

**DECLASSIFIED**<sup>1</sup>

**AS/Mon(2017)31**

29 November 2017

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## **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)**

### **Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro**

#### **Information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Podgorica (2 – 4 October 2017)**

Co-rapporteurs: Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe, Romania, Group of the European People's Party, and Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

#### **I. Introduction**

1. The aim of our fact-finding visit in the framework of the post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro was to look to assess the implementation of the Assembly's recommendations included in Resolution 2030 (2015). We looked into developments since the last visit and in view of the recent elections. This was the first visit since the appointment of Mr Rigoni as new co-rapporteur on 24 April 2017.<sup>2</sup>

2. On 27 January 2015, PACE decided to close the monitoring procedure in respect of Montenegro and to engage in a post-monitoring dialogue in the light of the progress made by the country since 2012. The Assembly underlined "the excellent co-operation between the Montenegrin authorities and the Council of Europe, especially with the Venice Commission" and "their efforts towards European integration". At the same time, PACE stressed that it would be necessary to re-open the monitoring procedure in case the country would not manage to complete a series of reforms – concerning the electoral process, the independence of the judiciary, the fight against corruption and organised crime, and the situation of the media.

3. The last general elections took place in October 2016 and were observed by an Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly alongside observers from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the ODIHR.

4. On 17 December 2010 the European Union granted Montenegro the official status of candidate country. The accession negotiations with Montenegro were opened on 29 June 2012. 28 negotiating Chapters, including the rule of law Chapters 23 (Judiciary and fundamental rights) and 24 (Justice, freedom and security), have been opened, out of which three Chapters (on Science and research, Education and culture, and External relations) have been provisionally closed. Opening benchmarks have been set for 11 Chapters. On 13 September 2017, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker sent a "Letter of Intent" to the President of the European Parliament and to the chairperson of the Council of the EU, announcing that the European Commission's plan to create the Strategy for the successful accession of Serbia and Montenegro to the European Union by the end of 2018, with a perspective of accession to the EU in 2025.

5. On 5 June 2017, Montenegro officially joined NATO which is an important step for the country and a strong signal in its relations with the Russian Federation. This move seems to have now been accepted by

<sup>1</sup> Document declassified by the Monitoring Committee at its meeting on 13 December 2017.

<sup>2</sup> The last co-rapporteurs' visit took place end November 2015 and focused in particular on political developments, the situation of the media and the issue of trust in the electoral process, in particular with a view to the 2016 parliamentary elections. Since then no visit could take place due to the general elections held in the country in 2016 and the delays in the change of rapporteur.

all political forces, despite the strong opposition by some of the opposition movements during the accession process.

6. In Podgorica, we met with the President of the Republic, the Speaker of Parliament, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, the Montenegrin delegation to PACE, and the leaders of some of the political factions in Parliament. We also met with the Chief Special Prosecutor, representatives of the judiciary and of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption. We had discussions with representatives of other international organisations and NGOs.

7. Our visit mainly focused on the recent political developments, the independence of the judiciary, the fight against corruption and the situation of the media and civil society.

8. We also had discussions about the role of Montenegro in the region. We welcome Montenegro's continued commitment to regional co-operation and its constructive role in maintaining regional stability. We were informed of the issue of Montenegro/Kosovo<sup>3</sup> border agreement following the dissolution in September 2017 by President Haradinaj of the commission for demarcation of the border with Montenegro, while Montenegro's Parliament had ratified the border agreement in December 2015. We were told by the authorities that Montenegro was ready to wait until Kosovo\* would solve this issue internally.

## II. Political context

9. The political scene of Montenegro is dominated by the confrontation between ruling coalition and the opposition. The entire opposition bloc boycotted the Parliament since the October 2017 election, demanding new polls and asking for the resolution of the so-called "coup" case.<sup>4</sup> The ruling Democratic Party of Socialists of Montenegro (DPS) urged the opposition forces to return to parliament first, making their return a precondition to start discussions for the resolution of the crisis. The political debate has also been driven by the forthcoming presidential elections (early 2018) and local elections in a number of municipalities (late 2017<sup>5</sup> and beginning 2018). The issue of the reorganisation of the opposition parties is also an issue, notably with the prospect of the upcoming political campaign.

10. We had discussions with representatives of the ruling majority and with those opposition parties who agreed to meet with us in the parliament, namely the Social Democratic Party of Montenegro (SDP) and Democratic Montenegro. The latter made it clear that they would not go back to the Parliament, unless a date for the parliamentary elections was provided. They argued that there had been a "coup" or "terrorist attack" on the Election Day which did not create conditions for free and fair elections. We heard during our visit indications of possible return of the Democratic Front<sup>6</sup> to the Parliament. For their part, representatives of the majority referred to the international observers' positive assessment of the elections and considered that there was no reason to call for early general elections. They insisted on the need for the work on the electoral reform to start without delay in order to implement the OSCE/ODIHR recommendations well ahead of the next elections. During all these meetings, we expressed our concerns about the on-going boycott of Parliament by the opposition, which hinders the continuation of reforms.

11. In our meetings with representatives of civil society, concerns were expressed about the lack of public consultations in legislative processes in the recent months. According to them, the reform processes were not only hampered by the absence of the opposition in Parliament, but in addition some laws were adopted in a rush, without public debate, which was serious breach to transparency and inclusiveness. They referred in particular to a new Act on Spatial Development and Construction adopted 30 September 2017 which, inter alia transfers urban planning decision making from the municipalities to the national government and which minimises the approval stages. Similarly, they consider that the amendments to the Law on Free Access to Information limit the right of access to public records. They also complained about the changes to the law legislation on public procurement. For their side, representatives of the ruling majority insisted that they had

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<sup>3</sup> \*All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

<sup>4</sup> On election day, around 20 people were arrested and accused by the Special Prosecutor for Organised Crime of intending to carry out a series of terrorist attacks on state institutions and police and to assassinate the Prime Minister. Several members of the original group were released without charge; several others pleaded guilty and in return received shorter prison sentences. In the course of interrogation, some of those arrested alleged that leaders of the largest opposition alliance, the Democratic Front (DF), were involved in planning the attacks. On the other hand, DF leaders insisted that the ruling party staged the plot in order to secure victory in the October elections. In December 2016, Montenegro issued an international arrest warrant for two Russian and three Serbian citizens who allegedly coordinated the terrorist operation.

<sup>5</sup> Elections for the municipalities of Cetinje, Mojkovac, Petnica and Tuzi are scheduled on 26 November 2017.

<sup>6</sup> Democratic Front has 18 out of 39 opposition seats in the Parliament.

to go ahead with the legislative work and that the boycott of Parliament by the opposition should not block all legislative processes and the implementation of the country's reform agenda.

12. After our visit, on 18 October 2017, the Democratic Front announced that it would participate in plenary sittings when specific topics of importance for them would be discussed. Democratic Front MPs and an independent opposition MP participated in the sitting of the Parliament held on 25, 26 and 30 October 2017 on questions and answers to Prime Minister and his Government. In the meantime, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of Parliament reiterated their call to the whole opposition to return to the Parliament to engage in dialogue but also making it clear that there would not be early general elections.

13. During our meetings, both representatives of the majority and the opposition stressed the importance of changing the electoral framework to avoid that the next elections' result would be contested. It is of importance to implement OSCE/ODIHR's outstanding recommendations well ahead of the next elections. Representatives of the majority expressed their readiness to engage in the electoral reform in Parliament together with the opposition. The opposition representatives we met reiterated that they would come to the negotiation table as soon as a date for early election would be defined.

14. The week after our visit, on 11 October 2017, the working Group for the implementation of the OSCE/ODIHR recommendations was created in order to strengthen the electoral legislation framework and the overall electoral process. The opposition has so far refused to participate in the working group.

15. We are concerned by the on-going boycott of Parliament by the opposition, which hinders the continuation of reforms. We are convinced that it is of utmost importance for the opposition to have its voice heard in parliament in the legislative processes. It is essential that both the majority and the opposition engage in the reform process, in particular with regard to the electoral framework ahead of the 2018 Presidential elections.

### III. The independence of the judiciary

16. In Resolution 2030 (2015) on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Montenegro adopted on 27 January 2015,<sup>7</sup> the Parliamentary Assembly welcomed the adoption of the constitutional amendments on the judiciary of July 2013, and expected the Montenegrin authorities to adopt the necessary laws on the courts, the rights and duties of judges, the Judicial Council, the Constitutional Court and the Public Prosecution Office, taking into account all the recommendations of the Venice Commission. The Assembly called notably for full implementation of the legislation and enhance the co-ordination between institutions to effective and professionally administered justice.

17. Since the Assembly's resolution, the reforms in the judicial field have continued with the adoption February 2015 of the Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, the Law on Courts, the Law on the Judicial Council and the Judges, the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office and the Law on the Special Public Prosecutor's Office. The laws on the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Law on the Special Public Prosecutor's Office reportedly<sup>8</sup> constituted a clear improvement compared to the initial draft submitted to the Venice Commission for assessment. Yet, only some of the significant criticisms contained in the Venice Commission's interim opinion were taken into account. The Venice Commission considered it a workable framework that could still be improved.

18. The Law on the Constitutional Court as adopted took most of the Venice Commission's recommendations into account.<sup>9</sup> In our meetings with the representatives of the civil society and international community, we were told that the Constitutional Court had interfered in a number of cases where laws has been adopted in a rush, thus acting so far in a rather independent way.

19. The Laws on Courts and on rights and duties of judges and on the Judicial Council of Montenegro as adopted reflected the authorities' efforts to implement Venice Commission's recommendations aimed to

<sup>7</sup> <http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=21499&lang=en>.

<sup>8</sup> Final Opinion on the revised draft Law on the public Prosecution Office of Montenegro, adopted by the Venice Commission at its 102nd Plenary Session (Venice, 20-21 March 2015); Final Opinion on the revised draft Law on special public Prosecutor's office of Montenegro, adopted by the Venice Commission at its 102nd Plenary Session (Venice, 20-21 March 2015).

<sup>9</sup> Opinion on the Draft Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, adopted by the Venice Commission at its 100th Plenary Session (Rome, 10-11 October 2014).

increase safeguards for the internal independence of judges and the external independence of the judiciary.<sup>10</sup>

20. Concerning the appointment of judges and prosecutors, in line with the new Law on the Judicial Council and Judges, a new system of appointment of judges and prosecutors has been implemented as of January 2016. The process is designed to be merit-based and transparent, in order to put an end to the practices of the past where persons appointed at the end of the selection process were not the ones that were in the first position on the selection ranking. According to the authorities, following the implemented procedure of election in 2016, the Judicial Council rendered a decision on election of candidates by the order on the ranking list, and the elected candidates for judges started the initial education at the Centre for Judicial Training.

21. We welcome the new system of regular professional assessment. However, it appears that there is scepticism amongst the judiciary about this new system of professional assessment.<sup>11</sup> It is somehow worrying that the judges do not trust the system put in place by the new law on the Judicial Council. Consequently, the Judicial and the Prosecutorial Councils are currently reviewing the criteria for professional evaluation, which might very well delay the implementation of the process.

22. According to the civil society representatives we met, despite the requirement set in the law, there has been a continued lack of transparency of the whole selection process. This is correlated by the European Commission's assessment<sup>12</sup> according to which "despite efforts of both Councils to organise a transparent and merit-based selection, challenges remain as regards the use of biannual plans for the purpose of filling vacancies, transparency of the selection procedure, and coordination with the Judicial Training Centre on initial training for newly selected judges and prosecutors". While acknowledging the efforts of Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils to organise a transparent and merit-based selection, we call the authorities to pursue their efforts in order to overcome the remaining challenges.

23. Novelties were also introduced in the procedure of disciplinary accountability, providing for minor, severe and most serious disciplinary violations, the introduction of a disciplinary prosecutor for the conduct of investigations in disciplinary proceedings, and the introduction of appeals to the court against decisions on disciplinary responsibility, which will be heard by a panel of three judges of the Supreme Court.<sup>13</sup> Yet, there only has been a very small number of cases giving grounds for disciplinary liability that were followed up in 2016. There is need for awareness raising concerning the code of ethics as there are very few complaints from the public. As a conclusion, there need to be effective enforcement of disciplinary accountability and of the code of ethics for judges and prosecutors.

24. The legal framework needs to be fully implemented to further strengthen the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. It is essential to further reinforce the administrative capacities of the judicial and prosecutorial councils to enable them to fully implement the new system of recruitment, professional assessment, promotion and disciplinary accountability.

#### **IV. Fight against corruption and organised crime**

25. In Resolution 2030 (2015), the Assembly noted that despite the many policies launched to root out corruption, it remained widespread and should be further tackled. It took note of the plan to establish an agency for the prevention of corruption by 2016 and urged the authorities to provide all the necessary means to enable this agency to properly conduct its essential duties. The Assembly stated that the Special Prosecutor on Corruption and Organised Crime should be provided all necessary means to handle high-level corruption cases and war crimes cases and conduct his/her work fully independently and proactively.

26. Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, the Agency for Prevention of Corruption is in charge of identification and prevention of conflicts of interest in the exercise of public functions, whistle-blowers' protection, control of the financing of political entities and elections campaign and regulating lobbying. In total, 53 job positions out of 60 positions foreseen for the Agency for Prevention of Corruption have been filled. Based on the data provided by the Agency, in 2016, the Agency issued 185 opinions relating to the prevention of conflict of interest, based on which 75 public officials resigned and 26 public officials were dismissed. The Agency verified 1473 reports of public officials and 174 reports of civil servants on income and assets, which showed

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<sup>10</sup> [Opinion on the draft laws on courts and on rights and duties of judges and on the Judicial Council of Montenegro adopted by the Venice Commission at its 101st Plenary Session \(Venice, 12-13 December 2014\)](#).

<sup>11</sup> [Non-paper](#) on the state of play regarding chapters 23 and 24 for Montenegro, European Commission, May 2017.

<sup>12</sup> European Commission's non-paper of May 2017.

<sup>13</sup> Written information provided by the Parliament of Montenegro ahead of the co-rapporteurs' visit.

irregularities in 74 reports. In 2016, a total of 3250 (73%) public officials gave consent for access to their bank accounts, as well as 938 (76%) of civil servants (who belong to the category of civil servants that are obliged to submit reports on income and assets). Regarding whistle-blowers, the Agency received 56 reports on threats to public interest and 9 requests for the protection of whistle-blowers. 14 procedures were completed and 6 opinions delivered on the existence of a threat to public interest. Three requests for whistle blowers protection were granted. In 2016, there was no application and thus no lobbying certificate that was issued. The Agency filed 807 requests for initiating a misdemeanor procedure to the competent courts in 2016. Out of that number, 435 requests were filed for violation of the provisions of the Law on Financing of Political Entities and Election Campaigns, and 372 for violation of the provisions of the Law on Prevention of Corruption. In total, 696 cases were resolved in the area of conflict of interest (together with the ones from 2015). For this, fines were imposed for an amounting a total of 82.837 €, whilst 70 cases were resolved in the area of financing of political entities and electoral campaigns with the imposed fines amounting a total of 11.235 €.

27. In its election observation report on the October 2016 elections, the PACE Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly considered that Agency for the Prevention of Corruption, which is in charge of the enforcement of the campaign financing rules, did not manage to guarantee adequate transparency over the pre-electoral activities and the expenditure of the parties. It recommended that the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption gets the proper means to effectively implement the relevant legislation, in order to ensure the adequate transparency of campaign financing including prior to election day.

28. Based on the control of financial reports of political entities during election campaign the Agency for prevention of Corruption submitted to the prosecution information on potential criminal activities, including money laundering; subsequently the Special State Prosecution initiated investigation of money laundering against high-ranking officials of opposition parties- Democratic Front and Movement for Changes- notably related to their funding from abroad. In June 2017, the Parliament voted on the lifting of the immunity of the Democratic Front MP Medojevic upon the request of the Special Prosecution.

29. According to the civil society representatives we met, the law on political party financing needs to be amended in order to increase transparency. An assessment of the regulatory framework for financing of political entities and electoral campaigns was undertaken in the framework of a Council of Europe project,<sup>14</sup> including recommendations for its improvement. Representatives of the ruling majority expressed their readiness to amend the legislation based on this assessment.

30. Some NGOS have questioned the Agency's willingness to fight corruption in public administration and its impartiality regarding monitoring of campaign finances. They stated that the Agency is perceived as politically biased. We were told that the Agency is not proactive and transparent in its work, and that the highest level of public officials did not allow the Agency to check their bank accounts. In its non-paper of May 2017, the European Commission stressed the need for the agency to act independently and demonstrate proactive attitude.

31. One of the most significant changes in the framework for the fight against corruption and organised crime is the establishment of the Special Public Prosecutor's Office (SPPO), the establishment of the Special Police Department and the ensuring of conditions for this institution to become operational. The mandate of the Special Public Prosecutor is very broad as the Special State Prosecutor's Office has jurisdiction for the prosecution of perpetrators of organised crime, high-level corruption, money laundering, terrorism and war crimes. According to the Special State Prosecutor himself, his competence to deal with high corruption cases is defined very broadly as it includes all state officials. In his opinion, the law should be changed to include an exhaustive list of persons in order to narrow the scope of his competence. In addition, the workload of the office has been further expanded with the amendment of the law on Special State Prosecutor's Office bringing under its competence the offenses related to the October Parliamentary elections.

32. The Special Police department includes 20 special police officers. According to the Special State Prosecutor, there should be 50 of them in order to cover the whole territory and the special police team should have more expertise on financial investigations. It is essential to provide the Special prosecutor's Office and the Special Police Unit with all the human and material resources they need.

33. The Special Prosecutor's Office referred to the positive statistics of his office. He mentioned the final judgements issued in a high level corruption cases and in particular the case of the former President of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro as well as the cases of mayors of four municipalities. He also referred

<sup>14</sup> EU/CoE Horizontal Facility's Programme for the Western Balkans and Turkey: Horizontal Facility Action against Economic Crime in Montenegro.

to cases of money-laundering. An investigation has just started into the former mayor of Podgorica municipality.

34. Civil society representatives expressed concerns regarding the lack of accountability of judges and prosecutors and referred to the failure to convict in notorious cases. The convictions issued for money-laundering were annulled by the Appellate Court, highlighting the difficulty to develop a track record of successful investigations and prosecution of such offences. They referred in particular to the case of Dusko Saric and Jovica Loncar, in which the Appellate Court on 27 September 2017 acquitted them of the charges related to money-laundering.<sup>15</sup> They also denounced the absence of progress in the area of war crimes where there has been no progress so far.

35. According to the European Commission non-paper of May 2017, an initial track record of investigations, prosecutions and final convictions in cases of high-level corruption has been established but needs to be further consolidated.

36. In December 2016, MONEYVAL applied step 2 of its Compliance Enhancing Procedures (CEPs) due to the lack of significant progress concerning the implementation of MONEYVAL's 2015 report on Montenegro. A high-level MONEYVAL mission was conducted on 3-4 May 2017 which had a positive effect and triggered accelerated legislative action in Montenegro. However, since some significant deficiencies (both technical and effectiveness-related) remain outstanding, MONEYVAL requested at its 54<sup>th</sup> meeting in September 2017 that Montenegro report back on the remaining deficiencies ahead of the 56th Plenary in April 2018. It was therefore decided to maintain Montenegro under Step 2 of the CEPs.

37. We welcome the strong priority given to the fight against corruption and organised crime. In that respect, the impartiality and independence of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption should be guaranteed in practice, and it must be given the necessary means to carry out its mission efficiently. An important challenge in the area of fighting corruption and economic crimes remains the weak track-record of investigations, prosecutions and final convictions. The capacities of the Special Prosecutor's office should be strengthened to allow the institution, and its Special Police Unit, to deal with the high number of cases under its competence and further develop its capacities in the field of financial investigations.

## V. Freedom of the media

38. While welcoming the adoption of the revised Code of Ethics for Journalists, we reiterate the need for its effective and uniform application across the media community and we reiterate the importance of effective self-regulation. The absence of a comprehensive self-regulation media monitoring body remains an obstacle to the enforcement of the code of ethics. The decision of the Media Council for Self-Regulation to deal with complaints against violations of ethics relating exclusively to the media that are members of that organisation is a good step. Consequently, all complaints of violations of the Code of Ethics that will be addressed to the Media Council for Self-Regulation, relating to the articles published in the daily newspapers Dan, Vijesti, Monitor, and reports on TV Vijesti, will be forwarded to the ombudspersons of these media. Also, the Media Council for Self-Regulation will no longer act as a second instance body on complaints against decisions of the ombudspersons of those media.

39. Legal measures were taken to provide greater financial independence to the public service broadcaster RTCG, and there was a change in the management of the public broadcaster which reportedly changed its editorial policy. In October 2017, the Agency for Prevention of Corruption called for dismissal of four members of the Council of National Broadcaster (RTCG) on allegations of incompatibility of functions (private/public sphere) and conflict of interest (family member related). The decision was criticised by NGOs as interfering with the work of the National Broadcaster RTCG.

40. The media landscape in Montenegro reflects the political divisions. As mentioned by the civil society, the media are subject to political and economic pressure,<sup>16</sup> and media ownership is often difficult to determine.<sup>17</sup> The issue of financing of the media was also discussed with the civil society: the selective and non-transparent public funding through advertising is considered to exert an undue influence on the media market.

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<sup>15</sup> Dusko Saric is younger brother of Darko Saric, who is being tried in Serbia in a case known as the Balkan Warrior for smuggling cocaine from South America to Europe.

<sup>16</sup> <https://rsf.org/en/montenegro>.

<sup>17</sup> <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2016/montenegro>.

41. In June 2016, the mandate of the Commission for monitoring the actions of the competent authorities in the investigation of cases of threats and violence against journalists, murders of journalists and attacks on media property was expanded for another two years. There has been no progress achieved with regard to solving old cases of violence against media actors by the previous Commission. The Commission should be provided with adequate means to effectively perform its tasks. According to Reporters without Borders, journalists often censor themselves because they are the targets of violent verbal and physical attacks, and the perpetrators enjoy impunity. It is essential that the competent authorities resolve the long-pending cases of violence against journalists, and take measures to create a safe environment for media professionals.

42. The temporary suspension of some social media communication platforms on Election Days, and the manner in which it was ordered also raise concerns. NGOs criticised the blocking during the local election day in Niksic in March 2017 of the social platform Viber. Similar concerns in relation to the blocking of Viber during the national election day of October 2016 had been expressed previously.

## **VI. Conclusions**

43. We remained concerned by the on-going boycott of Parliament by the majority of the opposition parties, which hinders the continuation of reforms. We insist that political dialogue in Parliament is crucial for the transformation of Montenegro. A parliamentary boycott is not the European way of dealing with disagreements. It is essential that both the majority and the opposition engage in the reform process, including with regard to the electoral framework ahead of the 2018 Presidential elections.

44. We welcome the country's reform efforts in the area of the rule of law. While progress has been achieved in legislative reform and institution-building, it is essential that the reforms with regard to the rule of law system deliver more concrete results. The institutions must implement these reforms in the spirit in which they have been made. Full implementation of the legislation guaranteeing the genuine independence and professionalism of the judiciary is crucial.

45. We welcome the strong priority given to the fight against corruption and organised crime. In that respect, the impartiality and independence of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption should be guaranteed in practice, and it must be given the necessary means to carry out its mission efficiently. In addition, the capacities of the Special Prosecutor's office should be strengthened to allow the institution, and its Special Police Unit, to deal with the high number of cases under its competence.

46. We remain concerned regarding the state of freedom of expression and freedom of the media in the country, which has seen little progress since the last co-rapporteurs' visit.

**APPENDIX – Programme of the fact-finding visit to Montenegro (2-4 October 2017)**

**Monday 2 October 2017**

14:30 Meeting with representatives of other international organisations (\*)

16:00 Meetings with representatives of the civil society (\*)

**Tuesday 3 October 2017**

08:30 Meeting with Mr Zoran Pažin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice

09:30 Meeting with Mr Ivan Brajović, President of the Parliament of Montenegro

10:30 Meeting with Mr Filip Vujanović, President of Montenegro

11:30 Meeting with representatives of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption

12:30 Working lunch hosted by Mr Predrag Sekulić, Head of the Montenegrin Delegation to PACE

14:00 Meeting with heads of political factions of the majority (Democratic Party of Socialists -Bosniak Party)

14:45 Meeting with heads of political factions of the opposition (Democrats – Social Democratic Party)

16:00 Meeting with Mr Milivoje Katnić, Chief Special Prosecutor

**Wednesday 4 October 2017**

10:00 Meeting with Mr Dobrica Šljivančanin, Deputy President of the Judicial Council

*(\*) Meetings organised by the PACE Secretariat*