



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

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FINAL SPRING OF THE STUDENT ACTIVISM IN MONTENEGRO

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) welcomes student protests at the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić that are pointing out to bad position of student population within Montenegrin society and calls all students to express their opinion without fear and prejudice which are already keeping passive for a long time this important social group.

CCE assess that the critical thought amongst students is encouraging for overall social development. Thus everyone who expresses his/her opinion freely should be encouraged to choose legitimate way in order to reach the fulfillment of the defined requests.

Protest walk of part of students of the Faculty of Philosophy indicates that they are liberated of fear and burden of the environment in which they live, which is a necessary prerequisite for their further association, exercise of their rights and contribution to the overall democratization of the state.

CCE has been for a long time indicating strange silence of the academic staff at the University, which raise concerns as much as the silence of students, and that was the case at the student protest in Nikšić, when the professors were primarily worried about their personal position and not the position of the academic community in general and professional liability towards students.

Senate of the University of Montenegro should have include a representative of the Faculty of Philosophy, since this is one of the faculty with the largest number of students at the University of Montenegro. But, nowadays we have a situation that in the Senate, the highest academic body of the University of Montenegro, the elections for rector, deans and other important functions are carried out formally, since decisions are made in advance by the people controlling the University of Montenegro for years, regardless the fact that they are occupying different high state and party functions.

CCE calls stakeholders in Montenegro to restrain from interference in students' protests and every other way of expressing of their views, without jeopardizing their efforts to publically present for the first time problems that burden them and to resolve them with their own strengths and knowledge.

Minister of Education the Sports **Slavoljub Stijepović** should initiate a meeting with student representatives and within his authority contribute to solving of their problems. **Student Parliament** must include colleagues into the work of this body, taking into account their different way of fighting for the rights of students and provide them support.

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