



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 21 October 2009.

THE MINISTER CANNOT AVOID RESPONSIBILITY

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) welcomes, for Montenegrin conditions unrecorded, persistence, autonomy and courage of pupils devoted to depoliticising management in education, thus implementing their knowledge in Civic education in the reform of this system which should serve the students, and not some partisan or personal interests. **Regardless of final result, which showed all fragility of institutions, this was the spark which will positively mark this year.**

There is not much use to speak about the damage already done, and the biggest was done to the pupils, who missed 42 days of school. However, they are not the only who lost through (in)activity of competent institutions. Thrust of the citizens in educational system is shaken, and the competent body – Ministry for Education and Science – failed to show maturity, competence and devotion to solve a very serious problem, but contrary by its stubbornness, insensibility and lack of care for the pupils and their interests contributed to the escalation of the situation.

CCE already insisted on responsibility of the competent institutions, requesting the resignation of the minister Škuletić, as the most responsible official for educational system and its policies. Resignation is not only a personal act, but rather an obligation of the Government which should conduct thorough proceedings regarding this case, including the replacement of the minister who was unable to solve a problem which was within his term of office.

Also, CCE considers that it is necessary to start working on amending current legislation, changing apparently ineffective and manipulative provisions which damage the success of educational system, with the purpose of preventing similar situations in the future.

We appeal to the minister Škuletić to take his share in the responsibility for this case, to follow the example of his colleagues, Secretary of the Ministry Snežana Šćepanović, and his own deputy Marko Jokić, and hand in his resignation, thus showing the minimum of professional dignity and responsibility.

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