



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

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THE INTERNATIONAL NON-VIOLENCE DAY – IS THE VIOLENCE BEING CONDEMNED ENOUGH IN MONTENEGRO?

In relation to the International Non-Violence Day (2 October), Centre for Civic Education (CCE) notes that frequent acts of violent communication towards diversities should be the object of attention of many social actors.

The United Nations Charter clearly insists upon peaceful, nonviolent approaches such as dialogue, negotiation, arbitration and court settlement. **The latest example of the violence against different and diversity are obvious example of immaturity and patriarchy of the small community, but also the feeling of certain groups that they can use violence to express themselves and to eventually go unpunished for that.** Insufficient education of citizens about the rule of law and human rights, as well as occasional blindness of institutions at ground excesses of individuals, are giving its effects in the absence of dialogue too. **Domestic violence, bullying amongst children, and violence against the weak and different are just some of the examples of violent problem solving, factual weakness of abusers and the weakness of state institutions to appropriately sanction that acts.**

Long-term and sustainable resolution of violent manifestations requires work of many social actors, in addition to what is certainly the obligation of state institutions. The role of citizens' groups, NGOs and the others is the promotion of universal human rights, as well as all non-violent postulates recorded in international documents. **Communities, families and individuals, therefore all levels, from individual to state, have their unique role in the victory over violence.**

The United Nations General Assembly has established a marking of the International Non-Violence Day on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi in 2007, as an opportunity to "*spread the message of non-violence,*" by a resolution which confirms "*the universal relevance of principles of non-violence*". Gandhi was the first man to bring the principle of non-violence from the individual to the social and political level. His name is synonymous for life's posture, which has decisively changed the course of history and still affects millions of people.

CCE believes that nonviolent activity is each individual's responsibility to choose as his/her own response to conflict. Therefore, our activities are oriented towards establishing a culture of peace and tolerance, which is the basis of quality social democratization.

"I refuse the force, because what it seems to do good does not last long; inversely, the bad things it has done last forever" – Mahatma Gandhi.

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