Montenegro and create a society in which there are no untouchables.

Nikola Djonovic, Programme associate