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EU legislation could
lead to an increase
in the number of
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European
Information Centre





FOREWORD

It is spelled out nice and clear in the Resolution of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament – let the investors from EU member countries come to Montenegro under equal opportunities. But, they added, monitor the flows of investment into property and real estate, in accordance with the EU mechanisms and procedures. Not a word mentioning the controversial Russian capital flooding Montenegro, but it is obvious that the authors of the Resolution meant precisely that. The text was unanimously adopted in the Foreign Affairs Committee, and it will almost certainly be passed in the EP plenary session in mid-November. Brussels is also expecting the Montenegrin market to start functioning according to the principles of liberal competition. Incidentally or not, the Resolution comes precisely at the time when Montenegro is getting a new government, and the new Prime Minister is facing challenges on whose outcome will depend the future image of Montenegro.

This once tiny republic known for its smugglers' economy will now have to show whether it will turn into the favorite Mediterranean destination of the Russian tycoons (comes in package with a corrupt government) or develop into a reliable state governed by the rule of law. In other words, whether it will at least give a sign of willingness to begin with exterminating corruption and organised crime which, according to the previous European Commission documents, is closely connected to some parts of the Government.

Both the old and the new Governments, being made up of same parties, have declared themselves dedicated to the same goal – Euro-Atlantic integrations. Now is the time to turn the words into deeds. N.R.

ALTHOUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS ON STABILISATION AND ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED IN DECEMBER, THE FINAL SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT MAY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS

Implementation of SAA to begin only in 2007

The negotiations with European Commission on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) will be formally concluded in December. However, due to the usual technical delays, it is expected that the agreement will be signed in the second quarter of 2007.

The agreement will be concluded in December. It is the first step on the path towards the membership in EU. It stipulates a number of deadlines for the gradual harmonisation of the Montenegrin legislation with EU regulations in all areas, and it opens the EU market for the Montenegrin products which satisfy European standards. The final version of the text will be submitted to legal and technical checks, and translated to every European language, so that it can be ratified by the parliaments of individual member states.

Once the agreement has been adopted by both EU members and the Parliament of Montenegro, the formal signature of the SAA follows, accompanied by an implementation plan which defines deadlines for the gradual opening of the Montenegrin market for EU goods through removal of the customs tariffs.

For Croatia, this deadline is six, and for Macedonia ten years. As soon as the Interim Agreement comes into force, which usually happens a few months after the SAA has been ratified, Montenegrin producers who satisfy the EU technological standards will be able to export their goods to the EU market without any limitations. Judging by the experiences of Macedonia, Croatia and Albania, this might happen in the second half of 2007.

Prof. dr. Gordana Đurović, Montenegrin Minister of European Integrations, said that the negotiations on SAA will be finished by December, according to the plan. Everything else is a matter of technical considerations, and it does not depend on Montenegro.

"It will take at least two months to ratify the agreement, after the negotiations are concluded. The same procedure took place in the cases of Croatia, Macedonia and Albania, and Montenegro is no exception", Đurović said.



Gordana Đurović

According to an earlier announcement by the Ministry, in the meeting of the Coordination Commission for Association with EU the Minister explained that the calendar for SAA negotiations has been changed on the initiative of the European Commission, which means that the fourth round of the negotiations will be held in Podgorica on 8 November.

"Afterwards, on 14 November, a delegation of the Government of Montenegro will fly to Brussels, to discuss further economic and financial aspects of the Agreement. The fifth, technical round of negotiations is planned between 30 November and 1 December, along with the new meeting of the Enhanced Permanent Dialogue".

The announcement also mentions the final, political round of negotiations, which is planned for 18 December. "With successful implementation of the final round, the negotiations are concluded, allowing for the ratification procedure to take place".

It is also noted that the Commission has charged the members of the Commission, representatives of all Ministries, to begin immediately with drafting the Action Plan for the Strengthening of Administrative Capacities, "which is to be adopted by the Government and presented to the European Commission in the following rounds of negotiations".

N.R.

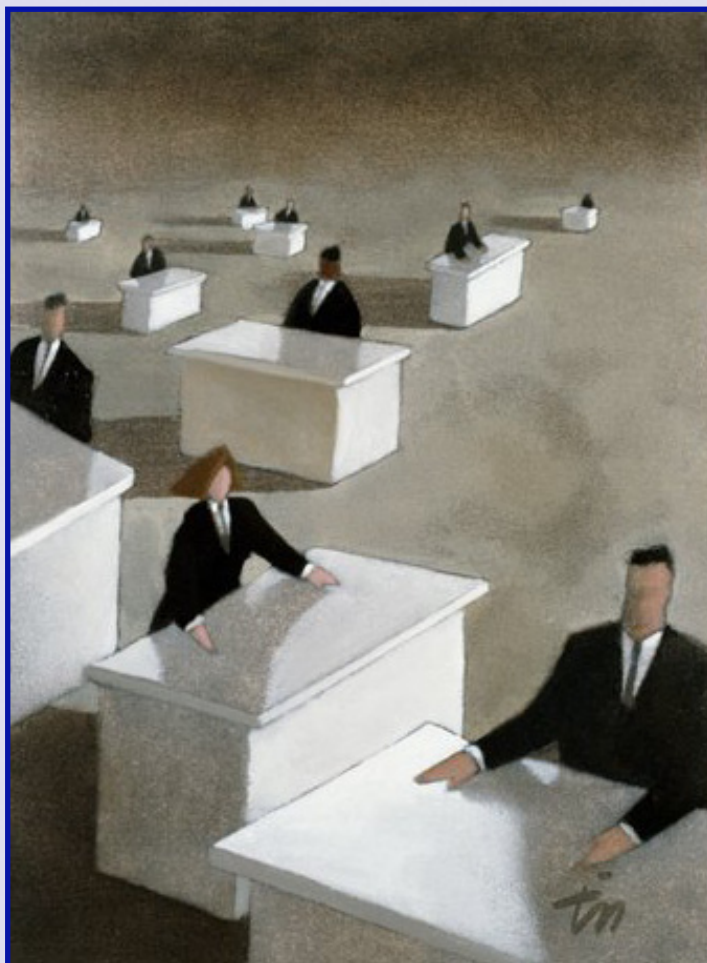
HARMONISATION WITH EU LEGISLATION COULD LEAD TO AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN THE MONTENEGRIN ADMINISTRATION

Montenegro stranded between the IMF, World Bank and EU requirements

Contrary to the long-established belief that the rapprochement with EU will eventually bring cuts in the number of employees in the Montenegrin administration, the experience of the new member states, as well as those that are now drawing closer to Brussels testifies to the opposite.

Each of these countries was obliged to increase the number of employees in the public service, due to the new institutional requirements necessary for the implementation of European legislation.

On the eve of joining the EU, Slovenia had a thousand more employees in the administration than at the beginning of the accession process. In the meantime, the state expenditures covering wages in the public sector grew for 1%.



Montenegro will certainly have to upgrade the ranks of its administration, and for two reasons: firstly,

the implementation of the European standards requires establishment of entirely new institutions that have not existed in the Montenegrin legislation so far. A good example is the Bureau for the Games of Chance, or for insurance, both of which will most probably operate under the Ministry of Finance, and certainly require a few additional vacancies.

To meet the demands for EU harmonisation, Montenegro has already established several new institutions, such as Commission for the Conflict of Interests, Ombudsman, etc.

It is true that some of these institutions did now require new employees. The best example is the

former Ministry of Internal Affairs, whose transformation in accordance with the new legal regulations gave birth to three new institutions – the Police Directory, Agency for the National Security and the Ministry.

The second reason for an expected increase in the number of Public Service employees is that, after gaining the independence, Montenegro will now have to create a number of institutions that existed previously on the level of the State Union, and which are necessary for joining the club of 25: a Bureau for

TEN THOUSAND EMPLOYEES IN 107 PUBLIC ORGANS

Montenegro currently has 107 public organs. "The number of employees in the state administration is around 10 000. This is including the employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, although we are expecting the number of police to drop significantly", explains Svetlana Vuković.

According to the EU standards, there should be three to four policemen for every 1000 citizens, which means that Montenegro can afford between 1 500 to 1 800 policemen at most.



photo VIJESTI

Svetlana Vuković

Patents, for instance.

If we consider both the requirements for new institutions, and the long-term demands from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to decrease the number of employees in the state administration, it seems that the creators of the Montenegrin public policy are going to face a big challenge: to create a relatively small, but highly efficient state administration.

The problem gains in significance if you add the assessment of the European Commission, which singled out administrative capacities as one of the weakest points

A POLITICAL ISSUE

One European official who preferred not to be named said the increase or decrease in the numbers of Montenegrin public administration as it proceeds towards European Union is primarily a "political issue".

"The real question is – which number of public administration employees is optimal for a country of this size. The administration must be financially sustainable, efficient, and sufficient to cover all the tasks", said the EU official, who is responsible for the management of administrative capacities.

in Montenegrin progress towards the EU.

Mr **Martin Harvey**, representative of the European Commission in Podgorica recently announced that the new EC annual report on Montenegro will also most likely "concentrate" on the issue of administrative capacities.

Head of the Human Resource Agency, Ms **Svetlana Vuković**, explains that increasing the number of institutions does not necessarily lead to a "significant increase in the number of employees", as they are mostly recruited from within the current public administration.

The Montenegrin Government began with the Public Administration Reform in 2003, by drafting a Strategy for Public Administration Reform. Based on the Strategy, throughout the 2004 we adopted a number of laws which are in line

with EU standards, and which constitute a key base for Euro Atlantic integrations. New regulations entail new standards and procedures, so that in the implementation process we had to create additional legal acts and found new institutions. In the last two years the Government created the State Audit Agency, Commission for the Conflict of Interests, Compensation Fund, Directory for Waters, Tobacco Agency, Bureau for Meteorology, Directory for Medications, Directory for Traffic, Commission for Public Procurements, Police Directory, Agency for National Security, Administrative Court, Ombudsman, Court of Appeals, and we are still planning several new institutions. The increased number of institutions does not, however, lead to a significant increase in the overall number of employees. Most of them are recruited from the existing public administration system – by reassigning people to new posts through the newly established procedure of "internal announcement", or by delegating certain tasks from the old institutions to the new ones", Vuković explains.

According to her, the Human Resource Agency is implementing a few important projects directed towards the strengthening of the administrative capacities.

"By that I mean first of all the establishment of the Central Cadre Directory, enlisting all current employees in the public administrations, as well as the creation of the

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS NEEDS 300 TO 350 EMPLOYEES

Tanja Mišćević estimates that, in the European integration-related tasks, Montenegro should employ some 300 to 350 persons.

"It is a problem for Montenegro, because, in the process of European integrations, you need a certain number of people to complete the tasks in that area, regardless of the size of the country. When your human resources are limited by the requirements of other institutions, this can be difficult. We are facing the same problem in Serbia. At the moment, if we count in our mission in Brussels, we have some 300 to 350 people dealing directly with the European integration process. This is more or less the optimal number that allows a country to progress in the process. Bearing in mind that Serbia, and its administration, are much bigger, I still think that Montenegro will need the same number of people", Mišćević said.

She added that she believes that Montenegro has many quality cadres – "we worked together just a few months ago", she explains.

permanent training system for the employees, and the adoption of new methodology for the standardisation of systematisation papers", explains the director of the Bureau for Cadres.

How to meet both the IMF and World Bank requirements for the "trimming" of administration and to establish successfully all the new institutions responsible for the implementation of the European laws? Ms Vuković and Ms **Tanja Mišćević**, head of the Office for EU Association in the Government of Serbia, are unanimous in their answer – rationalisation.

Mišćević explains that it is first of all crucial to assess the current cadre capacity of Montenegro, establish the priorities and define the exact composition of the public administration "sufficit".

"This is a very serious task, and it should be done by somebody from the outside, not by some national administrative body. Based on the structural analysis of the functioning of each public administration organ, it will become clear how many people are too many in each ministry. The ones who remain are the good ones, you can educate them further or not, and to fill the



Tanja Mišćević

gaps that are left after you fired the "lemons", you employ new people with high capacities and high professional quality. Rationalisation is the key to this problem", Mišćević says.

Vuković agrees that a "rational" state administration is the answer, but she rejects the need to diminish the number of employees. According to her, the key lies in creating legal procedures and pre-conditions to create a professional, de-politicised, efficient and eco-

nomic administration.

"In order to fulfil this task, we should train the existing cadre through establishment of a system of permanent education based on tested educational methods and programmes, monitor their performance through annual evaluation reports and establish an adequate system of responsibilities. When employing new people, it is imperative to stick to the system of public announcements, securing transparency and equal opportunities for all interested parties wishing to join the public administration", Vuković said.

Even the Brussels bureaucratic apparatus seems cumbersome at the first glance. Just the number of translators in the European Commission can be measured in thousands. On the other hand, it is worth remembering that the city administration of Paris employs more people than the entire European Commission.

Tanja Mišćević explains that the answer does not lie in the number of people assigned to certain administrative tasks but "...it is the quality that matters".

CHERISH AND REWARD YOUR QUALITY CADRE

Tanja Mišćević explains that the problem of administrative capacities is not only a problem in Montenegro and Serbia, and that the new EU members have been facing the same trouble, as well as Romania and Bulgaria, who are to become members on 1 January next year.

"The people working in the field of European Integrations are, so to say, and administrative elite – they know the language, know how the EU functions... These people must be taken care of, otherwise they will leave you. There are schemes for European bureaucrats which include higher salaries or wage supplements for the people working in European integrations. That money is provided by the state, and it requires a special fund, whether through budget or through donations", says the Head of the EU Integration Office within the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

She explains that, in her office, they are struggling to keep quality cadre, through travel per diems, scholarships...

Vladan ŽUGIĆ

MARTIN HARVEY, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN MONTENEGRO

Your chances are good, but let us see how you implement the agreement

My main task in Montenegro will be to represent European Commission until we establish a Delegation office next year. I am supposed to develop the relationships we have with the Government, with other partners from the international community here and with civil society, because the process of EU integrations is not a sole concern of the politicians, it regards the entire society, said, in the interview for *EIC Bulletin* Mr **Martin Harvey**, the first representative of the European Commission in Montenegro.

He said that his impression so far was that the civil society is very actively engaged with the process of European integrations, explaining that he does not mean only the NGOs, but also the social partners, the employers' organisation and other.

"We already have an active international community here, OSCE, CoE,



EU members...I am supposed to strengthen these relationships that already exist on a certain level with all these partners, as well as with the Government and the administration. This is a huge task for only one person, but already next year we will have a

delegation here", Harvey said.

He added that, in certain fields, Montenegro began the process of harmonisation with EU regulations, and that the negotiations on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement are progressing.

"We will see how this agreement gets to be implemented, and then we can think about the future. The process has began, and Montenegro seems to have very good chances".

How would you assess the situation in Montenegro regarding the process of EU association? What are the biggest shortcomings of Montenegro in this process?

I have to be careful, because the European Commission will publish its own report on the progress of Montenegro in three weeks. This is a confidential document, and until it comes out, I cannot discuss much of the details. This will be the first detailed report on Montenegro, the first one after the independence, because until now Montenegro was analysed together Serbia. It is obvious that we have a lot more to learn, and this is why I am now in Montenegro. And, in that sense, I would rather talk about challenges than about the problems.

Montenegro is facing several challenges after the independence: it has to establish and strengthen the administration in many fields, including some completely new ones.

One of the key challenges is the process of EU association, which is quite demanding in terms of legislation and its implementation in many areas. Only in the "technical" areas, such as environment, veterinary, sanitary regulations, industrial and technological standards, the EU regulations can be very demanding. As for the political issues, there are some challenges left regarding the judiciary, fight against the corruption and organised crime, border management...

TAKE A LOOK AT IRELAND, GREECE...

● **What would you say to an ordinary citizen in Montenegro, if they asked you what they are to gain from Montenegrin membership in EU?**

I believe I would remind him of the development of EU in the last 50 years. Peace and prosperity in the member states grew enormously, starting from the early 50's of the last century, right after the end of the World War II. The EU members have only progressed since that period of peace and cooperation. If you look at some of the poorer states which joined the EU successfully, such as Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Greece, and even those countries of the Central and Eastern Europe, for whom it is perhaps still early to judge, this is more than obvious. Even the announcement of future accession encourages big investments and rapid economic growth, although we should not be too quick in considering these two as one and the same thing.

It is not that the wages will immediately soar up to 20% higher, but it is the process that matters. As far as I know about Montenegro, there has already been certain economic growth. I also believe that Montenegro should be careful in plotting development in the tourist sector, because you do have a great potential in tourism.

Basically, joining the EU will bring you a mix of economic and political advantages. About 80% of Montenegrin citizens are in favour of the EU accession, and this is a very high number, probably higher than in any European country. I understand that there are also the sceptics, but even in the EU member states there are some people who are sometimes sceptical about EU.

this is a comprehensive programme, and Montenegro is still at the very beginning of this process.

Do you find Government's commitment to fight against the corruption and organised crime credible, seen that the government is ruled by a party which has been in power already for 16 years?

Some measures have already been taken. This is a key challenge for Montenegro – if that is not resolved, there will be no progress, and that would slow down the process of integration. We have to be optimistic, and believe that progress will be made.

For me personally it is too early to make the judgement, but I know that some of my colleagues in EC who are following the situation in Montenegro in terms of fight against organised crime and corruption, still see it as a big problem which is yet to be tackled.

Some believe that Montenegro's size will be an asset in terms of EU integration. What is your opinion?

If we are talking about the influence of Montenegro on the EU market, and especially on the budget, once Montenegro becomes a member of EU, this influence will be relative and very limited. Unlike Turkey, for example, where I spent the last four years, and whose impact on EU in terms of the budget, agriculture, structural policy...would be very significant.

Given its size, Montenegro will face a greater challenge in responding to the administrative requirements of the association process with EU.

It is no secret that Brussels is very concerned with the institutional EU system. As the number of members, both big and small, is increasing, we will be obliged to reassess the institutional organisation at some point. Some people in EU are worried about the effect that another quick enlargement might have on the institutional framework. Of course, it was the goal of EU Constitution to amend these structures to a certain extent.

What is your opinion of the thesis that the countries of the Western Balkans should join the EU together, as a part of the region? Or do you believe that the individual-merit principle would prevail?

On the highest level, the EU has

OUR GOAL IS TO LIBERALISE THE VISA REGIME, BUT THAT DEPENDS ON THE MEMBER STATES

● **When can we expect that EU will relax its visa regime for certain categories of the Montenegrin population?**

I am not an expert in this field, but I know that in Brussels there have been discussions about the future agreement for visa facilitation for the countries of this region. Visa facilitation is not a separate process, it is linked to other issues in the area of judiciary and home affairs, such as border management, control of illegal migration, agreements for readmission of the people who are illegally resident in other countries...I cannot tell you the details, but I know that this discussion has been taking place with individual members, and that it concerns particular categories of the population. Some additional steps have been made to facilitate the visa requirements for scientists, students...

● **Could you give a provisional projection as to when we should expect complete liberalisation of the visa regime for Montenegro?**

That is certainly our goal, but I would not dare to give you any precise prognosis as to the date. The first step should be visa facilitation, and then we will see how that works. Still, I believe complete liberalisation is the final goal. However, this depends to a great extent on the individual EU members, not only on the European Commission.

made it clear that all countries of the Western Balkans have a European perspective, and this should be always kept in mind. It is also clear that every country will be treated according to its achievements. Slovenia is already a member, Croatia is negotiating the membership, and Macedonia has the status of a candidate. When and how will all these countries finally join EU is difficult to say, but it is clear that each country will proceed according to its individual merits. We know that in 2004 ten new countries joined the EU at once, which had somewhat of an adverse impact on the institutional framework of EU.

According to you, what should be the role of the NGO sector in the EU association process?

Perhaps until now neither the governments of the EU members nor the administration in Brussels had the most efficient communication with the citizens, and in some of the member states this resulted in rising levels of EU scepticism. In the European Commission, we are really investing a lot of additional effort to improve our communication with the citizens, to involve various organisations into our debates – not only about the enlargement, but we speak about it as well. Through these debates

we wish to encourage discussion about the EU, and to strengthen the links between citizens of the candidate countries and EU, and this is where the non-governmental organisations can play an important role.

The problem of the lack of adequate administrative capacities in Montenegro has been singled out as the biggest concern in all EC reports so far. How do you think this problem can be solved?

I would not say that there is a single solution to this problem. EC can help up to a point, but it is also important that some of the EU members have their own assistance programmes for the administration and politicians.

In a certain sense, some of the current EU member states could be a better advisor in these matters, because they can assess the situation in Montenegro from their own point of view, as a single country. I know that the European Parliament is also interested, and they have some programmes of assistance for the Parliament of Montenegro. There is a lot of work to be done, but I believe everything can be solved if only there is enough will for it. It might take a while, but...

Nedeljko RUDOVIĆ

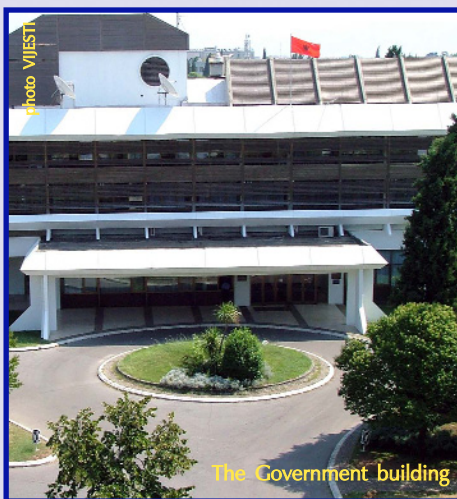
DOES THE NEW ORGANISATION OF THE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS

A challenge for deputy PM

A surprising organisational change regarding coordination of the demanding European integration process within the new government left many wondering whether the new arrangements will render the management of the association process more or less efficient. After four years of successful functioning of the Ministry for European Integrations, it is most likely that the Ministry as such will disappear in the new government set-up, leaving the organisation of the process in the hands of a deputy PM. The main task will consist of coordinating other Ministries, or rather special units within them, responsible for implementation of EU regulations in their respective fields – from preparing draft laws and other acts in line with *acquis communautaire*, to implementation of European directives and regulations.

According to the Government sources, this plan envisages that the whole process will be supervised and coordinated by the Deputy Prime Minister for European Integrations. This post will most probably be assigned to the current Minister, prof. Dr **Gordana Đurović**, while her current team of associates will, according to the plan so far, remain in the function, directly linked to the cabinet of Deputy PM. Replacing the ministry by a deputy-PM level body, the process of European Integrations will acquire a higher political standing, which should automatically entail greater "obedience" by other ministries.

It is no secret that, until now, certain ministers were reluctant to acknowledge the primacy of Ms Đurović and to accept recommendations from the Ministry of European Integrations. The Government also suffered from the rivalries between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of European Integrations, as their responsibilities seemed to overlap to a great extent. This could have eventually caused delays and blockages in the overall



The Government building

process, and, from this point of view, the establishment of a Deputy PM position is perfectly justified.

"This new structure will be a challenge for all of us, but we believe that it will prove to be an efficient model. Granting greater political importance to the process of European Integrations is also a message for Brussels", explain functionaries of the Ministry for European Integrations in their comments for EIC Bulletin.

Experts for the techniques of governance and European accession process argue that, overall, the new structure could contribute to improved performance of the entire Government in the field of EU integrations. However, they warn that, in the final instance, it all might depend on the personality of the Deputy Prime Minister and his/her ability to impose authority over other ministers, who will also be in the position to wield greater power and influence after the number of the ministries has been reduced through mergers.

Both the Governments and the parties are hesitant to give explicit comments on this issue, however, certain non-governmental circles believe that it would have been better to maintain the Ministry, regardless of the establishment of the Deputy PM function.

"Brussels would like to see continu-

ity, both in personnel and in institutions, and it is a good thing that Ms Đurović will remain in the Government. However, I believe that it would be useful to keep the Ministry for European Integrations. If you dismantle such an institution, which has built a reputation for its successes both at home and in Brussels, the entire process of European Integrations will no more depend on the abilities of the coordinator – it will become a subject to the political control and support from the top government leadership and other ministers. It is no secret that in the Government there is a strong anti-reform and anti-European stream", says **Momčilo Radulović**, Secretary General of the European Movement in Montenegro.

"Whether this system is going to work, whether Ms Đurović will have the same authority to act within other Ministries as she had within her own field, will directly depend on the support by the Prime Minister and by other members of the Government. Such institutional solutions function only under ideal cooperation conditions, at least so it turned out to be in other countries. If the rest of the Government responds with a lack of will, responsibility and readiness for the reform processes, this may endanger the entire EU association process in Montenegro", Radulović said.

If the future Prime Minister decides to establish a Deputy PM position for European Integrations and to dissolve the Ministry, Montenegro might join Croatia and Slovenia in terms of institutional setup. Neither of them had a separate ministry for European Integrations, but that did not prevent them from completing their work efficiently, especially not Slovenia. Perhaps it will also do no harm to Montenegro, once the other government members realise the importance of a high-quality, efficient management of the process.

N. RUDOVIĆ

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ON MONTENEGRO

Liberalise competition

The Foreign Relations Committee of the European Parliament adopted the final text of a resolution on Montenegro, which was drafted by **Marcello Vernola**. The resolution urges the government to implement reforms, and the opposition to be constructive.

The resolution, unanimously passed by the Foreign Affairs Committee, should be adopted by the European Parliament at the session from 13 to 16 November.

"EP urges all the opposition parties to play a constructive role in the post-referendum process. After the parliamentary elections, it will be crucial for all the parties to try and reach a broad consensus about the necessary constitutional reforms. The EP urges the new Government to continue with implementation of reforms in the EU stabilisation and association process", reads the text of the Resolution.

According to the text of the resolution, EP will suggest to the Montenegrin parliament to incorporate into the new constitution the explicit mention of the Montenegrin European identity, and it will also urge both the Serbian and the Montenegrin authorities to resolve the

remaining issues of health and education programmes and to "continue with close cooperation in the interests of the people of both states regarding other important issues (pensions, access to public services...).

In the same resolution, the EP draw the attention of the authorities to the fact that the SAA negotiations require a healthy, competitive, and lean administrative structures, and that they should allocate sufficient resources to the development of Montenegrin administrative capacities.

"EP recognises close linkages between some of the reforms required in the process of Stabilisation and Association, and those derived from the participation in the NATO Partnership for Peace programmes", states further the Resolution. It also emphasises that, in line with the conclusions of the European Council meeting in Thessalonica, the EP affirms its commitment to support the European perspective of Montenegro "which is to become a part of EU as soon as both the EU and Montenegro have fulfilled the internal and external accession criteria stipulated in the European



photo VIESTI

Marcello Vernola

Council in Copenhagen".

"EP expresses its readiness to support the process of European integration in Montenegro through technical and financial assistance, which are to be financed from the resources derived from the general EU budget, and must adequately reflect the progress of the country. The EP urges the authorities and political parties to commit themselves to a policy of employment and creation of an economic environment supportive of sustainable development, business, free competition and liberalisation and privatisation of services, in the framework of social market economy", states the Resolution.

It also emphasises the need to "develop tourism which will not be damage the environment and exploitation of natural resources as the basic platform for a sustainable economy".

"The EP urges the Montenegrin authorities to grant the EU investors access to equal rights in acquisition of private property, in full transparency. In that sense, it also urges the Government to monitor closely all the flows of investment into assets and real estate in Montenegro, and to apply mechanisms and procedures which have been already adopted inside the EU member states".

INDEPENDENCE FOR RTCG COUNCIL

The EP called upon the Government to implement the reform in media laws in order to establish greater transparency and to prevent media monopolies in both electronic and printed media.

"The EP urges the authorities to secure independence of the Council of the Public Service RTCG, including genuine representation of all societal sectors", emphasises the Resolution.

The EP supports the initiative of the European Commission to submit the draft of a mandate for the conclusion of negotiations. The goal of this document is to initiate simplification of the visa regime and lowering of prices for particular categories of the population: students, researchers, businessmen. The EP urged the Council to adopt these suggestions as soon as possible.

In the Resolution, it is also emphasised that close cooperation with other Balkan countries and countries bordering the Adriatic Sea will be of crucial importance for the political stability, security and economic growth.

"The EP emphasises the importance of the Adriatic Euroregion in that respect. The EP believes that efficient regional cooperation may give an impetus to the improvements and modernisation of the infrastructure, especially in relation to the planned Corridor 8 and Corridor Adriatic, and that it could also further facilitate the Stabilisation and Association Process".

N.R.

When the Big Brother peers under the blanket

by Brano Mandić

Analogy has been rejected already by Plato as a scientifically dubious method, but a comparison between the Euro-Montenegrin relations and the TV reality show comes so naturally that you may take it for granted, just like you do with your remote controller. The whole of the scientific community, Plato included, will grant their forgiveness, seen that, as a state, we are still struggling bellow the first ladder, which is when the Big Brother usually asks the Balkan housemates how much they invest in science...

Montenegro is, in fact, doing the audition to be taken into the big brotherly house, the enterprise commonly known as negotiations on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with EU. Let us hope we will at least get cameras in our toilet – we have not yet deserved to hear the broad deep voice of the commander. If the producers like us, we can get new tasks every week, and our ministers are going to be allowed into the confessions chamber, also known as the European Commission briefings.

By the same logic which grants the lucky housemate his 100.000 euro prize which will allow him to settle down in some European corner (perhaps even in Schengen proper, population cca 200 inhabitants), the victory of the European Republic of Montenegro will satisfy all of our heart's desires, as soon as 2010, if you trust the anonymous press proclamations.

Remember the pretty cover page of that Podgorica newspaper: "Montenegro and Croatia – one European family". It is striking indeed that you would not sign such a prognosis, depriving the public of the opportunity to bless our guardian angel somewhere in the Brussels administration, the generous clairvoyant.



ant. It's a good thing we spent an entire day joining the EU together with Croatia, but behold the reaction of one cautious diplomat – ladies and gentlemen journalists, please, he said, don't you give such promises that your politicians will be unable to fulfil.

If you wish to know how windy the road to Europe is, you may check the website of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where you will receive all the necessary information. Our Government's garish design, on the other hand, prefers to stay true to keeping the editorial vision of their online information service in line with the principles of the procedural bulletin.

Closing the gap left in the wake of the government's educational neglect regarding European integrations, newsrooms of various TV information services could be easily moved to Brussels or Strasbourg these days. Everything is swarming with key bilateral meetings and real time inserts from various conference halls, which all helps us to forget that in

Montenegro there is not a single decent cinema hall.

Well, the Big Brother says we do one thing at a time, starting from the thicker end – from politics; there will be time for filmophiles. Begin with the Constitution. Or we could maybe ask the EU to close one eye on that one, seen that they don't really have a people's constitution either. By the way and no offence: political communities with no Constitution are political dwarfs in this world. This is why **Condoleezza Rice** has to take her high hills to Japan when the fat Korean bombs get hotter, while the European administration exercises discipline in our, pardon the expression, bushed Balkans. I take no personal pleasure in this observation. It's just that **Rumsfeld's** apparition in Podgorica made me feel for a second like a reporter from the Lord of the Rings, grasping the recorder in my sweaty palms, immediately aware of our historical responsibility for the eradication of terrorism, which indeed is the holiest duty of all humanity. The Big

Brother Donald. Wow! "That's a man!", observed wisely a Podgorica taxi-driver, leaving me 150 metres away from the Vila Gorica where an unfriendly security guy diverts random wandering cars from the Rumsfeld's route.

"He just gave some vague and moderate statements", said my disappointed colleagues journalists. Well, I thought, god forbid that this guy start talking directly and immoderately. Then I type into Google: Maine – our future military partner. Is it a good sign that **Stephen King**, the Big Brother of the horror novels was also born in Portland, Maine? The answers are hiding behind the thick cabinet doors, and as your commentators are rarely big saloon tigers, I shall leave it to my colleagues catch-and-run reporters and PRs

to inform the public on the issue as soon as possible.

For this is where the politics is moving, behind the thick doors, into the velvet chambers. It is abandoning the streets, factories, escaping from the squares into cabinets. Boudoir negotiations on the new Government, backstage deliberations on the Constitution, Đukanović's shadow looming like the famous **Hitchcock's** shadow in the shape of the retired leader and a master of suspense. Accompanied by a slight abdominal premonition of high-profile party players skimming through English language grammars while the race for embassies is approaching the photo-finish.

We are opening up, slowly but surely, for a country where only every fifth citizen can boast a passport and Internet access. O tempora, o mores! This should have been the better future...We are only to begin the groundwork now, pumping up the



administrative capacities, choosing better wines and spreading optimism to those who still have the stomach for it, those who do not suffer an attack of bile every time somebody mentions Her Majesty the Macroeconomic Stability.

We ought to bear with all that, it seems, obeying the motto once illustrated by a Nunsen Academy professor, **Stainer Bryn**, in Lillehammer: "If the American Blacks have not engaged in their fight aware that only their children will perhaps profit from it, their victory would not have been grand, it would not have even been possible.

To fight, that means, for the kids who have not even been born yet, as a radical wing of UNICEF or something – it is the only sense of purpose left for a middle-aged Montenegrin, unless he or she already found it in sports betting, or in hashish, or in the stock market.

"Writing is a marathon, not a sprint". Thus spoke the Big **Meša**, unaware that the European representatives will be one day trying to teach us the same lesson, regarding another creative insomnia: the process of stabilisation and association.

Myself an insomniac, occasionally at two o'clock in the morning I turn on my TV to check out what is going on in the house of Big Brother. One of the chosen patients is usually asleep, with a camera fixed above his pillow. It is rather boring to wait in the same shot offering you just the rhythmical movements of the blanket. **Warhol's** five-our long "Sleep" featured more or less the same thing, with the difference that his morbidity is nowadays

an inevitable chapter in every Visual Arts textbook. Perhaps because Warhol did have some concept and a vision behind it, which happened to turn on the theoreticians. I wonder, is Montenegrin society, blissfully asleep in the same show for the last 20 years, a part of some higher vision, or just a miserable political reality. Not even the dirties imagination can picture what goes on under the blanket of a society in transition, but one day it will have to be revealed, which is a bit more difficult than revealing bronze horsemen around Podgorica and Nikšić.

Believe me, this is just what the Big Brother has been saying: wake up and stop dreaming of monuments to your great rulers. End of story.

You may now leave the confession chamber.

The author is a journalist of the daily newspaper "Vijesti".

TOMAS SCHMITT, AMBASSADOR OF GERMANY IN MONTENEGRO

Do not underestimate the challenges that await you on the road to Europe

If you want your children and your country to have equal opportunities in the contemporary world, your only chance is to join other EU members in this club, says the ambassador of Germany in Montenegro, **Mr Tomas Schmitt**.

Asked how he would defend his claim against the Eurosceptics, Mr Schmitt explains that the answer is "very simple", having nothing to do neither with politics nor with money:

"It has to do with the people. For more than a decade, young Montenegrins were living in something of a large zoo – a gorgeous place, for sure, but also with a high fence all around it. Most of the people could not travel nor get to know the world outside. More than 80% of the Montenegrins do not even have a passport. This is damaging both to personal development, and to the development of the country", said Schmitt in the interview for EIC Bulletin.

According to him, Montenegro needs less and less material aid – what it needs most urgently, however, is advice in the matters of institution building – "so that you will be able to take the future into your own hands".

"Montenegro needs a modern administrative and legal system, in order to find its place within Europe. We are offering to adapt our assistance to these particular needs", Schmitt said.

According to him, the biggest challenges for Montenegro will be in the area of administration and legislation, which will require a lot



additional work.

"I would like to emphasise that, in order to join EU, you will have to harmonise a lot of legal and procedural regulations. We are talking about some 80.000 pages of regulations. And, of course, it is not enough just to adopt these laws – they will have to be implemented in practice. Public administration, judiciary, police, customs, maritime control, veterinaries, agencies for the protection of the environment... they will have to know these regulations and to be able to apply them. Please do not underestimate this task. This is not easy. With all the good will, and I believe that in Montenegro there is plenty of good will, this cannot be done overnight", Schmitt emphasised.

His recommendation is to leave aside speculations about the application dates for EU membership.

"First of all, there is a lot of work

to be done. Afterwards, you can think of the further political moves. This is why the EU has chosen this step-by-step approach. EU and Montenegro have just begun negotiating the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. This is an important first step. Right now, the Agreement is yet to be negotiated, concluded, and then implemented. Only afterwards can we speak about the next step towards EU", Schmitt said.

He did not want to give any predictions as to whether Montenegro could join EU together with Croatia, or immediately afterwards.

"EU accession is not a game. This is no horse race. There are no deadlines, and your neighbours are not running against you. Montenegro will step into the next phase of association once its administrative, legal and economic system becomes ready for such a step. Otherwise, it could only incur damages to its own structures. I believe that the media should avoid creating an atmosphere of high expectations, which the politicians would then be unable to fulfil. This could only lead to disappointment and frustration for the citizens of Montenegro", says Schmitt.

He reminded that preparing Montenegro for a European future will require more effort on the part of the Government, especially in the fight against corruption, organised crime, and for the improvement of the current legal system.

N.R.

WESTERN BALKANS AND LOBBYING IN EUROPEAN UNION



by Vladimir Vučinić

The EU being an economically, but also, and increasingly, politically influential player, its characteristic form of governance tends to be "exported" even across its borders. This is particularly relevant for countries of the Western Balkans, which, in accordance with the priorities of their foreign policy (full membership in EU), are assimilating the formal and informal norms, regulations, and "rules of the game", initially defined and designed for the EU members, and then transmitted to these countries. As a country in question gets closer to EU, the number of the rules multiplies, and the manner in which various interest groups within these countries is organised changes accordingly. Therefore, lobbying the EU becomes a strategy, not only of the interest groups of the member states, but also for those representing interests of non-members, in our case, the countries of the Region.

Given the status of their home countries, interest groups from Western Balkans have a relatively low scope of influence on the high levels of the decision making processes in EU, as compared to their counterparts from EU members states (as they do not have "own" representatives in the Council). However, these interest groups may

Only Croats active in Brussels

actively participate in the lower levels of the decision making procedure, whether individually or in partnership with other actors. As a country advances in the accession process, the number of available actors to be approached by these interest groups increases. Consequently, in accordance with the position of each Western Balkan country in the process of European Integration, the number of interest groups and their level of activism vary from one country to another.

The changes are thus already apparent in some of the countries of the Western Balkans – especially in the candidate countries (e.g. Croatia). For the rest, however, there still reigns notable inertia, as a consequence of the long-term heritage of social partnership, where government institutions acted as sole representative on the international stage, representing all segments of the society. Consequently, a large number of interest groups in Western Balkan countries leaves it

MONTENEGRIN ENTREPRENEURS ARE STILL RELYING ON THE STATE

Similar to the situation in Croatia, before it began implementing the SAA, is the attitude of business and entrepreneurs in Montenegro, who still rely, to a great extent, on the government organs to represent their interests abroad. None of them has as yet become a member of some of the European associations. Prior to the independence, only the Montenegrin Chamber of Commerce was, through the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, represented in the Association of European Chambers of Commerce (EUROCHAMBERS).

The sub-national levels of government are just as inactive, and there are no consulting offices in Montenegro dealing with advocacy on the EU level.

Such passive attitudes could be explained by the scarcity of financial and human resources, and by the position of Montenegro in the EU accession process, which means that the influence of EU is still rather weak. However, as the entire Montenegrin society seems eager to work towards the goal of EU membership, it is necessary to urge all segments of the society to engage in this process, and to acquire the necessary experience for advocacy and representation – if not directly, then through partnerships with various associations in the EU member and candidate states.

The argument put forth by a number of social actors – that the influence of EU on their work and situation is so marginal that it is not yet necessary to direct efforts in that direction – does not hold. The objections by certain European politicians – that the EU platform is still not relevant for the Montenegrin actors – are similarly untenable. Quite on the contrary, the decisions taken on the EU level influence Montenegro and its society to a great extent, and if the efforts to advocacy are undertaken while Montenegro is still at the beginning of the accession path, the chances of its interest groups to succeed in their later work will be much greater, allowing them to represent themselves adequately and to achieve the desired results.

up to the state to represent their interests abroad, concentrating on the national level of advocacy as the only possible way to influence decisions made on EU level. However, as those countries become closer to EU, the interest groups themselves accept the "rules of the game", engaging in individual advocacy of their particular interests – in Brussels.

Taking Croatia and Montenegro as examples, we can see the difference in the level of engagement with respect to EU. Croatia, being a candidate country with membership negotiations already underway, has a number of active advocate groups both on the national and on the EU level. Montenegro, however, which only began negotiating the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, has few weak interest groups on the national, and almost none on the EU level.

Looking at the Croatian interest groups who are active in EU, it is obvious that the best organised ones are those dealing with business and economic issues. This comes as no surprise, seen that these are the areas of society which have been the most influenced by EU, following the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement – which is, essentially, an economic treaty.

However, the closer we get to EU, more segments of the society will gradually come under its influence, which will cause them to become more active. This is also evident in

the case of Croatia, where, in addition to the national, the sub-national levels of governance have also come into play, once the respective EU funds became available for them. The region of Istra has thus become active on the EU level, through membership in the Assembly of European Regions, and has joined the Italian regions of Friuli, Venezia and Giulia in an undertaking to open a representative office in Brussels.

Similarly, the established consulting offices in EU member states which offer professional advocacy services are also moving to those countries. In the case of Croatia, the first one has been Foundation for the

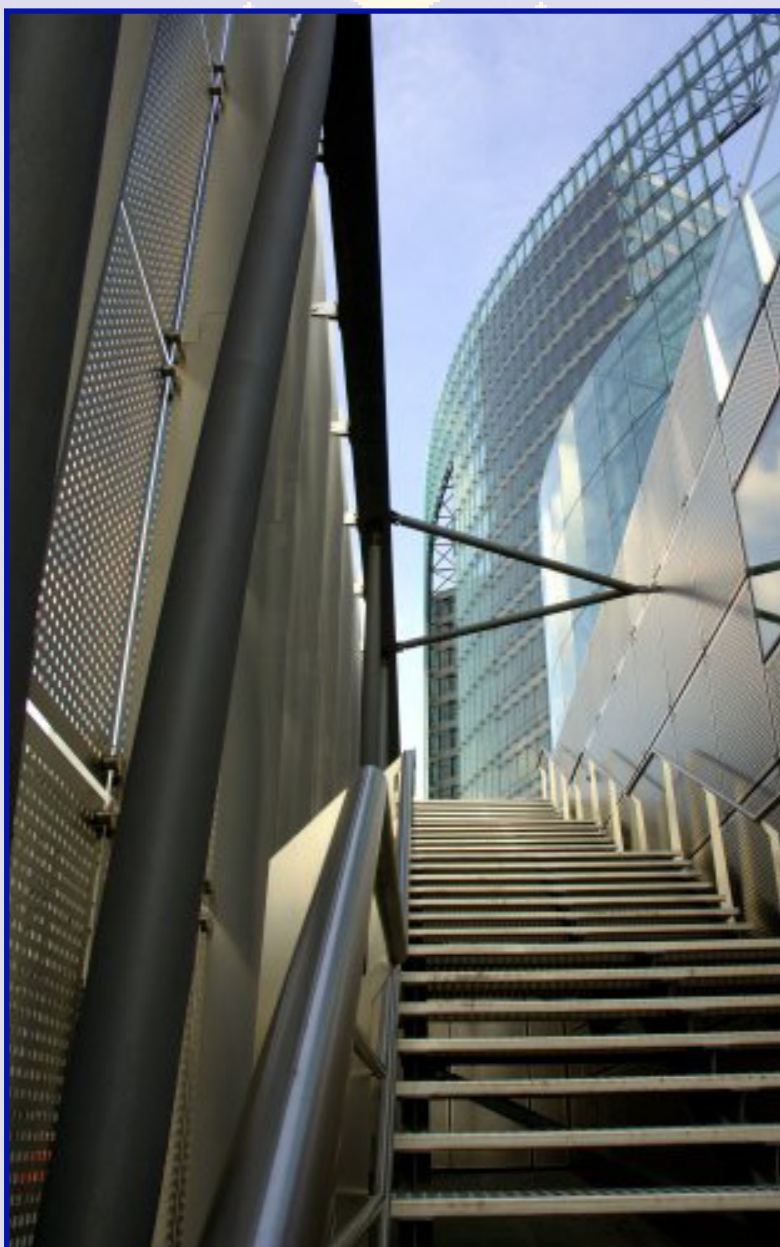
promotion of economic interests, which provides services for economic subjects and represents their interests both on the national and EU level.

In the Croatian experience, therefore, there is obviously a process of transferring national advocacy to the international level. This is to a large extent a consequence of "importing" EU mechanisms of organisation and advocacy. Naturally, in comparison to the level of activism of interest groups from EU member states, Croatian interest groups are still in the first stages of development. This is obvious from the fact that most companies act in the framework of larger business associations

representing their interests internationally – chambers of commerce, for instance. Moreover, due to the limited size, financial and human resources of these interest groups, only a few of them can afford a permanent representation in Brussels (only 2% of Croatian organisations have offices in Brussels).

Montenegrin interest groups, on the other hand, are heavily underdeveloped, both on the national and on the EU level. Montenegro, compared to Croatia, is still at the beginning of the accession process, and the level of activism of its interest groups is consequently much lower.

The author is an official of the Montenegrin Ministry of Foreign affairs and associate of the European Movement in Montenegro





by Vučko Četković

When we say "travel", we usually think of some exotic destination and, a place far away and beyond our reach. It is the students who are most keen on travelling cheap – you can see them with their backpacks in every corner of the world. Internet is flooded with various offers for travel arrangements, but it might take some effort to find the right option. To begin with, there is the problem of visas. This first and most troublesome obstacle to every trip has long disappeared in most of Europe. For the citizens of ex-YU countries, however, troubles with documents and queues remain on the agenda. Still, some of us remember those good old times when visas were not an issue and when the most difficult thing was to decide between train or plane and where to take it.

As a participant in the "European Rails of Peace" project, organised by the Global Forum from Rome in cooperation with the Government of Austria and Stability Pact for South East Europe, I had the opportunity to travel around Europe for a month, together with other 60 students from the Balkans – which, for me, was an invaluable experience. The Government of Austria issued free of charge Schengen visas for the participants of the project. The Schengen agreement and its namesake visa arrangement did miracles for simplifying the travels through the countries subscribing to this treaty – once you enter the Schengen zone, you will not need your passport any more to pass from one state to another.

TIPS FOR CHEAP TRAVELLING IN EUROPE

With Interrail from Vienna to Cote d'Azur

I travelled along the European rails, safely and comfortably, thanks to the global Interrail ticket which I received from the Norwegian railway company, the NSB. For the young people, Interrail is exactly what you need. You can wake up one morning and which country to visit that day, choosing among 30 different European countries. Europe is divided into eight zones, each zone containing a number of countries. Different Interrail tickets give you different opportunities – some are only for one or two zones, some (global) for all of them.

With a visa and an Interrail ticket in your pocket, all you have to do is get on the road...and don't forget the backpack!

The first stop for the delegation of the future Balkan political and cultural elite was Vienna, where we attended a workshop on the topic of peace activities and peaceful conflict resolution, organised by the Diplomatic Academy in cooperation with the University of Vienna and the city parliament. Vienna, a clean, neat city, with its impressive palaces, gardens and other monuments leaves a lasting impression on all visitors. After two days of Vienna workshop, we divided into smaller groups and took off to different destinations around Europe. One of the goals of this project was to bring together young people from the Balkan countries with their European peers, and to give some of the youth from the region the same opportunities enjoyed by their counterparts in Europe. It gave us a chance to break out from our usual social and economic limitations and to travel just like they do, visiting various countries in Europe. And it was great, indeed, to travel around Austria, taste Belgian chocolates, to see Brussels – the heart of EU, to spend a few days of your summer on Cote d'Azur, to visit Italian tourist centres from Venice to Rome,

and in Rome, to meet all the participants again, and exchange experiences and ideas from your travels.

When you travel in different countries, you have an opportunity to compare – you notice, for instance, that in Austria all the railway stations are clean and well kept, ticket officers are kind and efficient and always ready to calmly answer all of your questions – whereas in Italy things can be quite different. On the other hand, Italians are friendly and enjoy life in a way that is similar to ours – they adore good food, stylish clothes and parties, and you get easily used to the lifestyle. It is worth visiting Italy, just to see how they live, and you realise how important it is to learn to take pleasure in small things.

If you're under 25, you belong to a category of travellers which enjoys many privileges in Europe. Finding a place to stay is easy, thanks to a well developed network of youth hostels, which give you decent accommodation for a low price. Among other advantages are also the cheap flight tickets – with rising competition on the market for airline services and development of regional flight networks, there are many new opportunities for travellers in Europe. Unfortunately, for those travelling from our country abroad, these changes are hard to feel. There are too few departure flights from Podgorica, and the lack of competition keeps the prices high, which seriously limits one's travelling choices.

I can only remember with joy this experience of travelling around Europe, and hope that we too will become part of this Europe, and enjoy all the advantages which, at the moment, we are hardly even aware of.

The author is a student of the final year at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Montenegro and assistant in CCE.



by Aleksandar Damjanović

For an average citizen of Montenegro (although in Montenegro "average" has become difficult to define), the only link to Europe at the moment is the process of stabilisation and association. As it seems that the process will be taking a long time, and it has been talked about for a long time already, our average Montenegrin has, on average, lost quite a bit of the initial energy and enthusiasm for Europe.

However, as we are making our first steps towards Europe, we will find out soon in detail what it means to be a citizen of Europe, and what it will mean for us. And, with it, what we are to gain and what to lose in this Europe.

Unfortunately, only every third Montenegrin citizen today has a passport, and therefore a possibility to learn first hand both the virtues and faults of the good old Europe. From here it follows that, for the other two thirds, Europe remains an unknown, albeit the only alternative. For Montenegro, indeed, a future in Europe is our only alternative.

My vision of being a citizen of Europe is to be a citizen of Europe here, in Montenegro, with full respect of my personal right to live where I have always belonged. This is no edge or crossroads for Montenegro, and I personally have no doubt that this road will, albeit not easily, finally take us to the formal recognition of our belonging to Europe, me, and my country. Experiences of other countries which have already travelled this European route show that joining the EU will

Why do I want to be a citizen of Europe?

inevitably bring economic prosperity and high levels of living standards. I would just remind the reader of the poverty-ridden Ireland in the early 70's of the last century, or Portugal, or even Spain. It is redundant even to discuss what these countries stand for today, even in greater-than-European terms.

A sceptic could respond that, looking at the other side of the coin – the side characteristic of the consumer mentality of a nation gradually liberated from the shackles of economic backwardness – Montenegro today has almost everything that any Montenegrin (or European) could possibly wish for, so why should we seek further or ask for more? Every better house in Montenegro today is sufficiently well equipped. To illustrate the high living standards, many analysts would indicate the number of cell phones surpassing the number of inhabitants, the number of luxury cars populating streets of every bigger town, etc. Why should we even bother to make that formal step towards Europe?

It doesn't take a genius to show that joining the EU means a higher standard, higher wages, better opportunities for thousands of young people who will have a chance to try their luck in other countries (studying or working), greater choice of travel destinations and getting to know the common European heritage.

However, I believe that joining the EU also means a lot more. It means finally to return to where we should have always belonged. It is a chance to remember who we are and where we are heading to. What kind of life we had, and what kind of life we really wanted. To get rid of our atavisms and to join one greater family where our history and our tradition will finally acquire their true dimensions. Where our generous overestimation of ourselves will face a genuine test.

I belong to a generation that strived, despite of monumental obstacles, to grow up in the spirit of Europe. For me, Europe began with Rabelais, with Maupassant, Joyce, Proust, with Haines –

but also with Njegos's Luca Mikrokozma and Lalic's Mount of Lament. The European spirit lives equally in the Monastery of Moraca as in the San Domenico cathedral in Bologna. Weren't Lubarda's oil paintings worthy of any European gallery?

Now, let us see if the everyday, practical Europe is also all around us. What we are looking for is Europe where the citizen is in the centre, where paying taxes is a proof of responsibility and an investment into the future, where gender equality is not just a linguistic concern, and the children's rights do not just exist on paper. This is a Europe of friendly public servants, spotless streets and clean parks, neatly parked vehicles, where the street is crossed only under the green light, etc. European shortcomings, both the important and the negligible ones, are beyond the scope of this text. There will be time for critique and scepticism once we have travelled most of the European road – when we acquire the right, by living in the common European house, to criticise our housemates. Faults, shortcomings and problems of any society are always quite similar.

I know that being a citizen of Europe is both a privilege, and a responsibility. It is all the less so as we understand more about it. I know that Europe needs me as a citizen, and my country as an integral part of it, that it indeed needs all of this worn out Balkan region, to acquire its full civilisational, geographical, historical, and every other meaning.

If nothing else, it will be a lot more convenient to enter big airport terminals in Brussels, and other European capita, under the "EU" sign, without delays and double-checks, instead of the troublesome passage we are consigned to right now, along the corridors headed by a warning: "NON EU CITIZENS".

The author is a senior official of the Socialist People's Party. He attended the 1 generation of the European Integrations School.

COMMENT ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE ACCESSION OF BULGARIA AND ROMANIA TO EU ON THE 1 JANUARY 2007



by Maja Vujašković

Somehow, just at the time when the European Union is becoming one of the most prominent notions in the public life of our country, Romania and Bulgaria are about to reach the goal of their journey to Europe. What can we learn from these two countries? Bulgaria, with nearly 8 million inhabitants, began its transition to market economy in 1989, after a period of communism. The 90s were the years of political and economic upheavals. The more populous Romania (population above 21 million) had former officials of the Communist party in every cabinet until 1996, some even until 2000, despite of the bloody '89 revolution. Romania joined NATO in 2004, and, together with Bulgaria, closed negotiations on EU accession in 2005.

According to the European Commission reports from 2004, both of them managed to establish functional market economies and macro-economic stability, with sustainable growth and a GDP somewhat above 30% of the EU average.

During negotiations on European Constitution, both countries participated as "active observers". Both Bulgaria and Romania were hoping that they will join EU in the fifth wave of enlargement, but the Commission

If they do not recover, they could lose access to EU funds

at the time concluded that they have not fulfilled satisfactorily all the necessary conditions. In their EU accession agreements, the date of accession is set on 2007, with a special clause stipulating that EU can postpone the membership of these countries for another year, if the reforms are not conducted according to the plan. According to the objections raised by the Commission, those two countries displayed typical syndromes of the "Balkan illness" – need for extended, comprehensive reforms of the judiciary, public administration, urgent eradication of corruption, even on the highest levels, improvement of the human and minority rights situation etc.

With the latest report, adopted by European Commission on 26 September 2006, it turned out that

there will be no need to call upon the clause for postponement, and that EU is ready to grant a membership card to Bulgaria and Romania on the 1 January 2007. Their journey to EU lasted full 12 years, since the day they applied for the membership. Still, the Commission recommendation includes a new reservation clause, which has become a sort of habit with every next enlargement. The membership will come with a series of rigorous measures which EU is allowed to implement should Bulgaria and Romania fail to improve the state of affairs in certain areas.

The requirements are the same – fight against corruption and organised crime, reformed, independent judiciary, enforcement of appropriate standards for agricultural products, and the establishment of efficient mecha-



nisms for financial control. Should Romania and Bulgaria fail to satisfy EU standards after they become members, the EU may restrict their access to the all so desired European funds. These are the most severe conditions that EU has ever imposed on its incoming members, and should be taken as a warning to all the future members which are still hesitating with implementation of politically painful reforms.

Whereas Bulgaria was considered to be a better candidate for membership in the previous years, it is interesting to note that, in the latest reports, Romania has been receiving better evaluations, due to its efficiency in solving the urgent problems indicated by European

Commission. Romania adopted certain reform laws banning political influence on the judiciary, and appointing persons with reputation in human rights protection to the high posts in courts and prosecution; it also opened all the secret dossiers. Bulgaria, on the other hand, was less successful in these matters, and the recent public opinion polls show that a majority of Bulgarian citizens believes that their country is not ready to join EU, because the Government failed to implement the necessary reforms.

Similar to other countries, they too believe that EU is the only solution for corruption and poverty. However, European Union does not have a magic wand for such diseases,

and it accepts under its wing only those who have already recovered. Thus the measures that accompany Bulgarian and Romanian accession serve the purpose of preventing the "contagion", should it turn out that the countries which joined the club are still sickly. It is reasonable to expect that the future candidates are all up for the same treatment, and the experiences teaches us that there is no point in presenting the appearance of a healthy society – such a society should be created.

With abundant experience from five previous enlargements, the EU has clearly defined the membership criteria. Market economy, democracy, protection of human rights, capacity for the implementation of *acquis communautaire*, are all important challenges which our country will have to face. However, these are not the only hurdles ahead. There is a danger coming from within, and its name is ignorance. European Union is quite generous in offering financial, administrative and expert assistance to the countries in the process of reforms – still, it is necessary to know all the fine details of these processes in order to use such opportunities effectively. The European Commission reports prove that different countries have quite a different record in that respect.

One of the most impressive examples is Croatia, which has so far been successful in using over 90% of such opportunities – it is also instructive to note that Bulgaria has only managed to "grab" a little more than 30% of its chances. This is only one aspect of the problem. The other, no less important, is education of the public.

Author is a second-year post graduate student of European Studies programme at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade. She attended III generation of European Integrations School.

GETTING RID OF THE BAD OLD HABITS

It is one thing to use European Union in order to score political points, and to mislead the public into dreaming about the accession to an Eldorado where salaries are bigger, life is better and travelling is easy, and it's all here just around the corner, because we're so tiny and we're no threat to the European market. It is, however, quite a different thing to face your citizens with the real picture of an immense amount of work that must be done just in order to minimise the apparently inevitable negative effects of painful reforms (the best example is again Croatia where, the further they got down the reform path, the support of the public opinion for integrations has been decreasing).

For, it is not EU that will make everything better. We must make things better ourselves, for ourselves, shaping our country according to European standards, and this we can do only if we start working hard and get rid of the bad old habits. And this must happen now, so that in the future we can be ready to join the European family. It does not go the other way around. Montenegro is perhaps small, but Malta is also small by European notions, and so is Slovenia, but that did not make their road any easier.

Hoping it will not sound as a consolation, I believe that there is some advantage in being at the very end of the membership queue, because of all those different experiences that we might learn from. Although we like to compare ourselves to Ireland, which indeed used fantastically the advantages of the membership to become a highly developed country, or with Greece, which profited from the political will of the Council to give a chance to the fledgling Greek democracy despite Commission's warnings, today the situation is quite different. The EU is neither so small nor so keen on enlargements as it might have been in the 70s and early 80s.

It is then perhaps more useful for us to learn from the experiences of those countries with whom we share similar political and democratic challenges and similar historical legacies.

DOES SAA PAY DUE ATTENTION TO FISHERIES, WHICH MAY REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF MONTENEGRO



by Emil Kriještorac

In the countries of European Union, fisheries represent a nexus for development of many small communities, even countries. In Montenegro, however, this, very interesting segment for the overall development of the economy, is still in infancy. Before negotiating with EU, Montenegro should define a clear national policy for fisheries, in terms of its needs for sustainable development of the national fishing sector, which is a sovereign responsibility of every coastal state – in order to secure its platform in the negotiations and to protect its national interest.

Montenegro has recently introduced a Law on Sea Fishing, which provides for effective regulation of this matter, mostly in line with EU regulations. The law regulates general principles of sea fishing, defines details with regard to conditions and means of commercial fishing, and leaves certain specific issues to be resolved through additional legal acts. The Law has thus established the right foundations for swifter, effective harmonization with EU standards in the field of sea fishing.

Unfortunately, despite the significance of this sector for the over-

In the lack of national policy on fisheries

all economic development of Montenegro, commercial fishing is heavily underdeveloped. The amount of fish landing is negligible – way below 500 tons per year.

For the comparison, according to the data that appear in the media, the amount caught on the Italian side is 200.000 tons, and in Croatia 20.000 a year, although it is well known that the part of the Adriatic surrounding Montenegro is significantly richer in fish than the Italian parts.

Under-exploitation of this resource is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that the fleet engaged in sea fishing consists of merely eight ships longer than 14 metres, 11 boats of 8.1 to 13.9 metres in length, and 11 smaller boats. Except for intensification of development in

the commercial fishing sector, Montenegro must concentrate on implementing certain innovations, as prescribed by the measures contained in EU legislation.

Except for the limitations regarding the limits for angling boats (three miles off shore), the width of the mesh in fishing nets, prescribed to protect the fish population, and the allowed depth for fishing (mainly defined by national laws and harmonised with EU regulations), further improvements regard regulation of trade and wharfs.

The latter is particularly important with respect to the spatial planning, as there are no existing constructions of this kind in Montenegro.

One lesson to draw on would be the final stage of Croatian nego-

THE CRAFTY SAILS OF MALTA

Malta is perhaps the best example of successful defence of national interests and policy on fisheries, attending to its own needs for sustainable development – also one of the most striking examples of skilful and successful accession negotiations with EU.

With its mere 400.000 citizens and 316 square kilometres of land, Malta fought for and won 77 exceptions from the existing EU rules.

Through a rather sophisticated method – using a scientific study which proved that in the immediate coastal fishing zone only a limited number of fishermen may be allowed, in order to protect the marine and coastal environment – Malta managed to designate a protected fishing zone, largely reserved only for its own fishermen.

Similarly, although foreign boats are also allowed to fish in the Maltese waters, in the agreement between Malta and EU it is stipulated that their engines cannot be stronger than 250 cc. If we know that very few Italian anglers have engines of a strength below 800 cc, the extent of protection granted to the Maltese fishermen becomes even more obvious.



tiations with EU, concerning the fishing sector, mostly because of its similar position in the Adriatic, but also with regard to Italy, which is bound to defend the interests of Italian fishermen, thereby obstructing the efforts of smaller Adriatic states.

Although fisheries constitute an important element of development for many smaller communities, the overall income derived from fishing in EU accounts for less than 1% of its GDP, directly employing some 270.000 professional or semi-professional fishermen. The key legal act regulating this sector in EU has been the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

Initially, CFP was a part of the Common Agricultural Policy, to be defined as a separate policy once the countries with more comprehensive fishing fleets joined the Union (Greece, Spain, Portugal), introducing new problems into the matter, such as protection of the fish reserves and regulation of international relations following the implementation of national fishing zones.

Although the CFP was only adopted in 1983, the first common measures concerning fisheries were implemented already in the 70s,

establishing the rules of access to fishing areas and markets of EU member states. In 1992, CFP underwent the first revision, defining stricter rules for the control of the number of fishing boats and technical measures for the prevention of excessive haul.

The second reform was initiated already in 1998. In March 2003, the Green Book on the future of the Common Fisheries Policy (COM (2001) 135 final, 20 March 2001) was issued, causing a wide debate on the preservation of fish reserves, restrictions of the fishing fleets, management, monitoring and supervision of the reserves, economic and social issues, environment, aquaculture, as well as on the common Mediterranean policy.

In May 2002, the Commission presented its first series of recommendations, and in December the Council of Ministers responsible for fisheries agreed on the first package of rules and measures of the structural assistance to the EU fisheries sector, defining urgent measures to be taken towards restricting the fishing fleet in EU, as well as those aimed at preservation and sustainable exploitation of the fishing resources within CFP.

The importance of the national

interests in the field of fisheries is best illustrated by the fact that 25 EU ministers have not managed to agree with the European Commission on the procedures for reform of the fisheries and respective subventions for the period 2006 – 2013.

The agreement on European fishing reserves should come into force next year, with a budget of 3.8 billion euros in various assistance and subvention funds, primarily for fuel and compensation for decreases in haul. The EU fishing fleet is faced with steadily increasing fuel prices, which doubled in the period between 2003 and 2005, without a corresponding increase in the price of fish. The agreement is so far being blocked by Great Britain, Germany, and Belgium, and, to some extent, by Poland, which abstains from vote. If, however, the agreement is reached, it will, on 31 December, replace the existing arrangement, the so called Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG) – which has been in force since 2000.

The author is a senior official of the People's Party. He attended the IV generation of the European Integrations School.

INTRODUCING THE EU INSTITUTIONS

European Ombudsman



Nikiforos
Diamandouros

The institution of European Ombudsman was established by the Treaty of Maastricht, in 1992. The key purpose of Ombudsman is to act as an intermediary between the EU institutions and its citizens, as an institution where the citizens can file complaints if they feel that they have been wronged by another EU institution. The Ombudsman receives and investigates complaints from any citizen of the Union or any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in an EU member state. Except for the European Court of Justice and Court of First Instance, every other institution may be subject to investigation.

The Ombudsman is appointed by the European Parliament for a renewable mandate of five years.

Nikiforos Diamandouros, the former national ombudsman of Greece was appointed European Ombudsman in April 2003, and in January 2005 he was re-elected to the post for a five year term.

The basic function of Ombudsman is to investigate instances of poor or failed administration in the institutions and bodies of the European Union, brought forth in the complaints of its citizens. He cannot, however, investigate complaints against national,

regional or local authorities in the member states.

Maladministration includes legal breaches, neglect of principles of good governance, and human rights' violations.

The citizens can also require Ombudsman's intervention in instances of discrimination, abuse of power, denial of the right to access information, unnecessary delays in adopting certain decision, inadequate procedure, etc. Upon the receipt of the complaint, Ombudsman informs the institution concerned about a complaint in order for it to resolve the problem. The institution in question must forward the required information within three months, whereupon the Ombudsman informs the complaining party about the results. If the matter appears to be more complex, the Ombudsman may forward an opinion or a recommendation to the institution, suggesting an appropriate solution. If the institution does not accept his recommendations, he can make a special report to the EP, which is then responsible for solving the matter.

It is the duty of the Ombudsman to present his work to European Parliament in a regular annual report.

The Ombudsman usually conducts inquiries on the basis of complaints but can also launch inquiries on his own initiative. The Ombudsman must be completely independent and objective in the performance of his duties, and he is not allowed to receive instructions from either governments of the member states or other organisations.

The Ombudsman does not investigate matters which are in the procedure before courts, or those that have been already decided on.

For more information on writing a complaint and the following procedures, please visit: www.ombudsman.europa.eu

Petar ĐUKANOVIĆ

NON – GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPEAN UNION

WIDE

Clarifying Gender Equality & Social Justice

Women in Development Europe Network (WIDE) is a European network of development NGOs, gender specialists and human rights activists.

WIDE monitors and influences international economic and development policy and practice from a perspective of women's rights as a basis for the development of a more just and democratic world order.

WIDE strives for a world based on gender equality and social justice that ensures equal rights for all, as well as equal access to resources and opportunities in all spheres of political, social and economic life.

The key activities of WIDE include raising awareness of the complexities of political, economic and social dynamics and analyses of the impact of European and international policies on women's lives and on gender relations. WIDE lobbies the EU and international institutions, such as EU or WTO, to adopt gender sensitive policies, and also monitors the implementation of women's rights instruments.

WIDE also promotes dialogue and cooperation among women worldwide through conferences, seminars and consultations, and engages in capacity building projects. Economic Literacy project enables members and partners to participate in debates on the global economy by enhancing their understanding of economic and trade issues as well as the conceptual links between gender and trade. WIDE enables members and partners to articulate alternatives to the negative impacts of globalisation, and makes visible feminist alternatives. Through the dissemination of our research and analysis, WIDE promotes gender equality and social justice.

On the WIDE website, you may find instructions for becoming a member or receiving information on their current activities. The webpage also contains a number of on-line resources for the Economic Literacy project, as well as free publications, reports and analyses.

Website: www.wide-network.org

E-mail: info@wide-network.org

Pripremila: V. ŠĆEPANOVIĆ

CCE, CDNGO AND EMIM, WITH SUPPORT OF FOSI-ROM, ORGANISED ON 16 OCTOBER THE FIRST PUBLIC LECTURE BY THE FIRST EC REPRESENTATIVE IN MONTENEGRO

Western Balkans and Turkey on the road towards EU



From the lecture

The first public appearance by the first EC representative in Montenegro, Mr **Martin Harvey**, in the framework of the European Integration Schools Forum, was organised on 16 October by Centre for Civic Education, Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations and the European Movement in Montenegro, with support of the Foundation Open Society Institute, Representative Office in Montenegro.

Speaking about EU relations with the Western Balkans and Turkey, Harvey emphasised that the European Council, the highest body of EU consisting of the heads of states and governments of EU members, frequently confirmed the European perspective of the Western Balkan countries.

He explained that the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) constitutes a framework for cooperation in a large number of areas – political, economic, justice and home affairs...

"One of the goals of SAA is to establish a free trade zone between the EU members and the countries in the process of association, and one of the preconditions for free trade is that your legislation is similar to that of EU regarding industrial standards, that you promote and enhance harmonisation in various areas – environmental protection, veterinary and phytosan-

itary regulations..." Harvey said.

He emphasised that for the EC it is very important to know that the "economy functions on the principles of competitive entrepreneurship".

Reminding that Turkey has been granted the candidate status in 1999, that the Association Agreement with Turkey dates back to the 1960's, whereas the relationship only became more intensive once the customs union was defined in 1995, Harvey explained that in Turkey-EU relations, the accent was always on the political criteria.

"Speaking about Turkey, the political criteria are the most important, and it took six years for the accession negotiations to begin. There were many concerns regarding human rights, fundamental freedoms, outlawing of the death penalty, the role of military in the state... Only in 2005 did the Turkey fulfil all the political criteria from Copenhagen, and the negotiations began last year, together with Croatia. We are now in the screening process, we are working parallel with Turkey and Croatia. The screening is now more detailed than before and it controls for degrees of harmonisation in many areas", Harvey explained. He emphasised that for Turkey in these negotiation there is another specific obstacle – Cyprus.

"In the southern Cyprus, known as "Greek Cyprus", the regime has been generally recognised as "the Republic of Cyprus". However, in the north of the island there is an unrecognised state – the Northern Turkish Cyprus. This state has been recognised only by Turkey and by two or three other countries. It has 150,000 people, and nearly 30,000 Turkish soldiers. There has been much effort invested in finding a solution for Cyprus. This is aggravating Turkish accession to EU, as all accession decisions require unanimity of all members, the Republic of Cyprus included", Harvey said.

The Forum was held at the Faculty of Political Sciences.

ON THE INVITATION BY THE EU INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

Uljarević in Paris

Director of the Centre for Civic Education, Ms **Daliborka Uljarević**, participated at the meeting of Women in Security and European integrations of the Western Balkans, held on 5 October in Paris, and organised by the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), as well as at the traditional annual conference of the Institute held the day after.

The conference was dedicated to the challenges which the EU is to face in the upcoming decade, and it was chaired by the EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, **Javier Solana**.

Nicole Gnesotto, director of EUISS, presented conclusions of their study on the future world trends concerning EU. **Daniel Cohen** spoke about the influence of globalisation, **Claude Mandil** about the security and energy relations, and **Karl Kaiser** about the US and their influence on the international role of EU.

The meeting of women from Western Balkans active in the field of European integrations and security was dedicated to devising means to strengthen support to their further work and networking.

NEW GENERATION OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATIONS SCHOOL

EIS continues the mission

The new cycle of the European Integrations School, organised by Centre for Civic Education, Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations and European Movement in Montenegro, with support of the Foundation Open Society Institute, Representative Office in Montenegro, began on 10 October in Podgorica, and four days later in Bijelo Polje.

Of the total of 230 candidates who answered the application call, 24 have been chosen to participate in the second generation of the Regional School in Bijelo Polje, and 27 for the fifth generation of the School in Podgorica.

Participants in the Regional School attended a seminar held from 20 to 22 October in Budva, on the topic "Introduction to history and notions of European Integrations, Institutions and Fundamentals of the EU Legal System". The lecturers were prof. dr. **Radovan Radonjić**, prof. dr. **Šerbo Rastoder**, prof. dr. **Milan Popović**, dr. **Tanja Mišćević**, prof. dr. **Zoran Radivojević**, **Jovana Marović**, **Momčilo Radulović**, mr **Vladimir Vučinić** and **Stevu Muk**.

The same team will be lecturing at the School in Podgorica, joined by other lecturers: dr **Judy Batt**, **Daliborka Uljarević**, **Zlatko Vujović**, dr **Miroslav Prokopijević**, **Goran Svilanović**, dr **Srdan Darmanović**, the ambassador **Ivan Jestrab**, **Johan Sverre Kvale** and **Aleksandar Saša Zeković**.

CEDEM seminars

A seminar for Montenegrin judges, prosecutors, and lawyers on the topic "Right to fair trial after the European Convention on Human Rights" was held in Bečići on 6 and 7 October, organised by CEDEM, the Council of Europe, London AIRE Centre and the Centre for Training of Judges.

The lecturers were: **Zvonimir Mataga**, legal advisor at the Secretariat of the European Court for Human Rights in Strassbourg, **Catarina Harby** and **Biljana Braithwaite**, legal advisors from AIRE Centre in London, **Miraš Radović** and **Petar Stojanović**, Supreme Court judges, and **Zoran Pažin**, President of the Basic Court in Podgorica.

The project is implemented with support of the Council of Europe, UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy.

On 14 October, in cooperation with the Police Academy from Danilovgrad and with support of the Swedish Helsinki Committee, CEDEM has also organised a seminar for the members of the police forces, on the topic "Human Rights and Police in the Context of the Legal Codex on Criminal Proceedings – pre-criminal proceedings".

FOR THIS ISSUE WE RECOMMEND:

ILV FELLOWSHIP MARIE CURIE SOCANTH NETWORK

Scholarship/Financial aid: a monthly living allowance, a monthly mobility allowance and a travel allowance

Date: various

Deadline: Monday, 29th January, 2007

Open to: postgraduate students in any programme of anthropology in Europe or beyond

Research

This project combines the strengths of a number of different Institutions and research traditions within European Anthropology in order to contribute to and enable a process of institutionalizing Anthropological research and teaching in central and east Europe. It will do so by providing, alongside doctoral training for two cohorts of PhD Doctoral Fellows (DFs), forty short term, inter-Laboratory visitors (ILVs). These will be researchers doing PhDs in other institutions in Europe and beyond who have a research commitment to our target region. All fellows will be selected by open competition.

The 'SocAnth' network comprises five sites where anthropology is taught at doctoral level, in four different EU (or Associated) countries: University College London (UCL) and Goldsmith's College, Britain (GSM); Central European University, Hungary (CEU); Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany (MPISA) and Babes-Bolyai University, Romania (BBU).

Training

In summary, the provision of fellowship is as follows:

- Four ILVs (three months each) in Year beginning Oct 2006;
 - thirteen in Year beginning Oct 2007
 - seventeen in Year beginning Oct 2008
 - fourteen in Year beginning Oct 2009
- Postgraduate students in any programme of anthropology in Europe or beyond may apply for these short term training visits (normally 3 to 6 months) to any node in our network.

The Visitors will, however, be recruited primarily from New Member or Associated States, though researchers from Old Member states (or outside Europe) will also be welcome. Researchers from New and Associated



states will be unrestricted in their choice of fieldsite as long as it is outside the country in which they are normally resident. Fellows from elsewhere will be expected to be doing research in the new and Associated states. The aim of this stipulation is to ensure the cohesion of the whole cohort of trainees and the fostering of a strong intellectual network.

The training programme for Inter Laboratory Visitors involves:

mobility to any part of the network for three (rarely six) months of training.

While mobile you will retain one supervisor from your own home institution and be allocated a second supervisor from your host institution for the duration of your training there.

You will also participate in all the short course joint activities of the network in the year of their recruitment.

This series of joint activities sustains the coherence of the whole programme and the cohesion of the Fellowship cohort.

Joint Activities

Each intake of Fellows and visitors launch their training in 'SocAnth' with an introductory course and seminar of 5 working days duration held in September at BBU in Cluj, Romania. All the ILVs for that year as well as all Doctoral Fellow, a staff member from each partner institution, doctoral students of BBU and outside experts take part – up to 25 persons.

The Second Joint Activity is aimed primarily at Doctoral Fellows – a one week

long seminar and workshop at the MPISA partner institution in Germany, where DFs present their research work.

Where funds permit and where an intellectual case can be made ILVs will also be eligible to participate in this activity.

Finally, at the end of YEAR FOUR (i.e. summer 2010) all Doctoral Fellows and all those ILVs who have benefited from short term mobility in this programme will be invited to a closing conference at BBU.

Inter-Laboratory Visitors

Although ILVs are only attached to 'SocAnth' for one year they are an integral part of the whole programme. They are integrated in the following ways:

- they may join all joint activities in the year of recruitment
- are integrated into the virtual classroom and on-line discussion of the group both during their period of attachment and
- after where appropriate, are invited to the closing conference of the whole programme in Summer 2010
- For the duration of their research training in their Recruiting institution they are allocated a local supervisor. At the outset of their stay the supervisor and ILV agree a Personal Training programme and sign an agreement as to its content.
- At their Recruiting Institution, apart from any taught courses, the ILVs also attend the regular postgraduate training and research seminars in anthropology.

Website: www.ucl.ac.uk

ANDREW W. MELLON EAST-CENTRAL EUROPEAN RESEARCH VISITING FELLOWSHIPS THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SCIENCES, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Scholarship/Financial aid: see 'Conditions'

Date: a three-month fellowship

Deadline: 15 December 2006

Open to: see 'Eligibility'

1. Objective

The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) and the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM) jointly award Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Fellowships in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The three-month fellowships, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will enable scholars from Eastern and Central Europe to work in Vienna on research projects of their choice within the framework of the scholarly community and activities of the IWM.

2. Conditions

Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Fellows are invited to spend three months at the IWM to pursue their research projects while working in residence at the Institute. The fellows will receive a stipend to cover living expenses, travel, health insurance and incidentals. The IWM will provide Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Fellows with a guest apartment, an office with a personal computer and access to e-mail and internet, in-house research facilities and other relevant sources in Vienna. Fellowship terms are July – September 2007; October – December 2007; January – March 2008; and April – June 2008.

3. Eligibility

The IWM is accepting applications from scholars from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia for its Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Fellowships. The candidates

- must be citizens or permanently reside in one of the countries concerned
- must have obtained a Ph.D.
- should hold a senior academic position (at least associate professor level)

The fellowships are intended for younger post-doctoral scholars and, although there is no specific age limit, preference will be given to those under 45 years of age. Research projects must be thematically related to the IWM's research fields.

4. Application Procedure

The application consists of the following materials:

- the application form (please download)
- a concise research proposal in English (max. 4 pages, double-spaced, A4)
- a curriculum vitae and list of publications
- the names of two referees familiar with the applicant's academic work

Please send the application to:

Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen

Fellowship Coordinator

Spittelauer Lände 3 1090 Wien Austria

Deadline for application is **15 December 2006** (date of receipt).

Website: www.iwm.at

JOINT EUROPEAN MASTER IN COMPARATIVE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO, ITALY

Scholarship/Financial aid: a number of scholarships are offered to students from countries outside the European Union

Date: over a period of 18 months

Deadline: December 17, 2006

Open to: all interested

The University of Trento, coordinator, (Italy), the Corvinus University of Budapest (Hungary), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) and the University of Regensburg (Germany), in collaboration with the University of Belgrade (Serbia and Montenegro), the University of



Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), the European Academy of Bolzano/Bozen (Italy), with the support of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Autonomous Region Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol and the Autonomous Province of Trento (Italy), offer 18 months (95 ECTS) of training for a post-graduate Master's course degree.

MAIN OBJECTIVE. Its main objective is to provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills for introducing, supporting and co-ordinating processes of change and transformation at the local level.

FOCUS PROGRAMME. The focus of the programme is local development, with the following characteristics:

public, private and non governmental actors are the fundamental agents; social stability and economic prosperity are pursued, in conformity with the acquis communautaire and European standards and best practice.

The general approach is comparative and interdisciplinary.

Scholarships

A number of scholarships are offered to students from countries outside the European Union. The amount of the scholarship established by the European Commission in 2006/2007 was 21.000 EUR per year. These scholarships are funded by the European Commission within the Erasmus Mundus programme.

Website: www.mastercode.unitn.it

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