



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

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## **THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD PROTECT JOURNALISTS**

**Centre for Civic Education (CCE) strongly condemns the repeated threats that are addressed to the journalists of the daily “Vijesti” and demands immediate and concrete action of responsible authorities.**

Any form of threats and intimidation of journalists because of fulfilling their tasks represents restriction of media freedom and an act that must be sanctioned in a society that aspires to be democratic and to adopt European standards.

The role and importance of objective and timely reporting is very important from the standpoint of public interest. In that regard, journalists should be supported by all social actors, especially when dealing with issues that shape our reality, while in case of threats to their security and the right to work, state authorities are obligated to protect them.

Any attack on **investigative journalism** is both an attack on establishment of facts as well as responsibilities. These threats to journalists of the daily “News” are a consequence of inadequate relationship of authorities, which have not, even until today, adequately investigate and prosecute the previous attacks and pressure on the representatives of the media community. Such behavior has apparently encouraged many others to attempt to prevent publication of information embarrassing for them, by treating the journalists. This indicates the limitation of freedom of expression in Montenegro, and the climate in which those who dare to speak out about the numerous scandals, controversial issues or personalities are being brutally attacked, whether it is physically or through insults and other forms of harassment and humiliation.

In order to protect the freedom of press, journalism and guaranteed human rights, CCE calls all relevant authorities to as soon as possible discover the perpetrators and principals of this crime, as well as all previous ones, and to enable journalists to freely conduct their work.

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