

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE**  
**Aleksandar BOGDANOVIĆ, Minister**

Dear Mr Bogdanovic,

We are addressing you with a proposal to annul or postpone the implementation of the [Decision on the allocation of funds to non-governmental organizations based on the Public Call "Let's develop cultural habits!"](#) since this call has not achieved its basic purpose of establishing public interest in culture.

We express well-founded suspicions that the decision-making process was accompanied by a conflict of interest, violation of the law and non-transparency, which indicates the possibility of corrupt and criminal actions during its implementation. Certainly, the disqualification of a large number of projects of experienced and serious cultural actors due to alleged "technical errors", as well as the fact that the project of the Center for Rural Development, an organization that, to our knowledge, has no cultural projects (which is a legal eligibility condition for the competition) - are facts that are worrying enough to draw your attention.

We remind you that this is a Decision that allocates budgetary funds that are exclusively intended for actors and the development of an independent cultural scene, which enable their work and survival, and which must reach them legally and transparently. We also remind you that the Ministry of Culture is obliged to enable the development of that scene and prevent the outflow of these funds to the accounts of individuals and non-governmental organizations at suspicious addresses.

Accordingly, we urge you to publicly announce in which manner the selected projects correspond to the defined strategy of development of culture, as well as the methodology for evaluating the references of the organizations whose projects have received support. Specifically, we are interested in which projects these organizations have implemented in the past year, as well as in an assessment of their importance for the cultural sector as a whole. As you know, these are important conditions for participation in the competition, so a public clarification of this information would help to remove the suspicion that it is a misuse of public resources.

We note that our demands have been made public and that, following the need to protect the proclaimed public interests in culture, we will initiate a public debate to expose this situation to the extent that will provide a comprehensive insight into the current state of affairs and lead to the abolishment of the Decision.

Open cultural center Herceg Novi  
Association of Theater Critics and Theatrologists of Montenegro  
ART 365  
Institute of Contemporary Art  
Association of Fine Artists of Montenegro  
Centre for Civic Education (CCE)  
NOVA Centre for Feminist Culture  
Coryphaeus  
Association of Actors of Montenegro