

**GOVERNMENT COMMENTS ON THE REPORT ON  
MONTENEGRO**

## **APPENDIX: GOVERNMENT'S VIEWPOINT**

**The following appendix does not form part of ECRI's analysis and proposals concerning the situation in Montenegro**

ECRI, in accordance with its country-by-country procedure, engaged into confidential dialogue with the authorities of Montenegro on a first draft of the report. A number of the authorities' comments were taken on board and integrated into the report's final version (which, unless otherwise indicated, only takes into account developments up until 22 June 2011, date of the examination of the first draft).

The authorities also requested that the following viewpoint be reproduced as an appendix to the report.

### **GOVERNMENT OF MONTENEGRO**

#### **Ministry for Human and Minority Rights**

Dear ECRI representatives,

I hope you share my opinion that we have achieved a good communication and cooperation while you were working on the monitoring of Montenegro in the field of racism and intolerance. I also hope that other stages of our cooperation will be marked by the same spirit of cooperation, respect and understanding.

I would also like to thank you for such an exhaustive analysis of the comments and remark to the Draft ECRI Report that we submitted after we received the Draft in July. We have noticed that most of our comments have been taken into account which is of extreme importance not only for ensuring that the Report contains accurate facts but also because that will impact willingness to take ECRI recommendations as imperative in solving the problems you indicated to in your Report.

In that respect, using the opportunity of the special Appendix to the final Report, I would like to add several minor interventions, the need of which is based on the facts I had the opportunity to check myself

- In the beginning (in the Summary) the Report says that RAE population face obstacles in access to employment, even when they are academically qualified. In relation to this I want to provide you with the data that out of 4 Roma with university degree, three are employed - 1 as an adviser to Prime Minister, while only one Roma person with university degree is still unemployed.

- As for the recommendation in the field of education (new paragraph 40), which reads that Albanian language is the only minority language used in teaching process, I

want to say that other minority languages are, actually, the languages with the same root described in the Charter on Regional and/or Minority Languages as the languages which are mutually understood. The subject in all schools has the title: Montenegrin-Serbian, Bosnian and Croatian Language, which means that all of these languages are equal in the whole education system.

- New paragraph 49 reads that the school in Konik works for only one hour a day. However, this school works according to the curriculum mandatory for all schools in Montenegro.

- As for the recommendation in the end of the report, under new number 140, I wish to inform you that the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights has organized a large media campaign against discriminatory and intolerant treatment in the whole territory of Montenegro. The campaign lasted from May to October this year and it included: broadcasting TV spots in all Montenegrin TV stations (1045 broadcastings of the promotion spot of 60 seconds, i.e. 62700 seconds), advertising in all daily papers in Montenegro in the days when circulation is the highest, placing billboards and city lights (64 pieces) in most frequent roads and locations in Montenegro.

This activity of the Ministry is defined as a continuous activity and thus we are already planning a new cycle of campaign and education for next year with the view to creating as tolerant environment as possible and to promoting anti-discriminatory behaviour.

If you consider the above comments of importance for assessment of the situation in the field of racism and intolerance, please accept them as an Appendix to the Final Report.

Looking forward to our good cooperation in the future

Sincerely

NATIONAL LIAISON OFFICER

GOVERNMENT OF MONTENEGRO

Blanka Radošević - Marović