

Podgorica, 7 August 2009.

On disabling the work and physical assault of the editor and photographer of the daily newspaper "Vijesti"

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We are concerned about the fast reaction of the director of the Police Directorate of the Government of Montenegro who did not wait for the final assessment of the Internal control and afterwards inform the public that the work of these police officers, during the assault of the editor and photographer of the daily newspaper "Vijesti", was professional and in line with the law.

We remind that we have requested yesterday from the Department for internal control and implementation of authorisation of Police Directorate to check whether the police staff fail to conduct all the necessary actions regarding this incident during its processing, and by these doing eventually attempted to eliminate or reduce criminal responsibility of three aggressors.

This is pre-judging the final assessment of the Department for internal control and annulled already established system of the control of police organisation in Montenegro as well as of the monitoring of the implementation of the police authorities.

We sent the request to also to the director of the Clinical Centre of Montenegro (KCCG), dr Olivera Miljanovic, asking her to check whether the medical and other staff instead of professional approach to the injured, or did they, like the police staff, shrink before the authority and might of the mayor of Capital Miomir Mugosa. She replied that injured Jovovic and Pejovic were examined in line with all medical rules and doctrine. As the replay arrived less than half an hour after we officially submitted the request at the archive of the KCCG one can objectively ask whether all the verifications could have been undertaken and completed in such a short period and without contacting persons involved in this case.

Yesterday, we requested from Minister of Foreign affairs to dismiss Mugosa from service until the ending of the criminal and other procedures and expressed our expectations that MFA will undertake all measures in order to assess responsibility for breaching norms and rules binding diplomatic representatives of Montenegro. We consider that MFA should distance itself from this behaviour, and the conditions for that have been fulfilled by the hearing of Miljan Mugosa under the suspicion that he has committed criminal act of making serious injuries to Mihailo Jovovic.

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