



CENTAR ZA GRAĐANSKO OBRAZOVANJE
CENTRE FOR CIVIC EDUCATION

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SPENDING MONEY, BUT NOT GIVING ANSWERS

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) is taken by surprise with an absence of reply from the Parliament of Montenegro on our repeated request for information filed on 27/11/2007, which Montenegrin Parliament failed to reply within legal deadline.

CCE filed this request to the Parliament in the framework of its project “Give an account of yourselves” asking for the number of parliamentary stuff whose bills are being paid from the Budget as well as their their names as well. **Instead of setting an example of good practice of introducing principle of transparency and accountability of the public authorities, Parliament ignored repeated CCE request and did not follow the provisions of the Law.**

CCE considers that Parliament’s irresponsible relation to the Law and to the requests for free access to information can not strenghten credibility of this institution in Montenegrin society and that it sends clear message about its untouchable position and about MPs who are unavailable to the citizens. Voices of the same citizens ensured that MP’s mobile phone bills up to 100 EUR per month, and for the President and Vice Presidents unlimited, are being paid from the Budget. **If there is no problem with spending money of the tax payers, consenquently there should not be any obstacle in communicating with them.**

CCE conducts this campaign trying to give its contribution to the introduction system of transparency and accountability in work of public authorities and to the improvement of its image within society. Therefore, lack of sensibility of parliamentary administration and MPs to give constructive responses on civil society demands and to be partners in development of democratic society surprises.

In the same time, we should all be concerned that violation of the law and legal deadlines still represents *modus operandi* of the highest state institutions and primarily of the Parliament which is the legislative body above all.

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