



Podgorica, 6 July 2011

WILL THE MANAGEMENT OF UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO CHOOSE QUALITY OR QUANTITY?

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) calls, ahead of the session of the Senate of the University of Montenegro, scheduled for tomorrow (7 July) members of the Senate to reject as unfounded the requirements of certain faculties for students entering redundant. CCE urges administration and faculty to consistently respect the decision of the August examination period, which is not the case, due to the fact that the CCE has received many applications from students indicating the deviation from this decision.

On Monday, 4 July, CCE sent a letter to the Chairman of the Senate, rector professor Predrag Miranovic, PhD, and to the members of the Senate, informing them about the number of reasons and illustrative examples that support the fact that the registration of new students beyond the anticipated number is extremely problematic.

Namely, faculties have neither technical and space capacities nor the human resources to accommodate such a large number of students who applied for admission. Ignoring these disadvantages cannot possibly contribute to improvement of teaching quality and value of degrees that will carry the new students.

For example, the Faculty of Law for one subject has only one teacher. It is completely inconceivable that we can have quality organization of work of a teacher who will have more than 500 freshmen plus a few hundred students from previous generations. How will he organize colloquia every month, plus the correction of the same, where it would be necessary, for such a large number of students, to organize in at least 10 groups in one day!?

Also, it is generally known to the Faculty of Law has the largest hall of 120 seats, where it is planned to place 500 future lawyers plus 360 future inspectors for crimes.

In terms of practice, there is a question: how will they organize a visit to premises of the Law Enforcement Institution for 360 future students of the Department of Criminal Justice and Security?

The same situation is at the Faculty of Political Sciences, which still does not have its own building, but plans to, for example, at the Department of Social Work to enroll more than double of the approved number of students. How will the faculty organize the practical work with so many students?

In a letter to Rector Miranovic, CCE asked him if this is the work in line with Bologna that he promised at the start of his new term of office.



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

CCE believes that the potential shortfall in the budget of the University of Montenegro should be resolved through cooperation with the Government and the Ministry of Finance, as well as with rational approach to their expenses and by identifying other activities that will, in accordance with the Law bring additional revenues, not in a way that will undermine the already highly questionable quality of studies.

In addition, CCE through continuous communication with many students of the University of Montenegro (UoM), received information that some university units are not implementing consistently Senate's decision concerning exam period in August, thus violating student rights.

Thus, for example, the Faculty of Economics cut the time for reporting subjects for 4 days, contrary to the decision of the highest academic body - Senate, and the Faculty of Law, except for the subjects reported in this year charges by the decision of the Board of Directors for an exam 15 €, and for the non-reported subjects € 15 plus the amount of loan a certain subject (e.g. for 8 ECTS credits would be over 66 €) which is an average of over 70 €.

CCE reminds that every faculty obtained the license for a stipulated number of students who can enroll, and none, not even the Senate, can violate these norms, otherwise it enters the zone of violations of the Law on Higher Education, followed by a misdemeanor by the state body .

Danilo Ajkovic
PR