

Annual report

2020

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Montenegrin Pan-European union
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I. Activities on the implementation of the BTD project “Towards Negotiations in the Area of Competition Policy: Challenges for North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro – NSM COMPETE” January – December 2020

1. Booklet: *“Towards Negotiation in the Area of Competition Policy: Challenges for North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro” (Acronym “NSM Compete”)*

The project team of the Montenegrin Pan-European union in cooperation with experts in the area of competition policy from Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia and Croatia prepared a booklet “Towards Negotiation in the Area of Competition Policy: Challenges for North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro”. Experts who worked on booklet are: professor at the Faculty of Economics and president of Montenegrin Pan-European union **Gordana Djurovic**, expert for competition policy and state aid from Serbia **Slavica Penev**, professor at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University from North Macedonia **Silvana Mojsavska** and expert for competition policy from Croatia **Ruzica Gelo**. The booklet contains clear recommendations for policy makers in order to better prepare national legislation and administration, i.e., negotiation team for accession negotiations in this area. Booklet has been bilingually prepared and published on the web site of MPEU (https://panevropa.me/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Brochure_NSMcompete_conference_eng_-29-October-2020.pdf). It was also delivered to 150 relevant addresses and presented at the conference.

2. International conference: *“Negotiations in the Area of Competition Policy and State Aid: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges”*

The conference entitled “Negotiations in the Area of Competition Policy and State Aid: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges” was organized by the Montenegrin Pan-European Union within the project “Towards Negotiation in the area of Competition Policy: Challenges for North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro” 2020, funded by the Balkan Fund for Democracy, the German Marshall Fund and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway in Belgrade, on **October 29, 2020 in Podgorica at the Hilton Hotel**. The conference was of the hybrid type due to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic (speakers and participants from Montenegro were present



live, while speakers from the countries covered by the project spoke via ZOOM). The speakers at the conference from Montenegro were: The Chief Negotiator of the Montenegrin negotiating team, Mr. **Aleksandar Drljevic**, Ministry of Economy of Montenegro **Dragica Sekulic**, president of Montenegrin Pan-European Union **Gordana Djurovic**, dean of the Faculty of Economics in Podgorica and member of the Working group for the Chapter 8 **Nikola Milovic** and negotiator for the Chapter 8 **Biljana Jakic**. The speakers from North Macedonia were: professor at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University – Skopje **Silvana Mojsovska**, chief economist and executive director, Finance Think, BTD project partner **Blagica Petreski** and representative of the Commission for Protection of Competition **Rozana Vankovska**. The speakers from Serbia were: expert for competition policy and state aid **Slavica Penev** and member of the Council, Commission for Protection of Competition **Cedomir Radojicic**. Conference attended also expert for competition policy from Croatia **Ruzica Gelo**. The conference was attended by 50 guests (representatives of the academy, institutions, embassies, businesses, students, media and other). A professional PR agency was engaged for the conference. Due to the limited number of people who were able to follow the conference live, the broader public was able to watch the conference live via the MPEU YouTube channel. After the presentation of the speakers and discussion with the participants it was concluded that the competition policy occupies one of the most important places in the EU accession process, because its efficient implementation contributes to improving the economy, developing and growing the number of companies, improving investment in research and development of new products, attracting new investments and increasing production and exports. Additional information regarding the conference can be found at the following link – <https://paneuropa.me/en/international-conference-in-the-area-of-competition-policy-was-held-at-the-hotel-hilton/>.



3. Lectures at the University of Montenegro

On December **14** and **16**, **2020**, thematic lectures “*Competition policy – Montenegro on the way to the EU*” were held within the BTD project “Towards Negotiations in the Area of Competition Policy: Challenges for North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro”. The lecturer was **Gordana Djurovic**, professor at the Faculty of Economics and president of the MPEU. Due to the consequences caused



by the COVID-19 pandemic, the lectures were held online. The first lecture was held for students of the **Faculty of Economics**, and the second for students of **Political science**. The lectures discussed the emergence of and importance of EU competition policy, the institutional framework of competition policy, national authorities and the European competition network, abuse of a dominant position, state aid, the legal framework for the implementation of competition policy in Montenegro, and the competencies of the Agency for Protection of Competition. The lectures were attended by **156 students**. Both lectures are available at the following links: <https://youtu.be/jWccF6fXG2k> (first lecture) and <https://youtu.be/XgxGDZ19buM> (second lecture).

II. Debates with European ambassadors

1. Debate “Priorities of the Croatian EU Council Presidency “

The debate on the topic “*Priorities of the Croatian EU Council Presidency*” was held on **February 11, 2020**. Our interlocutor was **H.E. Mr. Veselko Grubisic**, Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Montenegro with the facilitation of **professor Gordana Djurovic**. The debate was dedicated to the priorities of the Croatian presidency of the EU Council. Ambassador Grubisic pointed out that Croatia will strive for the continuation of a consistent and effective enlargement policy and that he hopes for good news from Zagreb, from the EU – Western Balkans summit. A new negotiation methodology was also presented at the debate, and MPEU president Gordana Djurovic pointed out that the methodology should be read in the positive manner in the sense that it is intended to make the



process more transparent to all concerned, to understand it better and to speed as much as possible for those who are committed to work on reforms. The introductory speeches were followed by a discussion with those present, where the young MPEU and other organizations, as well as others present asked a numerous question to the distinguished guest.

III. Conferences and events within the International PEU

1. General Assembly of the International Pan-European Union

Delegation of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union participated in the General Assembly of the International Pan-European Union in Strasbourg in the period from **7 – 9 February 2020**. The Montenegrin delegation consisted of: MPEU president professor **Gordana Djurovic**, Vice-President MSc. **Rajko Uskokovic**, Secretary General MSc. **Djordjije Brajovic**, members of the MPEU Presidency **Vanja Grgurovic** and MSc. **Vladimir Drobnjak**, MSc. **Milica Muhadinovic**, President and MSc. **Teodora Ladjic**, MPEU project manager and Youth Secretary and Members of the MPEU Youth Presidency MSc. **Djordjije Djurovic** and MSc. **Nina Perunovic**. The Assembly was attended by 150 delegates from 22 European countries. By the decision of all present delegates, the President of the MPEU, **Gordana Djurovic**, was elected to the Presidency of the International Pan-European Union. The President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union submitted a report on the work of the MPEU, which is one of the most active organizations in the Pan-European family. Also, at the Assembly, the former president **Alain Terrenoire** confirmed his mandate. The following were also elected to the Presidency: Bernd Posselt, Johannes Kijas, Ph.D. Dirk Herman Voß from Germany, Ph.D. Andrej Lepavcov from Macedonia, Walburga Habsburg Douglas from Sweden, Anna Zaborska from Slovakia, Rainhard Kloucek from Austria, Ph.D. Anna Grünwald from Hungary, Carlos Uriarte Sanchez from Spain, academician Mislav Jezic and professor Pavo Barisic Ph.D. from Croatia, Ph.D. Franjo Topic from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Jean Paul Picaper from France. The Vice-President of the European Parliament Rainer Wieland and Minister of Foreign and



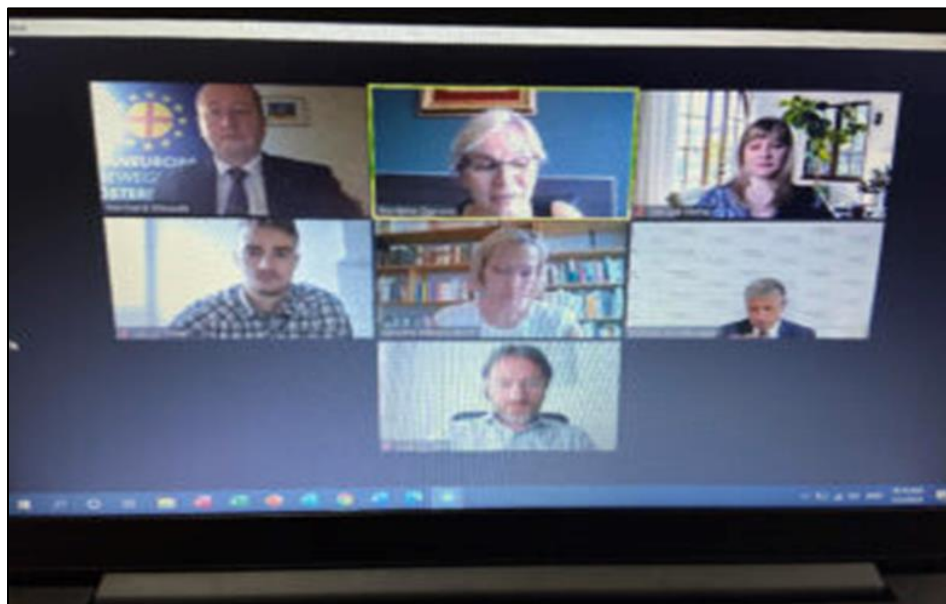
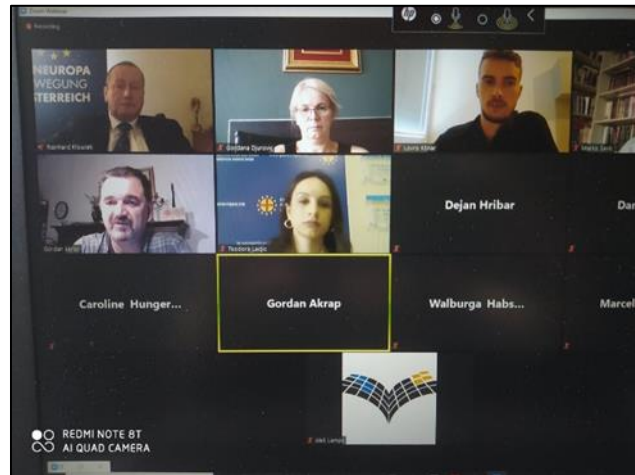
European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia Gordan Grlic Radman also spoke as special guests at the Assembly. In his speech, President Terrenoire stressed that Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo and Montenegro should be integrated into the European Union as soon as possible, considering their specific positions. Additional information can be found at the following link – <https://panevropa.me/en/terrenoire-again->

[president-gordana-djurovic-member-of-the-presidency-of-the-international-pan-european-union-decision-of-the-general-assembly-of-ipeu-in-strasbourg/](#) .

2. International conference (webinar): “Migrations in the light of security in Southeast Europe “in Podgorica

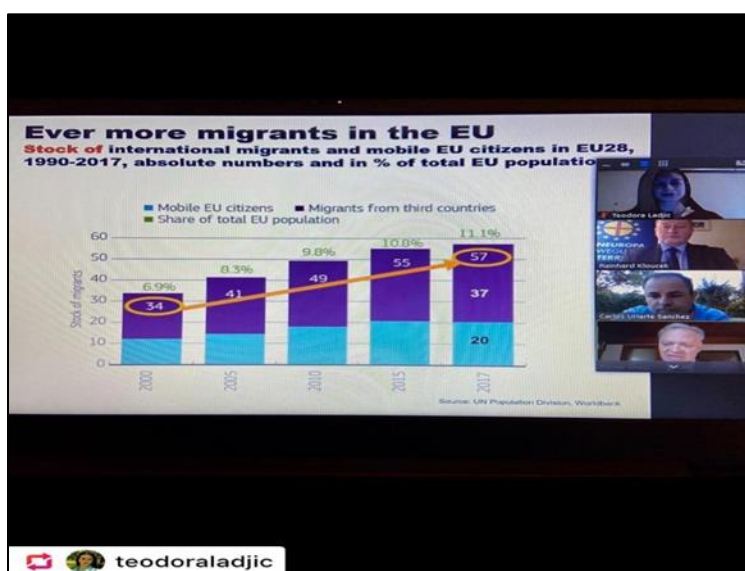
The Montenegrin Pan-European Union together is a partner of the Pan-European Union of Austria in the project “Citizens Looking for Multidimensional Migration Challenges (CITIMIG)”. Project is co-financed by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union. Within this project, international conference (webinar) on “Migration in the light of security in Southeast Europe” was held in the period from **3 to 4 July 2020 in organization of the MPEU**. The MPEU as a project partner, organized the conference via ZOOM platform, due to the

inability of gatherings caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. President **Gordana Djurovic** spoke on behalf of our organization. Also, the project manager and secretary of the MPEU Youth, **Teodora Ladjic**, was the moderator of the conference. Speakers from Montenegro at the conference were: **Marko Savic**, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Political Science and **Milos Radonjic** from the Office for European Integration. The distinguished panelists from across Europe and more than 50 participants discussed about the migration and security challenges in the EU and Western Balkans.



3. International conference (webinar): “Multidimensional Perspectives on Migration Issues” in Maribor

The Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU) participated in the international conference “Multidimensional Perspectives on Migration Issues”, organized by the Pan-European Union of Slovenia, partner of the Pan-European Union of Austria in the project “Citizens Looking for Multidimensional Migration Challenges (CITIMIG)”. The conference was held via ZOOM platform in the period from **11 to 13 September 2020**. Project Manager and Secretary of the MPEU Youth **Teodora Ladjic** was the moderator of one part of the conference, where speakers were distinguished advisor to the European Commission on Migration **Rainer Münz** and Law Professor **Carlos Sanchez**.



IV. Other activities

1. EU Cocktail: Tune to 2020

Partners from the EUIC and the Delegation of the EU to Montenegro have organized cocktail dedicated to 2020 expectation. Numerous partners, friends and distinguished guests were present from diplomatic core, media, business, government etc. Ms. **Plamena Halacheva** from the EU Delegation and prof **Gordana Djurovic**, addressed the audience with the brief speeches related to overview of European 2020 in Montenegro and Expectation for the EU and Montenegro in 2020. Montenegrin Pan-European Union members were as well present.



2. Panel: “European integration of Montenegro and the occasion of the Croatian EU Council Presidency in the context of enlargement policy”

President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union prof. **Gordan Djurovic** spoke at the panel discussion organized by CEDEM entitled “*European integration of Montenegro and the occasion of the Croatian EU Council Presidency in the context of enlargement policy*” held at the University of Donja Gorica on **February 19, 2020**. Prof. Djurovic pointed out that Montenegro had done a lot in the previous period, but that during the negotiation process so far, Montenegro should have dedicated more to the "import" of values from the EU, and less to the import of goods and services. **Milena Besic**, director of CEDEM, **Marko Mrdak**, deputy Chief Negotiator of Montenegro with the EU, **N.E. Veselko Grubisic**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Croatia to Montenegro, dr **Vladimir Ateljevic**, member of the negotiating team of the Republic of Serbia with the EU and dr **Nikoleta Djukanovic**, lecturer at the Humanities Studies of UDG, also spoke at the panel discussion.



3. Panel: “New methodology in the EU accession process: advantages and disadvantages”

The General Secretariat of the Government of Montenegro, within the EU4ME project, funded by the EU, organized a panel debate on **28 February 2020** with the aim of clarifying the new approach in enlargement policy. At the panel debate “*New methodology in the EU accession process: advantages and disadvantages*” it was assessed that the new accession methodology is based on the lessons learned from previous enlargements and can



provide an additional incentive for countries aspiring to EU membership to intensify reforms in areas that are crucial for progress. President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union prof. **Gordana Djurovic** stressed that the new methodology is based on the lessons learned from previous enlargements, including the experiences of Montenegro and Serbia so far, and that it should be seen as a way to improve negotiations. “The analytical approach is to compare the proposal of the new methodology with the negotiating position of Montenegro. If you make such an analysis, we can conclude that Montenegro has everything contained in its negotiating position” she said. She explained that two thirds of the new methodology refer to those countries that are just starting the negotiation process, not to Montenegro. Also, speakers at the panel were: chief Negotiator of Montenegro with the EU **Aleksandar Drljevic**, president of the Committee for European Integration of the Parliament of Montenegro **Slaven Radunovic** and executive director of the NGO Center for Civic Education **Daliborka Uljarevic**.



4. Alliance for Europe: Prime Minister Markovic with the Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU) on the promotion of european values and communication of the process of integration of Montenegro

Within the Alliance for Europe, on **March 6, 2020**, a meeting was held between the Prime Minister of Montenegro **Dusko Markovic** and representatives of the NGO **Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU)**. The meeting, besides Prime Minister, was attended by the Minister of Public Administration, **Suzana Pribilovic** and the Chief Negotiator, **Aleksandar Drljevic**. On behalf of the MPEU, the meeting, besides professor **Gordane Djurovic**, was attended by:



Djordjije Brajovic, MSc, Secretary General of the MPEU, and **Teodora Ladjic**, M.A., Project Manager and Secretary of the MPEU Youth. Representatives of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union headed by prof. Gordana Djurovic gave full support to the Government of Montenegro on the path of European integration and announced that they will continue to contribute through the organization of **various promotional and educational activities** of citizens, especially young people, and the preparation of necessary **analyzes** that can be used for a better negotiating platform in the current negotiation phase. The MPEU can make a special contribution by promoting Montenegro within the International Pan-European Union, the oldest pan-European organization based in Strasbourg, which brings together 28 countries dedicated to fighting for a better common future for Europe. **Many MEPs** are members of this global pro-European network. Prof. dr. Djurovic, President of the MPEU and Member of the Presidency of the International Pan-European Union, outlined the areas in which the MPEU is active, accomplished as well as planned projects in the field of promoting and strengthening the European integration process of Montenegro. The new negotiating framework offered by the European Commission and supported by the European Parliament should also be used as a basis for the preparation of a **strategy for the next phase of Montenegro's negotiations with the Union**, with a focus on assessing internal preparedness and the dynamics of closing negotiations through the prism of the clusters offered. In



line with the future dynamics of the negotiations, it is necessary to strengthen the cohesion of all stakeholders in the country and to prepare **an analysis of the economic effects of accession**. Special attention at the meetings was paid to **youth policy issues**.

5. Panel: *“EU Presidency 2020: a look into the future”*

The Office for European Integration and the General Secretariat of the Government, in cooperation with the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, organized a panel debate: *“EU Presidency 2020: a look into the future”* on **July 6, 2020**. The meeting was organized on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the accession negotiations, as well as the end of the Croatian presidency of the Council of the European Union and the takeover of the Presidency by Germany.

The following spoke at the panel: Chief Negotiator **Aleksandar Drljevic**, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU) professor **Gordana Djurovic** and the Ambassadors of the Republic of Croatia and Germany to Montenegro **Veselko Grubisic** and **Robert Heinrich Weber**. The meeting was an opportunity to exchange views on the results of the Croatian and plans of the German Presidency of the EU, in the context of the European perspective of the Western Balkans, the current situation in the EU, as well as plans and commitments of Montenegro in the negotiation process.



6. Seminar: “Montenegro: from the Smart Specialization Strategy to the EU Integration Agenda, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic”

The Montenegrin Pan-European Union, in cooperation with the **Hanns Seidel Foundation**, successfully realized a seminar in Petrovac in the period from **8 – 10 October 2020** on the topic: “*Montenegro: from the Smart Specialization Strategy to the EU Integration Agenda, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic*”. 20 young people (undergraduate students, members of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, representatives of state institutions – Ministry of Sports and Youth, Office for European Integration, Ministry of Science, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Tourism and Sustainable Development, as well as from the private sector) connected, expanded knowledge and discussed issues related to the priority sectors of development of Montenegro (agriculture, energy, tourism and information technology) and the process of European integration of Montenegro through the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Eminent professors and experts from Montenegro and the region in the field of agriculture, tourism, science, industry, economy and European integration passed on knowledge and experiences to young participants through a set of lectures and workshops. The seminar was held in compliance with the measures of the responsible institutions in order to combat the spread of the pandemic.



7. Conference: "How to improve human rights in the Western Balkans"

Conference organized by EALF - European Association for Law and Finance (EALF) on the topic: "How to improve human rights in the Western Balkans?" held on **October 14, 2020** via ZOOM. Our project manager **Teodora Ladjic** spoke on behalf of the MPEU at the introductory panel of the conference. She highlighted the positive initiatives in society on the protection and respect of human rights in Montenegro and the region, how European integration contributes to the improvement of the situation in the area of human rights and suggestions in which direction to go. At the introductory panel also spoke: The Ambassador of Australia in Belgrade, H.E. **Ms. Ruth Stewart**, **Ms. Annette Lanting** in front of the United Nations Office, **Mr. Aleksandar Zekovic**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Professor of Law **Mr. Milos Vukcevic**. The conference was held within the project "European School of Human Rights" supported by the Australian Government. The conference was held within the project "European School of Human Rights" supported by the Australian Government.



8. MPEU representative member of the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) between Montenegro and the European Economic and Social Committee

President of the MPEU professor **Gordana Djurovic** was elected on behalf of the NGO sector for membership in the **Joint Consultative Committee (JCC)** between Montenegro and the European Economic and Social Committee. The Montenegrin Pan-European Union and the President will through their work in the JCC strive to significantly contribute to the promotion of Montenegrin-European values and the reform processes of Montenegro on the path to the European integration. You can find the decision at the link: <https://www.eu.me/mn/press/saopstenja/item/4318-odluka-o-izboru-dvije-kandidatkinje-iz-nvo-za-clanstvo-u-zajednickom-konsultativnom-odboru-izmedu-crne-gore-i-evropskog-ekonomskog-i-socijalnog-komiteta>.



9. The Fifth Regional Youth Leadership Forum (RYLF) in Novi Sad

Teodora Ladjic, the project manager and Youth Secretary of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, participated in the 5th Regional Youth Leadership Forum (RYLF) in Novi Sad from from **October 30 to November 2, 2020**. The young leaders of the Western Balkans discussed on finding solutions for the current socio-economic situation that is severely affecting young people. Conclusions from RYLF 2020 were sent as recommendations to the Sofia Summit held in November 2020.



10. IV Assembly of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union

On Sunday, **December 27, 2020**, the IV Assembly of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union was held. Due to the respect of health care measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, only the allowed number of respected members of the MPEU were present. The Assembly verified the mandates of the members of the Presidency of the MPEU and the Presidency of Youth elected at the Presidency of the MPEU, as well as the decisions on the termination of the mandates of certain members and the admission of new ones. The mandates of the MPEU Youth president **Milica Muhadinovic** and the MPEU Youth secretary **Teodora Ladić** were verified. The mandate of the following members ended: **Djordje Raicevic** (MPEU Presidency), **Ivana Kojovic**, **Anastasia Vujosevic**, **Kristina Ulama** and **Mini Kalezic** (MPEU Youth Presidency). **Martini Bojaj** was elected to the MPEU Presidency. **Bojana Boskovic**, **Radovan Ognjenovic** and **Aleksa Grgurovic** were elected to the MPEU Youth Presidency. The past very good work of the MPEU was discussed, having in mind the consequences that the pandemics caused and the new projects that the MPEU is waiting for in the new 2021 year. The MPEU Assembly ended after 2 hours of work with a cocktail and informal socializing.



11. Publications

Scientific journals

- Djurovic G., Djurovic V., Bojaj B.M. (2020), **Macroeconomic Effects of COVID-19 in Montenegro: A Bayesian VARX Approach**, *Financial Innovation* 6, 40 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40854-020-00207-z>, A Springer OA Journal, [SSCI indexed](#), <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1186/s40854-020-00207-z.pdf>;
- Đurović Gordana (2020). **Od Šumanove deklaracije do savremene Unije: integracioni put Crne Gore**, *Istorijski zapisi*, Godina XCIII, br. 1-2/2020, Istorijski institut Univerziteta Crne Gore, Podgorica, UDK 327(497.16):061.1EU (Eng. translation: On the Occasion of Seventy Years of European Integration: from the Schuman Declaration to the Modern-Day Union: the Integration Path of Montenegro); https://www.ucg.ac.me/skladiste/blog_21704/objava_101835/fajlovi/zapisi%201_2%202020.pdf;
- Djurovic G., Lajh D. (2020). **Relationship with the European Union: Slovenia and Montenegro Compared**, *Politics in Central Europe, The Journal of Central European Political Science Association*, 16(3), Dec.2020, ISSN 1801-3422, DOI:10.2478/pce-2020-0030, De Gruyter Open access publish, Scopus database, https://www.politicsincentraleurope.eu/documents/file/PCE_2020_3_16.pdf, [Scopus](#);
- Cetkovic J., Lakic S., Zarkovic M., Djurovic G., Vujadinovic R.(2020, on line first), **Application of Economic Analysis of Air Pollution Reduction Measures**, *Polish Journal of Environmental Studies*, Volume 2021; 30(1): 571–583; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15244/pjoes/122230>; [SSCI indexed](#);
- Bojaj M. Martin, Djurovic Gordana (2020), Forecasting of inflation: A Combination Approach, *Engineering Economics*, Vol 31, No. 2, pp. 145-144, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5755/j01.ee.31.2.24609>, [SSCI indexed](#);
- Ermir I. Hajdini, Nikola Jokić, Teodora Ladić, Ksenija Milenković, Denis Preshova, Flandra Sylá; „**Western Balkans and the European Union**”; Discussion Paper C258 2020; Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung Center for European Integration Studies Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn: <https://www.zei.uni-bonn.de/dateien/discussion-paper/DP-258-2020.pdf>

Other journals and magazines

- Muhadinovic, Milica; „**Challenges facing young people in the Western Balkans**”; PanEuropa magazine; 30 January 2020. Available online: <https://www.paneuropa.at/challenges-facing-young-people-in-the-western-balkans/?fbclid=IwAR02ZLPKo26e8Ljn04OQX25wrUm6ymj4XvtuzxY-mPNcU-QAsnDL4SuyLi8#more-2007>

- Ladić, Teodora; „**Results and consequences of the Parliamentary election in Montenegro**”; published by PanEuropa Austria; 1 October 2020.. Available at: <https://www.paneuropa.at/results-and-consequences-of-the-parliamentary-elections-in-montenegro/#more-2284>
- Đurović, Gordana, **Crnogorska ekonomija u vrijeme i nakon COVID-19 pandemije**, *Glasnik PKCG*; br. 5/2020. Str. 43; Dostupno na: https://www.privrednakomora.me/sites/pkcg.org/files/multimedia/gallery/files/2012/09/glasnik_maj_2020_www.pdf
- Đurović Gordana, **Crna Gora u partnerstvu za otvorenu upravu**, *Reforma*, Ministarstvo javne uprave; Br. 1; Jun 2020. Str. 28; Dostupno na: <http://www.mju.gov.me/vijesti/227285/Objavljen-prvi-broj-casopisa-Ministarstva-javne-uprave-ReForma.html>
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V. Final remarks

The Montenegrin Pan-European Union regularly organizes sessions of the Presidency and the Youth Presidency on a quarterly basis to discuss past activities and make plans for the coming period. The MPEU also participates in the Government's program of vocational training for higher education students and thus contributes to the formation of work experience for young graduates. At the same time, the MPEU holds the door open for all people willing to help work and achieve the goals of the MPEU through their volunteer engagement.