

6 Montenegro Summer School For Young Diplomats “Gavro Vuković”

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and European Integration
of Montenegro



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Capacity Development Programme
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This year's Summer School brought together 50 participants from 34 countries of the region, the European Union and, indeed, from all over the world, as well as prominent lecturers who brought closer contemporary issues of international politics to their younger colleagues.

most all countries of the world, we have become recognizable in multilateral forums for our efforts to preserve peace and security and respect for human rights, inter alia in the framework of our membership in the UN Human Rights Council. Parallely, we develop and transfer knowledge



The Summer School laid a particular emphasis on the role and significance of diplomacy in maintaining the international peace and security, overcoming crises and developing new models of economic, political and security cooperation in international arena. It also provided an opportunity for young diplomats to get acquainted with the history, culture, as well as foreign policy priorities of the participating countries, and establish through learning, exchange of views and socializing, mutual rapport and the basis for future cooperation.

In his address to the young diplomats, **Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Mr. Igor Lukšić** said they all need to know well their country above all, in order to represent it well. But they must also have equally good knowledge of other countries and organizations that they are focused on.

At the opening ceremony of the Montenegrin Summer School for Young Diplomats, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Lukšić said: “The value of such gatherings is that we keep returning to the basics, to the starting principles regardless of which subject or problem they are specifically related to. Such gatherings provoke intellectual challenge to discuss the realities that accompany our work. As far as Montenegro is concerned, we have developed diplomatic relations with al-

and skills in the function of dealing with the challenges that accompany international relations. We implement projects such as the Summer School, where young colleagues meet and grow. Continually, we also affirm commitment to meeting the criteria for membership in the European Union and NATO.”

Mr. Nils Ragnar Kamsvåg, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Serbia and to Montenegro said: “The impressive geographic spread is in itself a sign of value of the Summer School for Young Diplomats. Four - five years ago, when we received a request to help the Summer School, there was an explanation that it will allow participants from the region and a number of other countries to improve their skills, and that it will help the development of Montenegrin diplomatic service and familiarizing of young diplomats with Montenegro and the rest of the region. The structure of students of this School has shown its importance and value, and it is one of best promoters of Montenegro in the international arena.”

“Berane is a city which last year celebrated its 150th anniversary and the 100th anniversary of the annexation to Montenegro, and it is a UN Peace Messenger City,” **Mr. Vuka Golubović, Mayor of the Municipality Berane** said. “Our city is proud of being a host, like every year, to the Summer School students, young diplomats



who are just getting ready for this very difficult and important task for any country, including our own. The importance of the School is all the greater taking into consideration very positive comments about it not only from its students, but also from well-known names from the world of politics, such as Ban Ki-moon and U.S. President Barack Obama.“

Mr. Rastislav Vrbensky, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative to Montenegro said he was proud of UNDP's contribution to the establishment of the Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković", that commemorates the prominent statesman, founder and originator of Montenegrin diplomacy. "You, as a new generation of diplomats, have a privilege to make your own mark in society and to participate in the shaping of relations between countries to maintain international peace and security. Therefore, my message to you would be to continue building precious diplomatic and friendly connections and to stay open to new ideas coming from your colleagues," Mr. Vrbensky also said.

At the closing ceremony of the School, **Mr. Aleksandar Andrija Pejović, State Secretary-Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union** said: "Gathering of foreign diplomats in Montenegro is the right approach for a young state to create its diplomatic service." He reminded that Montenegro is an independent country for seven years now, and the sixth generation has just finished the diplomatic school. "The real value of this diplomatic school is that we gathered representatives from almost all continents" Ambassador Pejović said.

The Role and Significance of Diplomacy in Renewing Montenegro Statehood- a Contribution to Peace and Security in the Region, Mr. Milan Roćen, Chief Political Advisor to the Prime Minister of Montenegro

The first lecture at this year Summer School was delivered by Mr. Milan Roćen. Mr. Roćen talked about the role and importance of diplomacy in Montenegro's statehood renewal. He divided his lecture in two parts, in the first part he introduced participants of the Summer School to the situation in the Balkans before Montenegrin statehood renewal, while in second part he introduced them to the situation in Montenegro after statehood renewal.

In the first part, Roćen who is a longtime diplomat, former minister of foreign affairs of Montenegro acquainted participants with the situation in the Balkans, starting from SFRY, over SRY to SMN, to Montenegro's statehood renewal particularly emphasizing importance that Montenegro had in keeping peace and security in the region. In the second part the accent was put on defining foreign policy priorities and successes that Montenegro had achieved during short period since statehood renewal, i.e. it became candidate country for NATO, state with candidate status for EU membership, it set up bilateral relations with almost all states of the world and it particularly took care of relations with neighbors. It was excellent opportunity for participants to be acquainted with vital political events in the region of Western Balkans, to exchange views and to get to know experiences of the longtime chief of diplomacy who participated actively in these processes and during whose term in office Montenegro reached significant foreign policy successes.

During his address Roćen particularly emphasized significance of maintenance of neighborly relations and the fact that "it should always take care to be surrounded with friends".

The Summer School is the occasion to set up mutual relations and fundaments for future successful cooperation through learning, exchange of views and socializing, was directly responsible for exist-

ence of the Summer School, due to the fact that during his term in office in 2008, formation of the I Montenegrin Summer School for young diplomats “Vojvoda Gavro Vukovic” was initiated.

In the course of the day the participants of the Summer School had the opportunity to hear two dynamic panels dedicated to the European and Euro Atlantic Integration. This was the occasion for participants to get acquainted with some general issues in these areas, but to get as well some more detailed information on current status of Montenegro in the process of European and Euro Atlantic integration.

Having in mind that Montenegro is candidate country for NATO membership, Mr. Kaluđerović who at the same time serves as National Coordinator for NATO introduced participants of the Summer School to the present results achieved in the process of Euro Atlantic integration as well as to the further plans which are believed that will contribute to realization of foreign policy priority of Montenegro.

In 2006, Montenegro became a member of the Partnership for Peace (PfP), after which, owing to the reforms in all parts of society, successful implementation of the Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP) and intensive dialogue with NATO, in 2009 it became a candidate country for mem-



Montenegro – NATO – Peace – Security, panel with H.E. Mr. Nebojša Kaluđerović, Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister of Montenegro and National Coordinator for NATO, H.E. Mr. Vladimir Gasparič, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Montenegro and Mr. Douglas Jones, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Montenegro

Panelists talked about current issues related to the process of Euro Atlantic integration with special reference to:

- Achieved results of Montenegro in the process of Euro Atlantic integration
- The role of NATO in ensuring international peace and security
- Experiences of Slovenia in the process of Euro Atlantic integration & the role of Slovenia in the process of Montenegrin NATO integration

bership. As a candidate country for NATO membership, Montenegro has started with the implementation of the Membership Action Plan (MAP), having successfully completed three cycles and the fourth MAP cycle is about to start with implementation. Bearing in mind that Montenegro is at the final stage of accomplishment of one of the strategic objectives, it is planned to carry out in the future all activities that would qualify Montenegro for membership in NATO.

The challenges that have to be confronted in the future are precisely the areas that contribute not only to fulfillment of the requirements that are expected until the invitation for membership of Montenegro in NATO, but these are the areas which are essential for the further reform of Montenegro, which will ensure, among other things, security, stability and further democratic and economic development. In accordance with the aforementioned, special emphasis will be placed on de-



fense reform, security and intelligence reforms and the rule of law, and in particular - strengthening public support.

During the panel, Jones pointed out that today's NATO, more so than ever, is about partnership. "The promotion of Euro-Atlantic security is best assured through a wide network of partner relationships with countries and organizations around the globe. The door to NATO is fully open to all European democracies that share the goals of the Alliance." Ambassador Gasparič presented Slovenia's experience in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration and the role of Slovenia in the integration process of Montenegro in NATO that was followed by an interesting discussion with participants.

European Integration and Enlargement Process – Impact on EU, Candidate Countries and Potential Candidate Countries, as well as on European Neighbours, panel with Mr. Aleksandar Andrija Pejović, State Secretary – Chief Negotiator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro, H.E. Mrs. Catherine Knight-Sands, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Montenegro and Mr. Tadej Rupel, Director General for European Policies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia.

Panelists talked about current issues related to the process of European integration such as dynamics of enlargement process, how does Western Balkans enlargement influence the Mediterranean, the extent to which integration of Turkey is significant for peace and future stabilization in the Middle East, is suspension of Iceland negotiations, political or technical issue, how many years do the states of Western Balkans need to achieve the aim of EU accession, is integration catalyst or intensifier of bilateral conflicts in the region, what is the future of the European Neighborhood Policy...

Additionally, Aleksandar Andrija Pejović emphasized that significant results have been achieved in the previous eighteen months in terms of in-

terior consolidation of negotiating process of Montenegro. Negotiating structure was rounded off. Explanatory and bilateral meetings for 33 negotiating chapters were held in envisaged time, during which members of working groups had opportunity to be acquainted with the regulations referring to all areas of the EU acquis and to present relevant national institutional and regulatory framework. Two chapters were provisionally closed. The screening process contributed to comprehension of current state of play in national legislation in relation to the EU acquis, as well as to identification of challenges in institutional, regulatory and financial terms.

It was emphasized that it is very important to carry on with improvement of further dialog, development and implementation of key goals of the EU Neighborhood Policy in order to realize harmonization of relations between EU and neighbor states and to create "the ring of democratic states" around Europe.

One of the messages that participants could take from the Panel was that Montenegro, together with other states of Western Balkans, encouraged by joint European perspective as strategic goal and common values such as rule of law, protection of fundamental and human rights, sound management, principle of open economy and sustainable development, will carry on working on new enhanced models of cooperation in the region.

Conference Diplomacy, Professor Paul Meerts, Senior Associate to the Clingendael Institute, The Hague and Dr Siniša Vuković, Assistant Professor at the University of Nijmegen

Professor Paul Meerts, Senior Associate at Clingendael Institute in The Hague and Dr Sinisa Vuković, Assistant Professor at the University Nijmegen introduced participants to the theory and practice of international negotiating. Together with participants professor defined term of international negotiating as communication process directed to achievement of specific goals through joint efforts of parties in conflict that are led both by their goals as well as by the best alternatives trying to find



compromise. They emphasized important role of pre-negotiating process, negotiators themselves, matter of trust, control and power, pointing out the fact that apart from stability and peace international negotiations can result in conflict. They talked about significance of personal interests, their respect by interested parties, alternatives and significance of creating new values and maximization of objectives. In the second part of their lecture, participants were provided with the opportunity to simulate, in groups, negotiations over crises on the Mediterranean. Led by different interest they reached agreement, so that simulation enabled efficacious joining of theory and practice.

Post Arab Spring, Dr. Petra Weyland, Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies, Germany

Dr. Petra Weyland, Professor at George Marshall Center for Security Studies in Germany delivered lecture on the topic Post Arab Spring. She pointed out significance of understanding culture, tradition, policy of one state with special reference to difference between the terms "Islam" and "Islamism" as policy of Islam. She finds causes of Post Arab Spring phenomenon in the processes that preceded it. She outlined importance of Islamic culture in political processes and importance of Islamic parties and their impact on attainment of joint goals. She also reminded about the fact that the world changed in 2011, all around Middle East, North Africa, changes were requested by rebellions, respect of human rights, better economic chances, greater political freedom and better future. In interesting manner and through interaction with participants experiences and views were shared and it was explained that Islam does not have to be radical but reform-oriented.

The Proper Use of Lobbying in Influencing Foreign Policy, Mr. Paige Reffe, Founder of Reffe Group

Mr. Paige Reffe, the founder of Reffe group introduced participants to importance that lobbying has with regard to impact on foreign policy. He

presented personal experience from long diplomatic career and stated concrete examples of priorities defining and efficacious utilization of available resources during realization of defined goals. As specific experience from its career he mentioned cooperation with former American President Bil Clinton as well as with Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili.

E-Diplomacy: Between Tradition and Innovations, Dr. Jovan Kurbalija, Director and Vladimir Radunovic, Project Coordinator, DiploFoundation

Dr. Jovan Kurbalija and Vladimir Radunovic Director and Project Coordinator of "DiploFoundation", presented new ways of diplomatic acting by using popular internet approaches. In their session they set forth rising phenomenon of internet domination as well as interconnection that is often reflected from virtual space on realistic policy. Having explained vision and mission of their organization, lecturers provided concrete examples of e-diplomacy emphasizing growing trend of setting up sectors in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs which are devoting more and more attention to these techniques in communication with public. During lecture, special attention was given to growing domination of internet domain "me" which is present today in 200 countries all over the world and over 560 000 sites. In view of growing impact of internet evolution it was emphasized that many states decide to open digital embassies in San Francisco due to continuous monitoring of internet impact.

Economic Crises, Security Concerns, and Development Challenges, Jan Peter Olters, Kosovo Country Manager at the World Bank

Mr. Jan Peter Olters, Kosovo Country Manager at the World Bank expressed his view on economic crisis and necessary economic reforms that states of the region have to implement with the purpose of better controlling and overcoming current recession. He pointed out the obvious trade deficit of EU states which directly complicate economic prosperity of the region due to more and more infrequent foreign direct investments.

Social Events

National economy growth should be priority of a state what directly influences not only economic but political stability as well. As each political process is conditioned by economic parameters, he emphasized that state sets up good platform for further development of economic and political ambience by focusing on main macroeconomic parameters such as inflation, budget deficit and public debt which are stated as main criteria of the Maastricht Treaty.

In the final of the working part of the Program, participants were addressed by High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser over video link, who praised participants for achieved results in diplomatic development and he expressed hope that this Summer School would be of great help in further work and professional development.

As it was several times emphasized, the Summer School was in the same time the opportunity for young diplomats to meet history, culture and foreign policy priorities of participating states, and to set up mutual relations and fundaments for future successful cooperation through learning, exchange of views and companionship. Apart from the working part of the program diversified cultural and social program was organized which enabled “saw many beautiful places” and “spectacular parts of Montenegro” impressions among which we set aside:

Mountain safari with dinner in the village Vranjak – Mountain safari across hardly approachable terrain, through thick wood up to one of the peaks of Bjelasica Mountain enabled participants to meet “the wild beauty” of Montenegro and specialties of Montenegrin cuisine “sweeter than honey”.

Visit to the National Park “Biogradsko Lake” – another day in the nature, enabled participants to meet the beauties of the National Park “Biogradsko jezero”. Apart from perfectly clean lake, special impression for participants was the tick wood reflecting in the lake, and which represents one of the three remaining rainforests in Europe.

Visit to Old Royal Capital Cetinje – During one-day visit to Cetinje participants had opportunity to visit the Castle of King Nikola, Biljarada, Ivanova Korita, Lovćen, and to visit buildings in which diplomatic and consular representations had been placed at the end of XIX and beginning of XX century.

This year visit to Cetinje and Lovćen had additional significance, taking into account the fact that Montenegro is celebrating 200 years from the birth of Njegoš, Montenegrin ruler, Bishop and poet.



From Book of impressions

“Academic program allowing us not only to get practical and theoretical knowledge about diplomacy, but also a great personal experience”,
Nicolas Rantica, Argentine

“I have learned about many interesting topics and have met many new good friends from around the world. Most importantly, I am thankful for opportunity to see spectacular parts of Montenegro”,
Natta Akapaiboon, Thailand



“I spent several days in a friendly atmosphere, learn very interesting things, engaged with my colleagues from all over the world, discovered new cultures, met with top Montenegrin officials, saw many beautiful places...It was amassing and I will remember it for all my life”,
Nicolas Faye, France

“I will bring out friendship to China and do my best to promote China – Montenegro friendship. Long live China – Montenegro friendship”,
Hua Yuqing, China

“A small, but important, step toward even greater friendship between our countries”,
Anton Alblas, Australia

“Montenegro now has a new friend in Estonia and I will recommend this Summer School to my colleagues”,
Avro Anton, Estonia

“Truly I do not know how many summer schools for young diplomats there are in the world, but I have to say that this must be one of the best... Participation of representatives from all world is the best proof that project has become well-known and attractive opportunity, enabling acquaintance, exchange of experience and beautiful amusement in this part of Europe”,
Mihail Hrusik, Slovakia
