



Podgorica, 29 June, 2011

## **QUALITY BEFORE QUANTITY**

**Centre for Civic Education (CCE) is urging the Senate of the University of Montenegro (UoM) to refuse the Dean of the Faculty of Law Ranko Mujović's request that all the students who applied for this Faculty would be admitted in one generation, precisely more than 726 students. It is clear that this action serves only to increase the budget of the Faculty and the University, regardless very harmful consequences for the quality of the teaching process.**

Dean Mujović wants to present himself to the public as one who gives opportunities to all interested people who want to study, which is highly populist and promotional approach, since the following important facts are hidden from the public:

- All students of the general direction, plus students of the Department of Criminal Justice and Security, would have to listen to lectures in an amphitheater receiving only 125 students, as opposed to 726 students which Dean intends to enroll. In these circumstances, even if the work is carried out in three shifts, students would not be able to access quality teaching, although the presence to the lectures is required according the Bologna terms.
- Up to now the work was organized in two shifts, despite the fact that amphitheatres did not have enough space to accommodate students, which led to the jeopardizing of the quality of teaching.
- If they accept 726 students, lectures on the subjects would be performed only by one professor that according to Bologna is not acceptable, because it requires work in small groups.
- Half of the lectures in the first year do not have assistants who are responsible for the performance of exercises.
- The amphitheatres (one large with 125 places plus three smaller) at the Law Faculty do not have the modern means of teaching, blackboard and chalk remain basic teaching aids? None of the classrooms have even a projector, despite the fact that this year the Law Faculty will achieve revenues of tuition fees of up to 1.6 million.
- The reading room of the Law Faculty has only 30 places, it is now insufficient for more than 2000 students, not counting 726 new students that dean Mujović intends to enroll.
- The Commission for the quality of teaching for years reports that the conditions for teaching are satisfactory, which certainly does not match the facts.



**Centar za građansko obrazovanje**  
**Centre for civic education**

Instead of relaxing the Law Faculty by his final departure and therefore creating conditions to improve the beginning of work of this important institution the Dean Mujović, in the last phase of his term of office, is making bad decisions which are leading to the production of new problems. It would have been expected that at this stage he presents the financial and other reports, as well as to provide convincing answers to many questions raised by the public because of his previous, quite questionable work.

CCE notes that the Montenegrin market does not require 360 students in the Department of Criminal Justice or more than 500 lawyers in one academic year who will study in these conditions and receive incomplete knowledge, incompatible with the needs of the market and those demanded by future employers for one academic year. This, perhaps, buys a form of short-term social peace but it creates a long-term army of young people who will not be able to use their potential and capacity in the Montenegrin society.

**CCE urges to the Ministry of Education to act in line with its legal authorities and to investigate the enrollment of students of Law Faculty, as well as other faculties trying to admit higher number of students than the number specified in the license, and bring the proceedings due to possible violations of the Law on Higher Education.**

Nikola Đonović, programme associate