



Centar za demokratsku tranziciju - CDT

Adresa: Bulevar S. Kovačevića 56 V/82

81000 Podgorica

Telefon/fax: 081 60 10 50

E-mail: cdtmn@cg.yu

www.cdtmn.org

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

The joint committee for monitoring of the pre-election campaign held its second meeting today. The representatives of DPS, SNP, LSCG, NS and Democratic Alliance were present at the meeting, which was chaired by a representative of the National Democratic Institute. The representatives of SDP and SNS did not participate in today's meeting.

The Center for Democratic Transition gave its opinion about the course of the campaign so far. We assessed that the campaign was up until now conducted in a positive atmosphere. Together, the participants at the meeting stated that representatives of the political parties use in their presentations a vocabulary that is not adequate to the level of necessary political culture in Montenegro. We believe that words like "mafia boss," "criminals," "thieves" and "traitors" should not be used in presenting political programs. Representatives of the political parties promised that, in the next period, they would appeal to their leaders and activists not to use those words or syntaxes.

Our opinion is that yesterday's statement of Andrija Jovicevic, the Minister of Internal Affairs (MUP) at the celebration of the day of MUP, which supported in a direct manner one political option, is unacceptable. We believe that the Minister has a right to hold his own political opinion but that, during the pre-election campaign, it is not good that MUP functionaries announce in any way their political opinions. It is inadmissible to use State celebrations for promotions of any party or to try through those events to influence the staff of the state institutions.

At the meeting of the Coalition Together for Changes in Ostrovac, Municipality Niksic, the presence of persons who were provoking the supporters of the Coalition by driving a car with flags and DPS insignia was noticed. The representatives of the political parties agreed that this type of behavior could be dangerous and emphasized the need to avoid these types of provocations during the conduct of pre-election meetings in order to prevent possible undesirable consequences.

We also evaluated that political parties should pay more attention in their presentations to economic issues and problems. We believe this is the best possible way to present their programs. The citizens of Montenegro have the least benefit from the empty political bickering.

Raško Konjević
CDT Spokesperson
069 312 737

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