

First quarterly report on the state of human rights in Montenegro 2010 January 1 – March 31

I Previous information

Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR) conducts monitoring of human rights in Montenegro fifth year in a row, and informs public via quarterly and annual reports. This is the first quarterly report for 2010 and it includes information from January 1 to March 31, 2010. The report covered the following areas: legislation and institutional framework, freedom of expression, politically motivated violence, torture, minority rights, discrimination and status of displaced persons. YIHR team, composed of five members, worked on the research and the report in cooperation with Civil Right Defenders (former Swedish Helsinki Committee for Human Rights) and YIHR regional office. In our work, we used techniques of researching on the terrain, press clipping, analysis, interviews, and SOS phone line.

During the period observed, Montenegro continued fulfilling obligations related to European and Atlantic integrations. Answers to all 673 additional questions are prepared, and will be delivered to European Commission on April 12, 2010. Montenegro sent the first contingent of soldiers to peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan. Local elections have been called for and will take place on May 23, 2010 in 14 municipalities in Montenegro. Preparation of the Parliament and the discussion on harmonization of electoral legislation have not been finished yet and the compromise related to model of minorities representation has not been made yet thus, elections shall be held on the ground of former Law on election of members of municipal assembly and MPs, which is not in accordance with the Constitution.

First three months were marked by labor strikes while the most radical one was the strike of miners from Niksic, who spent more than 20 days in the mine pit. The Government adopted amended Law on trade unions which envisages census of 10% for representative trade unions at national level, which will enable pluralism of representation of workers.

In this period, three reports related to human rights area in Montenegro for 2009 were published. At the beginning of the year, Freedom House stated in its report that Montenegro was free country and that it made progress in organization of Parliamentary elections, adoption of anticorruption legislation, and that general stabilization of situation in the country was achieved.

Council of Europe Committee for Prevention of Torture published in March the report (www.cpt.coe.int/documents/mne/2010-03-09-eng.htm) which was developed after the visit of experts of this body to Montenegrin institutions where persons with limited freedom of movement are placed or where may be placed. The report emphasized numerous problems and indicated there were numerous cases of torture, inhuman and degrading behavior. As very important deficiency the report mentioned inefficient investigations and court procedures that would lead to punishing committers of torture. The report also said that some representatives of institutions gave incorrect data intending to cover the real state. All recommendations from the report should be respected unconditionally and capacities of institutions should be additionally improved for the conduction of reforms.

State Department Report on the State of Human Rights for 2009 (<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2009/eur/136048.htm>), which was published in March, stated series of problems in Montenegrin society. The impact of authority on courts, increased level of politically motivated offences, absence of punishments for murders and assaults, high level corruption without processed cases at court, police torture, poor conditions in prisons and premises

for detainees, police officers impunity, physical assaults on journalists and high fines against journalists and media for the criminal act of defamation, poor position of Roma and displaced persons, religious intolerance, violation in family and discrimination of women, and homophobia were problems stated in the report for Montenegro.

II LEGISLATION AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA

Legislation

Law on protection of discrimination – After multiannual work, this Law, that prohibits discrimination, was the focus of the public discussion. YIHR referred several remarks to the Commission which worked on the Law. The first imposing question is which institutional mechanisms and authorizations may be used for the achievement of this goal?

According to Article 25, Drafter of the law delegated this work to Protector of human rights and freedoms, not giving him the authorization to implement the Law, but giving that role to courts to implement it in civil litigation. More useful solution would be establishing specific body that would deal with prohibition of discrimination while its competences would be to promote equal treatment of all persons without discrimination, on any grounds, that would also have precise authorizations for investigation and rights to make decisions, that would provide aid to victims of discrimination in complaint drafting also, and publish independent reports and provide recommendations on cases of discrimination.

Provision of Article 21 defines the right to active legitimation only in favour of victims of discrimination. The third persons, whether it is Ombudsman or commissioner for equality, or organizations dealing with protection of human rights and freedoms do not have that right, which may be shown as faulty solution for implementation of law.

At the end, Draft of the law has not defined the issue of sanctions in a view of punishable provisions for the purpose of defining misdemeanours for official person, or accountable person in body of public authority, legal person, and entrepreneur and physical person if they act in discriminatory manner, related to articles of this law.

Venetian Commission presented similar remarks, but it occurred that most remarks were not adopted in the new version of the Draft of law. Ministry for human and minority rights announced that those remarks shall be adopted and that the Draft of the law shall be amended.

Law on free legal aid – Article 21 of the Constitution of Montenegro guarantees right to legal aid, provided by lawyers and other services to each individual. The Article prescribes that legal aid may be free, in accordance with law.

In this manner, for the first time in national legal system, right to legal aid has been developed to the the level of basic human right, prescribed by the Constitution. This constitutional guarantee provides the basis for adoption of Law on free legal aid for the purpose of creating conditions by the country for enjoying and protecting this right.

Ministry of justice of the Government of Montenegro undertook some steps towards adoption of Law on free legal aid and it was announced that it would be adopted in this quarter. The Law has not been adopted yet, and the effective accession to justice is still dimmed to representatives of marginalized social groups as the most vulnerable, whom this aid should be provided. YIHR has the information that this Law shall be adopted in the following quarter.

Adoption of the Law would represent important legal answer on obligations prescribed by Article 21 of the Constitution, Article 6 of European Convention on Human Rights and Freedoms, and the answer to ongoing implementations of legal standards developed in the frame of law of the European Union in the area of right to legal aid.

Institutional framework

Ministry for human and minority rights – Work of the Ministry is organized through Department for promotion and protection of rights of minority people and other minority national communities and Department for promotion and protection of human rights. Departments for affairs of gender equality and departments for promotion and protection of rights of RAE population function in the frame of the Ministry. Ministry is dominantly devoted to activities on promotion of rights of ethnic minorities while the lack of sensitivity for other human rights areas, especially sexual minorities, causes concern.

Protector of human rights and freedoms – Citizens can address the Ombudsman office if their rights are violated by public bodies. Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg indicated in the last report on unavailability of Ombudsman's office to citizens. The Office of Ombudsman has new premises and in that manner this institution is more available to citizens. According to the research conducted by YIHR in seven municipalities in Montenegro on the sample of 350 examinees, large number of citizens is not introduced with the manner in which they can access to Ombudsman's office. Citizens said they did not know where the office was nor they knew in which manner can they submit application and for what human rights violations can they address Ombudsman.

The Assembly Board for Human Rights and Freedom held six sessions in the first three months. Topics of those sessions dealt with minority, workers rights and situation in Bureau for enforcement of penal sanctions (ZIKS). On March 31, 2010 the session dealing with the report of Ombudsman related to torture in ZIKS took place. Members of the Board show openness and they recognize problems in society while the work of the Board shows transparency and expresses tendency of more qualitative work and achievement of full control of the function of Parliament in this area.

III FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Although YIHR registered first positive signals, freedom of expression is not at satisfying level. Verdicts with high fines for compensations still have been issued and incidents that are still endangering freedom of expression were registered.

Basic court in Podgorica released Jasmina Muminovic, journalist of independent Daily Vijesti, of judgements for defamation after the complaints of Safet Kalic. The same court released of judgements for defamation Dejan Milovac, activist of non-governmental organization MANS, after complaints of Milo Jankovic, the President of municipality Cetinje.

After more than two years of waiting, TV Vijesti finally has frequencies. Such reaction followed after numerous applications to competent public bodies and reactions of USA Embassy and the Embassy of Germany, and more international organizations which showed concern and assessed the act of not issuing the licence as violence against media.

Issuing verdicts for defamation against journalist Veseljko Koprivica, who was fined to 35.000 EUR, seriously endanger his existence. Koprivica pays off judgments with half of his salary. After the warrant of Aleksandra Stojanovic, judge of Basic court in Podgorica, whole salary (240.39

EUR) from Veseljko Koprivica's account was paid on the account of Bozidar Colovic. Koprivica was fined because of writings on warmongering role of journalists and media during the war in 90s.

On the Day of journalists, on January 24, 2010, a glass of the vehicle of Gojko Raicevic, Editor of portal IN4S, was broken. Raicevic also received threats after his writings on the portal IN4S. Recent police investigation did not find out the perpetrators of this act.

Unidentified perpetrators destroyed two tiers of the vehicle of correspondent of Belgrade Daily "Politika", Rade Vukicevic, on January 11, 2010. This is not the first assault on property of Vukcevic. Last year, his car was the target of assaults several times and resulted in material damage. Vukicevic reported this case to the police. Perpetrators have not been identified yet.

At the address of daily "DAN" came one more verdict. Higher court in Podgorica confirmed the verdict of Basic court by which Deputy of Editor in chief of DAN, Danilo Vukovic was pronounced guilty because of criminal act defamation after writings on trafficking of S.C. from Moldavia in 2003. The court issued a fine in the amount of 14.000 EUR to Danilo Vukovic which he must pay to Prime Minister, Milo Djukanovic.

Basic court in Podgorica issued a verdict on January 27, 2010, saying that Historian, Zivko Andrijasevic has to pay 1.000 EUR to the President of Montenegrin Academia of Science and Art, Momir Djurovic who accused him for defamation. The court noted that Andrijasevic did not slander but offended Djurovic, as the complaint said.

After the verdict of Basic court in Danilovgrad, because of criminal act defamation, President of Serbian National Council, Momcilo Vuksanovic has to pay 3.000 EUR to Deputy of New Serbian Democracy, Goran Danilovic. Danilovic accused Vuksanovic because Vuksanovic officially claimed that Danilovic stealth from Serbian National Council.

IV POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

YIHR registered larger number of politically motivated assaults and lower level of communication between political opponents. Actualizing the problem of organized crime more severe judgments and words between politicians, authority, and opposition occur. Numerous judgments for defamation were announced. Such behavior of some politicians seriously endangers development of democratic atmosphere before called local elections and contributes to divisions and intolerance between citizens. Violent incidents and destruction of property are more frequent and citizens of Montenegro and Croatia face with them at the territory on the other side.

On February 25, 2010, the President of Movement for Changes (PZP), Nebojsa Medojevic was attacked. Public Prosecution Office did not assess this attack as criminal act but as violation of Law on public order and peace. The camera on the nearby boutique recorded the man attacking and beating Medojevic.

On March 19, 2010 unidentified persons stoned Seminary and Boarding School in Cetinje. The police arrested five persons suspected for stoning the premises of this school.

Vehicle of Igor Hrvoje Crnojevac, the President of Croatian Association MENSA, was damaged at the parking area near Engineering Faculty in Podgorica. The vehicle had Croatian registration plates and glasses of the vehicle and a rear-view mirror were broken, and the sheet metal was bulge inward as well. Citizens of Montenegro often face with such incidents and physical assaults, especially on their staying in Dubrovnik.

On January 25, 2010, Security body for misdemeanor in Podgorica pronounced guilty Mayor of Podgorica, Miomir Mugosa because he was involved in the incident on August 5, 2009, when journalists of Daily Vijesti accused him for assault while they were on duty. Security body for

misdemeanor pronounced Mugosa guilty because of misdemeanor from Article 7 paragraph 1 of Law on public peace and order and issued fine in the amount of 400 EUR.

V TORTURE

Police torture

Police Directorate made progress in reducing the level of police torture. In the first three months, YIHR registered four reported cases of police torture. Although the progress has been made, we consider that this number is still at concerning level. Process of transformation of Department for internal control and implementation of powers and delegation of competences to Ministry of internal control and public administration, after several months, still has not been finished.

Representatives of former workers of Wood Industry Plant from Mojkovac, Miomir Jovanovic, Dragomir Rosic, Drasko Popovic, and Milivoje Radovic, accused the Police station in Mojkovac on February 17, 2010 that they used force towards them, shock bombs as well, injured them and unlawfully interrupted their strike. Police Directorate stated that the police was forced to intervene for the security and for saving the health and life of workers. The statement of Police Directorate said that police officers only used physical strength with no additional means of extortion.

On February 25, 2010, Elvis Durkovic from Novi Pazar accused and submitted criminal charge for torture against police officer, Sekib Dzogovic. After conducted activities of Department for internal control, the police denied Durovic's statements.

Fikret Cekic from Belgrade accused members of the Police in Podgorica for violation. Cekic said they were torturing and beating him in order to extort confession. On that occasion, he was injured. The Police negated these statements. Investigative judge ordered medical examination followed by submission of criminal charges for torture by Cekic's lawyer, Zoran Piperovic.

Sujkovic Bernard from Berane told YIHR researcher that police officers Radoman Tijanic and Veselin Bubanja had beaten him on March 25, 2010 in premises of Police station in Berane and injured him. When he told police officers he would address media and report the torture, police officers accused him for degrading them and on the basis of that judgment, misdemeanor judge, Branka Pantovic sentenced him to 15 days imprisonment, on the basis of that judgment.

Basic court rejected to make decisions, thus, it released police officers Darko Delic, Darko Knezevic, Dragan Krmanovic, Velimir Rajkovic, and Slavko Minic because the case was old. Basic Public Prosecutor from Podgorica, judged these police officers in 2003 for acts of torture and violation over damaged Milovan Jovanovic, from Podgorica.

YIHR considers that surplus of employees in Police Directorate should be resolved by dismissing police officers who violated human rights standards and police ethic and against whom several charges for violation were submitted by citizens.

Large number of criminal charges for violation against police officers, submitted by citizens to competent Prosecution Offices, has not been processed at court and according to YIHR not any police officer was issued final judgment.

In previous period, Police Directorate showed readiness to cooperate with YIHR, thus we call on continuation of such practice, aiming at conducting reforms and mutual acting on establishing higher level of human rights respect.

Incidents in Bureau for enforcement of penal sanctions (ZIKS)

Conditions and situation in ZIKS are at unsatisfactory and concerning level. Three persons addressed YIHR and gave statements on torture, inhuman and degrading behavior. Two persons, who reported torture last year in October, reported new cases of torture. Officers of ZIKS openly told them and threaten them to withdraw earlier charges against them. One person said that officers in ZIKS tied him to a static rod under the window which was opened while it was raining all over him for the next three days, previously requiring taking off all his clothes. He also said that in this condition he spent three days. Because of these statements YIHR submitted new criminal charge to competent Prosecution Office against officers in ZIKS. Public Prosecution Office rejected new criminal charge related to the incident from October 2009, because there were no elements of criminal act that is being prosecuted under official duty. YIHR published the video of that incident, which clearly shows that 14 officers in ZIKS severely conduct with persons deprived of liberty who did not show resistance. Deputy Ombudsman, Marijana Lakovic confirmed that these persons had injuries, but also the lawyer and parents who visited them several days after the incident happened. YIHR introduced these details to national and international public and via public speech we required from the Assembly Board for human rights to conduct control hearing of Minister of justice, Miras Radovic on events in ZIKS. Socialist people's party (SNP) initiated control hearing which took place on March 31, 2010 which discussed the report and showed satisfaction with it. Ombudsman noted that violation of rights of Dalibor Nikezic and Igor Milic happened. He recommended that Administration of ZIKS should undertake measures without delay for defining disciplinary responsibility of all officers of ZIKS who used force and truncheon towards Dalibor Nikezic and Igor Milic on October 27, 2009. ZIKS is due to submit the report on undertaken measures and measures for enforcement of this recommendation 20 days from the reception of recommendation. Assembly Board shall observe reactions of Administration of ZIKS after recommendations of Ombudsman's office.

Two strikes of convicted persons were reported because of violation and conditions in prisons. Administration of ZIKS denied statements on strikes, however not any institution that has competences for the control of work of ZIKS checked these statements.

Number of persons in ZIKS is larger than it is prescribed by international standards. According to information we received from prisoners, persons who do not have the level of education required for specific positions work in ZIKS. Until nowadays, ZIKS has not submitted information to YIHR on number of employees and their level of education, yet.

YIHR initiated control of water and food. After conducted investigations, Health and sanitary inspectorate approved that the food was bacteriological incorrect while water was muddy and not enough chlorinated. Other reports of human rights violation were reported to YIHR such as prohibition of medical treatment as the result of none issuing licenses for surgeries, prohibition of schooling, violation of right to physical activity, reduction of leaves to labor active detainees, violent interruption of strikes and under pressure, by taking strikers into solitary cell.

YIHR invites all competent institutions to investigate and process all statements on violations and to sanction all perpetrators of torture. All statements on prohibition of other rights and poor conditions in ZIKS have to be checked by competent institutions and findings on the conditions may not be announced on the basis of statements of specific representatives of ZIKS without the insight into the real state. YIHR still demands the replacement of management of ZIKS.

VI DISCRIMINATION

YIHR registered five cases of discrimination last year, out of which not any has been solved with the final verdict.

Disability persons are facing discrimination almost every day. Numerous facilities and institutions (courts, universities, public transport, international organizations, etc) still have not been adjusted to be available to disability persons. Not any school exists that possess the vehicle for the training of disability persons. What causes concern is that there is no precise base with data of disability persons.

YIHR researchers received from representatives of Roma assessment which shows they were most discriminated group in Montenegro. Announcements of some specific officials saying that future 'people's kitchen', that will be built in Podgorica, may not be used by representatives of Roma nationality, YIHR considers as an open form of expressing discrimination. Thus, we invite competent people and institutions to examine this standpoint and define elements of eventual responsibility.

Large number of Roma live in fitting accommodation premises which do not have electricity and water installations, heating and other elements that would satisfy minimum for the existence in it. Large number of Roma does not have identity documents and health insurance. According to data of Roma council, 140 children were not reported because their parents do not have identity documents.

Integration of Roma in educational system is conducted in Montenegro, but through educational system they face with discrimination, so the largest number of enrolled Roma give up of schooling and do not finish elementary and high school. In Konik in Podgorica, there is additional department of Elementary school "Bozidar Vukovic Podgoricanin" which is attended only by Roma children. According to Roma opinion, this is not good solution and will not contribute to better adoption of Roma children and Roma in the society. According to claims of representatives of Roma council in Tivat, Lovanje, 16 children do not go to school because they do not have transport to school. YIHR appeals on public institutions to provide transport of children to the nearest school.

Roma mostly work hard and less paid jobs. According to information YIHR has, there is lack of understanding of employers when the use of right to paid absence from work, because of illness, comes in issue. If Roma person becomes ill, employers hand them dismissal. YIHR warns employers they are due to respect laws on labor and should have equal treatment towards all employees, regardless of their ethnic or any other personal characteristic and we invite them to report all such cases to YIHR, competent public services and labor inspectorates.

At the beginning of the year, one representative of Roma population was employed in Ministry for human and minority rights which represents positive example other public institutions should follow.

Currently, YIHR represents two cases of discrimination before the court. One case is about discrimination on the basis of national representation, while the other case is about discrimination towards disability person.

VII MINORITY RIGHTS

Legal framework for the areas of rights of national minorities was adopted and greatly harmonized to European standards. The process of harmonizing Law on election of members of municipal assembly and MPs with the Constitution, which prescribes proportional representation of

representatives of minority people in public institutions and bodies, is in course. Minister for human and minority rights, Ferhat Dinosa proposed amendments of Law on minority rights and freedoms in the part which is related to work of national councils. Representatives of national councils criticized Minister's proposals and assessed them as the attempt of impact on the work of council.

According to assessment of numerous analyzers, work of national councils still is not efficient and transparent. There are no mechanisms for the control of work of national councils. Political representatives of Serbs in the Parliament are against existence of National Council of Serbs, considering that Serbs are not national minority in Montenegro.

New Law on election of members of municipal assemblies and MPs has not been adopted yet, thus local elections will be held in accordance with the old Law which is not in accordance with the Constitution.

When the use of language of minorities comes in issue, Albanian language has the widest use, however, representatives of Albanians are not satisfied considering that the use is limited. Roma language is not used at all. Reasons for such situation are numerous, and officials stated that Roma language has not been standardized, that there were no literature and human resources who know this language. Other languages that are similar to Montenegrin are in official use in municipalities where significant numbers of members of minorities speaking these languages live.

Position of sexual minorities is still on concerning level. Last year in November, YIHR sent to Ombudsman initiative for assessment of standpoints on the occasion of last years homophobic statements of Minister for human and minority rights, Ferhat Dinosa. Although new Ombudman, Sefko Bakovic announced last year, in the middle of November, he would be dealing with the initiative YIHR had submitted, the report on the occasion of the initiative has not been submitted yet.

VII STATUS OF DISPLACED PERSONS

On October 30, 2009, the Government of Montenegro adopted the Action Plan for integration of displaced persons from former Yugoslav Republics and internally displaced persons from Kosovo in Montenegro or for their voluntary return in their native countries. Deadline for applications and collection of documents for permission for permanent residence is two years, or November 7, 2011.

Montenegrin legislation prescribing possibilities of exercising right to permanent residence is very restrictive. Problems displaced persons and internally displaced persons are dealing with are high expences for receiving the status of foreigner with permanent residence, the very procedures of collecting necessary documents and deadlines.

Fee for permanent residence per person is 200 EUR. As any other foreigner who wants to reside and work in Montenegro, displaced and internally displaced persons who receive licence for residence later have to pay fee for the licence for work for 165 EUR.

Considering necessary documents, possessing valid passport of the native country is one of conditions for receiving the licence for permanent residence. It has been estimated that large number of displaced and internally displaced persons do not possess the passport, thus, they have to travel to native country in order to receive it. According to regulations of our and other countries, leave and entrance in native countries are possible only with the passport, which prevents displaced and internally displaced persons to collect most important document in exercising right to mentioned residence.

Deadline for collection of all documents needed for applying for permanent residence is two years. The moment person receives legal residence starts the term of ten years which is important for providing application for Montenegrin citizenship. If displaced and internally displaced persons do not have all important documents and if they do not apply for permanent residence during the period prescribed by the law, their residence in Montenegro shall be considered as illegal after this period. Available data indicate that about 2.000 displaced persons stated they had problems to collect necessary documents that are important for application for permanent residence.

Law enables to all displaced and internally displaced persons, who are not able to receive passport until November 7, 2010, to apply for the temporary residence. Temporary residence lasts three years mostly, and in that term the submitter of the request has to provide passport or its residence shall be considered illegal. The European Union and UNHCR required from the Government to make the procedure easier and to reduce fees, but there were no changes on this ground until nowadays.

IX RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Human rights in Montenegro are generally respected and there is no systematic violation of human rights. However, the level of protection and respect of human rights is at concerning level in specific areas. Those areas are torture, politically motivated violence, freedom of expression, discrimination, minority rights and the status of Roma, displaced persons status, and family violence.
- Appropriate legal and institutionalized framework for protection of human rights and freedoms exists, but implementation of the framework in practice is not appropriate. In the future, it is important to organize activities on training of employees in public institutions who are dealing with human rights protection and on sensibility of employees not just on rights of ethnic minorities but on other human rights areas as well.
- Office of Ombudsman should organize campaign in all municipalities of Montenegro, aiming at increasing the level of providing information for citizens on its work and should also give opinion on homophobic statements of Minister Ferhat Dinos.
- Freedom of expression is still at concerning level. Verdicts on defamation still require high fines which significantly endanger the work of media and other sources of public word. Numerous complaints for defamation against media and public persons were announced. First releasing verdicts are positive move and YIHR invites courts to respect the practice of European Court for Human Rights entirely, which will significantly contribute to freedom of expression.
- During the first three months, number of politically motivated attacks and incidents increased. Competent public institutions are obliged to protect individuals who have critical attitude toward situation in country and attacks on them are qualified as criminal act. Processing and sanctioning attacks on politicians and other transmitters of public words before Security bodies for misdemeanour do not contribute to prevention of this situation. Institutions in

Montenegro have to take additional efforts to provide freedom of movement and security to all citizens, through cooperation with Croatian institutions.

- YIHR invites all representatives of political parties to refrain of statements which may incite violence, divisions, and intolerance among citizens, during the following period of pre-election campaign, and to conduct their activities in accordance with previously signed memorandums on cooperations.
- Cases of torture, inhuman and degrading behaviour are present in Montenegro. Public Prosecution Office rejected to investigate statements on torture in Bureau for enforcement of penal sanctions (ZIKS) and to put them in the court process. Public insitutions have legal obligation to conduct investigations for all statements of torture, inhuman and degrading behaviour.
- There are cases of inefficient conduction of processes and investigations by Public Prosecution Office that are old. YIHR invites competent Public Prosecution to investigate all statements on torture thoroughly and efficiently and process them in court and to sanction all committers of torture. Public Prosecution Office has to take responsibility for the case of obsolete cases.
- Slow transformation of competencies of Internal control causes concern. Ministry of internal affairs and public administration have to conduct this transformation without further delay. We invite all officers of Internal Police to conduct all activities in accordance with human rights standards and respect of human dignity.
- During last year, numerous functionaires showed lack of sensibility for discrimination and rights of marginalized groups after their numerous statements. Until nowadays, the county has not undertaken any activities on education of high state officials in this area.
- It is important to harmonize legislative framework in the area of minority rights with the Constitution and international standards. It is important to introduce mechanisms for the control of work of National councils, for the purpose of eliminating speculations on eventual violations. Status of sexual minorities is at concerning level. The country has to make additional effort to provide full enjoining of all rights and freedoms to all marginalized groups in the society.
- Large number of displaced persons face with collecting documents for application for the residence licence. Fees for issuing residence and labor licences are very expensive. The country has to find the manner to make procedures for receiving residence licences easier.