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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

## UNESCO Office in Venice UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE)

### PRESS RELEASE

UNESCO-BRESCE/SCI/dd/1017

Subject :

## BIKING THE BALKANS STOPS IN MONTENEGRO

Starting in Italy, the participants in the 'Biking the Balkans' caravan from various European countries are crossing the Western Balkans between 24th June - 15th July 2006, stopping at eleven different sites of natural and cultural international importance in Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and FYR Macedonia. A bicycle was chosen as a symbol of a sustainable method of transportation for territorial exploration.

'Biking the Balkans' is organized, promoted and coordinated by UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE), with the support of UNESCO National Commissions and MAB National Committees of Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Romania, Albania and FYR Macedonia. This multi-faced media-tracked event, which will include a series of scientific, cultural, sport and nature conservation related happenings, will be organized in cooperation with Dinaric Arc Initiative (DAI) partners and members of the European Cycling Federation (ECF), with the patronage of Veneto Region, Province of Venice, Municipalities of Padua, Venice and Belgrade.

In Montenegro, UNESCO partners in this event are the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Montenegro and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office in Montenegro.

**On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the caravan will enter the National Park Durmitor and the first stop will be Žabljak. At 6pm they will be welcomed by Mayor of Žabljak Mr. Isailo Šljivančanin and Director of NP Durmitor, Mr. Tomo Pajović.** Then the participants will be taken to a walking tour around the Black Lake and they will also enjoy a sightseeing tour through the NP Durmitor natural science collection. **On July 7<sup>th</sup> at 9am, at the Hotel Jezero, a joint press conference will be held by Montenegrin Minister of Tourism Mr. Predrag Nenezic and Minister of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning Mr. Boro Vučinić; Dr. Giorgio Andrian, Environmental Unit of UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE), Venice Office; and Mr. Garret Tankosić Kelly, UNDP Montenegro Country Director.** At 10am the caravan will move on and the participants in the press conference will symbolically join them. **On July 10<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon the caravan will stop at the National Park Skadar Lake to meet Director of NP Skadar Lake, Mr. Zoran Mrdak, and representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and the UNDP. The time when this event will start will be announced in due course.**

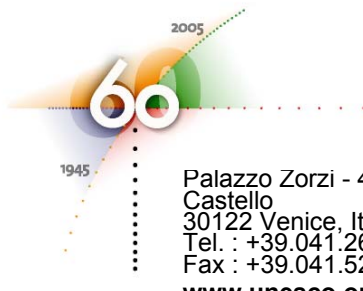
'Biking the Balkans' will join together a series of scientific and cultural events, organized to promote the idea of sustainable development as a result of interaction between the local initiatives and the global networking. In every site on the route there will be an opportunity to debate issues that are of relevance to UNESCO's involvement in South Eastern Europe in the future.

More information at: [www.bikingthebalkans.org](http://www.bikingthebalkans.org)

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