



Montenegro  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Montenegro

## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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### Montenegro Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković" officially closed

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro supported by the Capacity Development Programme (CDP) organized the first Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković". The School was held between 2-6 June, 2008 and the participants were young diplomats from the countries of the region and several EU countries, while the lecturers were eminent domestic and foreign practitioners and theorists in international politics.

The first Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats was devoted to the challenges for diplomats from countries in the process of European and Euro-Atlantic integrations and provided an excellent opportunity for an exchange of opinions and experiences concerning current issues and processes in the EU and NATO, but also for networking among young diplomats from the region and other countries of the EU.

The success proved through organizing of the first Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats is a confirmation of readiness of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro to keep up with regular and continuous activities not only regarding training for its diplomatic services but also in terms of development of regional initiatives and cooperation in this domain.

**In Vila Gorica in Podgorica, in the presence of diplomatic core, officials of the Government of Montenegro and representatives of the UNDP, the Summer School for Young Diplomats was officially closed by:**

**Ms. Irena Radović, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro**  
**Mr. Mirsad Bibović, UNDP Institutional and Judicial Cluster Leader**  
**Mr. Vuka Golubović, Mayor of Berane**

**Young diplomats who attended the School were** Ms Triinu Pits and Mr Bjorn Piibur (**Estonia**), Ms Valeria Baistrocchi (**Italy**), Ms Vesna Klemenčič and Mr Žiga Fišer (**Slovenia**), Ms Antonela Dhimolea and Mr Luizim Cota (**Albania**), Ms Maja Ivanjko and Ms Jasminka Sakić (**Croatia**), Ms Samra Deverović and Mr Goran Behmen (**Bosnia and Herzegovina**), Ms Milena Karagaća and Ms Ivana Radosavljević (**Serbia**), Ms Atina Ničoška and Mr Dejan Đučić (**FYR Macedonia**), as well as Ms Ana Zeković, Ms Ferida Mandić and Ms Marija Živković, and Mr Miladin Bogetić, Mr Dragan Krivokapić and Mr Filip Kalezić (**Montenegro**).

**Lecturers at the Summer School for Young Diplomats were** H.E. Mr. **Leopold Maurer**, Ambassador, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Montenegro; H.E. Mr. **Roderick Moore**, US Ambassador to Montenegro; H.E. Ms. **Slavica Milačić**, Ambassador, Head of Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the European Union; H.E. Ms. **Karin Jaani**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia; H.E. Mr. **Florian Raunig**, Ambassador of Austria to Montenegro; H.E. Mr. **Vesko Garčević**, Ambassador of Montenegro to Austria; H.E. Mr. **Petar Turčinović**, Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Montenegro; Dr **Anton Bebler**, Professor of Political Science and of Defense Sciences at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia; Mr. **Živko Andrijašević**, Ph.D,

University of Montenegro; Ms. **Milica Kadić Aković**, MA in Public Relations and Mr. **Radoje Cerović**, MSc, Psychologist and Strategic Communication Expert.

**Lecture topics were:** Western Balkans in the United Europe: EU Perspective; History of Montenegrin Diplomacy; the European Perspective of the Western Balkans - the Conditionality Policy: Membership vs. Partnership; EU Enlargement: the new member states' perspective; Interactive Workshop on Communication Techniques; Challenges for a Diplomat: an Envoy or an Active Participant in Negotiations?; the Importance of Young Diplomats' Network in Enhancing the Stability of the Western Balkans; Transatlantic Dimension of the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy: the Culture of Cooperation and Dialogue in Foreign Affairs; the Experiences and Challenges of Small Countries' Diplomacies.

In addition, an interactive workshop was held on the Attitude of EU Countries towards EU and NATO Enlargement (Individual presentations by young diplomats, representatives of EU countries: Estonia, Italy and Slovenia), as well as an interactive workshop on Achievements and Challenges on the Road to European and Euro-Atlantic Integration (Individual presentations by young diplomats, representatives of the countries from the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia).

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Situated between the East and the West and connected with its Balkan and Mediterranean neighbours, Montenegro is recognized as a stability factor and, within European and Euro-Atlantic integrations, belongs to one of the most dynamic but also most promising regions. Montenegro has duly recognized that good neighbourly relations and integrations make a guarantee for its successful development. In the new context, it is developing as a stable, democratic and multiethnic country and shares common values with the countries from the region, the European continent and the democratic world.

As an independent country Montenegro has the opportunity to reinforce its position on the international scene and to step up and enhance the relations with the major agents on this scene. The continuity of endeavours in foreign affairs is an essential quality of its current international position. Striving to meet the new obligations in line with the European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations, Montenegro is establishing the necessary institutional prerequisites for an adequate network of diplomatic-consular offices, implementation of foreign policy and international cooperation.

Montenegro's key priorities in the domain of foreign policy are integration in the EU and NATO, enhancing and maintaining good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation, as well as further development of comprehensive bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Considering that majority of the Western Balkans countries share similar goals, a need is identified to acquaint young diplomats of the region with the essential elements of the process of Euro-Atlantic integrations and the process of cooperation in the Western Balkan region.