

Podgorica, 7 May 2007

**PUBLIC APPEAL FOR INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS TO PROTECT
ALEKSANDAR SASA ZEKOVIC**

With regard to the serious threat over the right to life of Aleksandar Sasa Zekovic, member of the Council for the Civic Control of the Police of the Republic of Montenegro and a Human Rights researcher, we appeal to all institutions and individuals to undertake action to the end of his protection.

We emphasize that systematic threats directed to Zekovic as well as his surveillance have been well documented and immediately reported to the police and the competent prosecutor's office, as well as to domestic public and international organizations. In spite of that, nothing has been done on the recovery of perpetrators and there are no reliable data that any investigation was indeed initiated or conducted. This fact resulted in repeated serious death threats.

We appeal that the investigation immediately be transferred to the direct competence of the Supreme State Prosecutor and that Mr. Zekovic, as the damaged party, is informed on all undertaken actions.

We appeal that the police urgently, in accordance with the Art. 56 of the Police Act, publicly announces a reward for provision of any relevant information for discovery and apprehension of the persons whose voices have been recorded and such recordings delivered to the police.

We especially appeal that all doubts regarding involvement of the police officers in this case be clarified in order to prevent further creation of an atmosphere of terror among the Montenegrin society and further demolition of confidence in the state institutions.

We have also informed the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders of this case today.

Human Rights Action, Dragan Prelevic, director
Center for Civic Education, Daliborka Uljarevic, director
Center for Development of Non-Governmental Organizations, Stevo Muk, director