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ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

SOME POLITICAL PARTIES SUBMITTED THE REPORTS ABOUT RESOURCES SPENT IN THE CAMPAIGN

In the end of September at the initiative of the Center for Democratic Transition, the political parties signed a Code of Conduct during the campaign for the election held on October 20. One of the regulations of this document is related to the parties' obligations that they should present publicly all their expenses made during the pre-election campaign 10 days after the elections.

At yesterday's meeting of CDT and political parties that signed the Code, some of the parties presented their expenditures. According to the statements of party representatives, DPS spent $28,566 \in$, NS $21,500 \in$, SDP around $14,000 \in$ and Democratic Alliance around $9,000 \in$. Representatives of SNP, SNS and LSCG were neither present at the meeting nor did they forward any information about their expenses.

Article 9 of the Law on Financing of the Political Parties states that the maximum that parties can spend during the campaign is 250 times the average salary in the month preceding elections. This article relates to the following forms of the election propaganda: posters, advertisements, radio and TV programs, propaganda spots, and publications. CDT monitored the parties' activities and kept a record about all aspects of the political propaganda. According to this record and the prices of these propaganda services, which you can find in the attachment, certain parties exceeded the limits anticipated in the Law if they had paid those services according to the official prices.

CDT believes that the current Law on Financing of the Political Parties is bad and invites the newly formed Parliament and the Government of Montenegro to pass a new Law on Financing of the Political Parties by the end of 2003. As CDT emphasized several times and we are very pleased to hear that others share our opinion, Article 10 of the current Law on financing of the political parties was not respected. We would like to remind once more that, in accordance to this Article, the parties that have MP's in the Parliament are obliged to establish a special agreement related to the control of resources spent in the campaign 15 days after calling of the elections.

Article 8, paragraph 2 of the already mentioned Law enables parties to gather donations in order to cover all of their expenses. We believe that is necessary to define more precisely what is understood as a donation and also to require a public declaration of all gathered donations – their amount as well as their sources. Also, it is necessary in the new Law to define precisely in-kind contributions, their sources and purposes.





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The new Law should define very precisely the sources of the financing and certain limits, as well as the form of the reports, which would be published in the media. Also we will insist that the finances of the political parties become more transparent. We note that the information about the resources that parties have during the pre-election campaign has to be made public and this represents a necessary pre-condition of the creation of the democratic environment in the society.

CDT is prepared to actively participate in the creation of the new legal solution, as well as to offer the experiences of the other countries.

Podgorica, 08 November 2002





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THE ADVERTISEMENTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN DAILY PRESS						
	Democratic Coalition for	Coalition	The price of publishing			
	European Montenegro	"Together for				
	DPS-SDP	changes"				
Vijesti	15 1/1 page; 6 ½ page; 6	Did not have a spot	1/1 767 €; ½ 409 €; ¼			
	½ page		230 €			
Glas		13 1/1 page	1/1 170 €			
Crnogoraca						
Pobjeda	2 1/1 page; 3 ½ page; 1 ¼	Did not have a spot	1/1 537 €; ½ 268 €; ¼			
	page		153 €			
Publika	7 1/1 page; 4 ½ page; 4 ¼	Did not have a spot	1/1 300 €; ½ 170 €; ¼ 90			
	page; 3 1/8 page;		€; 1/8 50€			

THE PROPAGANDA SPOTS ON PRIVATE TV STATIONS FROM 12H TO 24H

	Democratic	Coalition	Patriotic	Liberal	The price per
	Coalition for	"Together	coalition for	Alliance of	second
	European	for changes"	Yugoslavia	Montenegro	
	Montenegro				
	DPS-SDP				
NTV Montena	14 452 sec	5880 sec	3618 sec	1860 sec	
TV Elmag	6168 sec	36 488 sec	7200 sec	4020 sec	From 1,60€ to
					30 €
					depending on
					the period and
					type of
					propaganda
					message
TV IN	9434 sec	2786 sec			From 10€ to
					30€

BILLBOARDS

Only Democratic Coalition for European Montenegro DPS-SDP had billboards. According to our information this Coalition had in total 60 billboards. The price of one billboard is around

300 € depending on the location.





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Remark:

The Center for Democratic Transition presents only information, which it gathered, about the number of advertisements in the printed media and broadcasting of propaganda spots in seconds, as well as programs that parties broadcasted on private TV stations. We also announced the official prices of these services. CDT has no information whether some of the media gave special discounts to the parties and how much they were, apart from those within the price list. Also, according to the same principle, we published the information regarding the billboards.