



Centar za građansko obrazovanje
Centre for civic education

Podgorica, 11/10/2012

UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO AS A MEAN OF POLITICAL SETTLEMENTS

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) states, with regret, that our predictions from the press release of 09/10/2012, regarding decisions of the Administration Board of the UoM, and the new Administration Board's Chairman Duško Bjelica, are coming to their fulfilment and that under the alleged pretext of bringing order to the universities' units the party dictatorship is being imposed upon this academic institution.

Yesterday's decision of the UoM's Administration Board about dismissal of the Law faculty's Dean, **Drago Radulović**, was made illegally and in non-statutory manner. The decision is a result of implementation of laws, which are also passed illegally and non-statutory at the so-called electronic session held in the late afternoon and evening hours. This session was held in the evening before the Administration Board's meeting, which was attended by public, therefore by an e-mail communication coordinated by the Chairman of the Administration Board, Bjelica, personally. At this session, the Regulation of procedure for temporary management measures, security and functioning of the UoM was adopted forcedly and with an intention of urgently implementing already made decision regarding dismissal of the Law faculty's dean.

Herewith entirely came true the CCE's statements that such decisions aim at centralisation of the UoM and reduction of powers of faculty, which stultifies the autonomy of the same and introduces an authoritarian decision-making process.

Yesterday, for a dismissal of the dean Radulović nine members of the Administration Board voted in favour, three of them were reserved, while one of them was absent. CCE assesses that everyone who voted for Radulović's dismissal, under these conditions and circumstances, was only following the party command forgetting that they should be protecting the academic dignity and the rule of law principle. It is unclear what kind of message did the reserved and absent ones wanted to send. The public has to know the details of the night electronic session too, on which practically everything has been prepared that happened at the yesterday's hard-scheduled session which was delayed for hours. This delay also may indicated that it took long to convince some members of the Administration Board to vote as they did.

CCE has asked the Chairman and members of the Administration Board, that on each session, every item of the agenda should be discussed argumentatively and fairly, and that the correct and unbiased decisions without political, family and other interest's



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influence will finally be made regarding the two most important items, namely **integrity of the Dean of the Law faculty and legality of the legal status of the Dean of Economic faculty**. We are sorry that this did not happen and that members of the Administration Board – representatives of academic community agreed to accept only the solutions which somebody else brought instead of discussing, facing the arguments and making legal decisions, in the spirit of such atmosphere which should dominate at the UoM.

Also, the Chairman of the UoM's Administration Board, Bjelica, took the opportunity to try to „edit“ the UoM according to the political interests in the midst of the election campaign and without much public, probably recommending himself for the new rector position in this way.

CCE is eagerly expecting the next session on which developments at the Economic faculty should be discussed, and certainly will inform the international stakeholders about these events, having in mind that negotiating chapter regarding education will be the first to be opened, and this is including high-education institutions.

CCE indicates that this completely illegal practice creates a serious legal and personal insecurity for all employees at the UoM. Namely, in this way, the Administration Board or everyone making decisions could practically tomorrow dismiss or appoint any dean even the Rector without responsibility, regardless of his professional or individual references, and regardless of the opinion of faculties themselves.

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