

# NEWSLETTER

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ENGLISH



GOVERNMENT OF MONTENEGRO

Coordination Team for Implementation  
of the Communication Strategy  
on Euro-Atlantic Integration



UNITED IN EUROPE,  
SAFE IN NATO.



NATO  
+  
OTAN

## Celebration of the Armed Forces Day



"In a very short time the Armed Forces of Montenegro have come a very long way, with immeasurable support and assistance of NATO and our partners," Vice Admiral **Dragan Samardzic** said on the celebration of Armed Forces Day, 7 October.

Samardzic stressed that our country is proud of its soldiers who have made a great contribution to building and maintaining peace.

- In a relatively short time, almost ten percent of the Armed Forces participated in the NATO and EU international missions and operations. At this moment, many of them are in Pol-e Khomri, Mazar-e Sharif, Kabul and Monroli where they give their best possible support to the collective security system and they contribute to the reputation of our country – Samardzic said.

## 10-11 October

### Vujanovic: Montenegro committed to the integration



Montenegrin President **Filip Vujanovic** was on 10 and 11 October 2011 in a two-day official visit to Croatia. Montenegrin President was received by Croatian President **Ivo Josipovic**, Prime Minister **Jadranka Kosor** and President of the Croatian Parliament **Luka Bebic**.

President **Vujanovic** expressed his gratitude to Croatia for its state policy that as a member of NATO and being very close to the EU accession promotes an important strategic goal of European integration and Euro-

Atlantic integration of Montenegro. He said that Montenegro has shown full commitment, not only of the state, but also of all stakeholders to be part of these large state integration communities.

President **Josipovic** said that Montenegro has reached a significant level of European and Euro-Atlantic standards, and he reiterated support of Croatia and pointed out that it will vigorously promote the European and Euro-Atlantic goals of Montenegro.

## 11 October

### Lukšić u posjeti SAD



Prime Minister of Montenegro **Igor Luksic** met at the headquarters of the Pentagon with the Assistant Secretary of Defence Ambassador **Alexander Vershbow**.

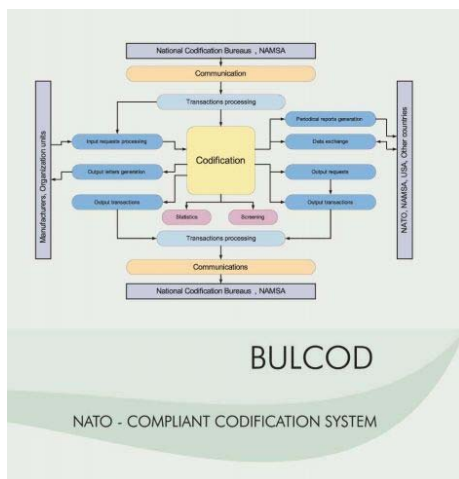
Prime Minister Luksic and Ambassador Vershbow discussed the foreign policy priorities of Montenegro, NATO and the EU.

Vershbow praised Montenegro's commitment in fulfilling the obligations and efficiency in terms of reforms and expressed his appreciation for the contribution of Montenegro in peacekeeping missions.

Prime Minister Luksic pointed out the complementarities of NATO and the EU accession, stressing that the progress on the way to the EU is at the same time a kind of incentive for NATO membership.

## 11 October

### Montenegro will use BULCOD for codification



Deputy Defence Minister for Development and Protection of Information and Communication System **Mira Cerovic** and Deputy Defence Minister of Bulgaria **Valentin Radev** signed an Agreement on the free right to use the Bulgarian codification software BULCOD.

With this donation, Montenegro received a codification software in compliant to NATO standards.

It is a very important software that allows the Armed Forces to achieve the basis for interoperability in the material sphere.

BULCOD software fully meets the requirements for codification of material resources in the defence system of Montenegro. The software is necessary in order to meet the deadlines for meeting the Partnership goals in the field of supply chain management.

NATO membership will allow Montenegrin companies to participate in tenders and international defence projects, and products from Montenegro will qualify for their use in the NATO countries.

## 13 October

### Krivokapic: Membership in NATO and EU - A response to security challenges



President of the Parliament of Montenegro **Ranko Krivokapic** with his Hungarian counterpart **Lasto Revere** presided over the **Fifth Conference of Heads of Parliaments of the Western Balkans** in Budapest.

The issue of security is still very important in South-Eastern Europe and, precisely for this reason, Montenegrin government policy has no doubt that the only comprehensive response to current and potential regional security challenges is our country's full

membership, first in NATO, then in the European Union - Krivokapic said.

Krivokapic said that Montenegro's state policy is not burdened with deadlines for admission to the EU and NATO, even though she is very concerned with having good achieving in the process.

Montenegro is primarily focused on the quality implementation of standards in the developed world. Our goal is to provide economic, political and security conditions for the life that the citizens of other countries in the Euro-Atlantic community have – Krivokapic said.

We are committed to strengthening good neighbourly relations and becoming a full member of NATO as soon as possible, as a small but a reliable and courageous partner, as it was proven during the centuries - he said.

## 13 October

### **Luksic: Citizens will understand the benefits of the Alliance**



Montenegro's Prime Minister **Igor Luksic** during his visit to the United States gave a lecture at the Atlantic Council in Washington, saying that **Montenegro is an anchor of peace and stability in the Western Balkans.**

During his lecture Luksic said that he sees Montenegro's economic goals and foreign policy as intertwining. He expressed his belief that the economic growth will mark the next period in Montenegro, and

that during forthcoming reforms the country will focus on the rule of law and foreign policy goals - adhering to EU and NATO.

Commenting the public support of NATO integration, Luksic said that, although the NATO membership lacks the support at this moment, its opponents will in time become a minority in Montenegro.

Despite initial resistance of the citizens, I expect that there will be no serious opponents of the membership in the Alliance in Montenegro - Luksic said, and explained this with the fact that citizens are increasingly interested in the economy and they will understand the financial aspect of membership in NATO.

## 13 October

### **U.S. supports Luksic's Government**



U.S. Vice President **Joe Biden** met at the White House with the Prime Minister of Montenegro **Igor Luksic.**

Vice President Biden reiterated U.S. support for Montenegro's aspirations to NATO and EU membership and praised the progress made in these fields. He stressed that the U.S. wants to help Montenegro to continue to exercise political and economic reforms.

Vice President Biden also expressed his appreciation for the contributions of Montenegro in the international peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan.

Prime Minister Luksic also met with U.S. Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** who expressed satisfaction with the progress Montenegro has made towards the European Union and NATO.

Messages that the Prime Minister received in Washington are very positive, support for reform was promised and it was reiterated that there is still much work that needs to be done in the future, regardless of the results.

## 18 October

### Second Annual National Program (ANP) presented in Brussels



The meeting of Montenegro's representative with the representatives of the Alliance member states took place in the NATO HQ in Brussels on 18 November, at which the **Second Annual National Programme (ANP)** created under the Membership Action Plan (MAP) was presented.

The Montenegrin delegation was led by the State Secretary for Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration **Nebojsa Kaludjerovic**, and the Deputy Defence Minister for Security Policy **Drasko Jovanovic** was also present.

Following the presentation of the Programme, the representatives of 20 NATO member states praised Montenegro's hitherto activities under the first cycle of MAP and the second ANP, which was qualified as a comprehensive and high quality document which clearly underlines the priorities.

In this context, the attendants underlined the importance of further implementation of activities related to the rule of law and the strengthening of public support in Montenegro to its Euro Atlantic integration.

They recognized Montenegro's role as a regional actor, as well as its contribution to global security in light of its participation in the ISAF mission.

## 21 October

### Police aimed at achieving standards



Montenegro is committed to the path of the EU and NATO integration, and the Police responsibly perform its activities in order to achieve the expected standards, **Veselin Veljovic**, Director of the Police Directorate said.

He met in Podgorica with the Expert Mission of the delegation of the Ministry of Interior and the Police of

the Czech Republic, led by **Jiri Vesely**. The meeting was also attended by Czech Ambassador to Montenegro, **Hana Hubackova** and Consul of the Czech Republic in Montenegro, **Václav Dobes**.

Police Directorate of Montenegro, Director Veljovic said, is a reliable and trustworthy partner in regional and international cooperation, and the cooperation will be continued in the field of forensics and **exchange of experiences from participation in peacekeeping missions**.

**27 October**

## **Support of France**



Minister of Foreign Affairs and European interacija **Milan Rocen** met with Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of France **Alan Juppé**, with whom he discussed the process of European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro and bilateral relations between the two countries.

Juppé welcomed Montenegro's commitment to achieving its strategic goals and said that France supports Montenegro's membership in the EU. He is also highly rated the contribution and the positive role of Montenegro in the international arena, particularly participation in the ISAF mission in Afghanistan and support of the transition of Libya. Juppé emphasized that France welcomes the progress of our country within MAP, as well as readiness to support NATO membership.

UDRUŽENI U EVROPI,  
BEZBJEDNI U NATO.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE COORDINATION TEAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNICATION STRATEGY AND PARTNERS

**7 October**

### Start of the project "I wish to see, I want to know"



Opening ceremony of the project "I want to see, I wish to know," was organized in High school "Slobodan Skerovic" by the NGO Alpha Center, with the support of the Coordination Team for the Implementation of the Communication Strategy on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro.

On this occasion, the participants of the project, high school students from seven municipalities in Montenegro were addressed by **Dragan**

**Pejanovic**, Head of the Coordination Team, and **Aleksandar Dedovic**, Executive Director of NGO ALFA Centar.

"I am certain that among you the future leaders are sitting - figures that will contribute with their further efforts in development of Montenegro as a democratic state and a member of the world's leading alliances, such as NATO," Pejanovic said.

He emphasized that the Coordination Team will always support projects that create an environment that inspires young people to realize their full potential.

Dedovic announced implementation of activities under this project and expressed his satisfaction that NGO ALFA Centar has a chance to meet young people with the Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro, but also to organize a gathering of young people from all Montenegrin municipalities.

After the opening ceremony the participants went to the University Donja Gorica where they participated in a video conference "Role of Youth in the Euro-Atlantic integration of the Region", which aims to share knowledge and experiences of young people from Montenegro and Serbia about the Euro-Atlantic integration in the region.

**11 October**

### "The Euro-Atlantic Lesson" organized in Ulcinj



NGO New Horizon organized on 11 October „The Euro-Atlantic Lesson”, an activity from the project "Youth in Integration" with high-school graduates from Ulcinj.

An informal school lesson in the form of performance art was held in front of the private High School "Drita". Students who attended the event, as well as other high school students, were given bilingual brochures

and promotional material, while information about the integration process in our country and the region were given by the team of trainers and educators from the NGO New Horizon.

NGO New Horizon from Ulcinj started the project "Youth in integration" with this event, in cooperation with the Coordination Team. The project aims to increase awareness on the Euro-Atlantic integration, as well as provide an opportunity to young people in local communities to acquire new knowledge through lectures and informal socializing, and to recognize the value of the upcoming integration process.

## 12 October

### Conversation with representatives of the Association of Military Retirees of Montenegro



Head of the Coordination Team, **Dragan Pejanovic** and his associates, met on Tuesday, 11 October 2011, with representatives of the Association of Military Retirees of Montenegro, headed by President **Dragan Tiodorovic**, a retired Colonel.

Coordinator **Pejanovic**, General **Milosavljevic**, Lieutenant **Marinovic** and Colonel **Tahirovic** talked about the Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro with members of the Presidency, the Governing Board

of the Association of Military Retirees of Montenegro, as well as the Municipal Associations of Military Retirees.

The importance of discussing and exchanging views with military retirees on strategic issues of our country, European and Euro-Atlantic integration, was emphasized at the meeting, and a greater involvement of military retirees in the debate on this issue in the future period, because they have extensive knowledge of military, defence and security matters of the country and the region.

Representatives of military retirees emphasized their satisfaction with this conversation on this important process for Montenegro and its citizens, and agreed that it is necessary to talk about this issue, because there is a distrustful attitude of the members of the Association toward the Euro-Atlantic integration.

It was concluded at the meeting that it is necessary to continue these conversations with an aim of eliminating prejudices, stereotypes and emotional understandings, in order to explain the reasons for full membership of Montenegro in NATO.

## 18 October

### Dragan Pejanovic met with Ambassador Gasparic



Head of the Coordination Team **Dragan Pejanovic** met with Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in Montenegro **Vladimir Gasparic**.

Coordinator Pejanovic stressed the importance of the role of Slovenia, CPE for NATO and expressed his satisfaction with cooperation established with the Embassy of Slovenia during the term of office of

Ambassador Videtic.

He said that the quality and continuity of the previous activities in information and education about this process have substantially contributed to the common understanding of integration, a greater interest in the topic and support of Montenegrin citizens for integration into the Alliance.

Ambassador Gasparic spoke about the planned activities of Slovenia as a CPE for NATO and stated that an increased awareness of citizens about this process is of great importance for the future path of Montenegro on its full membership in NATO. He expressed the readiness of Slovenia to help Montenegro on this path and announced the continuation of joint activities and coordination during the development of the 2012 Action Plan.

## 18 October

### Panel discussion in Pljevlja and Niksic



NGO ALFA Centar in partnership with NGO Forum 2010 organized two panel discussions, in Pljevlja and Niksic on the topic "Montenegro on its Euro-Atlantic path".

Panel discussion in Pljevlja was held on 17 October in the Hall of the Municipality of Pljevlja, and **Dijana Gomilanic**, municipal DPS committee member, **Blagoje Grahovac**, a retired general, and Mr. **Dritan Abazovic**, a political scientist participated in the event.

Panel discussion in Niksic was held on 18 October in the Hall "Zahumlje" and **Dragisa Janjusevic**, president of the Center for Political Education, **Blagoje Grahovac**, a retired general and Mr. **Dritan Abazovic**, a political scientist spoke on the given topic.

## 19 October

### Head of the Coordination Team meets NATO ambassadors in Montenegro



Head of the Coordination Team for Implementation of the Communication Strategy on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro **Dragan Pejanovic**, participated on Wednesday, 19 October 2011 at the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, NATO CPE, at the meeting with NATO member states ambassadors in Montenegro. The goal of the meeting was future intensification of mutual communication and exchange of ideas that would contribute to further improving the

quality of activities in the process of informing citizens.

Coordinator Pejanovic made an analysis of the previous work on implementation of the Communication Strategy, and informed the participants about the planned activities. The Coordination Team will significantly intensify activities at a high political level, based on the successful implementation and positive evaluation of the activities of Montenegro in the first Annual National Program within MAP, as well as the positive marks given on the presentation of the Second Annual National Program in Brussels on 18 October, Pejanovic said.



Ambassadors and representatives of NATO member states in Montenegro congratulated the Team on the results achieved and expressed readiness to provide input and suggestions for further work in this area, based on their experience. In addition, they expressed willingness to provide support and assistance to the Coordination Team in the process of informing the public on Montenegro's membership in NATO and emphasized the importance of involving all structures of the Montenegrin society in this process.

In particular, they highlighted the need for involvement of high political level, parliamentarians and representatives of local governments in activities aimed at informing citizens about the process.

## 21 October

### Minister Numanovic spoke of the Euro-Atlantic integration in Herceg Novi



Minister of Labour and Social Welfare **Suad Numanovic** within the working visit to the Municipality of Herceg Novi participated in the public debate on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro.

Participants were welcomed by Mayor **Dejan Mandic**, who stressed that the EU and NATO members are known as a safe countries and secure economies. On the other hand, he pointed out that the Government

would have to give substantial resources for defence if becoming a NATO member, and that the citizens should make the final decision.

**Suad Numanovic**, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare emphasized the benefits of Montenegro's membership in NATO. He stressed that NATO membership will cost, but it costs more to keep the neutrality, and that it is necessary for Montenegro to give up to 2% of GDP for the membership.

**Ivan Masulovic**, Security Advisor to Prime Minister, said that the security as an absolute category is non-existent, but that we can work on reducing risks.

**Sead Frljukcic**, Advisor to the Director of Police Directorate, **Goran Banicevic**, Head of the Police Department in Herceg Novi, and **Ivan Mandic**, President of the Association of retired officers of the Interiors, also spoke about the importance increased security that only NATO can provide.

## 23 October

### NGO Spona organized a panel discussion in Bijelo Polje

NGO "Spona" from Berane, along with its partners NGO "Mreža 9" and "Montenegroherc" from Plave, organized a panel discussion in Bijelo Polje, attended by graduates from high school "Miloje Dobrasinovic".

Sociology professor at this high school, **Raco Bogavac**, also participated in the panel discussion.



Responding to students' questions, **Sasa Radunovic**, Head of the NGO "Spona", pointed out that NATO operates on a voluntary basis and that all decisions are made by consensus. He said that the best example is the case of Greece, which, because of the name issue of Macedonia, does not allow Macedonia to become a full member of NATO, although all the other members agree that it deserves membership.

Among other things, he said that the citizens of Montenegro do not need to wonder why the Balkan countries are interesting to NATO, because there are conditions for their membership, as well as the conditions for all other countries of Eastern Europe that have met these requirements and have become members of NATO.

## 25 October

### Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Coordination Team, the European Movement in Montenegro, and the Centre for Monitoring



Head of the Coordination Team **Dragan Pejanovic** and NGO representatives - **Nikoleta Tomovic** from the Centre for Monitoring (CEMI) and **Momcilo Radulovic** from the European Movement in Montenegro, signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

Coordinator Pejanovic expressed his satisfaction with cooperation established and expressed his hope that it will be based on principles of partnership, transparency, accountability, mutual information, independence of non-governmental organizations, and coordination of activities.

Pejanovic said he believes that the Coordination Team now has two more serious and reliable partners, which will make a significant contribution to further process of implementation of the Communication Strategy.

The Secretary General of the NGO European Movement in Montenegro **Momcilo Radulovic** said that the signing of the Memorandum is an important step to a more transparent and efficient Euro-Atlantic integration process, given the important role that NGOs have when it comes to cooperation with different society structures.

**Nikoleta Tomovic**, speaking in behalf of the NGO Center for Monitoring, expressed her expectation that this will open up many possibilities for the realization of the projects of common interest.

Signing of the Memorandum is a starting point for intensification of mutual cooperation, with the aim of increasing the level of awareness and public interest, high-school and university students, as well as other segments of society about the nature of Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro, as well as the role, significance and structure of NATO.

## A successful panel in Bar



Minister of Transport and Maritime Affairs Dr. **Andrija Lompar** within a work visit to the Municipality of Bar took part in the public debate on Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro.

Minister Lompar in his speech pointed out two important reasons for joining NATO. The first concerns security, because the former Yugoslavia region needs stable solutions and an organization that will provide more security in order to resolve future conflicts in a peaceful and diplomatic manner. The second reason relates to the economic stability, because today question of safety and security has become a prerequisite for any business within and outside the borders of one country.

Mayor of Bar **Zarko Pavicevic** considers the NATO membership is a priority and that Bar's local government will contribute to fulfilling all the necessary standards and speed up the time of joining the Alliance, which brings collective and economic security. Pavicevic also said that the membership will certainly make eminent foreign and domestic investors be much more comfortable to invest in Montenegro and Bar. This will cause economic prosperity and create more vacancies, which is one of the priorities of the Municipality of Bar.



The panel was also attended by the Head of NATO Department at the MoD, Captain **Dragoslav Pumpalovic**, Advisor to the Director of the Police **Sead Frljukcic**, Head of the Police Department in Bar **Vladan Lakovic** and **Ivan Mandic**, President of the Association of retired officers of the Interiors.

The public discussion was attended by the representatives of the local government, political parties, NGOs, citizens and pensioners.

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## Training for state and local servants and employees and local parliamentarians about NATO



During **October** Training for state and local servants and employees and local parliamentarians was held through five seminars, 2 in Podgorica, and one each in Bijelo Polje, Pljevlja and Berane.

Guest lecturers were: Ambassador of Croatia to Montenegro **Petar Turcinovic** and Head of the Sector for international missions and operations, Ministry of Defence of Slovenia and Senior Advisor at the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro **Aljosa Selan**.

The training will be held in future with the involvement of guest speakers from the diplomatic missions in Montenegro, as well as

representatives of NATO, EU, OSCE and UN, in the following cities: Bar, Berane, Bijelo Polje, Herceg Novi, Niksic, Pljevlja, Podgorica. Lectures will be held by Colonel **Mehmedin Tahirovic**.

## NGO New Horizon: Youth in Integration



**NGO New Horizon** within the project "Youth in Integration," in cooperation with the Coordination Team and the daily Pobjeda launched a series of five articles in the Albanian language, published by the weekly Koha Javore.

The project "Youth in Integration" is an activity planned in the VIII Action Plan for implementation of the Communication Strategy on Euro-Atlantic integration.

The third article titled *Transformimi dhe zgjerimi* was published on **13 October**, and the fourth article *NATO në dimensionin e ri të sigurisë civile* was published on **27 October**. Original articles can be viewed on

[www.nato-montenegro.me](http://www.nato-montenegro.me)

## Introducing NATO member countries

In cooperation with the Coordination Team and the Faculty of Political Sciences, every Monday student **Marija Martinovic** writes about NATO member country for the website [www.nato-montenegro.me](http://www.nato-montenegro.me). The following text was included in the section Member States in October: **Bulgaria**.

## "NATO-Info" aired on Radio Crna Gora

"NATO-Info" is a half-hour program about NATO, aired on Channel 1 of Radio Crna Gora, and one of the information activities defined by the Action Plan which primarily discusses key NATO topics, with various and numerous guests, and with direct contact with the listeners. It is broadcasted twice a month, on Thursdays, at 10 am. In each programme, spokesperson of the MoD **Tamara Popovic** gives a regular report on the status of our soldiers in the 4<sup>th</sup> Contingent in the ISAF Mission in Afghanistan.



**13 October** – Guest of the programme was Ambassador of Slovakia to Montenegro, **Frantisek Lipka**, who spoke about the experience of Slovakia in Euro-Atlantic path, as well as the efforts and successes of Montenegro in the integration processes.

**27 October** – Guest of the programme was Minister of Defence **Boro Vucinic**, who spoke on the integration of Montenegro to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

## "Raport" aired on Radio Antena M



"Raport" is a program on Euro-Atlantic integration, defence and army. It is broadcasted twice a month, on Wednesdays at 16 h.

**19 October**- Topics of this issue were:

- Visit of the Prime Minister Igor Luksic to Washington and meeting with Biden and Hillary Clinton,

- Interview with Major General John W. Libby is the Adjutant General of the Maine National Guard,

- Discussion on NATO organized in Niksic by the Alfa Centar and the NGO Forum 2010

**26 October** - Topics of this issue were:

- Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Security and Defence on providing natural disaster relief,

- Interview with a defence analyst from Croatia Igor Tabak on the participation of NATO in Libya.

## "NATO-Info" broadcasted on TVCG



"NATO-Info" is a short, informative journalistic form, which is usually broadcasted twice a month, and it deals with current issues from NATO, from NATO member states and partners, as well as from Montenegro on its way to NATO. There were two episodes broadcasted in October, as follows:

**5 October** - topics of the issue were: Training for state and local servants and employees and local parliamentarians on NATO, a visit to Brussels by students – winners of the essay/poster competition, and speech of Marija Radonjic from the School of Rhetoric on the subject of Euro-Atlantic integration.

**27 October** – Guest of the programme was **Milo Djukanovic**, President of the Democratic Party of Socialists.