



No 10

EUROKAZ

MAGAZINE ON EUROPEAN
INTEGRATION OF MONTENEGRO

me4.eu
eu4.me
ja za evropu, evropa za mene



Ovaj projekat finansira
Evropska Unija



Vlada
Crne Gore

EUROKAZ

Magazine on European integration of Montenegro

NUMBER: 10

PUBLISHER:

Department for Public Information on the EU and the EU
Accession Process

Secretariat-General of the Government of Montenegro

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Department for Public Information on the EU and the EU
Accession Process

Secretariat-General of the Government of Montenegro

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

PR Center

CONTACT:

Department for Public Information on the EU and the EU
Accession Process

Secretariat-General of the Government of Montenegro

Bulevar revolucije 15, Podgorica

E-mail: nada.vojvodic@gsv.gov.me

Web: www.kei.gov.me

www.eu.me

TABLE OF CONTENT

EU ACCESSION NEGOTIATION NEWS

- 4-5** The European integration is a mechanism for achieving better life of citizens
- 5-6** The Government has a task to affirm and prove commitment to the EU integrations by strengthening the institutions in a transparent and democratic manner
- 6-8** Ukraine and Moldova candidates, and the Balkans still on hold

GREETINGS FROM THE EU

- 8-10** Bilčik: Montenegro will be the EU Member State in 2025, if it does its homework

EU IN MONTENEGRO

- 10-13** Fair on EU Projects
- 13-14** The European Independent Living Day: the European values for persons with disabilities
- 14-16** Activism as the strongest force of social change

NEWS FROM IPA

- 16-17** Tourist offer of the northern Montenegro is being more diversified with the EU support
- 17-19** The Municipality of Pljevlja implements project "WOOL as Outstanding Opportunity for Leverage"

COLLAGE PHOTO FROM THE EVENT

THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IS A MECHANISM FOR ACHIEVING BETTER LIFE OF CITIZENS

Author: Dr Jovana Marović, Deputy prime Minister of the Government and the Minister of European Affairs



Better quality of life of our citizens is the key objective of this Government, while the process of the European integration and future EU membership constitute the best mechanism for achieving that objective. For that reason, in this mandate the Government of Montenegro and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall do anything possible for the purpose of implementing key reforms and making crucial step towards the membership.

Recently, there has been 10 years since the initiation of the EU accession negotiations of Montenegro. Behind us we have a decade of work on reforms and transformation of society, significant amount of achieved and tangible results, but there is also a significant amount of unfinished business, particularly in the hardest and the most sensitive domains.

In that sense, one can understand the commitment of the 43rd Government of Montenegro to resolve burning issues in the State, first of all the corruption and organised crime, to ensure required results, to reduce social polarisation and to include all the participants and parties

into the dialogue on crucial reforms, and thus, first of all to ensure wide social consensus on key appointments in the judiciary.

In that line, objectives and priorities of the Government are defined, and all State competent authorities remain committed to compliance with priority temporary criteria referred to in Chapter 23 (Judiciary and Fundamental Rights) and 24 (Justice, Freedom and Security) with the aim to get final criteria by the end of the year. This Government is aware that, if we want to make essential step towards the membership and after eight years to start "finalisation" of fulfilling obligations referred to in action plans for chapters 23 and 24, than there is no more place for faking reforms. The reason for this is that only crucial motions and unambiguous progress in these areas can get us one step closer to the European Union.

Apart from the intensification of reform process, the Ministry of European Affairs expects intensive work on reforming the negotiation structure.

During the last decade, the negotiation structure, as well as the institutionalisation framework for the process of European integration, experienced several changes that did not necessary have positive influence on their work and overall dynamics of the process. If we want to conduct the forthcoming phase of the process in efficient and quality manner, we do not have time for new experiments.

In that sense, our primary objective is that all of those that are the "institutional memory" of the process must remain in the negotiation structure. The other objective is that the negotiation structure must be more compact, more efficient and more flexible. The third objective is that it should, to certain extent, be adjusted to the New Enlargement Methodology presented by the European Union in February, and accepted by Montenegro in May 2020. In that direction, the Ministry has already taken decisive steps through a set of consultations with heads of negotiation working groups and by publishing invitation for selection of representative of non-government sector for member of the Rule of Law Council. Likewise, the open call for representatives of non-governmental sector in all negotiation working groups took place in July.

We simultaneously work on amendments to other decisions from the process that refer to the negotiation structure. The novelty we are introducing is appointment of negotiators for six clusters of acquis of the European Union, that are introduced by the new methodology, and that should be recognised in public sphere by its competence and impartiality. In this manner, we want to ensure the feasibility of negotiation structure and its independence regarding the political changes.

With this agenda, decisiveness and clear image of steps necessary for closing the negotiation process, I believe that we can succeed in achieving all what is planned, and that Montenegro is the next European Union member State in the most recent period.

I am aware that the European integration is actually the process of overall transformation of our society. That process of maturing and growing is initiated ten years ago and it will not end by the EU membership. Some reforms and changes will require the most of the time, such as the hardest ones referring to pattern of behaving and system of value.

I am also aware that the hardest part of the journey is the one we are walking now. But, deep inside, I believe that better and more arranged society, better quality of life for our citizens, and particularly for our youth, wait for us at the end of it. Therefore, for the purpose of that better future, all these efforts are worth the value.



THE GOVERNMENT HAS A TASK TO AFFIRM AND PROVE COMMITMENT TO THE EU INTEGRATIONS BY STRENGTHENING THE INSTITUTIONS IN A TRANSPARENT AND DEMOCRATIC MANNER

Author: Boris Marić, Secretary General of the Government of Montenegro



Montenegro has a realistic opportunity to make qualitative progress in the process of negotiating with the European Union. The Government, as the pillar of negotiations, must improve the present practices and accelerate the essential reforms of Montenegrin institutions. That particularly refers to the judicial institutions. The synergy of all three branches of state authority is a condition without which Montenegrin society can not make step forward in this domain.

For achieving the abovementioned, it is necessary that the Government strengthen the inclusiveness of the negotiation process and logistics for legislative and judicial branches of the state authority. On the other hand, the Parliament must urgently initiate inter-parliamentary dialogue and procedures for election of members of the Judicial Council, judges of the Constitutional Court and Supreme State Prosecutor in full capacity. At the moment, the largest challenges for judiciary are human resources issues, quality of justice distribution and consequences of the fact that two former high officials of the judiciary are under the investigations of competent prosecutor's office.

On the other hand, what makes us happy is the fact that the large percent of citizens continuously support negotiations with the EU. They believe that the aspiration toward the full-fledge membership is a path toward the functional democracy. However, they are confused by slow reforms, weakness of Montenegrin institutions, and partially the bureaucratisation of negotiation process, which makes it less available and generates feeling of doubt whether the EU membership is actually realistic.

For that reason, the 43rd Government, as well as the following governments, will face challenging and hard task, to affirm and prove commitment to the EU integrations by strengthening institutions in transparent and democratic manner. Partners in the EU have good intention and they want to see Montenegro as a part of the EU, but many of that depends on decision makers in Montenegro. For that reason we have to work intensively on larger integrity of Montenegrin institutions, as well as on restraining political influence that negatively affects that process.

In that very process of transformation of institutions, the important place belongs to the Secretary General of the Government that needs to redefine its role in the system of State administration. There is a potential in human resources, but also a space for improvement. Programme budget should be basis of full consolidation of Secretariat-General of the Government, but also the strengthening of its role in monitoring strategies, realisation of public policies, conclusions, and thus the negotiation process as well.

Apart from that, the Secretariat-General of the Government, as a horizontally established structure in the system of State administration, must particularly treat development of its analytical capacities.

We must not question the transparency of the work of Secretariat-General of the Government, and each form of inertia must be clearly explained in relation to more predominant public interest. In that sense, the opening of the Government sessions for public represents a significant step forward when compared to the previous period.

Open sessions of the Government present a serious challenge to which, according to my belief, we answered in a satisfactory manner. This positive practice should articulate further work on promoting transparency and turning State administration into the genuine service for citizens.

In order to succeed in that, in the forthcoming period we must renew and strengthen technical capacities, IT service, Bureau for public relations and overall system of free access to information. We are open to suggestions, proposals, and we particularly expect directions from the NGO sector that treats this issue for a long time and that provided us with important guidelines though set of proposals and reasonable critics.

Of course, there is a potential for further development and improvement of work.

In that direction, the Secretariat-General of the Government established its website, which needs more work, among other things, to make revised overview of organisational units within the Secretariat-General of the Government, which will enable the overall consideration of work and condition in the Secretariat-General of the Government. Likewise, it needs to increase a degree of independence and integrity of officials in accordance with competences, and to open a space for new job systematisation pursuant to programme objectives.

Reforms and strengthening of institutions are a process in which a critical review towards the achievements enables the direction and strengthens the institutional platform.

EPILOGUE OF LONG AWAITED SESSION OF THE EU COUNCIL

UKRAINE AND MOLDOVA CANDIDATES, AND THE BALKANS STILL ON HOLD

The author: Jovana Đurišić, journalist of Pobjeda



On Thursday, 23 June 2022, the European Union granted the status of candidate country for membership in this organisation to Ukraine and Moldova, thus providing these countries with opportunity for stronger bonding with West, and distancing from the influence of Russia.

President of the European Council, Charles Michel, said this decision is a “historical moment”, which certainly is for the abovementioned countries. However, what is the position of the Balkans in this story regarding the European perspective?

At the abovementioned summit, that took place in Brussels at the end of the month, Ukraine in war, as well as Moldova, had large hopes and expectations from the EU, which eventually came true. The Western Balkans had them as well, particularly Bosnia and Herzegovina, which also expected the status of the candidate country, as well as Kosovo, which had hopes for visa liberalisation. Anyway, this time Brussels remained focused on the countries from the eastern partnership.

EK: The Balkans remain a priority

It is said from the European Commission that regional partnerships and cooperation are being strengthened, but the Western Balkans remain a priority.

-Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia want to join the European Union. They see the European Union and the EU membership as the most important and the most reliable instrument for long-term safety and prosperity – according to the statements from the European Commission for Eurokaz.

The EC Spokesperson **Ana Pisonero** said that the last events put the enlargement policy high at the EU agenda.

-In the last week, The European Council supported opinions of the European Commission on request of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia for the EU membership. All three countries received a perspective to become EU Member States. Ukraine and Moldova were granted the candidate status with understanding that the huge reform steps will take place. The candidate status will be granted to Georgia when necessary reforms are conducted – Pisonero explained.

However, she emphasised, the Balkans remain the priority of Brussels.

-In this changing geopolitical context, when strengthening our regional partnerships and cooperation, the Western Balkans remain our priority. We are dedicated, more than ever, to introduce all the region into the European Union. Now it is more important than ever that it is conducted not only fast, but also with full commitment and willingness of all institutions – Pisonero explained.

The professor of the Faculty of Economy, and former Minister of the European Integrations **Gordana Đurović**, believes that granting the candidate status to Ukraine and Moldova is the absolute novelty in the enlargement policy, that in accordance with her words deletes the border between the enlargement politics that refer to the Balkans countries and Turkey and the eastern neighbourhood,

-Without change of establishment treaties, apart from existing countries, there will be two new candidates

in the EC report. The first reaction is agreement with the European access and solidarity with the country caught in the aggression and warfare. Thus, although the rules did not change, we are aware that the process although short, has more formal and in general political character. This decision represent support to the country with jeopardised citizens, assets, territorial integrity and the land in general. Thus, the messages from the Western Balkans are that we do not see Ukraine as a competence. It is a special integration story and those countries received the European perspective, and that is confirmed to our countries in Thessaloniki in 2003 - Đurović explained for Eurokaz.

She also said that the Balkans countries, due to new safety political risks and the fact that there is a war at the European continent, expect dedication of more attention to the shaky Balkans ground and provision of encouragement to the countries in the region.

-Conditional candidateship of Bosnia and Herzegovina and visa liberalisation of Kosovo were expected. The third large wish, not so realistic, was the unblocking of negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia, although this third matter, because of fall of governments in Bulgaria and crisis of the country was not part of the agenda –Đurović stated.

When talking about Bosnia and Herzegovina, Đurović reminds that the conditional candidateship of the country is delayed due to local elections in Bosnia

and Herzegovina, but according to her words it was announced and it should be encouragement for political stabilisation of the country and withstanding of election process.

-Visa liberalisation of Kosovo is promised long ago, it is announced and it had specific weight in conditions when we have such turbulences at the labour market in Europe and need for possibility of more free travel because Kosovo is still a black hole at the white Schengen list – our collocutor said.

Mn: Expectations of Montenegro

When talking about expectations of Montenegro, Đurović emphasises that our country had the "expectation control" for this year EU Council.

-There could be no expectation for unblocking the negotiation process this year, because we did not meet standards for positive report on temporary criteria in the rule of law. Our optimum point of expectations is December as well as this open time horizon for acceleration of the process – Đurović stated.

Our collocutor also emphasised that the blame should not be put on emergency situation where Ukraine is, or even Moldova, not in the European challenging internal politics.

-The responsible persons should be looked for in own society and ranks, and the return should be made to the European agenda that solely gathered the minority Government today, the circumstances in the country should be stabilised, and expectations should be met primarily from politicians and the legislative branch of the governmental state authority and partially from the judicial branch of governmental state authority which is to see criteria fulfilled with the aim to get positive report in autumn – Đurović concluded.

According to words from the European Commission, on the other hand, it is expected that the new Government restores political and institutional trust, to hold inter-party dialogue and to make path for faster pace forward in key EU reforms that are on hold.



-The next turning point for Montenegro is fulfilment of temporary criteria for the rule of law, chapters 23 and 24. Before that, no chapter shall be closed – the EC warned.

When talking about the perspective of other Balkan countries, Pisonero emphasised that the EU requests from Bosnia and Herzegovina to conduct a significant set of reforms.

-We will make evaluation of 14 key priorities stated in our Opinion, in order to enable the European Council to return and decide on this matter. Now is the time when the country should conduct reforms with the aim of achieving progress on its path towards the EU, in line with expectations of the citizens of the country –Pisonero concluded.

POLITICIANS SHOULD RECOGNISE THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE MOMENT

BILČIK: MONTENEGRO WILL BE THE EU MEMBER STATE IN 2025, IF IT DOES ITS HOMEWORK

Author: Bojana Milićević, journalist of Radio Crne Gore

Montenegro is a leader in the negotiation process and it has a chance to show that the enlargement is alive, as the Co-chair of the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee, Vladimir Bilčik, said for Eurokaz. He emphasised that the ball is in the yard of Montenegrin politicians, and if they make important, strategic decisions, the country shall be only couple of years far from the EU membership.

Ten years ago, Montenegro opened negotiations on joining the EU. How would you describe the current position of Montenegro on its European path?

I believe that Montenegro was and still is the frontrunner of accession negotiations. Having in

mind brutal Russian aggression to Ukraine, but also the establishment of new Montenegrin Government that has almost unseen support in the Parliament, particularly when talking about the Government's pro-European orientation, I think Montenegro has a historical chance to demonstrate its leading role. Until recently, for several years, unfortunately, Montenegro has been in the phase of stagnation. All Montenegrin governments in the last 10 years described the European integration as its priority, but the Government of Zdravko Krivokapić, unfortunately questioned the European path. Montenegro is in the phase when all chapters are opened and it must start closing chapters and clusters. In the forthcoming weeks absolute focus shall be on making of crucial decisions that should help unblocking the process, and they relate to appointments in the judiciary, Constitutional Court and Prosecutor's Office. I think it is very important to maintain a serious negotiation structure that will perform the whole process. Therefore, for all 10 years Montenegro is a leader in accession negotiations and I think it will need far less time than that to conclude this process. To be more accurate, I think it will take only several years to achieve the full readiness for membership, but in the next year or two Montenegro needs to make important strategic decisions in the pursuit of its European objective.

At the beginning of June, when visiting Podgorica, you said that Montenegro has a historic chance to achieve progress on its European path? Do you expect that Montenegro meets conditions for getting final criteria in chapters 23 and 24 by the end of the year?

If Montenegro fails to do it by the end of the year, I think it will be very difficult to persuade European partners that words of commitments to the European path, that we are always listening, can be followed by concrete acts. The new government has maximum of one year or more realistic several months by the end of the year to demonstrate that the crucial decisions can be made, that the progress can be achieved and that the negotiation progress can be unblocked. For that reason, I hope that Montenegro shall be ready to close some

more chapters by the end of the year.

What is your impression about the situation in the domain of the rule of law in Montenegro? We have recently had arrests of former heads of judiciary. Do you find that to be good news for required reforms on the European path?

It is always good to see that the institutions of the rule of the law work on arrests of those who violate the law. Hard organised crime is always a problem in the Western Balkans. And when we see results, it is encouraging not only for safety and the rule of the law in Montenegro, but also for the region, as well as for confidence and cooperation with the European partners. These are the good news, however we are not talking about the publicity or marketing, but about the importance of the functioning of the system. In order to have the functional system, we must have developed institutions that are politically independent and immune to political changes. So, disregarding who is at the position of the governmental state authority in Montenegro, the police department, the prosecutor's office and judiciary must work independently. Thus, there is still more work to be done before the trust of citizens and European partners in Montenegrin institutions is established. What the governmental state authority can do, simultaneously with anticipated reforms, is to ensure that the head positions in institutions are covered and that they work independently. We expect from the Government and the Parliamentary majority to show results in that domain in the forthcoming weeks.

Montenegro is completely in compliance with the EU foreign and safety policy, including the practical application of sanctions towards Russia. The Prime Minister, Dritan Abazović, has recently visited Kyiv. Can that accelerate the European integration of Montenegro to the certain extent?

I think that the visit of the Prime Minister Dritan Abazović together with his Albanian colleague took place in proper time and sent good messages, because brutal Russian aggression did not influence only the character of eastern neighbourhood, but Europe in entirety. Unfortunately, war returned to Europe and we do not



know when it will end. We must do everything we can to make Ukraine successful in this war, to bring victory to Europe and for this reason it is important that the Prime Minister Abazović in Kyiv expressed support for granting the status of the EU candidate country to Ukraine. There must be no more "grey zones" in neighbourhood of the EU. That is a clear message for the Western Balkans, as well. The region must not remain the grey zone between East and West. I think it is clear that the future of the Western Balkans is in the EU, at the West. It is good that Montenegro is a reliable NATO Member State and I hope it will be the next EU Member State. Compliance with the EU foreign policy is very important in that sense. Montenegro made a great job with full compliance. The EU institutions monitor that closely, particularly from 24 February. Montenegro should proceed in the same direction and I hope Montenegro will stand shoulder to shoulder with the EU Member States while they jointly support Ukraine, just like the EU continuously stood with Montenegro.

Having in mind the current geopolitical situation and war in Ukraine, can we expect the unblocking of the enlargement process? In that sense, we have heard encouraging messages of the President of the European Council, Charles Michel in Podgorica. The President Milo Đukanović has recently said that the invasion to

Ukraine made the EU and other countries sober. What do you say?

I think it is very important that the President of the European Council visited Montenegro. Likewise, I think that President Đukanović was right when he emphasised the importance of this historical, or maybe even tectonic, change. The attack of Russia to Ukraine definitively changes the situation and brings new enlargement possibilities. It was not easy to talk about enlargement these last years because not all the Member States had similar attitude towards the potential enlargement. I think they are all now aware of the historical change and historical opportunity, and I think this is a chance for all the countries in the Western Balkans that do not want to remain in the grey zone. I repeat, Montenegro is a leader and it has a chance to demonstrate that the enlargement is alive, and to change things both at the Western Balkans and the EU. For that reason, I emphasise that the ball is in the yard of politicians in Montenegro and I hope they recognise the strategic importance of the moment. Compromises and hard decisions that will not be popular among all the politicians wait for you, but they shall not be made for the purpose of collecting political points on daily basis, but because of the strategic direction of the country.

Many in Montenegro are worried by the proposal of the French President Emmanuel Macron on establishing the European Political Community. Do we have reasons



to worry that it can distance us from joining the EU?

I think it is important to hear the proposal from the French President Macron because he represents not only France but also the EU. Macron provided the proposal, but there are some empty spaces, it was not completely explained. It is my opinion that the focusing should not be on Macron's speech, but on his previous steps. Visiting Kyiv and supporting Ukraine in being granted the candidate status present an important step. It shows that the enlargement is still in the game and that the game is on. Also, the important fact is that France, as a country holding the presidency of the Council of the European Union, organised summit of the European and the Western Balkans leaders. It is an important signal that when we talk about the future of the Western Balkans, we dominantly think about the European future. I think that all those steps actually imply that the region and Montenegro have European future, that Montenegro will be the next Member State, if it does its homework. So it is my opinion that instead commenting Macron's proposal, the politicians in Montenegro should have discussion on how to unblock making of important decisions.

We have an intensive debate on Open Balkan initiative. Not even the Government members were unanimous when talking about this topic. How do you see it? Can it be a good test for joining the EU or bad substitute for the European perspective?

The EU has always emphasised that the regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations must go together with progress on the European path. I support every pro-European regional initiative that does not tend to become alternative to the European perspective. In that sense, I understand those who have questions regarding the Open Balkan initiative because when I hear how some leaders in the region talk about that initiative, and how do they talk about the European perspective, it seems to me that they have more positive and affirmative attitude towards the Open Balkan. I monitor developments and I see that some constituents of Montenegrin Government and parties of the Parliamentary majority do not look

on this initiative the same way. I think it is extremely important that the ongoing debate with this topic does not divide and undermine the strong Parliamentary majority as regards making decisions crucial for progress of Montenegro on the European path. In other words, I think that Montenegro should openly analyse all aspects of the Open Balkan, but simultaneously Montenegro will make progress on its European path only if it makes crucial decisions in the domain of the rule of law. The European path of the country will not be affected in case of disagreement on Open Balkan, but it will be affected in case of disagreement on commitment to unblock appointments in judiciary. As a friend of Montenegro, I advise national politicians to focus on crucial topics.

When all is put together, is it still realistic to see Montenegro as the EU Member State in 2025?

Absolutely, I am convinced in that. There are certain obstacles that Montenegro must overcome – first to unblock and intensify accession negotiations. It is not about making only several political decisions, but also about demonstration of the field results by the Government. Ministries must be engaged, there must be a clear commitment to conducting negotiations both at the political and technical level, constant communication and cooperation with Brussels. There is a strong support by the European Parliament, by the European Commission, but also by many Member States that see Montenegro as the next Member State. I think that the realistic prognosis is that Montenegro can be ready by the end of the term of office of current composition of the Commission that shall expire in the summer 2024, if the Government with limited term of office delivers the results. We will closely monitor the presidential elections in 2023, but also the parliamentary elections that will, according to my opinion, be the test of democratic maturity of Montenegro. It is my opinion that, if it maintains the European path in words and doings, after the reforms are conducted and presidential and parliamentary elections are finished, 2025 can be the year when we will talk about the finalisation of negotiations.

FAIR ON EU PROJECTS: NUMEROUS BENEFITS FOR MONTENEGRO FROM THE EU SUPPORT

Author, Tanja Radusinović, the Director of the Project Department in the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro

The Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, in cooperation with the Ministry of European Affairs, organised on 28 May the Fair on EU Projects in the courtyard of the Petrović Palace in Podgorica. The manifestation, organised as a part of celebration of Month of Europe, was an opportunity for visitors to get familiar with projects implemented by institutions, municipalities, companies, universities and NGO sector, as well as for conversations with potential partners on invitations anticipated in the forthcoming time period.

When opening the Fair, the President of the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, Nina Drakić said:

“Participation of 45 institutions, organisations and companies at this year fair, representing at 60 booths more than 200 projects that implement, confirm that Montenegro has capacities to improve itself and meet set objectives while using available support from the European funds. I hope we will use IPA III in even bigger percent, particularly taking into account all the benefits offered through it, and therefore we readily expect new invitations announced for the second half of the year”.

In 2021, the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro initiated holding of the Fair on EU Projects with the intention to promote results of projects funded from the European Union funds through different programmes available to Montenegro. In this manner the European values are promoted, while institutions and organisations are encouraged to apply for open invitations, to improve its capacities and exercise other benefits inherent to these projects.

Likewise, one of the intentions of the Chamber, that was according to our belief realised through the organisation

of the Fair, is to increase level of visibility of the EU projects and introduce their particular benefits to the citizens of Montenegro.

This initiative received the support from the European Integration Office, and in this year also from the Ministry of European Affairs, that jointly organised both editions of the Fair. Participation of the Minister of the European Affairs at the opening of the Fair sent a strong message that it needs to continue as started.

“When I saw these booths, I am convinced that we significantly improved capacities for use of the European support, but we still need to work on their strengthening. This fair significantly helps to visibility of the EU projects among our citizens. That is the essence of the European integration process, that our citizens enjoy tangible benefits. That is realised by numerous projects through which the rule of law, environment protection,



education and health were strengthened. We will still work on capacity building of all institutions and users of the EU programmes in order to implement them more efficiently”, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of the European Affairs, Jovana Marović, said.

Participation of 45 institutions, organisations and companies, as well as presenters who presented more than 200 projects confirmed that the capacities at disposal of our country are improved from the aspect of utilisation of the European funds, but there is still a work to be done in raising them on a higher level. We are talking about the projects related to strengthening competitiveness of economy, its internationalisation, strengthening of the rule of law, environment protection, education, digitalisation, blue economy, agriculture, tourism, etc. Knowledge and



competences, obtained through the implementation of these projects significantly improve also capacities of our entrepreneurs as creators of a new value in economy. One should say that our participation in numerous projects opened and made approachable numerous topics that were not part of the agenda in our region, and they actually represent inevitability of reaching sustainable socio-economic development. It is particularly important to emphasise projects through which the community and institutions made their approach to youth, and which imply significant financial assistance to schools with establishing very useful cooperation between high-schools and companies, as well as the mobility of pupils.

Likewise, as the initiators we opted for holding this manifestation in May – the Month of Europe which



additionally made this event more visible and recognisable. Understanding the Delegation of the European Union in Montenegro that provided support to the idea and organisation by the participation of the Ambassador at the gatherings in 2021 and 2022 is of particular importance for us as the institution.

The Ambassador, Oana Cristina Popa, said that many projects presented at the Fair, funded by the EU, prove not only the fact that the Union is the largest donor to Montenegro, but also that the support is used in a proper manner. She emphasised that the EU pre-accession negotiations funds are used for many important projects, from the support to reforms of public administration and strengthening of the rule of the law to the investment in environment protection and transport infrastructure.

“I saw the communities from neighbouring countries growing together because of our cross-border and other programmes. The process of the European integrations already improves the lives of people, and it prepares the country to become a part of the European Union”, the Ambassador said.

The Chamber of Economy of Montenegro through this manifestation stays committed to strengthening of connecting the state, science and economy, by promoting its participation in numerous Erasmus+ projects. However, it is not our only activity focused towards that objective, but we have organised matchmaking events for complex Horizon Europe programmes, that gathered 121 participants from 19 states within which almost 200 meetings was held.



We have the following phase in front of us, which covers the financial perspective 2021-2027. Nine programmes of territorial cooperation shall be at disposal again and spheres of support remain without major changes apart from those that will help better usability of available assets. Innovation, digitalisation, environment protection and promotion and preservation of cultural heritage, multimodal transport systems and the questions of increasing employment will be core topics through the forthcoming perspective. Each of these programmes, horizontally speaking, will be focused towards the strengthening and development of administrative capacities of IPA States in the sense of using the EU funds.

Through the future membership of our country in the European Union, the economy shall have at its disposal the direct assets through ESI funds and the Chamber as the responsible institution revolving the time ahead of us tends to improve its knowledge, in order to be a reliable support to its membership in utilisation of those assets.

Events such as the Fair of the European Projects are the opportunity to get better knowledge of each other and to join capacities at our disposal, to jointly create projects for solving certain challenges and get improvement in particular domains, as well as to exercise other following benefits. After two successful editions of this manifestation, we are already preparing for the Fair 2023, convinced that we will have more presenters and better results that we will present together.

THE EUROPEAN INDEPENDENT LIVING DAY: THE EUROPEAN VALUES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Author: Anđela Radovanović, Programme manager of Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro (AYDM)

The ninth year in a row, the Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro (AYDM) celebrated 5th May, the European Independent Living Day. The celebration of this day started in 2014 on the initiative of the European Network on Independent Living – ENIL with the objective to raise awareness on importance of independent living, participation in making decisions and creation of opportunities for persons with disabilities (PWDs). Symbolically, just before the Day of Europe, in order to emphasise the importance of participation and essential involvement of persons with disabilities in all processes that are of significance for entire society and all the values given to it by the PWDs.

The wish to recognise persons with disabilities as a resource, instead to look them through the prism of burden and compassion is not something new. It dates back from the movement for civil rights in the USA in 60s and 70s years of the 20th century, and it blossomed at the end of the 20th and beginning of the 21st century with adoption of the first laws guaranteeing rights of persons with disabilities and the Convention of the United Nations on the Rights of the persons with disabilities – the only international document on rights of the PWDs ratified by the European Union, all its Member States and all the EU candidate States. Convention sets foundations for establishment of societies where the persons with disabilities will be the full-fledge members, where their rights and differences will be observed, dignified life ensured and all rights exercised. The Convention, pursuant to its Article 19, puts special aspect to independent living, which in its essence contains principles of choice, independent decision making, control, responsibility and right to mistake. It also calls on battles



that need to be fought, because without independent living there can hardly be essential participation of persons with disabilities.

For nine years, the AYDM has been joining the organisations of persons with disabilities around Europe in initiatives that call for observance of principles of independent living, deinstitutionalisation, accessibility, freedom of movement, civil rights, participation of youth – everything else what is not integral part of negotiation chapters 19 or 23, but 12 others more, but all other chapters as well, that Montenegro, as a future EU member State undoubtedly must upgrade and integrate into its system.



The European values connect us, and in order to be truly united in diversity, we must create opportunities for persons with disabilities to be part of the European stories.

ACTIVISM AS THE STRONGEST FORCE
OF SOCIAL CHANGE

NETWORK OF YOUNG EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS IS EXPANDING

Author: Miloš Rudović, journalist ND Vijesti

The European Union (EU) recognised the importance of young people from the regional countries in promoting the European values, and at the moment 120 "Young European Ambassadors" (YEA) have particular role in it, and 20 of them are from Montenegro.



"The primary role is to learn together about each other and about the EU, to obtain new skills, to connect via social networks, to organise inspiring events... - always encouraged by the idea that the activism in youth is the strongest force of the social change", the YEA team said for "Eurokaz".

This year, the region should get 60 more young ambassadors, 10 per each Western Balkans country.

It is said from the Ministry of Sports and Youth that the researches show that young people in Montenegro support joining the EU in high percent, but, on the other



hand, for example, they are insufficiently informed on the influence that the membership has on different aspects of citizens' life.

"Youth in Montenegro should be additionally strengthened regarding the knowledge, forming attitudes and opinions on different aspects of influence of the EU membership to everyday citizens' life because the young people will receive the greatest benefits from the membership", the State Secretary of the Ministry, Amina Cikotić, said for "Eurokaz".

The information strategy about accession of Montenegro to the EU is particularly targeting the young people as a group specific in terms of managing communication on the process of the European integration and which needs to be handled carefully in order to obtain information that will not cause unrealistic expectations, but it will prepare them for benefits and responsibilities originating from the membership.

Thus, according to Cikotić's words, it is of extreme importance that the decision makers hold intensive dialogue with the young people, in order to get the opportunity to expand knowledge on the process of the European integration, to mobilise and actively participate in decision making process, including those that refer to the process of the European integration and influence it has on young people.

The very network of Young European Ambassadors is established two years ago as a part of the EU Regional Communication Programme for the Western Balkans (WeBalkans.eu). So far, 120 persons from the region were granted the title of Young European Ambassador, and one of them is Enes Pućurica from Bijelo Polje.

"I initially applied because of networking with other young people in the country and in the region, in order to meet more different persons. Likewise, I applied because of the possibility that young people can make changes and that our voice can be heard, and this is what this network enables", he said.

Pućurica explains that the ambassadors chose their key areas which, among others, they will advocate the most. Domains he chose concern human rights and health, with special accent on marginalised groups and mental health.

"Being a young European ambassador has a bunch of possibilities and opportunities given to us and allow us to represent them and to provide them to other young people. Being part of this network means that you will get more independence, self-confidence, knowledge, establish a human network and be more ready for new ventures and adventures in bringing changes. This role is a huge step forward that will help me launch topics about mental health as much as possible and enable that rights of marginalised groups are recognised and adopted to the highest possible extent", this 27 years old person said for "Eurokaz".

He added that during the recent visit to Brussels and in conversations with representatives from the European institutions they understood the importance of their role in the society and which changes they can generate.

The person from Novi Sad, Velimir Milošev, states that with the third invitation for new Young European Ambassadors the network became quite recognisable in the region.

From the technical aspect, it is required that the person lives in the Western Balkans, that she/he is between 18 and 29 years of age, and that she/he is ready to stand out publicly and to advocate European values and opportunities for the young people.

Collocutor of "Eurokaz" emphasised that the ambassadors are quite active at social networks, but also at different events, and they use that in order to advocate key domains – human rights, environment protection, art and culture,

technologies and EU integrations.

"That means we advocate, for example, female leadership through public debates, or preservation of environment through cleaning beaches from waste and garbage, etc... Patience is required because we do not change the world with the activism overnight", Milošev said.

"I would like to expand circle of persons included in activism, for example, to hold celebration of Pride not only in capitals for the purpose of decentralisation, to make feminism not only for women, to make Erasmus+ youth exchanges available also for persons whose parents did not have money to pay the for excursions during the school period".



As Young European Ambassadors, they were given trainings designed just for them. Those trainings also included part from media literacy, graphic design, writing CVs in Europass format...

They also have an opportunity to travel through Europe and the region, to meet each other, to create network of future leaders that will have influential positions in different domains. They also make contacts in various European, national or local institutions, and develop good relations with those persons.

"There are many of those who were transformed in the network from sensitive souls shy from public appearance into genuine leaders that serve as a role model for younger generations. That transformative power is, according to my opinion, the true value of Young European Ambassadors", Milošev concluded.

Provide support to regional projects

Regional projects whose objectives are networking and improvement of cooperation between young people are of exquisite importance for overcoming prejudices and stereotypes deeply rooted in the essence of the people from this region, as the State Secretary in the Ministry of Youth and Sports said.

“People, ethnic groups and minority communities living in the Western Balkans share both historical heritage and numerous social challenges and economic realities they face. Long-year prejudices and intolerance toward other ethnical groups and minority communities in the region are still wide spread. The progress can be achieved, exclusively, through joint activity with the aim of strong promotion of tolerance, solidarity and regional cooperation in the area of social, economic and cultural development, as well as fostering peaceful coexistence of citizens living in the Western Balkans. Young people from here should have the main role, because just the young people, as active participants in the process of making decisions are key drivers of social changes”, Cikotić said.

In order to use potential of the young people for improvement of connections and fostering good neighbourly relations and cooperation between countries in the region, it is necessary, in accordance with her opinion, to enable sustainable institutional and financial support to these and similar initiatives.

She particularly emphasised support to Regional Youth Cooperation Office and programme of Western Balkans Youth Lab Projects realised by the Regional Cooperation Council.

As one of the ways for improvement of cooperation in the Balkans, Cikotić believes that, for example, the regional art colony could “in interesting way stimulate young people for creation, socialising and development of their creativity and potential”.

TOURIST OFFER OF THE NORTHERN MONTENEGRO IS BEING MORE DIVERSIFIED WITH THE EU SUPPORT

Author: Stefan Bulatović, Ministry of the European Affairs

Because of its natural beauties, Montenegro rarely leaves anyone disinterested. Although our country is being seen as a seaside tourist destination, in the last years the north of Montenegro attracts more and more visitors who want to enjoy the nature far from usual crowds.

In order to ensure sustainable development of tourism in the northern region, various stakeholders invest large efforts to make the tourist offer of that area more diversified, while adding particular importance to preservation of nature and smart utilisation of resources. In this matter, they are strongly supported by the European Union, who allocates assets for development of tourism potential of the north of Montenegro through bilateral IPA programmes of cross border cooperation.





Montenegro is a participant of four bilateral programmes of cross border cooperation, namely with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia. Within those programmes, the institutions, organisations and associations performing activities at the north of Montenegro conduct numerous projects through which they tend to improve life quality, in cooperation with their partners from the other side of the border.

Through the IPA Programme of cross border operation Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro 2014-2020 support is provided to the project „T.A.R.A. – Turizam, adrenalin i rafting avantura“, which is implemented by the Municipality of Plužine and Nature Park “Piva” together with the Municipality of Foča and national park “Sutjeska” in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since tourism in the area Plužine and Foča is based on active vacation, through this project the mentioned institutions want to use Regional Park “Piva” and national park “Sutjeska” to make integrated cross border tourist destination.

“This project introduced many innovations in tourist offer of Plužine and Regional Nature Park “Piva”. In practice, the rock for free climbing is made, the cave Đokova ledenica is adapted, platforms for bird watching are installed and floating pontoon is constructed at Lake Piva. Apart from that, we also promoted kayaking and touristic potentials of countryside households”, Slobodan Delić, the Director of the Regional Nature Park “Piva”, said.

“I particularly emphasise the fact that through this project we significantly strengthened capacities of local self-government and Park regarding implementation of the project of cross border cooperation. This experience will help us in realisation of future projects at the territory of our municipality”, Delić added.

Tourist offer in the national park “Prokletije” is also based on active vacation. One of the key preconditions for successful development of that kind of tourism is safety of visitors, since the activities in the nature carry certain risks. In order to make stay safer for tourists, the Center for the Study and protection of the Birds (CZIP) joint forces with the Mountain Rescue Service of Montenegro at the cross border project “Development of Ecotourism in the Balkan Alps”, that was supported within IPA Programme of cross border cooperation Montenegro – Kosovo 2014-2020. Project partners at Kosovo were Kosovo Advocacy and Development Centre– KADC and Mountaineering and Alpine Society „Pashtriku“.



Within the project, 68 km of mountain tracks is restored, technical personal and medicine equipment for rescuers is acquired, valuable drone with thermal camera is purchased that will facilitate search of persons lost in the mountain. Apart from that, the Rescue Centre at Prokletije is adapted and training for future rescuers and mountain guides are organised.

Velimir Vuković from the Mountain Rescue Service emphasised that together with partners they invested maximum efforts to put safety of visitors of Prokletije to the maximum level.



"Today we can say with safety that we live the dream of the Balkan Alps and that we have great tourist product in this domain. Among other things, through this project we encouraged establishment of the Mountain Rescue Service, that did not exist before. I particularly mention training of mountain guides attended by 20 people from Kosovo and Montenegro. The safety of tourists will be increased in this manner, because they will not wander the mountains by themselves, but they will have a guide", Vuković said.

"The activities at the project contributed to the quality and diversity of services at Prokletije, to creation of joint tourist offer and increased safety of visitors of the national park "Prokletije" in Montenegro and national park "Bjeshkët e Nemuna" in Kosovo", Ksenija Medenica from CZIP said.

Tourist offer is not based only on natural beauties, but also on experience. Foreign tourists that visit Montenegro usually look for traditional dishes from Montenegrin kitchen, not only to enjoy new tastes, but also to get more familiar to the culture of our country.



Those possibilities were recognised by the Regional Development Agency for Bjelasica, Komovi, and Prokletije, which has cooperation with the National Tourism Organisation of Montenegro, the Municipality of Puka from Albania and organisation Eco-Partners for Sustainable Development realised the project "Local cuisine as tourism offer of cross-border region" within the IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Montenegro - Albania 2014-2020.

During the project, there was the standardisation of 35 traditional culinary recipes from the north of Montenegro and 15 from the Municipality of Puka in Albania, included in local tourist offer. In Montenegro, recipes are published in a cookbook named "Mountain Bounty".

"This project is of great significance for development of tourism at the north of Montenegro, because it includes culinary offer of 21 countryside households and 10 restaurants at the territory of the Municipality of Andrijevisa, Berane, Gusinje, Petnjica, Plav and Rožaje", Radojka Šćekić from the Regional Development Organisation explained.



According to her words, through the realisation of this project some of forgotten traditional recipes from this area are revived and collected in the cookbook "Mountain Bounty".

"This cookbook became the most wanted publication that we as the agency published so far. In this manner the tourist offer was not only improved, but also the contribution is given to preservation of our cultural heritage", Šćekić proudly said.

The cookbook "Mountain Bounty" is already recognised outside Montenegrin borders, so at the end of 2021 it was awarded at the international competition "Gourmand World Cookbook Awards", and won the first place in category "Food Tourism", and the second in a category "The Best of the Best in entire world".

Montenegro also has a great potential to become destination for watching of birds and wild animals. Particular possibilities for development of this type of tourism are in north-eastern region along the border with Serbia, which is still not sufficiently explored. That was recognised by the Center for Protection and Research of Birds (CZIP), and together with partners from NGO North Land from Berane, RTO Sandžak from Novi Pazar and Association of Citizens Jadovnik from Prijepolje, it works on development of tourism in the wild within the project „The Hoo project: Creation of Owl and Other Wildlife Experiences“, supported within the IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia – Montenegro 2014-2020.

"Due to relative distance from urban centres, the tourism infrastructure in this area is underdeveloped, and therefore its potential is not used. For that reason, we decided to promote this fairy tale landscape into destination for nature lovers", Lejla Abdić from CZIP said.

Within the project, trainings are conducted for tourist guides in the wilderness, who are now exclusively specialised for guiding tours that include watching of birds, mammals, medical plants and mushrooms. Also, four exhibitions of photographs of wild flora and fauna in cross-border region of Montenegro and Serbia were held. This summer, two tourist tours for tourism lovers in wilderness will be completed, and 50 km of tracks for watching of birds and wild animals will be mapped, marked and digitalised.

"This cross-border area has a lot to offer to nature loving tourists. Owls, for example, have charisma that gives exciting tourism experience. There are also many other interesting birds, such as golden eagle, eastern imperial eagle, griffon vulture, peregrine falcon, rock partridge and lyrurus", Abdić said and added: "North-eastern area of Montenegro has unique potentials for tourism based on natural heritage of wild flora and fauna, so we use this project for promoting it on local and international level".

THE MUNICIPALITY OF PLJEVLJA IMPLEMENTS PROJECT "WOOL AS OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY FOR LEVERAGE"

Authors: Nataša Marković, manager of the Municipality of Pljevlja, Gorica Vuković, manager of the Municipality of Žabljak and Ana Vojinović, advisor in the Manager Service of the Municipality of Pljevlja

Within the INTERREG V-B Adriatic-Ionian ADRION Programme 2014-2020, the Municipality of Pljevlja implements the project "WOOL as Outstanding Opportunity for Leverage" better known as the WOOL. This project, managed by the Technology Park Pordenone SCPA, Italy – as the Lead Partner, is implemented in six Adriatic-Ionic states: Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Greece. The overall value of the project is 1,342,775,00 EUR, from which the share of the Municipality of Pljevlja as project partner is 115,558,40 EUR. Apart from the Municipality of Pljevlja from Montenegro, participant of the project is also the Municipality of Žabljak whose share from the project budget is 83,374,80 EUR.

Although the wool is deeply rooted in our cultural heritage, it is rarely processed today, usually for the needs of households dealing with livestock farming, and the market potential of the wool product is underestimated.

The general objective of the WOOL project is to valorise wool as an important natural resource and to protect cultural heritage of hand-made wool projects. Increase of attractiveness of items made of wool is achieved through trainings, exchange of good practices and development of capacities for local artists and craftsmen. Combination of traditional knowledge and modern design shall allow traditional wool products to get more attractiveness and proper valorisation.



The Municipality of Pljevlja recognised the value of the wool as the natural resource of Montenegro, which is deeply rooted in our tradition. The importance of wool was very much appreciated by our ancestor. The value of Montenegrin hosts was determined in accordance with the size of sheep flocks they owned, chosen hardworking shepherds took sheep for pastures at our mountains and rich meadows, while sounds of their flutes and songs were heard in the distance.

At the end of May and beginning of June, when snows are almost completely melted at the mountain, apart from hidden places where they meet new snow sometimes, when everything is green and sprouts, when hotter days



really come, to know that their sheep are completely safe and secured from sudden cold, when they properly evaluate weather with their experienced eye, repetitively trying to make it at the approximately same time each year, hosts would organise hand shearing of sheep. This event would be participated by all family members young and old. It would be done on one of quiet days, without much wind, but also without much heat, in early hours. Only old iron scissors would be used as a tool, inherited from previous generations, important for each host. If the flock is bigger, this tool could be borrowed from the neighbour, who did not intend to shear sheep that same day in his household. Younger family members would also assist the older ones, taught in this activity by their parents, who received from their own parents the knowledge given by previous generation, so that the tradition is preserved and not forgotten. Skilful hands would quickly do the job. The goal was to get the job done with no delay, but also to leave all the sheep unharmed. Hardworking housewives would then categorise the wool, toss away corrupted parts, and wool would be carefully washed in clear water of the streams with homemade soap. Then, it would be sun-dried and carded. Afterwards, the wool would be weaved on weaving machine and spinning machine, if the thread is thinner, the girl would be more praised. Wool would be re-weaved, and eventually left in yarns ball, ready for knitting ankle socks, socks, sweaters, pullovers and other products. It would be coloured by desired natural colours, and the most often choice would be white and dark-grey.



There were also looms for weaving. The carpets were also woven. There were also wool spreading machines, not only in town but also in many villages. There was someone to purchase the wool. Wool and people are connected through the centuries by unbreakable connections.

Unfortunately, the largest percent of wool is tossed nowadays, because there is no organised purchase of wool. Tradition of weaving wool and wool processing in general is slowly dying, number of young women with knowledge of wool processing is getting smaller.

There is still the impressive number of 10.000 sheep in the Municipality of Pljevlja, and 179 households have flocks of more than 30 sheep. Sheep shearing is performed in the traditional manner, so to say with the same scissors as previously. Now, farmers would sell all of its wool, if the purchase price would be decent, they would not toss it away, just like in the past.

Mainly older women still keep tradition of hand-made wool products, mostly wardrobe and decorative items. We are witnesses that foreign tourists highly appreciate those products and buy them in large number. One of goals of workshops implemented within the WOOL project is to revive the tradition of knitting, weaving and general processing and preparation of wool for further use, as well as to point out the exquisite importance of preservation of this resource, rooted in our tradition. The WOOL project emphasises keeping and utilisation of wool. The initial loop, where everything begins are farmers with their sheep who, despite many difficulties, raise sheep.



The Municipality of Pljevlja so far practised workshops for weaving, sheep shearing, categorising and washing of wool. Set of workshops related to further processing, use and application of wool follow. This project pointed out the problem of burning, i.e. destruction of wool not only in our country but in the wider region, and simultaneously the problem of large import from foreign markets obtained per relatively high prices. So, the traditional natural resource owned is tossed and destroyed, and final product from that same resource is being bought from abroad.



The wool has increasing use in high fashion, so the demand for wool is growing.

Through the WOOL project, the Municipality of Pljevlja in cooperation with the Municipality of Žabljak engaged experts for development of strategy describing in details current condition at the territory of Montenegro regarding wool, its representation, type, quality and use. The Municipality of Pljevlja in cooperation with the Municipality of Žabljak organised round table with numerous stakeholders, attended also by the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Montenegro, Forestry and Water Management, for the purpose of familiarity with the WOOL project, and making the wool more visible and stimulate thinking how to get to its further valorisation and setting into position it deserves. The wool has a special importance in tourist offer, in preserving the tradition and cultural identity of a country.

Objective of the project is to jointly engage the maximum number of sheep farmers, artists and craftsmen making traditional wool handmade products, as well as all stakeholders, in project activities, and to work together with all WOOL project participant countries in mutual connection through the created network and signed memorandum on cooperation, visibility and valorisation of WOOL as the natural resource of high importance. Likewise, one of the objectives of project member states is to use promotion and various activities regarding wool for encouraging thinking and efforts to enhance general condition of farmers and valorisation of wool in the best possible manner, because we may say that its value through the centuries is undoubtedly justified.

The Municipality of Pljevlja had an opportunity to directly assure about the level of interest for WOOL and WOOL products at recently held Fair on EU Projects within celebration of the Month of Europe, held at the courtyard of Petrovic Palace in Podgorica on 28 may 2022. The Fair was attended by the manager of the Municipality of Pljevlja, Nataša Marković with her associates. There was a huge interest for booth of the Municipality of Pljevlja, particularly for handmade wool products and for the WOOL project. The booth of the Municipality of Pljevlja was visited by high officials of the ministries of Montenegro, President of the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, representatives of the embassies, the EU, the non-governmental organisations, universities, media as well as numerous citizens.

Wool should be saved for future generations. Many customs of our country are related to wool and its application and use, for which we are recognised, that we can save from oblivion only through preservation of wool. By preserving our customs, we also preserve our being, what we truly are. That is how we last.



FOTOCOLAGE









