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THE PROSECUTION MUST BE LIABLE FOR THE FALL OF INDICTMENTS

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) believes that the war crimes trials in Montenegro are being carried out slowly and reluctantly, thus creating the impression that it is forgotten what should be their main objectives - identifying the facts about the crimes, the perpetrators of the crimes and providing justice for victims. This impression seems to be supported by today's verdict in the case of war crimes and deportation of Bosniaks and Muslims from the territory of Montenegro.

Here we actually have political processes, those that instrumentalized legal system in order to disable the fact-finding on the basis of which we could determine the responsibility of the perpetrators.

Indictment for the case of deportation of Bosniaks and Muslims from the territory of Montenegro did not include all responsible for this crime, which from the beginning made it shaky and unfinished. This means that the prosecution should bear the full responsibility.

Inadequate preparation of the proceedings, apparently subjected to political pressures, the Prosecution as a target set the only witnesses of the crimes, Slobodan Pejović, who is recently attempted to be discredited so that the whole process could become a mockery.

Unfortunately, the crimes committed during the nineties are the negative legacy of the whole Montenegrin society, and until the authorities become able to individualize the guilt, we as a society will be held hostage by those who committed the most horrible crimes against life and human dignity on our behalf. If we want real stability and security of the system we live in, we have to wake up and realize that the oblivion is not a solution, and that the political interests cannot be ahead of human life and human dignity. Wanted to admit it or not, the consequences of the war are still felt, even after 20 years, and that burden our societies can eliminate only through genuine process of facing with the facts and ensuring justice for victims.

In this aspect we must mention also the cases Čikić, Štrpci, Morinj and Bukovica, because the pattern in the approach and intention is the same. Therefore, we want to emphasize that as long as the fate of all missing persons is resolved and the injustice inflicted on the victims recognized, the process of building a culture of solidarity, compassion and stability in the region, which is often mentioned in public discourse, is not possible.

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