

Podgorica, 30 December, 2010.

**REACTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ON UNCONFIRMATION
AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL FOR CIVILIAN CONTROL OF THE WORK OF
POLICE ALEKSANDAR SASA ZEKOVIC**

Non-governmental organizations as authorized subjects have, beforehand and in compliance with the provisions of the Law on Police, nominated as a member of the Council for Civilian Oversight of Police Aleksandar Sasa Zekovic, researcher of human rights violations. He was a member of this body entrusted with the civil control of application of police powers, during the previous term of office.

Yesterday, the Parliament has stated by voting the completion of the appointment process for members of the Council on behalf of the Lawyers' and the Medical Chamber, University of Montenegro and the Association of Lawyers, and refused to conclude the appointment of Zekovic in front of organizations dealing with human rights.

Article 93 of the Law on Police prescribes that the President of the Parliament initiates the process of appointment of Council's members by inviting authorized subjects for appointment, while the Parliament concludes the process.

President of the Parliament initiated the procedure for appointing of members of the Council for Civilian Control of Work of Police on 6 September, 2010, by a single call to all authorized nominators through the "Official Gazette of Montenegro" (54/10).

All authorized nominators have responsibly acted according to the given call, and after the appointment of Zekovic stood the most representative citizens human rights associations.

Initially, due to alleged grammatical error, the appointment of Zekovic did not get to the Administrative Committee. Later, the Administrative Committee concluded that the President of the Parliament should resolve the manner of completion of the procedure of appointment of all members of the Council. He has done so by proposing that the Parliament confirms the membership of representatives of all the nominators except NGOs. This was justified by the fact that call, which was unique to all nominators, supposedly was not published in any media, but in the Official Gazette. The law does not require publication of the call in the media, so it was the sole decision of the parliamentary services where the call will be published, and for that responsibility do not bear the authorized nominators and hence neither the NGOs.

Against the will of the President and the Parliament of Montenegro we can do nothing, but we can claim with full responsibility that the non-governmental organizations for human rights or Zekovic, as their appointed member, did not deserve this kind of illegal and discriminatory attitude.

Bearing in mind the occurred, as well as the current practice of appointment of council members and the total differential treatment of Zekovic, we will ask for an adequate explanation of the President of the Parliament. We also expect an apology from the Secretary General of the

Parliament of Montenegro for the attitude of the parliamentary services, because our candidate has been discriminated.

Centre for Civic Education (CCE), Podgorica

Human Rights Action, Podgorica

Centre for Women and Peace Education ANIMA, Kotor

The Monitoring Center (CEMI), Podgorica

Association of the Blind of Montenegro, Podgorica

Association of Youth with Disabilities in Montenegro, Podgorica

Juventas, Podgorica

Gerontological Society of Montenegro, Podgorica

Center for Consumer Protection in Montenegro, Podgorica

NGO Bonum, Pljevlja

NGO The Paths, Podgorica

Association "Plegije", Niksic

Organization of the Blind of Niksic, Savnik and Pluzine - Niksic

Association of Youth with Disabilities, Niksic

New Horizons, Ulcinj

Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organizations (CRNVO), Podgorica

Open School, Danilovgrad

Center for Anti-discrimination "Ekvista", Podgorica

NGO Alpha Centre, Niksic

Institute Alternative, Podgorica

Alliance of Civil War Invalids of Montenegro, Podgorica

Organization of civil war invalids of Podgorica, Kolasin and Danilovgrad – Podgorica

Centre for Euro-Atlantic Policies (CEAP), Podgorica

European Movement in Montenegro (EMIM), Podgorica

Organization of the Blind of Podgorica, Kolasin and Danilovgrad - Podgorica

Organization of the Blind of Berane, Rozaje and Andrijevica - Berane

NGO Phenomena, Kolasin

Association of the disabled "Heart", Mojkovac

RAE Women's Network - FIRST, Niksic

Centre for Roma Initiatives, Niksic

SOS hotline for women victims of violence, Niksic

NGO The beginning, Niksic

Coalition of NGOs "Roma Circle", Podgorica

Roma Scholarship Foundation, Podgorica