



Centar za građansko obrazovanje Centre for civic education

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MISSED OPPORTUNITY TO REBUILD INTEGRITY AND REPUTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) expresses protest against the decision of the Managing Board of the University of Montenegro (UO UCG) to re-appoint the rector as UCG **Predrag Miranovic**. During the last three years, he has, with his non-interference into work, significantly influenced the collapse of the reputation of UCG. Today, UCG is recognized as a highly corrupted institution, subject of daily scandals, and many of its leaders are the actors of criminal charges related to different segments of corruption, from trading of exams to unclear procedures of allocation of apartments.

What is the responsibility of rector concerning the situation at the Law Faculty and why it is not adequately defined? How it is possible that the dean of the Faculty Ranko Mujović has not been dismissed at the meeting of Managing board taking into account the fact that the rector personally forwarded the charge against Mujović to the Prosecutor's Office six months ago? Namely, the dean of the Law faculty is charged with abuse of power and exam trading. Additionally, it is unacceptable that Mujović is not dismissed based on criminal act of hiding the seal of the Faculty. By which means Mujović did make Miranović to protect him?

For a long time CCE points out on the irregularities occuring at the UCG hoping that these efforts will lead to the constructive result and credible and professional leadership ready to face with the challenges burdening UCG. The newly elected rector certainly can't be the one solving the problems, due to the fact that he delegated responsibilities and obligations in incompetent and negligent manner thus creating the basis for numerous violations of the legal frame of UCG. This includes the appointment of the rector which is not accordance with the Statute of UCG.

Also, in the absence of substantiated evidence, the Managing Board has left Miranovic a deadline of 15 days to reply if the procedure for the selection of the dean of Faculty of Law was legal. Miranović attended the election of the new dean thus giving legitimacy to the election procedure and legality of the proceedings. If the election result at the Law Faculty would be cancelled at the request of Mujovis then Miranovic also has to answer why he participated in such a procedure.

Also, during the term of office of rector Miranovic dean Blagoje Cerovic and dean Ranko Mujovic (deans of the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Philosophy), remain on their positions despite the fact that both of them lost the confidence of professors and students. This scenario was expected since they failed to fulfill the given promised and only kept on producing scandals which made this faculties recognizable to the public.



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Rector Miranovic shouldn't have continued the bad practice of his predecessor, professor Ljubisa Stankovic. CCE assess that during his term of office, a group of people was pushed ahead in the Managing Board and the Senate, based on their membership in the ruling parties (DPS and SDP). Therefore, Stankovic remains the strongest feature, now in shadow, and regardless the fact that he is currently ambassador in UK. The greatest achievement of Miranović in his previous term of office is the payback to Stanković through hiding of 23 contracts that UCG made with third parties, exceeding amounts of 10.000 and 100.000 EUR contrary to final decisions of the Ministry of Education and relevant judicial authorities. This has positioned UCG as a highly nontransparent institution, led by those who are putting their personal and the interest of their parties ahead of the public interest and who does not stop at nothing to protect their own positions.

This raises the question on motives of rector to delay the procedure of publishing biography of professors who should be appointed as full professor in the UCG newsletter. It is clear that this is the matter of personal interest which is bringing these professors and experts into discriminatory position.

Anonymous criminal charges to the prosecutor against the President of the Managing Board of UG, professor **Zoran Rasovic**, confirmed our previous suspicion of malversations accompanied by well-known allocation of apartments at the UCG. The current situation was expected and it is clear that behind the anonymous criminal charges are probably the actors of the infamous events at UCG who certainly know most about each other.

In the end, we urge the authorities to help UCG to find its way to the lawful work and activities, and the final determination of responsibility of those who work against the interests of the former prestigious higher education institution.

Where is the role and integrity of UCG among all in providing knowledge and skills to students? It seems to be lost in the coalition and other party activities, and the losers are the citizens who finance such UCG and the society which development opportunities are narrowed because UCG does not perform its legally prescribed function.

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