



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 5 December, 2012

THE SAME APPROACH TO ALL FACULTIES

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) expresses its satisfaction that, after four years of our insisting, the problem of corruption at the University of Montenegro (UoM) was finally explicitly recognized, and that the organs of the UoM itself and inspection services have begun dealing with it. The approach to solving this problem must be the same for all university units, and regardless whether the President of the UoM Duško Bjelica selectively approached it so far, we hope that the final notice of controls to all faculties will be conducted in the same manner in which it has already been done at the Law faculty.

CCE estimates that clarification of the irregularities at the Law Faculty, which were recently established by inspection and external revisions, is only logical epilogue of several years of scandals that have followed the work of this faculty administration. But, in order to make a complete case, enquiry should cover thoroughly the work under the previous management as well, and in accordance with the findings, adequate measures should be taken. In addition, CCE considers that it is important that the same system of controls is implemented at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management, Faculty of Economics, Architecture, Civil Engineering, Philosophy, etc. and that the particular attention should be paid to the Faculty of Maritime Studies. We reasonably believe that the situation at almost all university units in this regard is such that requires urgent intervention, and at some of them the use of secret surveillance measures too.

CCE is annually pointing out the controversial actions and, for the academic community, outrageous behavior of the Law Faculty's Administration, some of which have become even a court case. The fact of existence of multiple seals at the faculty is nothing new or unfamiliar, neither to staff nor to students and the public in Montenegro, because this information was imposed against the former dean of **Ranko Mujović** as well, in the well-known "anonymous criminal charges" which at that time was discarded due to lack of evidence although it should be noted that Mujović at that time was in the Prosecutorial Council and very likely has influenced such decision of the Prosecution. We are pleased that this issue was nevertheless opened, and that the most of the allegations from that criminal charges have proved to be founded.

CCE maintains the standpoint that detailed investigations of this faculty's operations is necessary starting the 2008/2009 school-year until the present day, and not only for 2011/2012, because only such an investigation would finally point to all what actually happened at that faculty and how much was the scale of corruption and related irregularities. The positive thing is, of course, that we have finally come to the moment when it is publicly recognized that the situation at the Law Faculty is matter of concern, but we must not allow anyone to be relieved from responsibility for it. There is no doubt that considerable responsibility falls before the previous administrations of the faculty, but the earlier composition of the Administration Board and the Rector as well, because they had to have a control over and administer the work of, not only the Law, but of all the other faculty units. Bjelica's announcement that revisions and investigations will be conducted on all other units of the university are on the line of what CCE insists upon, and it would certainly be better if they have started at the same time at all units of the UoM. **This way, there is risk that the administration of other universities, in the meantime, will initiate specific actions that would conceal the inadequacy of its operations, such as supplemental**



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arrangement of bad work- and other documentation, destruction of double seals, adding missing documents in public procurement procedures, etc.

CCE calls upon the Administration Board to be objective, impartial and persevering in its notice to seriously devote to solving irregularities at the UoM, and to initiate proceedings for the responsibility of all of those who have in any way abused their official and pedagogical position at the UoM, without applying double standards or introducing privileged categories.

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