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There was once a tiny state which seemed on the right track to get the date for the opening of negotiations with European Union. Then some locals and ministers of the Serbian Orthodox Church found foundations of a XV century and built up some new walls. The Court and the ruling family got divided – ones were in favour of pulling it down immediately, the others urged to postpone the works until the people calmed down. Already mired in corruption, backstage dealings and shady ambitions, some of the courtiers jumped on the opportunities offered by the dispute, goading the country into further political instability and cutting the weak signs of progress in the bud. Can you even imagine a scenario of this kind? Can you believe that the ruling coalition or the ruling party could split up over the foundations of a little church on St Stephan island, causing a political crisis and almost certainly postponing the negotiations with EU? Can you imagine mutual accusations of the former brothers in arms that it's the other who is trying to obstruct Montenegro's European road (president of the Parliament **Ranko Krivokapić** already accused the prime minister **Igor Lukšić** that the Government is failing to fulfil the main demand of the Commission – enforcing the laws)? Do you think that more made-up conflicts will follow the dispute around the Church? Can you imagine anything like that, if you know that part of the ruling coalition is happy with the crisis because, on the other hand, they won't be happy if Montenegro begins negotiations with EU? Because for them, that means losing numerous privileges, shady but profitable businesses or even personal freedom? Or is it just a conspiracy theory?

Calendar

04. april **Balkans asking for more money from EU** / National coordinators of the West Balkan countries for the implementation of pre-accession (IPA) funds agreed in Belgrade to submit a joint request for more EU assistance in the years before accession. "That you mean that in return the West Balkan countries will receive less money after accession to the EU" said the deputy prime minister of Serbia **Božidar Đelić** after the meeting. Montenegro was represented by **Slavica Milačić**, secretary of state for European integrations.
05. april **First meeting of the National Convention** / The first meeting of the National Convention on European Integration of Montenegro gathered together representatives of the civil society, legislature and the executive. The project is being implemented by the European Movement in Montenegro and Slovak Foreign Policy Association, with support of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Slovakia and SLOVAKAID, and with participation of the Government and Parliament of Montenegro. The goal of the project, according to the foreign affairs minister **Milan Ročen**, was not to open another forum for political bickering but „to jointly define the best policy to fulfil Montenegro's strategic national interests on the road to EU“.
08. april **Barroso reiterates EC's expectation to see concrete results** / During his tour of the region president of the European Commission **Jose Manuel Barroso** also visited Montenegro and met with the montenegrin officials. He said that Brussels was expecting to see tangible results with regard to the fight against corruption and organised crime, as well as in relation to the strengthening of judiciary. "Results are the best proof of political will", he said.
29. april **Without reform of judiciary, there can be no other reforms** / Director of the West Balkan Directorate in the European Commission **Pierre Mirel** said that if the reforms of judiciary do not begin very early, there is a risk that other reforms will not be implemented, that the business environment will not improve and that the rights of citizens and companies will not be fully respected. "This is one of the lessons we learned in the last years of enlargement", said Mirel during a lecture at the Department of Economics of the University of Montenegro.

“Old” Europe needs foreigners

Germany lacks engineers, master craftsmen, doctors and many other professions. The opening-up of the German labour markets will not lead to a dramatic increase in out-flows from the Central and Eastern European Member States and is also likely to open up new opportunities for economic growth in Germany.



László Andor

The freedom of movement for workers is a fundamental principle of the European Union. Together with the free movement of goods, services, and capital, it is a cornerstone of the Single Market, and has contributed to the success of the European project. Nonetheless, this fundamental principle has been subject to restrictions during certain periods.

Over the last seven years, the accession treaties made it possible to restrict the entry of workers from Member States that joined the Union in 2004 and 2007. The restrictions on workers from Bulgaria and Romania will remain in place until the end of December 2013. For the other eight new member states in Central and Eastern Europe, the freedom of movement for workers has been subject to restrictions in Germany, Austria and to a lower degree in the United Kingdom until May 1 2011. In times of economic difficulty, calls for protectionism often resonate more strongly with the popular mood. I know that even before the 2004 enlargement, the potential negative impact of free movement on the labour market and social situation of the Union's then 15 Member States caused much concern. The 10 countries that joined in 2004 had a combined population of 74 million, which increased the EU population by almost 20%. The big differences in per capita income and labour market conditions in the 'newer' Member States — plus their geographical proximity — kindled fears of a massive surge in east-west labour flows.

But the data show that nationals from the 'newer' Member States account for only around 0.7% of the working-age population in the 'older' member countries. By contrast, non-EU nationals account for around 5% of the working-age population of the EU — a much higher percentage. So the overall influx into the 'older' Member States from

the Member States that joined recently has been relatively limited. Of course, the situation varies from one Member State to another. The United Kingdom and Ireland opened their labour markets to workers from the 'newer' member countries as from the date of accession, and had large inflows of people. Over the last few years, the Commission has carefully monitored the impact of enlargement, and our research highlights three major findings.

First, the overall economic impact of recent intra-EU mobility has on balance been positive, and has not led to serious disturbance of the labour market — even in Member States where there was a relatively large influx of workers. Secondly, from 2004 to 2007, local workers' wages continued to rise in both the countries of departure and those of destination. Moreover, before the economic crisis started, unemployment did not increase significantly after enlargement, but actually declined in many countries. Thirdly, we need to remember that workers from the 'newer' Member States came to the countries of destination to work. They have made an important contribution by alleviating labour shortages in sectors and occupations where demand for labour was high and could not be met by national workers alone.

Another positive result has been the combating of undeclared work, because workers that can make use of the free movement integrate in the host labour markets in a legal way. The financial crisis and the economic downturn have had a significant impact on economic activity and on the labour market. Thankfully, we are seeing signs of recovery, though average EU unemployment remains high — at 9.6%, the latest figure available for February.

More worrying is the fact that recovery is uneven. Just compare the developments in Spain and in Poland: the Polish Prime Minister recently spoke

of "Poland as the green economic island" and I would certainly commend Poland for overcoming the crisis successfully. These differences are a challenge for the EU as a whole, but I am nevertheless an optimist. Unemployment and employment expectations are fairly positive and job demand is increasing. Unfortunately many of these jobs are part-time or involve temporary contracts, which casts some doubt on the quality of the job recovery and highlights the uncertainty facing businesses.

There are some groups whose situation gives cause for concern. The job crisis has hit young people particularly hard, and their situation remains difficult. In November last year, unemployment among young people reached a peak of 21% across the EU, and is only below 10% in Germany, Netherlands and Austria. Elsewhere the situation is dramatic: in the Baltic States, Ireland, Greece and Slovakia, unemployment among young people stands at 30% or above. And in Spain, it is more than 40%.

So while I do not want to belittle the problems facing young people in Germany, the situation here is undoubtedly much better than elsewhere. The key question is: Is the opening of the German labour market a chance or a risk for the country? What will happen after 1 May this year?

Since 2004, the number of people from the eight new EU Member States residing in Germany has increased only moderately. In the meantime, there has been a significant rise in national per capita income, earnings and employment in the new Member States and there is much evidence that in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe the incentives to seek work abroad are weakening.

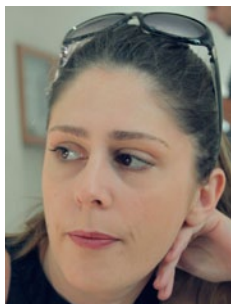
Finally, and maybe most importantly, full labour mobility between Member States will in fact help to address the challenges and imbalances facing European and in particular the German labour market. Germany lacks engineers, master craftsmen, doctors and many other professions. The opening-up of the German labour markets will

not lead to a dramatic increase in outflows from the Central and Eastern European Member States and is also likely to open up new opportunities for economic growth in Germany. After seven years, the transitional arrangements for workers from eight Member States in Eastern and Central Europe have expired and the Commission considers they have fully met their purpose. It is now time for the fundamental freedom of movement of workers to apply fully across the EU. At the same time, it is a great opportunity for the German economy and one that needs to be grasped.

The author is the European Commissioner for Labour, Social Affairs and Inclusion (excerpts from the speech on the free movement of workers, Berlin, 30 March)

The importance and consequences of the first Gay Pride in Montenegro for the democratic development of the society

Beginning of the end of the myth of macho Montenegrins



Tanja Pavićević

All dilemmas seem to have been resolved. On the 31 May, the planned date for the Gay Pride, official representatives of the Montenegrin Government will also flock to the streets of Podgorica. The executive, so far often criticised in the reports from Brussels and other international addresses because of discrimination of LGBT persons has officially confirmed its intention to provide institutional support to the Pride, and to delegate two representatives from its ranks to the Organisational Committee of the event. With that, the Government in

For sociologist Dr Ratko Božović does not believe that Pride itself will contribute very much to increasing the democratic capacities of the Montenegrin society.

“That is a very difficult task, because of the traditional mentality. For the tough and macho Montenegrins the fake pride and monolithic character of the community are very important”

Podgorica will probably fulfil another task from the famous seven condition of Brussels, which says that it is necessary to “implement the rules and policies of protection against discrimination in line with European and international standards”, emphasising that LGBT population in particular “is still exposed to discrimination, including by the public authorities”. It is difficult to say whether setting this issue as one of the preconditions to for the opening of membership negotiations with EU had sped up the organisation of the Pride, which only a few months ago would have been hardly conceivable. In any case, the prime minister Igor Lukšić announced that the Pride was a chance for the Government to demonstrate its democratic and civilisational aspirations. “Montenegrin society ought to show its maturity to take the European road, and part of it is the rights of the sexual minorities, and the state’s responsibility for protecting these rights”, Lukšić said.

However, so far the members of the LGBT population in Montenegro have been offered little, apart from rhetorical support and promises that the Police will employ full capacities to defend the participants in the Pride. Ferhat Dinoša, man famous for his declaration that “he would be personally unhappy if that existed in Montenegro” and that “if God wished it to be that way, he would have created Adam and Steve”, is still heading the Ministry for human and minority rights. President of the NGO LGBT Forum Progress, organisation which initiated the first Montenegrin Gay Pride, Zdravko Cimbaljević, believes that it is a bad thing that Dinoša keeps refusing to talk about the Pride, or about the situation of the LGBT population in Montenegro in general. “The first man of the Ministry for human and minority rights should be at the very helm of the Gay Pride. That way, the state would clearly demonstrate that it has settled irreversibly on a democratic course”, Cimbaljević said.



Researcher of human rights' violations Aleksandar Saša Zeković said he was sure that the Pride will take place without incident. "Pride is a very effective test for the whole society, especially for the executive authorities, a test of genuine democratic and professional capacities."

Moreover, as observed by the human rights' violations researcher Aleksandar Saša Zeković, Montenegrin educational policy is also silent on the issue of existence and rights of sexual minorities, discrimination and violence against LGBT persons are not being investigated, and those processes that do make it to the courts are dragged out at the expense of the victims. In any case, the upcoming Pride has divided the Montenegrin public. While the ruling Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS) has called on its supporters to support LGBT population and take part in the manifestation, its coalition partner Social-Democratic Party (SDP) is keeping silent, and the opposition has warned that this is no time to promote the rights of sexual minorities.



Leader of the opposition Movement for Changes (PzP) Nebojša Medojević was the only one to call on the authorities to ensure proper protection, saying that nobody should be discriminated based on his or her sexual orientation. Otherwise, he warned, the Pride might turn out to be counterproductive for LGBT population. The Police responded by appointing inspector Darko Knežević to the Organisational Committee of the Pride, and announcing that, if necessary, they will contribute all available staff to ensure that the Pride can take place without a single incident. "The participants won't be missing a single hair from their heads", insisted the first man of the Montenegrin Police Veselin Veljović. The Pride was also endorsed by prominent individuals such as the university professors Milan Popović and Filip Kovačević, and editor in chief of the weekly Monitor Esad Kočan, following the public statement by the leader of the Facebook protest Robert Velašević who called it a "Parade of Shame".

"We believe that with all the economic problems a manifestation of this kind is an attempt to distract the attention from the main problems", Velašević said, explaining that the main problems are the bad economic situation, crime and mafia. Although the opinion polls suggest that most of the Montenegrin citizens oppose the Gay Pride, apart from Velašević and a handful of Facebook users nobody has publicly stood up against the organisation of the parade. There was also no official response from the "Barbarians", fans of the football club "Budućnost", which in previous years aired open threats that they will never allow the Gay Pride to take place in Montenegro. Even the Serbian Orthodox Church, traditionally known for its conservative stance, had no concrete response to the announcement. The parson of Podgorica Velibor Džomić refused to give an official statement on behalf of the Church, but said that he personally believed the "Gay Pride will not improve, and can only worsen the position of LGBT population".

“After an event like that, which most of Montenegro clearly opposes, homophobia will only escalate, and this is not way to improve their (LGBT persons’) rights”, said Podgorica’s parson Velimir Džomić said.

“After an event like that, which most of Montenegro clearly opposes, homophobia will only escalate, and that will not help to improve their (LGBT persons’) rights, Džomić said. Nobody expects there to be violence in the streets during the Pride. Researcher of human rights’ violations Aleksandar Saša Zeković said he was sure that the Pride will take place without incident. “Pride is a very effective test for the whole society, especially for the executive authorities, a test of genuine democratic and professional capacities. I believe that the Government is aware of the current and long-term importance of this event, which, on the one hand, effectively introduces the question of the legal position of LGBT persons onto the social agenda and, on the other hand, helps the progress of the society towards EU”, Zeković said. Warning that the Police is doing little to protect the organisational committee which is preparing the Pride, Zeković explained for the European Pulse that this “creates an impression that the Police inspectors are of one mind with the persons reported by the LGBT activists”. “The Police have not sent a sufficiently clear message to the extreme groups that their behaviour is unacceptable. They are also limited in this by the state prosecutor which did nothing to curb and prevent the hate speech and the spread of intolerance. Nevertheless, I believe that the law enforcement bodies which are overall in control of the streets will not allow any incidents”, he said. President of the Managing Board of “Juventas”, Ivana Vujović said that political support is crucial for the events’ success. “What makes Montenegro different from other countries in the region is political support, which the extreme right lacks”. Zeković also added that he does not think that the Gay Pride will

lead to public unrest, which are not in anybody’s interest, and explained that this is simply a way to recognise that LGBT persons exist and that they deserve social and institutional attention and protection “This day marks the end of centuries of silence and ignoring of the existence and rights of a substantial part of the population. This is an important even for every citizen of Montenegro, regardless of his or her sexual orientation”, Zeković said. However, sociologist **Dr Ratko Božović** does not believe that Pride itself will contribute very much to increasing the democratic capacities of the Montenegrin society. “That is a very difficult task, because of the traditional mentality. For the tough and macho Montenegrins the fake pride and monolithic character of the community are very important. Prejudices range from the archetypes to the fogs of transition. The important thing is the appearance of the life forms, not their essence. Even if they simulate utilitarian tolerance, it will come with an ironic back-up: it can happen, but doesn’t have to be. If it happens, it will be because it has to happen, not because we want it to happen”, he said. Božović added that nobody has the right to limit another’s freedom of choice and freedom to be different, while everything else is a matter of civilisational and democratic capacities of a community.



Lessons for eu from the protests following the verdicts against Gotovina and Markač and Tomislav Nikolić's hunger strike

Balkans in the grip of the 90s



Neđeljko Rudović

Can the promises that the western Balkan countries will become part of the European Union faster than they thought be an effective antidote to their relapse into the old nationalist trances which, as we have seen in the nineties, are the death to all economic and cultural progress? Does the EU, which itself has become a testing ground for the resilience of the right and of extreme nationalists, has enough will and credibility to guarantee anything, especially if its most influential members are disagreeing on the solutions to the everyday challenges facing the EU? These questions require a careful search for timely answers, as the events in Croatia and Serbia, which once again have brought to the surface the „national workers“, are threatening to seriously endanger these two Balkan countries' rapprochement with the European family of nations. In Croatia, according to the latest polls, the citizens' support for Croatia's entry into EU has plummeted the day after the ICTY announced its verdict on the Croatian generals **Ante Gotovina** and **Mladen Markač**. A week before that, 60% of the Croatian citizens was in favour of EU membership, while after the verdict only 35% said they would support it at a referendum. A January poll in Serbia showed that the level of support for EU membership in Serbia has fallend to 57%, which is the lowest since 2002. What has really happened? The recession bred dissatisfaction, the number of people living on the edge of poverty increased, either because they lost their jobs or their salaries were cut so that they cannot any more service their loans, and in combination with a few fiery declarations on the part of some politicians nationalism easily rears its head. The Government in Croatia, in the old manner of the politicians who are keener on their privileges than on the nation, spat fire on the ICTY, spurring the emotions and thus diverting the attention from the everyday problems. To hide its own faults, it found them in others. Serbia, already frustrated by the loss of Kosovo and the humiliating drop in the standards of living has turned to alternatives, currently reduced to the Serbian

Party of Progress of Tomislav Nikolić and his lesser allies. There is a rising danger that the clero-nationalist circles will take over the helm of the country. Macedonia, whose solution to its Albanian question is still dubious, is facing early elections and it is unclear whether these will bring a new stability in the political situation or an eruption of the „Bosnian stew“. In the meantime, Montenegro is trying to figure out whether it is being run by the Government or by an underground intertwined with some branches of authority. So what can the EU do now? Even if all the Balkan states joined the EU tomorrow, their problems would remain, as well evidenced by the cases of Bulgaria and Romania which were not forced to observe all the rules of the western democracies in order to join them, and are now much more difficult to steer in the right direction. The only path lays in rigorous conditionality for membership in EU, followed by the EU capitals delivering on their promises. The main precondition is the rule of law, and once that is in place the economy will also get on its feet. When the people get a chance to earn money, they won't have time to rally for Gotovina and Nikolić.



President of NCEI Nebojša Medojević warns that the time for fulfilling EC's conditions is running out

Lukšić has to lead a spectacular action

President of the National Council for European Integrations (NCEI) Nebojša Medojević said that there are still “realistic chances” for Montenegro to get the opening date for negotiations with EU by the end of the year.

However, according to the leader of the Movement for Changes (PzP), if it wants Montenegro to get the date for negotiations, the Government will have to launch more energetic activities over the next two months.

“As the time goes by, the activities must become more energetic. Igor Lukšić says he is not in favour of spectacular actions. I’m not either, if you have time to change things step by step. But if after half a year in power the new Prime Minister has not done anything to change the perception of the country, we only have two months left, and the actions must become spectacular”, said Medojević in the interview for *European Pulse*.

» How do you see the efforts of the Government and public institutions to date to fulfil the criteria set by the European Commission?

It all comes down to some normative, bureaucratic and technical issues.

We will adopt or amend a law, which is a continuation of the general Government policy of European integrations, but then they’ll never get implemented. This is something the EU has been raising since the beginning, and it made the objection very clear in these seven requests.

The main aspect is the rule of law and fight against organised crime and corruption, and EU expects us to show some visible results.

What has been done in Budva is sure to resonate positively in Brussels. We believe that all people in Budva who have been involved in the illegal transactions should have been part of the indictment, but the EU will register this as the response to the condition of curbing the political interference with the judiciary.



Further, there is the case of cross-border smuggling between Montenegro and Kosovo. This will be a kind of test case, as Montenegro is internationally known for smuggling and state-sponsored smuggling programmes. The witnesses are there, the media is writing about it, the opposition is raising the issue in the parliament, and yet there are no results.

There is also the “Šarić case”, which is a serious test of regional cooperation and the ability of public institutions to fight organised crime and money laundering.

At this moment, I am expecting the EU’s decision on the opening of negotiations with a lot of hope, and some fears.

» Do you think that the new prime minister has shown the political will to deal with these issues, which could be another positive signal towards EU?

Lukšić has not really shown it clearly. The way to send the EU the message that the new prime minister wants a new policy of fight against organised crime, with new people, would be to

sack Veselin Veljović, Ranka Čarapić, Vladan Joković.

It all seems a little shabby, uncertain, and now there's also this story of the church. To demolish churches and squabble over such issues in this moment can only undermine the process of European integrations.

» Why would you make a connection between demolition of illegally added walls on the foundations of a church on St Stephen and European integrations?

Europe will be unhappy with the demolition, because Europe is a Christian, currently conservative force.

We should especially bear in mind the role of Germany, which is a key player in EU.

» In spite of all, some EU centres have recently been sending optimistic signals that Montenegro is on the right track to get the date for the start of negotiations by the end of the year. The latest such message came from the Polish prime minister Tusk whose country will be presiding over EU from 1 July

In Poland prime minister Tusk has the reputation of a pro-German politician. It is clear that Germany has been very supportive of Lukšić and of Montenegro's bid to begin negotiations, but at the same time they expect us to fulfil some concrete tasks.

These tasks are in direct conflict with the interests of Milo Đukanović and his clique, but also with those of Ranko Krivokapić. I don't mean Krivokapić's interests, but his political loyalty towards Đukanović.

» Talking about the president of the Parliament, how would you evaluate the achievements of the last few months with regard to the strengthening of Parliament's capacities and its control and monitoring functions, which is also one of the EC's conditions?

The situation with regard to the Parliament is the same as with other areas. Krivokapić and

this government are ready to change the Parliament's internal regulations, laws, all formal matters, but the Parliament remains where it used to be.

» There is an ongoing internal discussion in the Parliament about the future role of the National Council for European Integrations (NCEI), in case Montenegro gets the date for the beginning of negotiations. Which model do you think would be best for Montenegro?

The Croatian model is good, as it allows, among other, involvement of representatives of different groups in the discussion of European integration.

For instance, the National Council should open its meetings to the representatives of farmers, NGOs, trade unions etc. to express their views and participate in the discussion of future negotiations' positions, even if they don't have the legitimacy to make decisions. The decisions would remain with the MPs, who would decide consensually on negotiating positions, in order to rule out the influence of various lobbies.

V.ŽUGIĆ

Municipal funds for NGO projects

Ever less money for NGOs

In 2010 local governments distributed 298.121 EUR for NGO projects, which is drastically less than in, say, 2008, where that amount stood at 860.764 EUR. This situation threatens to endanger the activities, projects and programmes of NGOs on the local level, warns the study published by the Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organisations (CDNGO).

“One important tool that could help improve the financing system for non-governmental organisations on the local level, which has been recommended by the Action plan for the implementation of recommendations from EC’s Opinion on Montenegro is the model decision on criteria, approach and procedures for distributing funds to non-governmental organisations. The decision should contain a clear definition of eligibility and define the minimum contribution to approved projects, as well as mechanisms of monitoring the projects financed by local governments”, says CDNGO.

The document reminds that the new Law on non-governmental organisation, currently in procedure, should also regulate another important issue for NGOs – financing from pub-

lic funds. “The draft law contains a proposal that NGO projects and programmes can be financed from public funds, using part of the revenues from lottery games and other, as prescribed by law, up to 0.80% to 1% of the current annual budget of the Republic of Montenegro. CDNGO believes this is the best solution for NGOs, providing a stable source of funds on annual basis, which also makes it easier for the local governments to finance NGO projects”, concludes CDNGO.

CDNGO sent requests for free access to information and collected the data on the money allocated and distributed to NGO projects in 2010 and 2011 from all 21 Montenegrin municipalities.

Andrijević: The 2010 Budget allocated 5 000 EUR to NGOs, with 40% distributed to NGOs which are directly financed from the municipal budget, while another 60% was distributed via public tenders. Because of the budgetary illiquidity, the money could not be distributed in 2010, but was paid out on 02.02.2011. The 2011 budget has not yet been adopted and the funds are managed based on Decision on temporary financing.



Bar: According to the original budget, the municipality planned 70.000 EUR for NGOs in 2010. After the rebalance, this sum was reduced to 25.000 EUR, out of which 14.466 EUR was paid out in 2010, while the rest was supposed to be distributed in the first quarter of 2011. The 2011 budget again allocated 70.000 EUR to NGOs.

Budva: Decision on changes and amendments of the Budget of the municipality of Budva for 2010 allocated 50.000 EUR to NGOs for that year. The total funds distributed according to the financing contracts were 43.090.93 EUR. The 2011 Budget allocates 100.000 EUR to NGO projects.

Berane: In 2010 Berane municipality failed to publish a competition for the distribution of municipal funds to NGOs. The reason, according to the municipalities, was that the Decision on distribution of funds to NGOs, adopted by the Distribution Commission based on the Decision on criteria, methods and procedures for distribution of funds to NGOs had been annulled on 23.11.2009. The 2010 budget of the municipality allocated 30.000 EUR to NGOs, same as the budget for 2011.

Bijelo Polje: In line with amendments to the budget of the municipality of Bijelo Polje for 2010, 40.000 EUR were allocated to NGO projects. To date, 14.650 EUR has been distributed through contracts awarded via the public competition of NGO financing. The 2011 budget again allocated 40.000 EUR for the same purpose.

Danilovgrad: The 2010 decision on the budget allocated 40.000 EUR to NGOs. Decision on changes and amendments to the 2010 budget reduced this amount to 24.200 EUR, out of which 13.050 EUR has been distributed to NGOs, with the rest to follow after the submission of the financial report on the first round of payments. Following the Decision on temporary financing, only a temporary plan of revenues and expenses of the Municipal-

ity of Danilovgrad was adopted for 2011. The plan only envisages the payment of the second round of funds to already approved NGO projects contracted in 2010.

Žabljak: the 2010 Budget allocated 5.000 EUR to NGOs. Due to the budget deficit, however, the planned funds were not distributed in 2010. The budget for 2011 has not been adopted and the budget is managed through Decision on temporary financing.

Plužine: the 2010 Budget allocated 12.000 EUR to NGOs. Eight organisations applied with projects, and the funds were distributed to the seven projects that were eventually approved. The 2011 decision on budget allocates 20.000 EUR to NGOs in 2011.

Pljevlja: The original budget of the municipality envisaged 35.848 EUR for NGO projects in 2010. In late December 2010 the municipality rebalanced the budget, reducing the funds to 4.000 EUR. No new contracts were concluded with NGOs in 2010, and the funds were distributed only for the projects contracted in the previous years. The budget plan for 2011 has not been adopted.

Capital city - Podgorica: the 2010 budget of the Capital City allocated 600.500 EUR to the non-governmental sectors (out of which 390.000 EUR in transfers to political parties, and related associations and 270.000 EUR to NGOs and similar organisations). The budget rebalance reduced this sum to 570.500 EUR. The total amount of funds distributed through contracts with NGOs was 42.169,38 EUR, distributed between 01.01.2010 and 31.12.2010. The 2011 Budget of the Capital City allocates 536.000 EUR to NGOs, out of which 350.000 EUR to political parties and related associations and 186.000 EUR to NGOs and similar organisations.

Cetinje: the 2010 budget allocated 33.600 EUR to NGOs, 10.000 EUR through a public tender. However, no public tender was an-

nounced in 2010 and thus no funds were distributed in this year. There is still no budget for 2011.

Šavnik: the 2010 budget of the Municipality allocated 1.500 EUR to NGOs. The total funds distributed between 01.01.2010 and 31.12.2010 are 1.000 EUR, which went to the organisation "Libero" Šavnik. The budget for 2011 has not yet been adopted.

Ulcinj: the 2010 budget of the Municipality of Ulcinj allocated 11.000 EUR to NGOs. Secretariat for Finance and Budget of the municipality responded to our request for access to information by declaring that they have no information on the financing contracts between the Municipality and NGOs concluded through public competitions in 2010. The budget for 2011 has not yet been adopted.

Kotor: decision on the changes and amendments of the 2010 Budget of the Municipality of Kotor allocated 33.000 EUR to NGOs. The total amount of funds to be disbursed by the Municipality of Kotor according to the existing contracts concluded between the Municipality and NGO is 29.996 EUR, out of which 14.294 EUR was distributed, and the outstanding debts should be settled by the end of the first quarter of 2011. The 2011 Budget allocates 20.000 EUR to NGOs.

Tivat: the 2010 Budget of the Municipality of Tivat allocated 40.000 EUR of funds to NGO projects. The entire amount was distributed and paid according to the financing contracts between NGOs and the Municipality. The 2011 Budget allocated 55.000 EUR to NGOs.

Herceg Novi: in 2010 the decision on the Budget of the Municipality of Herceg Novi allocated 110.000 EUR to NGO projects. After the rebalance, this amount was reduced to 75.000 EUR. The final amount distributed and paid to NGO projects was 73.000 EUR. The 2011 budget of the Municipality of Herceg Novi allocates 80.000 EUR to NGOs.

Kolašin: In the last three years, due to acute budget deficit, the Municipality of Kolašin had not issued a call for competition for municipal funds, nor funded any NGO project on these grounds.

Mojkovac: the 2010 budget of the Municipality of Mojkovac allocated 8.500 EUR to NGO projects. The total amount of funds distributed through financing contracts between NGOs and the Municipality was 4.722,50 EUR. The 2011 budget has not yet been adopted.

Nikšić: the 2010 budget of the Municipality of Nikšić allocated 60.000 EUR to NGOs. It was, however, impossible to obtain information on the amount of actually disbursed funds. The request was sent to the cabinet of the Mayor of the Municipality of Nikšić, who is in charge of the budget and the one responsible for disbursement, and thus the one in possession of the relevant information.

Plav: the 2010 budget of the Municipality of Plav allocated 8.000 EUR to NGOs. The total amount disbursed was 2.680 EUR, and the funds were distributed directly to the budget-financed NGO, i.e. without a public competition for funding. The 2011 budget has not yet been adopted.

Rožaje: the 2010 budget of the Municipality of Rožaje allocated 20.000 EUR to NGOs. The total amount of funds distributed via public competition for funding is 20.000 EUR, disbursed in the period between 01.01.2010 and 31.12.2010. The 2011 budget of the Municipality of Rožaje allocates 20.000 EUR to NGO projects.

The soul and the state



Brano Mandić

Nobody noticed, as if we had more important things on our minds, it has completely passed us by all until Easter which is also when, lo and behold, Sai Baba died, which according to some was also a good omen. Yet nobody was particularly surprised when the youthful prime minister sent the celebratory message via his Facebook page, inspired by the duality of the secular and heavenly laws. The new wave prime minister, equipped with a broadband Internet, capable of uploading a video-apostle, said that if we follow the Lord's word and we shall not stray. This is probably the first spiritual message of one Montenegrin politician ever since the Petrović dynasty discarded the robes, and Danilo made the payment of taxes obligatory for the monasteries. So we got us a believing prime minister, a man who crosses himself, honours the cross and believes that there is no death after death. I don't know what that should mean, but

Montenegro was probably the only country in the Balkans what was spared spiritually-political sentences so far, with the exception of the god-fearing verses in the prose of Svetozar Marović and the protest wailings of the Kosovar martyrs from the opposition.

now I realise how impressed I was by the atheism of the former prime minister, the notorious Milo Đukanović, who knew how to silence the church simply and accurately – with money and political blackmail. Since Đukanović has left the stage, we're short on grand political pledges, so the church snatched the moment to try out a new terrain, with a prime minister employing a different tactic. He passes himself off as a believer, supposedly in an effort to deprive them of their main argument. This is not a godless rule, we are all fragile humans of flesh and blood, but we are heading for the great reward in the heavens if we only follow the laws of Jesus, which are only a summary and a creative digest of the Old Testament, all the way back to Abraham, Adam and other ancestors of the human kind, from

whose ribs came the women, including one minister in the reform government... Ministers have not become from monkeys, we can rest at peace, because the government is in the hands of a man who believes in turning water into wine, which could also be economically profitable. One thing I'm sure about: if it wasn't for the stupid dispute between the two orthodox churches in Montenegro, Lukšić would no doubt be heading to the church with a candle every Christmas and Easter, just like Medvedev or Tadić, into the first rows, right behind the priest who would properly salute him with a censor. The prime minister, blessed with frankincense, would happily return to the church straight to a chat to boast about the new spiritual experience, after which it will be easier to deal with the chimeras of transition. Nonetheless, Lukšić is careful not to upset any church, even such a small and irrelevant one like the Montenegrin Orthodox Church. All because the prime minister knows that the church is a political organisation whose main task is public political struggle for this-worldly goals: more believers, more money, more influence on the prime minister, on the businessmen etc. The idyllic holiday was only spoiled by a brawl between the police and inhabitants of St. Stefan, who decided to erect a church on the tourist island. The believing prime minister said it was not proper to tackle this matter during the Week



of Suffering and postponed the whole thing for after Easter. The problem, however, is that after the Week of Suffering there's a Week of Redemption, and "Jesus resurrects!" is a legitimate greeting all until the day of Holy Trinity. That, according to the theologians, is the very point of Easter, it's a spiritual holiday which does not end with the prescribed calendar break, but continues for another forty days, at least until the Day of Redemption. As a believer, Lukšić should really know better. And so, because of a miracle which the prime minister of a small country believes has happened 2000 years ago, the law has been suspended until further notice. The lesson is simple: the law is invalid until we crack the eggs, and then we can have a long talk, until Christmass, when we go back into meditation and new construction enterprises. Now is the time and the occasion to quote the prime minister, who says: "All we who believe ought to realise that a good believer is the one who accepts the heavenly, but also the earthly

I don't like Lukšić's mix of wireless which doesn't and God which does exist and I think we need a prime minister who settled on a role of enforcing the earthly laws. It's better that way, and leave the holy canons to the priests and greater sinners.

laws. It is therefore important that in these days we should promote tolerance, mutual understanding even over the most difficult issues and points of conflict, that we should come together and seek a solution. Nor can we ever find such solutions in a choice to ignore the earthly laws". I'll admit it, somewhere in these words there's a hint that Lukšić is after all not a priest but a prime minister, which is a good thing. Touching commitment to the heavenly laws doesn't mean we should overrun the earthly ones, and Lukšić goes on: "On the other hand, in order to fully enact the belief in the heavenly laws, we ought to accept that we are all different, that we have different needs and that we will be able to find the best solutions through continuous dialogue and communication". What is the gist of the message? In the first sentence, the prime min-



ister says "we who believe". So those who don't believe aren't worthy of the message. They don't follow the groove of the new prime minister and they don't get an apostle. Dialogue is important, continues the prime minister, but only so that we can "fully enact the belief in heavenly laws", i.e. as a means to epiphany awaiting us in the moments of the Final Judgement. These are the words of the prime minister of Montenegro, of a state that was probably the only one in the Balkans to be spared such spiritually-political sentences so far, with the exception of the god-fearing verses in the prose of Svetozar Marović and the protest wailings of the Kosovar martyrs from the opposition. After all the crimes supported by the church, after all frauds and embezzlements, destruction of the cultural heritage, threats to the infidels, I think that at least it is a matter of good taste to refrain from interpreting the heavenly laws for the populace, and instead lead this country towards a normal life where religion is an extra-political phenomenon and a matter of personal choice, deprived of the first person plural and appellatives. But, hellas: in the prime minister's hometown, Bar, there are currently only three big construction projects: an orthodox temple, a con-cathedral and a mosque. Charmin atheism, which does not mean spitting on all priests and imams, and which held a stronghold in Montenegro until the war has disappeared for good. I don't like Lukšić's mix of wireless which doesn't and God which does exist and I think we need a prime minister who settled on a role of enforcing the earthly laws. It's better that way, and leave the holy canons to the priests and greater sinners.

European commission predicts minor economic recovery in the west balkan countries

Troubles with inflation and unemployment

In the most recent assessment of economic trends the European Commission warns that the 2010 economic recovery in the Western Balkans was uneven. N Serbia and Montenegro gross domestic product (GDP) grew by a modest 1.8%, i.e. 1.1%, Croatia registered a 1.2% loss in GDP, while "Albania survived the crisis without a recession" and experienced a 4.1% GDP growth in 2010. According to the Commission, in Bosnia and Herzegovina GDP grew by 0.9%, in Macedonia by 0.7% and in "Kosovo according to the 1244 Resolution of the United Nations Security Council" by 4.6%.

EC's analysis reveals that the economic growth in the region was primarily driven by export expansion, which also lead to a decline in foreign trade deficit which continuously plagues all countries in the region. Moreover, EC believes that the West Balkan region could continue to grow in the next year, but it only offered concrete forecast for Croatia and Macedonia, which have long had the status of candidate countries. Thus the Brussels' economists predict that Croatian economy will grow by 1.5%, and Macedonian by 2.2%.

The European Commission warns that unemployment is a problem everywhere in the region, and that "there is again a rise in inflation in the Western Balkans because of the rising prices of food and raw materials, especially oil" on the world markets

The West Balkan countries had a higher economic growth than most developed countries in the years before the crisis, which is more or less in line with the standard economic expectations that less developed countries will have higher growth rates. However, in all Balkan countries the per capita GDP, which is considered an indicator of countries' wealth, is much lower than in the EU. According to the 2009



data Croatia is doing very well, and with 65% of the EU average its level of development is similar to that of Hungary, and higher than in some EU member states, such as Romania, Bulgaria, Poland and the Baltic countries. Montenegro's per capita GDP is 41% of the EU average, and the figures for other countries are 37% for Serbia, 36% for Macedonia, 31% for Bosnia and Herzegovina and 27% for Albania.

The latest report also warns that unemployment is a serious problem in the entire region, with Serbia and Croatia experiencing a serious rise in unemployment rates in the last year. Unemployment has reached 20% in Serbia, and 11.8% in Croatia. However, although unemployment has not increased, and is even

slowly receding in other Balkan countries, their situation is a lot worse: the regional champion of unemployment is Bosnia and Herzegovina, with 42.7% of the workforce out of employment, followed by Macedonia with 32.1% unemployment rate in 2010. According to EC, the unemployment rate in Albania is 13.7%, in Montenegro 12.1%, while there are no reliable figures for Kosovo, although it is believed that unemployment there is very high.

EC's other concern is inflation, and the analysis indicates that "there has been a new rise in inflation in the Western Balkans because of the rise in prices of food and raw materials, especially oil" in the world markets. That was, among other, the reason why the central banks in Serbia and Albania decided to raise the interest rates in March this year. The highest inflation growth in 2010 was in Serbia, while Montenegro had the lowest inflation – 0.5%, and this is also the only country where euro is the official tender. In Croatia the inflation rate was 1%, in Macedonia 1.6%, in BiH 2.1%, Albania 3.6% and in Kosovo 3.5%. In the EU, the average unemployment rate in February 2011 was 9.5%, and inflation 2.8%. among the candidate and potential candidate countries, European Commission singled out Turkey, whose GDP has recovered from a 4.8% drop in 2009, soaring to 8.9% growth in 2010.



THE RISK OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL TENSIONS

Overall, the Balkans is the worst performing region when it comes to recovery from recession, says **Vladimir Gligorov**, economist and researcher of the Vienna Institute for International Economic Research. He said that the Institute expects a growth rate of under 3% in the Western Balkans, "because countries such as Croatia, Romania and partly Montenegro are experiencing slower growth or are still grappling with recession". Speaking about the future of the Balkans in relation to the world economic crisis which is barely over, and which could not be influenced by the West Balkan countries, he said that the internal risks were now among the highest. "I believe that, unlike in the previous crisis, the biggest risks today in the Balkans stem from the internal social and political tensions, which are running high. A large number of enterprises are in a complicated situation or in bankruptcy, which creates a pressure on the financial sector. At the moment the banks are not particularly weak, but if there is a rising number of non-performing loans there could be problems also in the banking sector, especially in Serbia and Croatia. Nevertheless, since we are talking about the Balkans, one should never rule out the possibility of further political tensions. As we can see, there are, as always, plenty of reasons for that to happen", Gligorov said.

Why do I want to be a citizen of EU?

Our kickbacks and EU premiums



Nedeljko Šušakčević

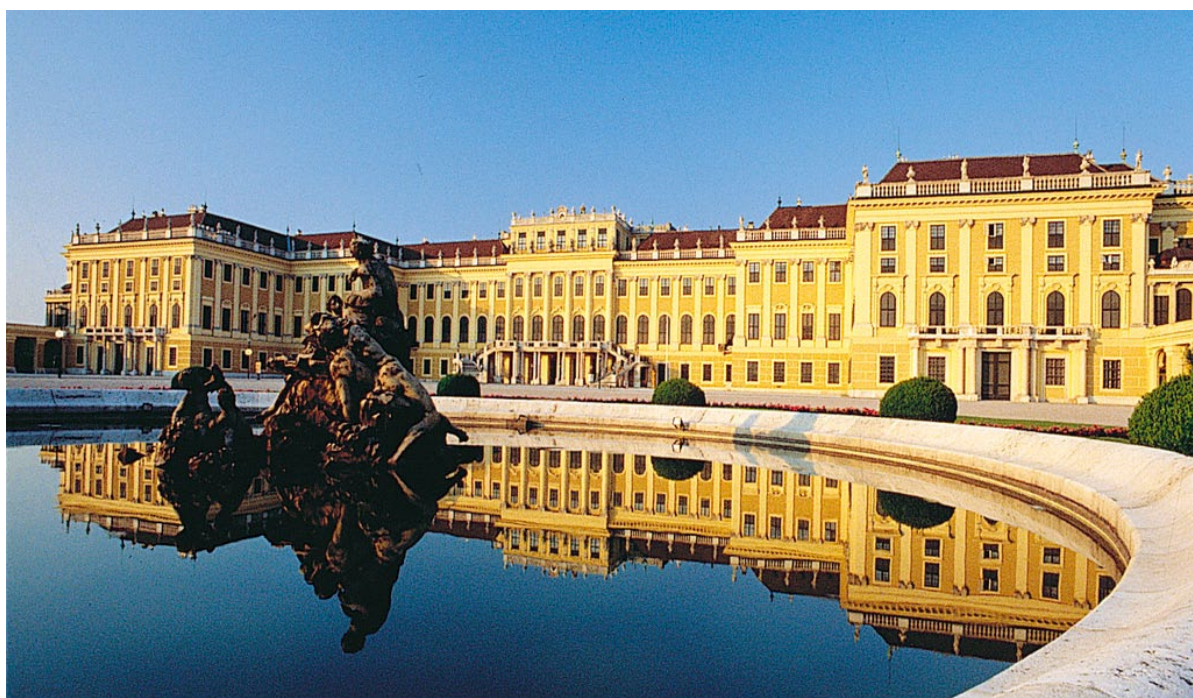
The author works for the Montenegro stock market, in trade control and monitoring department. He attended X generation of European Integrations School.

Partly the nature of my job, partly the „worms” inside me, have been taking me all across the globe. Wonderful landscapes, good people, a wealth of different tastes – things you meet, get to know, get to experience. But I often wonder: why is it that in some countries I don’t feel I’m abroad? Which makes me think of the good old expression: „Feel at home”, which in such cases is usually literally true. Entering a restaurant, I see a „NO SMOKING” sign in a prominent place, but barely visible for all the smoke, in spite of the law against smoking in public places. As if I were at home. Listening to my business partner, I seem to hear my neighbour: „For all the anti-corruption laws, you can’t accomplish anything without kickbacks. There’s a thicket of laws, but nothing works in practice. The foreign investors have little confidence, mostly because of this lack of implementation, so we end up swamped by problems, which we then blame on the global economic downturn”.

But once I escape our local hills, which are indeed beautiful, but idle, once I’m through the Croatian highway and beyond the Slovenian

border, I feel like I’m on another planet. I just put my passport away and forget where I put it. Still, it feels strange that the traffic policeman is not “hunting” me behind every bush, even though they too have the Law on traffic safety. I’m sitting in a bar in plane wonder at the fact that I don’t feel like suffocating. It takes time to adjust. Looking for a parking place, I find one just across the famous Schönbrunn palace, without even noticing that I’m already in Vienna, i.e. in the second state beyond the Schengen border. The Schönbrunn’s gorgeous, blooming gardens are rife with a smell which I never found in our beautiful Montenegro. I recognise it as the smell of Europe.

I make it in time to the meeting, and the other side is there too. All we agreed on has been set in the contract, even though everything would have been crystal clear even without it. I just can’t believe my partner hasn’t asked whether I know this or that guy, how are we related, how much is he involved... When we reached the handshake, I could barely believe the meeting was over.





That is why I want to live in the European Union!

Business done, I take a little trip for myself, just to see what it feels like to drive on a highway without a speed limit. Touring Germany's towns and villages, I wonder – why not take a look from the Eiffel Tower? Not an easy feat, though – the Champs-Élysées are blocked by the farmers, riding tractors which I didn't even know existed and machines whose purpose I cannot even guess. Goodness, they are farmers. Do they also have the right to strike?! Not only do they have all the rights, they are on strike because the state has not lowered the gas prices by one cent per litre, and they're also asking for premiums for the production of meat. Nah, the French gentlemen with expensive tractors and strange machines obviously have no clue what

a real farmer is. They don't know that on my way back I also had to halt on the road through Bijelo Polje because of the farmers, like I did on Champs-Élysées. Not because they were on strike – I had to stop because the farmers of Bijelo Polje blocked the traffic lumbering along on weird machines that were once known as tractors. I stopped, in disbelief that a thing like that still exists in the 21st century in a European country. I stopped because they had live lambs in the sidecar. I stopped because I was interested. My curiosity got me into a conversation with them – I found out they were coming back from the market, driving the lambs back because they didn't manage to sell a single one. I found out that they have no idea what are the rights of farmers, what a farmer strike means. But they also learned something from me, something they have never heard before. They learned that, in addition to the lottery premium, there is also a premium provided by the state to the farmers. They looks told me that they thought I was missing a few marbles.

This is why I would like to see Montenegro become an EU member.

In our regular family conversations, I hear from my children what they would like to study and become when they grow up... Then from their "little" heads I hear big conclusions: "Dad, you and mom shouldn't both retire before we finish our studies. Who would help us then?! Who will find us work? It's better if we find a job earlier, even if only with a high school diploma, because later on even the university diploma won't be worth much". My words made them wince: "Just keep on studying, I hope that by then you'll be citizens of EU".

Latvians the champions of renewable energy

According to the Eurostat report published on 11 April for the EU Sustainable Energy Week, the share of energy from renewable sources in the overall EU consumption has nearly doubled from 5% of gross domestic consumption in 199 to 9% in 2009. The share of renewable energy in total consumption is the highest in Latvia, where it accounts for 36% of the gross domestic consumption, followed by Sweden (34%), Austria (27%) and Finland (23%). Malta, on the other hand, depends entirely on oil, which accounts for 100% of its domestic consumption, followed by Cyprus with 96%. Gas is most extensively used in the Netherlands (43%), Italy and UK (38% each), while Estonia mostly relies on solid fuels (58%). Nuclear energy is the most common in France (40%) and Lithuania (34%).

eu. domain for small and medium enterprises

Early April marked the fifth anniversary of the use of internet domain .eu, which is the ninth most popular one in the world and fourth in Europe, announced EC. The number of registered users with this domain is on the rise ever since its establishment and currently stands at almost 3.5 million. Vice president of EC and Digital Agenda Commissioner **Neelie Kroes** said she was very satisfied with the growing popularity of the domain among the small and medium enterprises that wish to become recognised on the European market. As an example of the companies that rely on the .eu domain she listed small local companies in Toscana, a Lithuanian company constructing swimming pools, a UK company organising promotional events and a Dutch clothes store for children.

Food for old and new members?

Bulgaria will place an official request with the EC and the European Agency for Food Safety to establish whether the multinational companies sell worse quality food in the new member states than in the old West European members, announced the Bulgarian Agricultural Minister **Miroslav Najdenov**. A research by the Slovak Consumers' Union showed that multinational companies are selling food and beverages of different quality under the same brand in Eastern and Western member states, but the producers rejected such accusations. If Bulgaria is treated as a second-rate member state, the country could respond with legal charges, Najdenov warned.

A ban on burka, niqab and helmets

On 11 April in France the law came into force forbidding headwear that covers the face in public, which is the first case of such general prohibition in EU. According to the law, it is prohibited to cover one's face in public, regardless of whether the person is wearing a veil, a helmet or a robber mask. The law also forbids burka and niqab which cover the whole face, while leaving the eyes uncovered or covered by a net. Hijab, the veil that covers the head, but not the face, is allowed. A public place includes the streets, parks, train stations and shops. The police will not be allowed to take the veil off the Muslim women who refuse to take it off, but it can order them to pay up to 150 euros and/or attend a course in civic education. Men who force the women to wear a veil can be convicted to up to one year of prison and a fine of 30 000 euro. The law allows for some exceptions, such as when the person is on a motorcycle, and for cultural manifestations including traditional holidays.

New moral codices, the conflict of interest in EU and the influence of its former officials

Transparency and commissioners

European Commission (EC) has agreed to a new code of conduct for commissioners in order to prevent the potential conflict of interests and limit the influence of former commissioners, but was criticised by anti-corruption groups for not going far enough. In the political guidelines for the next Commission, published in September 2009, President of EC **José Manuel Barroso** announced a revision of the ethics code for EC commissioners, expressing his hope that the document will also inspire other EU institutions.

The new rules require former officials to inform the European Commission about professional activities for 18 months from the current 12-month period

The latest EC communication reminds that the current code is among the strictest codices for public administrators, and that it limits the commissioners' participation in electoral campaigns, has stricter regulations on their professional activities after leaving the office, extends the period during which they must notify the Commission on their activities and supply annual information on their financial and property situation, and introduces clearer procedures for the prevention of the conflict of interest during the mandate.

The new rules require former officials to inform the European Commission about professional activities for 18 months from the current 12-month period. During this period, their spouses, partners or close family members cannot be employed in the cabinets of other commissioners. The Commission said the new rules also clarify the issues of gifts and personal visits. The revamp comes after several years of revolving-door scandals involving former commissioners. Former internal markets commissioner



Charlie McCreevy of Ireland was forced to quit working for a British bank under pressure from the European Commission. although the EU executive let him join Irish budget airline Ryanair. Other commissioners were allowed to take positions at large banks, such as Germany's **Guenter Verheugen**, who came under fire during his time as industry commissioner for hiring his partner as cabinet chief, which is from now on strictly prohibited. He was also allowed to open an EU consultancy in February, under condition that he avoids contacts with around 400 companies with this he was in contact during his time in the Commission for a period of at least 26 months. Verheugen was nevertheless allowed to work for the Royal Bank of Scotland, Volksbank-Raiffeisen Bank, Union of the Turkish Chambers of Commerce and Fleishman-Hillard, one of the leading public relations agencies in the world.

The former trade commissioner, Britain's **Peter Mandelson** denied that his visit to a Russian aluminium oligarch's yacht had anything to do with the trade privileges he approved. Accepting such invitations is now forbidden under the new rules. Representative of the NGO anti-corruption group Alter-EU, **Erike Wesselius**, said the new code was "overall disappointing".

Representative of the NGO anti-corruption group Alter-EU, Erike Wesselius, said the new code was "overall disappointing". According to him, the prohibition of lobbying for former commissioners in the areas for which they were responsible is a good thing, but not enough, since they anyway "collegially" participate in all decision-making.

According to him, the prohibition of lobbying for former commissioners in the areas for which they were responsible is a good thing, but not enough, since they anyway "collegially" participate in all decision-making. "There should be a general prohibition on lobbying", warned **Paul de Clerck** from the non-governmental organisation Friends of the Earth Europe.

Wesselius also believes that period of 18 months during which former commissioners are required to seek EC's approval of new professional engagements is not enough, and that it should be extended to three years. The European Parliament (EP) also took some steps in clarifying the relations between the MEPs and lobbyists, after the last year's scandal when the UK's *The Sunday Times* announced that several MEPs accepted bribe offered to them by the journalists of this weekly passing themselves

off as lobbyists. In exchange, the supposed lobbyists asked the MEPs to propose some amendments to the legal drafts under consideration. EP's working groups started to work on designing measures to ensure greater transparency in late April, and the new regulations should be announced in May. In the meantime, EC and EP decided to put together a joint register of lobbyists, but joining the registry is still voluntary.



THREE YEARS OF SEVERANCE PAY: 20 000 EUR PER MONTH

The Commission did not propose any amendments to the system of severance payments for former commissioners, as requested by a group of MEPs last month. The Commissioners receive these payments for a period of three years in order to ease their transition into other professions. The payments are between 40% and 65% of their old salaries, which start at 20 000 euros per month, and are delivered even when if former commissioner already has a new salaried job, as long as the combined amount does not exceed his former wage. Former Justice Commissioner and vice-president of EC **Franco Frattini** and **Jacques Barrot** are making use of this benefit, which is a problem since, according to the European Parliament, "the taxpayers pay them twice". Frattini is now serving as the Italian Foreign Affairs Minister, and Barrot is a member of the French Constitutional Council in charge of implementing the Constitution and asserting the new laws' compliance with the Constitution.

Centre for Civic Education (CCE)
is publishing an ADVERTISEMENT for XII generation of the

HUMAN RIGHTS SCHOOL

- school for learning human rights from theory to practice-

School comprises 3 modules in total of one intensive week with numerous lectures, workshops, film screenings and theater forums which will offer an opportunity to learn and discuss various topics concerning human rights. All costs related to the School are covered by the CCE, with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the regional project of human rights education in the Western Balkans, and with the obligation of participants to attend not less than 80% of the programme. Human rights school provides broad theoretical and practical knowledge on concept of human rights, affirms the culture of human rights, inspiring and motivating people to stand for their rights, as well as for those who are not able to do that on their own and to empower them to have more direct influence within society in future.

From late February 2010, CCE is included as an equal project partner in the Regional Programme for Human Rights education for active citizenship in the Western Balkans, which runs from 2000 supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in cooperation with the Norwegian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights. Entering into this type of partnership implied a certain reformulation of the conception and organization of the previous School programme, the structure of the participants, as well as the increase of number of interactive sessions. Accordingly, the advertisement for the Human Rights School XII generation is open to all interested candidates aged 18-25 years, regardless of gender, nationality, religion or belief, with the indication that advantage is given to the activists of political parties and nongovernmental organizations, youth leaders, students and individuals who demonstrate a high degree of social activism.

Expert lecturers will be working with the participants through the presentations, workshops, film screenings and theatre dealing with broad spectrum of human rights issues. Upon finishing of the School the participants shall receive a certificate and be eligible for further educational development. If you are want to know, to listen the others, to understand those who are different, and you are open, courageous, concern about the environment in which you are leaving and eager to contribute to the development of culture of human rights in Montenegro, Human rights school is the choice for you!

All interested candidates may submit their application with short biography not later than 19 May 2011, on the address:

Centre for Civic Education
(for "Human Rights School")
Njegoševa 36, I floor, 81 000 Podgorica
Tel/fax: 020 / 665 112
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Call for Book Chapter Proposals

Working Title: Transitional Justice and Civil Society in the Balkans

Transitional justice has grown over the past 20 years into a globalized form of intervention following civil war and political repression. Transitional justice is ever-growing field which responds to dilemmas over how successor regimes should deal with past human rights abuses of their authoritarian predecessors. It comprises of a range of mechanisms and processes associated with a society's attempts to come to terms with a large scale past abuses in order to ensure accountability and serve justice, as well as to achieve healing, reconciliation, truth and conflict resolution. Transitional justice is an interdisciplinary field that takes place across a range of disciplines such as law, anthropology, history, ethics, development studies, cultural studies, sociology, art, psychology, theology and education. The intention of this volume is to identify and map broader justice dimensions of research and interventions that bear on the pursuit of transitional justice processes in the context of the Balkans. We expect the volume to yield a coherent view of theory and practices from the regional perspective that can guide future efforts in transitional justice scholarship and practice. The authors may come from variety of fields such as, but not limited to: law, anthropology, philosophy, media, ethics, politics, art, peace and conflict studies, development studies, history, ethics, cultural studies, sociology, psychology, theology and education. The book chapters may address theoretical questions on transitional justice or theoretically informed empirical projects. In order to explore these, and other issues, we seek chapters on topics including, but not limited to: community based reconciliation, regional programs, demobilization of ex combatants, legal or psychological aspects of transitional justice, gender dynamics of transitional justice, art, performance, theatre and transitional justice, media and transitional justice. Chapters may use any methodology and must not be previously published or under review for publication elsewhere. Submissions from scholars at all career levels are welcome. The book editors would like to especially encourage original studies written by scholars from the Balkan, or in collaboration with Balkan scholars/practitioners.

By June 10, 2011, the book editors would like to receive abstracts. All abstracts and manuscripts will go through a review process. If your abstract is accepted, we would like to receive your full manuscript of maximum 7,000 words by November 20, 2011. Accepted manuscripts should conform to APA citation format.

If you are interested in contributing a book chapter to this volume, please send a tentative title, a brief abstract for review (max 500 words) and short bio (150 words), to the book editors, Olivera Simic at o.simic@griffith.edu.au and/or Zala Volcic at z.volic@uq.edu.au.

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