



Parliament of Montenegro

NEWSLETTER OPEN PARLIAMENT

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ No. 65 ♦ November 2016

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OPEN PARLIAMENT



Parliament of Montenegro

Newsletter on the Parliament of Montenegro Performance ♦ Electronic format ♦ Release: monthly ♦ Year VI ♦ No. 65 ♦ November 2016

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

We present to you the key information on activities of the Parliament of Montenegro in the period from 1 to 30 November, which is, in the form of monthly newsletter "Open Parliament", prepared by Parliamentary Service.

In November, the First Constitutive Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session, and second and third sittings of the second ordinary session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016 were held.

In focus of this month's newsletter is the constituting of the 26th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro and election of Prime Minister and members of the 41st Government of Montenegro.

The newsletter is published monthly through which the Parliament endeavours to bring its work closer to Montenegrin citizens. We consider this publication to be very significant as a reliable source of information regarding the work of the Parliament and we hope that you will find it useful. We remain open to your comments and suggestions, as well as criticism, which can help us bring more quality to our work.

**Respectfully,
Parliamentary Service**

LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

At the First Constitutive Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, Report of the State Electoral Commission on results for the election of Members of the Parliament of Montenegro was presented. In addition, MPs elected President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament of Montenegro. Ivan Brajović was elected President of the Parliament of Montenegro, while Branimir Gvozdenović and Genci Nimanbegu were elected Vice-Presidents of the Parliament. Luid Ljubo Škrelja was elected Chair of the Administrative Committee, while the following were elected members of the Committee: Marta Šćepanović, Milorad Vuletić, Ana Nikolić, Branko Čavor, Bogdan Fatić and Adrijan Vuksanović.

At the Second Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, MPs adopted the Law on Amendments to the 2016 Budget Law of Montenegro.

At the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, Duško Marković was elected Prime Minister of the 41st Government of Montenegro. The following were elected as members of the 41st Government of Montenegro: Milutin Simović, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Policy and Financial System and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development; Zoran Pažin, Deputy Prime Minister for Political System, Interior and Foreign Policy and Minister of Justice; Rafet Husović, Deputy Prime Minister for Regional Development; Mevludin Nuhodžić, Minister of Interior; Predrag Bošković, Minister of Defence; Darko Radunović, Minister of Finance; Srđan Darmanović, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Aleksandar Andrija Pejović, Minister of European Affairs; Damir Šehović, Minister of Education; Sanja Damjanović, Minister of Science; Janko Ljumović, Minister of Culture; Dragica Sekulić, Minister of Economy; Osman Nurković, Minister of Transport and Maritime Affairs; Pavle Radulović, Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism; Kenan Hrapović, Minister of Health; Mehmet Zenka, Minister of Human and Minority Rights; Kemal Purišić, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare; Nikola Janović, Minister of Sports; Suzana Pribilović, Minister of Public Administration, and Marija Vučinović, Minister without Portfolio.

Parliament of Montenegro

The newsletter is edited by the Education Centre of the Parliamentary Institute.

NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro participated in the 62nd NATO Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session

Members of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Ranko Krivokapić participated in the 62nd NATO Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session, which took place from 18 to 21 November in Istanbul.



During the session, the meetings of the following committees were held: Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security, Defence and Security Committee, Economics and Security Committee, Political Committee, Science and Technology Committee and Standing Committee.

At the Standing Committee meeting, address was given by Head of Montenegrin Delegation Obrad Mišo Stanišić, who called on all the NATO member states which still haven't ratified the Protocol on Montenegro's Accession to NATO to do so promptly, in order to fulfill the strategic goal and enable Montenegro to join the community of Euro-Atlantic states as soon as possible, and also expected that at the following NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Spring Session, Montenegro would be granted full-fledged membership. In addition, he reminded the participants of the meeting that the recent Montenegrin parliamentary elections have shown that the victory belonged not only to a democratic, civic and multi-ethnic Montenegro, but also to a European and Euro-Atlantic Montenegro.

During the plenary session, main address was given by NATO Secretary General and President of the North-Atlantic Council Jens Stoltenberg. Referring to NATO's "open door policy" and admission of countries aspiring to become full-fledged members, NATO Secretary General and President of the North-Atlantic Council Jens Stoltenberg called on the NATO member states which haven't ratified the Protocol on Montenegro's Accession to NATO to do so promptly so that Montenegro could receive full-fledged membership in the upcoming NATO Parliamentary Session. Speaking about actions of NATO forces throughout the globe, he emphasised that they are

a single multinational brigade of defensive character, whose actions are used proportionally to threats the Alliance is faced by, and especially emphasised that their aim was prevention of conflict and not causing of it. When it comes to provision of timely and powerful defense through NATO forces, he particularly focused on financial resources envisaged for defense and asked member states to initiate a dialogue in their national parliaments on this issue and indicate to the importance of greater level of allocation to the defence sector, considering that a higher budget could directly strengthen the activities of NATO forces in combating security challenges across the globe.

Furthermore, Paolo Alli, a representative of the Italian Parliament was elected President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly following his predecessor Michael Turner, while the following were elected as Vice-Presidents of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Tchetin Kazak (Bulgaria), Joseph A. Day (Canada), Rasa Juknevičienė (Lithuania), Sverre Myrli (Norway) and Metin Lütfi Baydar (Turkey).

Members of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to NATO Parliamentary Assembly met with representatives of Montenegrin immigrants living in the Republic of Turkey. During the meeting, the interlocutors jointly concluded that similar meetings would create an ideal opportunity for mutual exchange of information and finding ideal solutions to issues significant to both parties. In addition, they stated that in the upcoming period, additional efforts should be invested in further promotion of cooperation in this area, for the purpose of implementing the suggested ideas. Particular importance was placed on strengthening communication and raising the level of awareness of all interested parties with regard to business activities in Montenegro and increasing the possibility for potential investors.



IN FOCUS



26th Convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro constituted and Prime Minister and members of the 41st Government elected



A new (26th) convocation was constituted on 7 November, in which the Parliament elected the President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament, as well as Chair and members of the Administrative Committee.

Ivan Brajović was elected President of the Parliament, while Branimir Gvozdenović and Genci Nimanbegu were elected as Vice-Presidents. Luid Ljubo Škrelja was elected Chair of the Administrative Committee, while Marta Šćepanović, Milorad Vuletić, Ana Nikolić, Branko Čavor, Bogdan Fatić and Adrijan Vuksanović were elected members of the Administrative Committee.

At the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2016, Duško Marković was elected Prime Minister of the 41st Government of Montenegro.

The following were elected as members of the 41st Government of Montenegro: Milutin Simović, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Policy and Financial System and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development; Zoran Pažin, Deputy Prime Minister for Political System, Interior and Foreign Policy and Minister of Justice; Rafet Husović, Deputy Prime Minister for Regional Development; Mevludin Nuhodžić, Minister of Interior; Predrag Bošković, Minister of Defence; Darko Radunović, Minister of Finance; Srđan Darmanović, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Aleksandar Andrija Pejović, Minister of European Affairs; Damir Šehović, Minister of Education; Sanja Damjanović, Minister of Science; Janko Ljumović, Minister of Culture; Dragica Sekulić, Minister of Economy; Osman Nurković, Minister of Transport and Maritime Affairs; Pavle Radulović, Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism; Kenan Hrapović, Minister of Health; Mehmet Zenka, Minister of Human and Minority Rights; Kemal Purišić, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare; Nikola Janović, Minister of Sports; Suzana Pribilović, Minister of Public Administration, and Marija Vučinović, Minister without Portfolio.

FROM THE HISTORY OF MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENTARISM



1909 BUDGET LAW

31 December 1908/ 13 January 1909

**WE
NIKOLA I
BY THE GRACE OF GOD
PRINCE AND SOVEREIGN OF MONTENEGRO**
Announce and declare to each and one of you
that the National Assembly has decided and that
we decided to order and are ordering this

1909 BUDGET LAW

which shall prescribe the following:

Article 1

The 1909 State Budget revenues and expenditures, adopted on 23 December 1908 by the Montenegrin Assembly shall comprise the following amounts:

Revenues2, 906. 959 kruna
Expenditures.....2, 906.959 kruna

Article 2

All revenues envisaged within the 1909 budget shall be spent for the purpose they've been designated and in the manner prescribed and elaborated within the general part of expenditures for the said year.

Article 3

It shall be prohibited to exceed the amounts of

expenditures envisaged within the parties of the general part of the budget, in accordance with the budget law, adopted by the Montenegrin National Assembly. In addition, credits envisaged by the separate part of the budget must be spent for the purpose they've been designated.

(...)

Article 4

Introducing any other taxes not envisaged by the law and imposing them on citizens shall be strictly prohibited.

Article 8

This law shall enter into force on 1 January 1909.

We urge all Our Ministers to publish and execute this law, and urge the authorities to perform their activities in accordance with the law, and each and everyone to obey it.

Cetinje, 31 December 1908

Nikola, handwritten signature

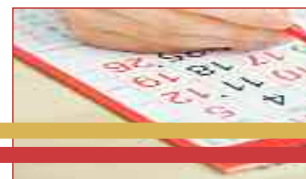
Pavićević, B, Raspopović, R, eds. Crnogorski zakonici 1796 -1916, knj. IV (Montenegrin Codes 1796 -1916, Book IV), Podgorica, Istorijiski institut Crne Gore, 1998, pp. 671-672

PARLIAMENTARY GLOSSARY

Convocation. "A Convocation is a group of people formally assembled to serve a special purpose. In parliamentary practice, the term convocation is used to mark the composition of the parliament between two parliamentary elections. A convocation letter, on the other hand, is an act of the president of the parliament or the president of a working body of the parliament used to officially invite MPs to sessions or meetings. Attached to the convocation letter is the agenda of the meeting." ¹

¹ Doc. dr Komar; Olivera, Prof. dr Ivana Jelić, Nataša Komnenić, Irena Mijanović, Jelena Radonjić, Vlatko Šćepanović, *Parlamentarni leksikon*, Podgorica, Skupština Crne Gore 2016, p. 184

CALENDAR



5 November

- At the end of his term of office, President of the Parliament of Montenegro Darko Pajović organised a farewell press conference. Pajović emphasised that the Parliament adopted 117 legal acts, more specifically 87 laws, which predominantly involved European integrations. In addition, Pajović expressed belief that the adoption of the NATO resolution induced a significant boost in the ratification of the Law on the accession of Montenegro to the Alliance in the NATO member states.

8 November

- MP Aleksandar Damjanović participated in the Conference held on the topic “Developing Effective Working Relationships between Supreme Audit Institutions and Parliaments”, which took place on 8-9 November in Ankara. The Conference gathered MPs and representatives of the Network of Supreme Audit Institutions of EU Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries and the European Court of Auditors, as well as SIGMA experts, on which occasion they shared experiences and examples of good practice aimed at strengthening relations between supreme audit institutions and parliaments.

11 November

- MP Miodrag Vuković participated in the CEI Forum on “Energy Union on the Way to Greater Self-Sufficiency: CEI Perspective on Trans-Adriatic and Trans-Alpine Energy Policies”, organised by the Senate of the Republic of Italy and Veneto regional Government’s Development and Energy Department, as a part of the activities of the Central European Initiative, in Venice. The Forum discussed specific projects in the CEI region which are being implemented as well as ideas for new projects important for connections between member states of this initiative.

14 November

- Head of the Political and Economic Section of the United States Embassy to Montenegro Leslie Freriksen paid a visit to Democracy workshops “Barbara Prammer” and spoke with English Access Microscholarship Programme participants, who attended a workshop on the topic “Democracy and Parliament”.
- MP Aleksandar Damjanović met with Delegation of the International Monetary Fund composed of Martin Petri,

Head of the IMF mission to Montenegro and William J. Lindquist, IMF expert. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the current state of public finances in Montenegro, as well as procedures for considering the budget.

18 November

- Members of the Permanent Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to NATO Parliamentary Assembly Obrad Mišo Stanišić and Ranko Krivokapić participated in the 62nd NATO PA Annual Session, which took place from 18 to 21 November in Istanbul.

25 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović, at the invitation of President of the Parliament of Croatia Božo Petrov, participated in the sitting of Croatian Parliament, during which the Law on the ratification of the Protocol on the accession of Montenegro to NATO was adopted.

30 November

- President of the Parliament of Montenegro Ivan Brajović received the U.S. Ambassador to Montenegro Margaret A. Uyehara. During the meeting, the interlocutors discussed the work of the new convocation of the Parliament, as well as the continuation of the European Integration process. The expected ratification of NATO Accession Protocol for Montenegro by the remaining 14 member states was outlined as a foreign policy priority. Ambassador Uyehara expressed continuous support of the United States of America to Montenegro towards strengthening institutions of the system, rule of law and fight against corruption. In addition, Uyehara emphasised that participation of all stakeholders in that process is important for the benefit of citizens of Montenegro. The interlocutors agreed that Montenegro should further strengthen its democratic capacities on its integration progress path.
- MP Luid Ljubo Škrelja participated in a regional round table on the topic “The role of parliaments of the Western Balkans in oversight over measures for prevention and fight against non-violent forms of extremism”, which took place in Priština. The round table was dedicated to finding the most effective solutions from the scope of parliamentary work, which are aimed at strengthening institutions and the rule of law, in the context of providing a platform for exchange of experiences and good practice.