



Montenegro
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Montenegro

JOINT MEDIA ADVISORY

Official Closing of the Second Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković" 21- 24 July 2009

What: Bearing in mind the role of connecting diplomatic services and young diplomats in the region, both among each other and with their colleagues from the EU countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, supported by the Capacity Development Programme (CDP), organized the Second Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković". The School was held between 21-24 July 2009 and participants were young diplomats from the countries of the region and EU countries. Lecturers were eminent practitioners and theorists in international politics, diplomats and experts from the European Union, United Nations, United States of America and countries from the region.

The Summer School for Young Diplomats will be officially closed by:

Mr Alexander Avanesov, UNDP Resident Representative/UN Resident Coordinator in Montenegro
Mr Mirsad Bibović, Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro
Mr Dragan Đurić, Capacity Development Programme Chief Technical Advisor

When: Friday, 24 July at 11.00 a.m.
Where: Vila Gorica, Podgorica

Note: Media outlets interested to cover this event should send their requests for credentials with names of journalists, cameramen and photographers through biro@mn.yu or tel: +382 20 242 566.

The Second Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats was devoted to the challenges faced by diplomats from the countries in the process of European and Euro-Atlantic integrations. The School was organized with an aim to provide opportunity for the exchange of opinions and experiences concerning the current issues and processes in the EU and NATO, but also for networking among young diplomats from the region and EU countries, their specialization and professional development. **The Lecturers at the Summer School for Young Diplomats were: Ms Gordana Đurović**, Minister for European Integration, Montenegro; **Mr Clive Rumbold**, Head of Political, European Integration and Trade Section, Delegation of the European Commission to Montenegro; **H.E. Mr Roderick Moore**, US Ambassador to Montenegro; **Mr Alexander Avanesov**, UNDP Resident Representative/UN Resident Coordinator in Montenegro, **H.E. Mr Florian Raunig**, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to Montenegro; **H.E. Mr Petar Turčinović**, Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Montenegro; **H.E. Mr Branimir Jukić**, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Montenegro; **H.E. Mr Mihail Florovic**, Ambassador of Romania to Montenegro; **Ms Lisa McLean**, Director of the National Democratic Institute; **Ms Sanja Elezović**, Director of the Foundation Open Society Institute to Montenegro.

At the Summer School for Young Diplomats the participants particularly dealt with the topics concerning: Western Balkans' perspectives in the European and Euro-Atlantic integration; EU enlargement and new member states' perspectives; Importance of young diplomats' networking in enhancing the stability of the Western Balkans; Regional cooperation as a precondition for enhancing stability; Transatlantic dimensions of the EU common foreign and security policy; The role of non-governmental organizations in the area of foreign affairs; Experiences and challenges for diplomacies of small countries; Negotiations and negotiations skills, etc.. In addition, an interactive workshop was held on the theme of achievements and challenges on the path to European and Euro-Atlantic integrations (individual presentations by young diplomats, representatives of the Western Balkans countries).

* * *

As an independent country Montenegro has the opportunity to reinforce its position on the international scene, to dynamize and further enhance relations with the major agents on the 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 an adequate network of diplomatic-consular offices, needed for conducting foreign policies 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 the majority of the Western Balkans countries have similar goals, a need is identified to acquaint young diplomats of the region with the essential elements of the process of Euro-Atlantic integration and the process of cooperation in the Western Balkans region.

* * *

For additional information please contact:

Ms Ivana Vujović, UNDP Communications Assistant

Tel: ++382 20 231 251; Fax: ++382 20 231 644; Mob.: ++382 69 681 222;

E-mail: ivana.vujovic@undp.org; Web: <http://www.undp.org.yu/montenegro>