

Report on the work of Montenegrin media for the period

1 October - 1 December 2013

Complaint of the Law Office Justicija

The Law Office Justicija has filed a complaint to the Media Council for Self-Regulation (MSS) due to the case of a correction that was sent to the daily Vijesti on 12th September 2013 and which has not been published.

The Law Office sent a correction for the article "Beba crying and cheating again" (“Beba opet plače i vara”), subtitled "Continuation of primitivism: Popovic’s attorney asks SEEMA to withdraw its condemnation of attacks on journalists". The article writes about an appeal filed by Vladan Bojic, Vladimir Popovic’s attorney, sent to the media organisation SEEMO regarding its reaction to the controversial event. The article also writes about the footage of security cameras at the Europoint building on the basis of which it was determined whether the incident happened.

In an unpublished correction written on 12th September 2013 attorney Vladan Bojic gave his view of the footage and its authenticity, as well as of the overall situation which was a result of the alleged incident.

The Media Council for Self-Regulation believes that the daily Vijesti had to publish a response to the article published on 12th September, not only because of the constitutional, legal and duties prescribed by the Code of Montenegrin Journalists. In several articles published on this subject at the beginning of September, the daily Vijesti published the position of the other party in the event only once, in response of the Vladimir Popovic’s attorney on 6th September.

The Media Council for Self-Regulation believes that by failing to publish a response of the Law Office Justicija Principle 4 of the Code of Montenegrin Journalists was violated, which prescribes the duty of journalists: **“to complete an incomplete and correct incorrect information, especially the one that can cause any harm and at the same time to make sure that the correction is pointed out in the adequate manner."**

The Media Council for Self-Regulation restates that the daily Vijesti also failed to publish a response written by the Law Office Justicija on 10th September under the title "Imprudent attempt to climb out of the pit."

Complaint of the Special Psychiatric Hospital in Dobrota

The Ethics Committee of the Special Psychiatric Hospital Goodness in Dobrota, Kotor sent a complaint to the Media Council regarding the article published by the daily Vijesti on 22nd October under the title "Crazy Milan continues treatment in Serbia" (“Ludi Milan u Srbiji nastavlja liječenje”). The Ethics Committee of the Hospital considers that it was extremely inappropriate and unprofessional in journalism to use expressions such as "Crazy Milan" and "monster" in the circumstances of a tragic situation, as well as using of the aforementioned circumstances to create journalistic sensationalism that deepens the stigma towards psychiatric patients.

The Media Council for Self-Regulation (MSS) has considered the complaint in detail and concluded that the article refers to the tragic event which happened in 2005. We believe that by using the terms "crazy" and "monster" the author of the article tried to create a sensationalist reports out of a most ordinary situation. Also, by using the above mentioned terms the author has tried to belittle and humiliate a psychiatric patient.

## The MSS believes that this violated the Principle 1.2 (b) and Principle 8.1 (g) of the Code of Journalists, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 8**

**8.1 Right to privacy**

(g) Physical and mental illness or injuries come fundamentally within the private sphere of the persons affected. Out of consideration for them and their dependants, the media should not publish names and photographs in such cases and should avoid using disparaging terms to describe their illness, even if they are terms in popular usage.

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.2 Accuracy**

(b) The public’s right to be informed does not justify sensational reporting. Therefore, journalists must not distort information by exaggeration, by placing improper emphasis on one aspect of a story or by giving only one side of the story.

Complaint of the Ivan Vujovic’s family

The family of Ivan Vujovic, who is serving a prison sentence at the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions, addressed the Media Council for Self-Regulation with a complaint. The complaint relates to the article published by the daily Vijesti on 7th November 2013 titled "Stabbed him with a tea spoon because he was racketeered at the Spuz prison" (“Ubo ga kašičicom jer ga je reketirao u spuškom zatvoru”), and the article published on 5th November titled "A bomb for Vujovic?” (“Bomba za Vujovića?”). The family claims in the complaint that the first article was written in such a way that by reading it, it can be concluded that the only culprit in the whole event was Ivan Vujovic. This is also suggested by the title of the article "Stabbed him with a tea spoon because he was racketeered at the Spuz prison," as well as by the photo in the article.

The MSS believes that the journalist violated the presumption of innocence by writing the title of such structure and that he/she put forward a definite conclusion, although the article was a report from the ongoing trial.

## The MSS believes that this violated the Principle 10 of the Code, Guidelines (a) and (b), which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(a) Reports on investigations and court cases serve to inform the public in a careful way about crimes, their prosecution and court judgment. A person is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court, even if he or she has confessed. Even in cases where guilt is obvious to the public, an accused person cannot be portrayed as guilty within the meaning of a court judgment until a verdict has been handed down.

(b) Prejudicial portrayals and allegations violate the constitutional protection of human dignity, which also applies without qualification to criminals. The aim of court reporting must not be to punish convicted criminals socially as well by using the media as a "pillory".

Regarding the article "A bomb for Vujovic?" (“Bomba za Vujovića?”) published on 5th November, the family claims the following: "Before publishing a report, the journalist must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to check its accuracy, which was not the case with the daily Vijesti. Journalists and the editorial team of this media publish information without any previous check of its accuracy, and the public gets a completely distorted picture of the actual state of affairs. Hereby, we emphasize that the apartment in front of which the explosive device was planted is not owned by Ivan Vujovic, which can also be determined by inspecting the cadastral records. "

The MSS notes that although the author of the controversial article put a question mark at the end of the title to leave room for doubt, he/she presented an unequivocal statement in the article that the bomb was placed outside the door of Ivan Vujovic’s apartment and that it was intended for him. The author did not refer to any source, nor did he/she contact the family of Ivan Vujovic to check the accuracy of this statement.

## The MSS believes that the journalist violated the Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists, Guideline 1.1 for this Principle, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

* 1. **General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

Complaint of the Railway Transport of Montenegro

The MSS has also received a complaint of the Railway Transport of Montenegro regarding a series of articles published in the daily Vijesti about this company from 29th August to 25th October 2013. The company Director Miloica Zindovic highlights in the complaint that the rumours and assumptions about the Railway Transport of Montenegro were published and presented to the public as facts, which thus had a direct negative impact on the business reputation of the company, inflicted damage and caused fear and anxiety among its users.

Following the chronology, the MSS first analyzed the article published on 29th August titled “Brakes defective even after the transport” (“Kočnice su pokvarene i poslije prevoza“). As the title suggests, the article dealt with the validity of the brakes at newly remanufactured trains. The author quotes an unnamed source to claim that there are problems in the operation of trains. However, the end of the article states no one from the management of this company has provided an answer regarding the disputed issues. The MSS believes that the journalist acted properly in this case.

The article "Drove passengers to Bar and brought the train back to the depot" from 30th August deals with the same theme as the one on the previous day and presents the facts in the same manner. The author again states that he/she had not received an official response from the management of the company. Although the company Director complains that the journalist got the information from unknown sources, we remind that journalists are not required to disclose their sources of information, but they are bound to listen to the other side, which was respected in this case.

In addition to this, we should add that the denial of the Railway Transport of Montenegro for the two abovementioned articles was published in the daily Vijesti on 31st August.

The subject of the complaint are also articles published on 19th September "Does lawsuit help against negligence" (“Pomaže li tužba protiv javašluka”) and 25th October "Banned the spokesperson to give information to Vijesti and Dan" (“Zabranili portparolu da daje informacije Vijestima i Danu”). The daily Vijesti published a denial of the Railway Transport, one on 21st September, and the second not until 9th November, fourteen days after the article has been published.

Analyzing the abovementioned articles, the MSS did not find significant violations of the Code of Journalists. Even if the articles contained misinformation, the Railway Transport was given an opportunity to complete incomplete and correct incorrect information. Only one paragraph was seen as a violation of the Code, titled "Sandwiches only for the Montenegrin passengers" (“Sendviči samo za crnogorske putnike”) within the article "Does lawsuit help against negligence" (“Pomaže li tužba protiv javašluka”) published on 19th September.

The MSS believes that the author made a completely arbitrary statement which may result in the spread of ethnic hatred and thus violated the Principle 5 of the Code of Journalists, which states:

**Guidelines for principle 5**

**5.1 Hate speech**

(a) Media institutions must not publish material that is intended or is likely to engender hostility or hatred towards persons on the grounds of their race, ethnic origins, nationality, gender, physical disabilities, religion or political affiliation. The same applies if it is highly probable that publication of a material may cause the above stated hostility and hatred.

By publishing the correction two weeks after the initial article was published, the MSS finds that the daily Vijesti violated the Guideline 4 (a) of the Principle 4 of the Code of Journalists, which states:

**Guidelines for principle 4**

**4.1. Corrections**

(a) If a media institution discovers that it has published a report containing a significant distortion of the facts, it must publish a correction promptly and with comparable prominence. This correction must refer to the previous incorrect report.

Complaint of Marko Culafic

## The Media Council for Self-Regulation has received a complaint by Marko Culafic regarding an article published in the daily Pobjeda on 1st December, titled "Games of Chance Administration, Marko Culafic: Montenegro as Las Vegas" (“Uprava za igre na sreću, Marko Ćulafić: Crna Gora kao Las Vegas“). Mr. Culafic complained about the acts of journalist of Pobjeda, who was given an answer to his/her question by email from the Games of Chance Administration spokesperson. However, the author presented this statement to be made by Mr. Culafic and the readers were misled that they have actually done an interview with him. The MSS was given an insight into the e-mail correspondence, which makes clear that the questions were addressed to the spokesperson and answers were sent from the same e-mail address. Neither the questions nor the answers mention Marko Culafic, Games of Chance Administration Director, so one cannot see why the statement would be attributed to Mr. Culafic, or why the article would be treated as an interview with him.

## The MSS believes that this violated the Principle 3 of the Code, which states:

**The facts should be sacred for a journalist, and it is his duty to put them in the right context and prevent their misuse, whether it is a text, picture or a tone.**

Complaint of the UPIS

## The Media Council for Self-Regulation has received a complaint by UPIS - the Association of Gambling Providers related to the previous report of the MSS and the part that deals with violations of the Code of Journalists made by the daily Pobjeda when publishing press releases of the Association. The MSS has considered the complaint and concluded that it has made a mistake and the Principle 5 relating to hate speech has not been violated, but the Principle 8, which speaks of respect for human dignity. The MSS also notes that the confusion in assessing the abovementioned text was made because the daily Pobjeda published this press release as a marketing ad.

Findings of the Monitoring Team

****Dan, 10th October****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 10, titled "Raped his niece and threw her from the balcony" (**“Silovao brataničnu pa je bacio sa terase“) and with the** "Police in Tuzi arrested B.I. (38)" (**“Policija u Tuzima uhapsila B.I (38)“**).  
The headline and the article gave the full name of the suspect.

The claim given in the title was based on the testimony of the son of the suspect, as follows: "My father was drunk for three days, and I saw when he pushed her from the balcony, and before that, it seems to me that he raped her," the article quotes the statement of the suspect's son.

The MSS believes that the article did not comply with the basic standards of journalistic ethics, it is unfounded and sensationalist, and it completely ignored the interests of the child, a 12-year-old girl, suspect’s niece, while it was only reliably known that she was hospitalized due to injuries and the following investigation was yet to determine under what conditions they have occurred.

## The MSS believes that this violated all Guidelines for the Principle 1, defining general standards and accuracy, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

* 1. **General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

**1.2. Accuracy**

(a) Before publishing a report, the journalist must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to check its accuracy. Journalists must endeavour to provide full reports of events and must not be silent about or suppress essential information.

(b) The public’s right to be informed does not justify sensational reporting.

Therefore, journalists must not distort information by exaggeration, by placing improper emphasis on one aspect of a story or by giving only one side of the story. They must avoid using misleading headlines or advertising slogans. The facts must not be distorted by reporting them out of the context in which they occurred.

## The MSS also believes that this violated the Principle 10 of the Code, defining acting in regard to presumption of innocence.

The identity of the 12-year-old girl was not revealed, but the media published a photo of the house she lives in, photo and the name of her stepmother who gave a statement for this media, and the identity of her older brother.

This violated the Guidelines for Principle 10 of the Code, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(e) The media must not identify victims of sexual assaults or publish material likely to contribute to such identification unless the victims have consented or the law has authorized the media to do this.

Also, this violated the Guidelines for Principle 9 of the Code, defining children’s interests, which state:

**Guidelines for principle 9**

**9.1. Children’s interest**

(a) The media is obliged to comply with the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children and to research with special care the information that affect children’s interests.

****Dan, 10th October****

The daily Dan published a text written by Dragan Mraovic on page 16, titled “The Parade” ("Parada”).

The author, among other things, says: "In no way their (of the LGBT population, the MSS note) personal freedom or the right to work should be threatened because if this does not exist then it is clear why actor Rupert Everett, Oscar winner for the lead role in Lincoln, declared as a faggot, admitted that for a long time he had to earn as a faggot prostitute, and that drug addiction is an integral part of that story." In this text the author, who pejoratively names members of the LGBT community as “faggots” ("muželožnici"), claims that they "want to draw other people's children from the natural road for their egoistic desires to take from others give what they could naturally have themselves, but did not want to" (referring to children, the MSS note) and the Parade is called the parade of shame.

The MSS emphasizes that this newspaper has correctly published information about activities on preparation and the event of the Pride Parade, which was held on 20 October in Podgorica.

## The MSS also believes that this violated the Guidelines for Principle 5 of the Code, which state:

**Guidelines for principle 5**

**5.1 Hate speech**

(a) Media institutions must not publish material that is intended or is likely to engender hostility or hatred towards persons on the grounds of their race, ethnic origins, nationality, gender, physical disabilities, religion or political affiliation. The same applies if it is highly probable that publication of a material may cause the above stated hostility and hatred.

Blic, 15th October

The daily Blic published an article titled "Subotic gets other costs" (“Subotiću ostali troškovi”) with the headline "London Court finds that Ratko Knezevic is not guilty" (“Londonski sud ocijenio da nema krivice Ratka Kneževića”). The article claims that the London Court stated in its verdict that it was not proven that Knezevic slandered Subotic during the process. Statement given in the headline that the London Court found that Ratko Knezevic is not guilty, is also controversial. In this case the Court declared itself as incompetent, which was published by the daily Blic on the following day in the correction written by Subotic's attorney.

## The MSS believes that Principle 3 of the Code of Journalists was violated, which states:

**The facts should be sacred for a journalist, and it is his duty to put them in the right context and prevent their misuse, whether it is a text, picture or a tone. Rumours and assumptions should be clearly marked as such. It is a duty to clearly separate news from a comment.**

The MSS also points out that the daily Blic corrected this violation on the following day when it published the correction written by Subotic's attorney.

****Dan, 16th October****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 9, titled "Milo knew they were working without tenders and permits" (**“Milo je znao da rade bez tendera i dozvole“**) with the headline "At the beginning of the retrial in the affair Zavala, Rajko Kuljaca called on the top of the DPS" and subtitle "Former President of the Budva Municipality said that no one forced him to commit a crime, but that he had support from the Government of Montenegro for the preparation and monitoring of the tourist season and such an undertaking."

The article extensively publishes Kuljaca’s testimony.

On the following day, 17th October, Kuljaca’s correction was published on page 8, which states that in his court statement he did not mean about Milo Djukanovic, but about the DPS in Budva and Boro Lazovic.

Headline of the correction was: “Rajko Kuljaca explained the statement given before the High Court in Podgorica” (**Rajko Kuljača pojasnio iskaz dat pred Višim sudom u Podgorici**) and the article was titled "I thought about Boro, not Milo” (**“Mislio sam na Bora, a ne na Mila“**).

The MSS believes that the rule defining publication of correction was not respected, and that in this particular case it should have been respected, because it was a correction of an arbitrary interpretation of media of the testimony given during the trial, and this interpretation was found on the front page of the newspaper.

## The MSS believes that Principle 4 of the Code of Journalists was violated, defining corrections, as well as Guidelines for Principle 4, which state:

**Guidelines for principle 4**

**4.1. Corrections**

(a) If a media institution discovers that it has published a report containing a significant distortion of the facts, it must publish a correction promptly and with comparable prominence. This correction must refer to the previous incorrect report.

(b) If a media institution discovers that it has published an erroneous report that has caused harm to a person’s or institution’s reputation, it must publish an apology promptly and with due prominence.

(c) “Due prominence” in this context means publication of the correction in the same space (in the case of print media) or within the same programme (in the case of broadcast media).

****Dan, 17th October****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 11, which gives critics of the Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church Amfilohije towards Montenegrin authorities on their decision to have a Pride Parade in Podgorica.

Headline of the article was "Metropolitan Amfilohije criticized having an LGBT event in Podgorica" (**“Mitropolit Amfilohije oštro kritikovao održavanje LGBT skupa u Podgorici“**) and title "The Parade of shamelessness because of gay lobby" (“**Parada bestidnosti zbog pederskih lobija“**).

"Metropolitan Amfilohije asks why would then incest be banned if sexual passion, instinctive concupiscence is ‘inborn’ right of one kind of people." The article is full of intolerant attitudes and insults against the LGBT population.

## The MSS believes that Principle 5 of the Code of Journalists was violated, defining hate speech, as well as Guidelines for Principle 5, which state:

**Guidelines for principle 5**

**5.1 Hate speech**

(a) Media institutions must not publish material that is intended or is likely to engender hostility or hatred towards persons on the grounds of their race, ethnic origins, nationality, gender, physical disabilities, religion or political affiliation. The same applies if it is highly probable that publication of a material may cause the above stated hostility and hatred

Dan, 26th October

The daily Dan published on 26th October an article titled "**Hiring ahead of elections**" (“Zapošljavaju pred izbore”) and with the headline "Opposition in Mojkovac warns of new machinations of DPS” (“Mojkovačka opozicija upozorila na nove mahinacije DPS-a”) and subtitled "DPS starts an old practice and it is high time, if there is any prosecution in Montenegro, to open their eyes, intervene and review the overall situation, Marinko Medojevic said; The latest opposition accusations is just searching for an alibi for their electoral defeat, the DPS said” (“DPS pokreće ustaljenu praksu i krajnje je vrijeme, ako uopšte ima tužilaštva u Crnoj Gori da otvore oči, umiješaju se i preispitaju cjelokupnu situaciju, kazao je Marinko Medojević; Najnovije opozicione optužbe su traženje alibija za izvjestan izborni poraz, poručili su iz DPS-a”).

The article deals with an ad for a geologist position in a company called North Mining. Although the company spokesperson told the reporter of Dan that it was an opening for a geologist who is already in working for the company, the journalist made an arbitrary interpretation and connected everything with the electoral machinations ahead of local elections in Mojkovac, and placed the abovementioned ad as evidence.

The MSS believes that Principle 3 of the Code of Journalists was violated, which state:

**The facts should be sacred for a journalist, and it is his duty to put them in the right context and prevent their misuse, whether it is a text, picture or a tone. Rumours and assumptions should be clearly marked as such. It is a duty to clearly separate news from a comment.**

****Dan, 27th October****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 10 about procession on St Peter’s day which was organized in Podgorica on the previous day by Metropolitan Amfilohije with the clergy and citizens following the Serbian Orthodox Church.  
The procession was called "For Montenegrin honour, the sanctity of marriage and childbirth," as an answer of the Serbian Church to the Pride Parade, which was held in Podgorica on 20 October.

The article was titled: "Amfilohije: Podgorica cleansed from sin."

The article published elements of hate speech towards the LGBT population, such as "Children of God may become only those who keep away from every sin, visible and invisible, and who are purified and sanctified from any sin, even the one which made this town dirty these days." This part is also the headline of the article in question.

## The MSS believes that Principle 5 of the Code of Journalists was violated, defining hate speech, as well as Guidelines for Principle 5, which state:

**Guidelines for principle 5**

**5.1 Hate speech**

(a) Media institutions must not publish material that is intended or is likely to engender hostility or hatred towards persons on the grounds of their race, ethnic origins, nationality, gender, physical disabilities, religion or political affiliation. The same applies if it is highly probable that publication of a material may cause the above stated hostility and hatred

Vijesti, 8th – 25th November

A number of articles about the conference "Word image enemy" (“Riječ slika neprijatelj”) (articles "Critics targeted by poltroons", "Beba is back with another manipulation" , "Brutal show of desperation", "Attack at the independent because they indicate the ties between of government and crime", "Vijesti prohibited, unwanted journalist closed in the cabinet") (in original ”Kritičari na meti poslušnika“, “Beba sprema novu manipulaciju“,“Brutalna predstava očajnika“, “Napad na nezavisne jer ukazuju na veze vlasti i kriminala“, “Vijesti zabranjene, nepoželjnu novinarku zatvorili u kabinet“) were published by the daily Vijesti in November with titles and linguistic constructions full of insults, slander and accusations, such as: "brutal show of desperation" , "dirty campaign of the government and the mafia" , "organized and criminal crime does not surrender", naming the guests and participants of the conference as "semi-literate and obscure government servants", "tobacco octopus", "pro-regime media and mafia mercenaries", the organizers were- "phantom people" panels were- "vomit", the participants- people who are "insane", or were "seduced and abuse”, supporters were named - "tycoon kings", or worse, insulted on a national basis called "Middle East friends."

## The MSS believes this is inaccurate or offensive information and that the article violates Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists as well as Guidelines for Principle 1 General Standards, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.1. General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

****Vijesti, 8th and 9th November****

## The daily Vijesti published an article on alleged abuses carried out by doctors Davor Music and Goran Batricevic from Podgorica, who are accused of referring their patients, who come to a private health facility "Medical Centar" where they work as well, to go to the Clinical Centre of Montenegro.

## "Our health care system: Chief of Department brought together public and private business: First charges the expenses, later sends for treatment to the Clinical Centre" (“Naše zdravstvo: Načelnik spojio državni i privatni posao: Prvo naplati, pa šalje na liječenje u KCCG“) is the title of an article published on 8th November on the front page and on page 11, and an article titled "Music has Mijovic’s blessing" (“Musić ima blagoslov Mijovića“) published on 9th November.

## The MSS believes that his newspaper published a piece of information about a completely legitimate and acceptable medical practice to refer the patient to the treatment at the Clinical Centre when a private health institution has no adequate treatment and health services, and put it in a negative context. Also, the newspaper has mislead the public claiming that health services are free of charge in private medical institutions which are networked with the state Health Care Fund, either because of journalistic ignorance, lack of information or bad intentions. This is true only if a patient is sent from the Clinical Centre to a private medical facility in such network under certain conditions - if one would have to wait for more than a month to be provided with such a service at the Clinical Centre.

The MSS believes this violated the Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists as well as Guidelines for Principle 1, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.1. General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

**1.2. Accuracy**

(a) Before publishing a report, the journalist must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to check its accuracy. Journalists must endeavour to provide full reports of events and must not be silent about or suppress essential information.

****Dnevne novine, Weekend Issue, 9th and 10th November****

**The daily** Dnevne novine published **an article on the front page and on page 3 titled "Djukic threatened the Djurovic clan from prison" (**“Djukic je iz zatvora prijetio klanu Djurovica“**). This is an article on the details related to the murder of Stefan Djukic, which happened a few days earlier.**

**Subtitle of the article on the front page published an unofficial piece of information from an anonymous source, bringing details related to Djukic's stay in prison in Spuz, more specifically details in direct context with his murder (allegedly, Djukic threatened a member of a criminal group from Bar while in prison, and he "implied that he would hurt them").**

**In addition, introduction to the article on page 2, writing about police hearing of a few young men from Bar on this murder, was marked as an "unofficial information".**

**The MSS believes that the subject of this article was too delicate to be based on unofficial information, especially taking into account that this was the main text, also published on the front page.**

The Guidelines for Principle 1 state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.2. Accuracy**

(a) Before publishing a report, the journalist must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to check its accuracy. Journalists must endeavour to provide full reports of events and must not be silent about or suppress essential information.

Also:

**1.1. General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

Also, a photo from the crime scene which shows a bloody pavement was published besides text both on the front page and on page two.

The MSS finds that this article represents a sensationalist approach.

One of the Guidelines for Principle 1 states the following:

**1.2. Accuracy**

(b) The public’s right to be informed does not justify sensational reporting. Therefore, journalists must not distort information by exaggeration, by placing improper emphasis on one aspect of a story or by giving only one side of the story. They must avoid using misleading headlines or advertising slogans. The facts must not be distorted by reporting them out of the context in which they occurred.

The Guidelines for Principle 8 state:

**Guidelines for Principle 8**

**8.1 Right to privacy**

(j) The limit of acceptability in reports on accidents and disasters is respect for the suffering of the victims and the feelings of their dependants. Victims of misfortune must not be made to suffer a second time by their portrayal in the media.

****Dan, 14th November****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 3 with headline “Mayor of Cetinje misused budget funds for DPS before the local elections" (“Cetinjski gradonačelnik pred lokalne izbore zloupotrijebio budžetska sredstva za potrebe DPS-a“) and title "Bogdanovic gave 25,600 Euros for employment of party supporters" (“Bogdanović za partijska zapošljavanja dao 25.600 eura“), under the label "Exclusive: Audio Recording Affair".

**The headline shows that the article brings a suspicion of the Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector (MANS) that Mayor Bogdanovic "used" the so-called agreement on the allocation of incentives, which includes opening at least 16 new jobs in the "Martex" company, and that he used this model for employment of his party supporters. This is an unproven "suspicion", which was presented in the title and the headline as an unequivocal accusation.**

The MSS believes this violated the Principle 3 of the Code of Journalists, which states:

**The facts should be sacred for a journalist, and it is his duty to put them in the right context and prevent their misuse, whether it is a text, picture or a tone. Rumours and assumptions should be clearly marked as such. It is a duty to clearly separate news from a comment.**

**In addition, the article did not comply with the rule of "the other side", it does not bring Bogdanovic’s statement, nor a statement of an official of the "Martex” company.**

## The Guidelines for the Principle 1, defining general standards, state:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.1. General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

****Dan, 16th November****

The daily Dan published an article on the front page and on page 2, titled **"They cannot fight mafia because of Milo" (**“Od Mila ne smiju da udare na mafiju“**) with the headline "The institutions with no results in the fight against crime and corruption" (**“Institucije bez rezultata u borbi protiv kriminala i korupcije“**).**

**Only the headline suggests that the article brings a political opinion of Andrija Mandic, Member of the Presidency of the Democratic Front. About half of the article is devoted to the attitudes of this political leader. Since the article was published on 16th November, day of election silence due to local elections in Cetinje, Petnjica and Mojkovac, the MSS finds that this article has violated the election silence rule.**

**On page 4 of the same issue, the daily Dan published a report from the round table held on the previous day, on Montenegro's readiness for the opening of Chapter 23.**

**Headline of the article was "Corruption poses a serious threat to the Montenegrin society" (**“Korupcija predstavlja ozbiljnu prijetnju za crnogorsko društvo“**) and the title was "Political life marked by the Audio Recording Affair" (**“Politički život obilježila afera Snimak“**). The article did not have a subtitle, so only with a careful reading one would understand that this is a report from an event, and that the title represents the position of one of the participants in the event, Mr. Slaven Radunovic, party official of the Democratic Front and the President of the Parliamentary Committee for European Integration.**

The MSS believes that in both cases the Guideline for Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists defining general standards was violated, which states:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.2. Accuracy**

(a) Before publishing a report, the journalist must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to check its accuracy. Journalists must endeavour to provide full reports of events and must not be silent about or suppress essential information.

****Vijesti, 16th November****

The daily Vijesti published an article on page 9, **with the headline "Criminal charges: Danilo Vuceljic from Berane complained to the Ministry and the Education Inspectorate about Luka Obradovic, IT professor at the Secondary Vocational School, and reported him to the police" (**“Prijava: Danilo Vučeljić iz Berana se ministarstvu i Prosvjetnoj inspekciji žalio da profesora informatike u Srednjoj stručnoj školi, Luku Obradovića, kojeg je prijavio i policiji“**) and the title was "He has beaten up my child and hit his head on the desk" (“**Izudarao mi je dijete i nabio mu glavu u klupu“**). The subtitle was: "Let the trial be completed, I will then have things to tell you - Luka Obradovic said” (**“Neka se postupak završi, i ja ću onda imati što da vam kažem – kazao je Luka Obradović“**).**

The MSS believes that the headline implies guilt of the teacher, which violates the rule of presumption of innocence, and Principle 10 of the Code of Journalists.

**Also, the MSS believes that the title is sensationalistic. Given that the alleged victim is a minor, the MSS reminds of** the Guidelines for Principle 9 of the Code, **which speak of children’s interests**, defining that information that affect children’s interests are researched with special care, and which state:

**Guidelines for principle 9**

**9.1. Children’s interest**

(a) The media is obliged to comply with the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children and to research with special care the information that affect children’s interests.

****Dan, 23rd November****

The daily Dan published an article on page 10, with the headline **being "Retiree M.R. testified at the trial of former police officer L.M.” (their full names were given in the article) (**“Na suđenju bivšoj službenici MUP-a L.M. svjedočio penzioner M.R”), **and the title "He gave her 300 Euro, because 100 seemed miserable" (**“Častio je 300 eura, jer mu je 100 bilo mizerno“**). This article was a report from hearing for defendant L.M.**

## The MSS believes that both headline and title of the article implied guilt of the defendant, although the verdict was not yet, brought, which violated the Guidelines for Principle 10 of the Code, which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(a) Reports on investigations and court cases serve to inform the public in a careful way about crimes, their prosecution and court judgment. A person is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court, even if he or she has confessed. Even in cases where guilt is obvious to the public, an accused person cannot be portrayed as guilty within the meaning of a court judgment until a verdict has been handed down.

**Also, the text published a photo of the defendant in handcuffs, arrested by a police officer, which, in the opinion of the MSS, violated Guidelines for Principle 10, particularly the second sentence, which states:**

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

**(b) (...) The aim of court reporting must not be to punish convicted criminals socially as well by using the media as a "pillory".**

****Dan, 26th November****

The daily Dan published an article on page **10, a report from the trial held at the Basic Court in Podgorica on the lawsuit of** Metropolinate of Montenegro and the Littoral**against Metropolitan of the Montenegrin Orthodox Church, Mihailo, and priests of that church Dragan Pavlovic and Jovan Tomovic.**

**Headline of the article is "Contradictory statements by representatives of the so-called Montenegrin Church at trial on the lawsuit of the** Metropolinate of Montenegro and the Littoral**" (**“Kontradiktorne izjave predstavnika tzv. CPC na suđenju po tužbi Mitropolije crnogorsko – primorske“) **and the title "**As priests, as church**" (**“Kakvi popovi takva i istina“**).**

**The MSS notes that it is entirely legitimate to have a favourable and affirmative approach in writing about the activities of the Serbian Orthodox Church as one of the features of the editorial policy of this newspaper.**

**However, the MSS notes that it is unprofessional and contrary to the rules of the Code to derogate the Montenegrin Orthodox Church, its priests, worshipers and admirers.**

Principle 5 of the Code of Journalists states:

**One's race, religion, nationality, sexual orientation and family status will be mentioned by a journalist only if that is necessary for the information.**

The MSS believes that it is undisputed that in the trial against a priest of a church it was inevitable to mention the church the priest belongs to.

However, Principle 10 of the Code of Journalists states:

**When reporting on investigation and court procedures, a journalist has to respect the assumption that everyone is innocent until is proved differently and should by no means pre-adjudicate the outcome of a court procedure.**

## Also, the Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists, Guideline 1.1 for this Principle, which defines general standards (note what it says about harming reputation), states:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.1. General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. They must never publish information that they know to be false or maliciously make unfounded allegations about others that are intended to harm their reputations. It is journalist's right to refuse an assignment being opposite to the ethic codex.

****Dnevne novine, 27th November****

The daily Dnevne novine published an article on page 11, larger than half of page, entitled "Traffic police officers suspected they forgave offenses for money" (“Saobraćajci pod sumnjom da su za novac praštali prekršaje“). Both headline and title of the article gave full names of two traffic police officers suspected of taking bribes while on duty and controlling the traffic.

**The newspaper published the identity and three photographs of an Austrian citizen J.S. at the time of the arrest, on suspicion that he bribed the police officers with 100 Euros.**

The MSS believes that this violated the Guideline for Principle 10 of the Code, which states:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(a) Reports on investigations and court cases serve to inform the public in a careful way about crimes, their prosecution and court judgment. A person is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court, even if he or she has confessed. Even in cases where guilt is obvious to the public, an accused person cannot be portrayed as guilty within the meaning of a court judgment until a verdict has been handed down.

The Guidelines for Principle 10 of the Code also state:

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(b) Prejudicial portrayals and allegations violate the constitutional protection of human dignity, which also applies without qualification to criminals. The aim of court reporting must not be to punish convicted criminals socially as well by using the media as a "pillory".

Also, the Guidelines for Principle 10 further define:

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(d) Criticism and comment on a case must be easily distinguishable from reporting on court proceedings.

The MSS believes that this media violated this Principle of the Code.

Dnevne novine,30th November and 1st December

The daily Dnevne novine published an article on page 11, entitled **"**Someone tried to hit **attorney Micovic** by car**" (“**Advokata Mićovića neko pokušao da udari autom“**) and with headline being "Intimidation". In the article, defence attorney of defendant Bujic claims that someone tried to hit him by car in Karadjordjeva Street in Podgorica. The lawyer claims that this is the same car that is driven by a cousin of the murdered brothers Gojacanin.**

The newspaper cites an **unnamed police source in the article, according to which this cousin told police he was not driving the car, an SUV with Budva plates, but another cousin of the murdered brothers. The police took a statement from Micovic and Jovana Stevanovic, former director of the NGO "Gojacanin brothers Association", who denied** Micovic’s **allegations.**

**The MSS believes that the headline which argues that the attorney was tried to be intimidated by attempt of hit and run at full speed is unfounded, taking into account the content of the article, especially since neither the headline nor the title does not have a question mark , which would question the argument for the aforementioned situation.**

**The MSS believes that the newspaper presented suggestive allegations to its readers, whiles the police, as the newspaper cites, still had not completed the hearing of one of the potential perpetrators, cousin of brothers Gojacanin.**

The MSS believes that Principle 3 of the Code of Journalists was violated in presumption of innocence, which states:

**The facts should be sacred for a journalist, and it is his duty to put them in the right context and prevent their misuse, whether it is a text, picture or a tone. Rumours and assumptions should be clearly marked as such. It is a duty to clearly separate news from a comment.**

The MSS believes that this violated the Principle 10 of the Code, which states:

**When reporting on investigation and court procedures, a journalist has to respect the assumption that everyone is innocent until is proved differently and should by no means pre-adjudicate the outcome of a court procedure.**

Dnevne novine, ****15th November****

The daily Dnevne novine published an article on page **11, containing the full name of E.M. (18) against whom prosecution in Bijelo Polje filed an indictment on suspicion of committing attempted murder.**

The Guidelines for Principle 10 of the Code state:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(g) When reporting on investigations and criminal court proceedings against young persons and on their appearance in court, the media must exercise especial restraint out of consideration for their future. This also applies to young victims of crimes.

Pobjeda, 18th and 25th November

The daily Pobjeda published a Marko’s quarters" (“Markovi konaci“) column on 18th November" written by Marko Vesovic (Marko Udovicic), entitled "Hoop from Papa and Smradoncic from Gusinje" (“Papak iz Papa i Smradončić iz Gusinja“).

In the text, Serbo Rastoder is called "Serbo the Hogwash" ("Either of those people from Bihor who are built on the model of Serbo the Hogwash for whom the court confirmed that he is a plagiarism genius?", Rifat Veskovic is called Rifat the Donkey ("From our book Misko Kesedzija and his crew it is well known what Rifat the Donkey told me, who recently became a member of the Draza front”), and Zeljko Ivanovic is called Zeljko the Ox ("The most innocent are Misko Kesedzija and Zeljko the Ox".)

On 25th November, an article was published, titled "Awakening of the Rats" (“Buđenje pacova“). In the article, Veseljko Koprivica, a journalist, is called "stupid peasant Veseljko" as well as "a hybrid of a horse and a donkey":

- "All Misko’s dogs race for who will be a bigger stink, and this content could have been made by anyone, but among them the stupidest is Veseljko, a name that, according to Kilibarda, in Banjani only horses are given, and only a lame journalist hack like him could have said that in the war I fought the Chetniks at their expense."

- "(...) to avenge Kilibarda for saying that peasant Risto from father Djoko gave his newborn a horse's name ..."

- "Strictly speaking, Veseljko indeed is a hybrid of a horse and a donkey."

In the same text, Andrija Mandic is called a Neanderthal: "So imagine that Neanderthal Andrija Mandic, using Krivokapic as a bat to bring down Djukanovic..."

## The MSS believes that the article contains offensive vocabulary and that the articles violated the Principle 1 of the Code of Journalists, Guideline 1.1 for this Principle, which states:

**Guidelines for Principle 1**

**1.1 General standards**

Journalists must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure that they disseminate only accurate information, and that their comments on events are genuine and honest. (...)

This violation is also defined in the Principle 8 of the Code of Journalists:

**A journalist is obliged to be very careful when dealing with private life of people. A right to private life is disproportional to the importance of a public function that an individual performs, but in those cases, it is necessary to respect human dignity as well.**

TV PINK M

The Media Council for Self-Regulation has noted in the reporting period a violation of the Code of Journalists in the content broadcasted on TV Pink M.

First, the Code was violated with the reality program The Farm (Farma), in which almost every day not only single words but also phrases are used, unworthy of public communication and media presentations. It is a language of personal insults, full of profanity and personal disqualification, for which, unfortunately, this program became known.

The MSS believes that reality programs of this type give a bad example, and one of the functions of the media is to set and adhere to a socially acceptable standard of public communication, rather than encourage the lowest passions at their audience.

Also, during the reporting period, use of derogatory words that offend the dignity of the person subject to the reporting was noted repeatedly in the news program "One two minutes" (Minut dva) on the same television. The last example took place on Sunday, 15th December.

Specifically, in the above mentioned news program, the video that reported about the investigation that is lead against former female managers of the CKB Bank, Milka Ljumovic and Bosa Tatar, the terms "black" and "blonde" were used to identify the persons referring to.

The MSS believes that such qualifications discredit and undermine not only the integrity of the persons reported about, but also the level of public communication in the media and urges the editorial of the TV Pink M to stop such practices in their programme.

The MSS believes that this violated the Principle 10 of the Code, Guidelines (a) and (b), which state:

**Guidelines for Principle 10**

**10.1. Court and crime reporting**

(a) Reports on investigations and court cases serve to inform the public in a careful way about crimes, their prosecution and court judgment. A person is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court, even if he or she has confessed. Even in cases where guilt is obvious to the public, an accused person cannot be portrayed as guilty within the meaning of a court judgment until a verdict has been handed down.

(b) Prejudicial portrayals and allegations violate the constitutional protection of human dignity, which also applies without qualification to criminals. The aim of court reporting must not be to punish convicted criminals socially as well by using the media as a "pillory".

WEB PORTALS

During the period covered by this report of the Media Council for Self-Regulation from 1st October to 1st December, a larger number of published readers' comments inappropriate for public discourse was noted.

The Council notes that this particularly relates to the web portal Vijesti, which has so far been the leader in publishing controversial comments.

Two events in particular have caused an avalanche of readers' comments, and which were not edited by the moderators and the editorial staff, and which contained the most vulgar insults, swearing, spreading of ethnic or religious intolerance and hatred, contained homophobic statements, profanity and disgusting vocabulary. Articles on these events were published on the Vijesti Web Portal, one about the Pride Parade held in Podgorica and the second about the recent incident in the Parliament of Montenegro when Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic called Dritan Abazovic, a Positive Montenegro MP a hoodlum.

Unfortunately, it has become almost a rule that comments are used to express disturbed, sick and traditionalistic attitudes of readers who anonymously and without censorship of the web administrator express their frustration, hatred and aggression, while sparing no one and nothing.

1) The Pride Parade

The Web Portal Vijesti published several articles on the Pride Parade event in Podgorica:

**- Article: We trust the police - Pride Parade organizers: We are not afraid of riots, there will be several hundred participants** (“Vjeruju policiji: Organizatori Parade: Ne plašimo se nereda, biće nekoliko stotina učesnika”)

**- Article:** **Pride Parade slogan is “Montenegro proudly”, with a mustache as a symbol** (“Parada ponosa slogan povorke je “Crna Gora ponosno”, a brkovi simbol”)

**- Article: “Montenegro proudly” - Podgorica Parade: Police ready, threats serious** (““Crna Gora ponosno”: Parada u Podgorici: Policija spremna, prijetnje ozbiljne”)

**- Article: The real picture - Radojicic: Parade showed where Montenegro is, I am ashamed of youth reaction** (“Realna slika: Radojičić: Parada pokazala gdje je Crna Gora, stidim se ispada mladih”)

Under these texts a huge number of readers' comments was published with homophobic content, elements of hate speech, calls for killing and violence against homosexuals and those who support them.

**Examples:**

**Cele-1, 18th October at 12:03**

Did Milo give his ass to Cimbaljevic? I think he did, if he didn’t, he will give this weekend.

**Testera, 18th October at 11:51**

Milo, send your son Blazo!!!

**ak 47, 18th October at 17:14**

Eeeeee ... If we were lucky enough to go to the event with bottles, but those filled WITH GAS TO SET THEM ON FIRE... We should be embarrassed because our grandfathers’ mustaches have lived to see this.

**MNE rider, 18th October at 22:39**

Hey gays, the cold river of Moraca is waiting for you!!

**Sulejman, 18th October at 22:33**

This Numanović is the real picture of an average DPS member. You throw some change at his feet and he will do whatever is necessary, even if he needs to bend over the chair he would do it without questions asked.

**Pigo, 20th October at 08:20**

Kill the faggots, don’t let them live!!!

**Jasmin 73, 20th October at 10:46**

I would let this parade be organized and I would not object to it but only if Milo gave his ass to these faggots. God help us and keep away from these scumbags.

**Podgoričanin 468, 20th October at 11:14**

KILL KILL KILL THE FAGGOT FAGGOT!!!

**Džek Danijels, 20th October at 11:38**

I am sorry for those young people from Podgorica who will serve time because of these ill people... The stinky shit and freaks should have been ignored.

**Slobo CG, 20th October at 11:56**

All of them should they be sent to a gas chamber! If Hitler was alive, he would know what to do with them! Fags in Montenegro have more rights than we do!

**Tores 18, 21st October at 20:41**

So does this mean that in Montenegro to be a politician is to be with no moral values? Do you ever think that thousands of men and children at any moment were in danger because of 100 demented ill mindless people? Is 100 sick people more important than youth and other normal people? These are sick people who need treatment only... As for you Mr. Radojicic, you go and join the parade with them! Shame!!

From the content of the readers' comments which were published without editorial intervention, with a number of insults, street slang, curses and inadequate qualifications, homophobia and calls to violence, it is clear that these comments violated the Code of Journalists.

The MSS reminds on the Guidelines for Principle 5, in relation to hate speech, which states:

**Guidelines for principle 5**

**5.1 Hate speech**

(a) Media institutions must not publish material that is intended or is likely to engender hostility or hatred towards persons on the grounds of their race, ethnic origins, nationality, gender, physical disabilities, religion or political affiliation. The same applies if it is highly probable that publication of a material may cause the above stated hostility and hatred

It is forbidden to publish ideas, information and opinions that incite discrimination, hatred or violence against a person or a group of persons because they belong or do not belong to a certain race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation...

2) The Prime Minister in the Parliament

The Vijesti Web Portal from 21st to 24th November published two articles about the incident in the Parliament of Montenegro:

**Article: Heated discussion - Incident at the Prime Minister's Hour: Djukanovic called Abazovic a hoodlum** (“Žestoka rasprava - Incident na premijerskom satu: Đukanović nazvao Abazovića bitangom”)

**Article: Heated discussion - Djukanovic to Abazovic: Sit down, you hoodlum; Positive Montenegro demands an emergency session of the Collegium** (“Žestoka rasprava - Đukanović Abazoviću: Sjedi, bitango; Pozitivna traži hitnu sjednicu Kolegijuma”).

More than 600 comments were published for these texts without any censorship.

The readers’ comments contained insults of the dignity of Milo Djukanovic and Dritan Abazovic; they spread religious and national hatred... Djukanovic was belittled and insulted with vulgar and threatening messages... He was called **a scumbag, a trash, a rat, a swindler, a criminal, a gangster, a Turk, a drug addict and a Mason**... Readers mocked with the surname of MP Abazovic in their comments, calling **him an ugly Albanian, a member of a spy party, a coward, he was told to flee to Ulcinj, Tuzi, Pristina...**

**Examples:**

**Brigante brigante, 21st November at 19:58**

When you go after Milo, you should do like Bojanic, with facts and in cold blood: Bacchanalia, Bacchus Cafe, dirty scumbags who won’t let people sleep until five in the morning. And he laughs in his face, that’s how you do it. Not with hysteria and waving your fingers.

**Heat 23, 21st November at 19:56**

Milo the Turk go suck a co\*\*! Together with all your slaves who are sold per one kilo of flour.

**Skroznebitno, 21st November at 23:32**

Dritan Azbejcarevic go back to Tuzi and Ulcinj, it is better in Albania for you, go to where you came from! While there is Lovcen over us, while there is sea in Bar and Kotor, while there is the sun and Grahovo, no one can threaten Milo!

**Skroznebitno, 21st November at 23:26**

Totally but totally justified Milo's reaction, one can even call it a mild reaction! With what right can someone say “you” to the Prime Minister, a man older from him, the third most powerful man in Montenegro, the fifth largest person, a falcon, an idol for Montenegrin generations, the holy name and icon of Montenegro, and who is that someone?? An ugly Albanian named Dritan, a member of the spy party, this is the biggest insult primarily for Montenegro, that a member of the minory can even address Milo at all, especially with such a tone!

**Omega 7, 21st November at 23:21**

Take a look at LoMi’s face at this photo – such a rat

**Emill, 21st November at 22:37**

Milo is an old scumbag from the 90’s

**Blago.nama.s.njom, 21st November at 22:31**

Milo is actually just a trash. That’s what he is.

**Tinkerbell, 21st November at 22:25**

Djukanovic, you hoodlum! You scumbag! THIEF!! MURDERER!!!

**Omega 7, 21st November at 22:24**

And you scumbags that worship LoMi because he behaves like a last trash, you complexes without sexual organs, you like SM? Are you beaten at home or at the headquarters of the DPS?

**Anonymus MNE, 21st November at 22:08**

One more thing, for good night. We can sing here until dawn, but Milo can be removed from our backs only with a gun, like Ceausescu and Milosevic! Everything else is empty talk. Good night, Montenegrins, Serbs, Albanians, and others... Eat your pride for the umpteenth time and go to sleep! God help we don’t wake up at all!

**Dijaspora0000, 21st November at 02:10**

People of Montenegro, are you even aware of what they did to you and what they are still doing, MILO a drug addict and a mason, and his poltroons around him, infinite zeros; you have climbed him on a horse and now you should remove him; but obviously MILO the CRIMINAL won’t go easily, so nothing’s left but to use the force, the way the Serbs did it, to the streets, to the government, and you will see how this piece of shit will run away before the crowd, how this face will soften, harsh oppression from MILO the USURPER has come to its peak.

**Jedva, 22nd November at 01:00**

Hey Dritan the mandolin is playing

Run run run for Pristina...

Hey Dritan, you male mare

You are frightened by our Prime Minister Milo...

Hey Dritan, you coward

Positive Montenegro is lame with you...

Hahahahaha

**Cica-maca, 22nd November at 00:44**

You will hardly see him in a country other than Montenegro, so what you are you writing that he is awful is a nonsense, that chick would not be with him, you look so ridiculous. DRITAN FOR PRIME MINISTER

**Jedva, 22nd November at 00:47**

Look at Dritan a scared scum

I would let him try a bat...

Hey Dritan, a Siptar

Did you try Milo’s peanut...

Hahahahahaha

**Jedva, 22nd November at 00:20**

As Koha Ditore publishes... “Cowards die before their death”. If that is so, then Dritan, let you rest in peace...

Here are some other examples of violations of professional standards, recorded at the Vijesti Web Portal. These are readers' comments which were published without editorial intervention and which contain the most vulgar profanity, explicit personal or family insults and hate speech directed against specific ethnic or political group...

**Article: Death of Chetniks on Sinjajevina** (Smrt četnika na Sinjajevini)

**Kapicic denies involvement: I was a minister, I did not kill people** (Kapičić negira umiješanost: Bio sam ministari nijesam ubijao ljude)

**Jamaica, 8th October at 10:05**

You were not stealing but you were holding the bag. What you said is just as saying that Milovan Djilas is not to blame for the dog cemetery. You've always been a Kapicic you old commie.

**Lubica 67, 8th October at 10:04**

There is a large number of lawsuits against these scoundrels, but all of them are hidden as in the Artukovic case.

**Article: Brussels does not know...** (Ne zna Brisel...)

**Djukanovic: No need to return the sealed resignations, it was a mistake** (Đukanović: Nema potrebe da vraćam kovertirane ostavke, to je gruba greška)

**Bekoć, 14th October at 14:34**

At the end of the epilogue??? You scumbag should be arrested because they are all your pawns working under your orders. Wow I'm going to throw up.

**Mićo 7, 14th October at 14:33**

We should not believe our own eyes; we should believe Milo Djukanovic TRASH

**Mićo 7, 14th October at 14:17**

Milo Djukanovic, each of these stories lead directly to you and you should be arrested because you are the originator of all this! How come you are not ashamed to be so ignorant towards these people you trash?

**Mrs, 14th October at 13:59**

Where else could you see a Prime Minister commenting and giving false arguments for his activities, plus saying that these are all attacks on the state? What kind of shit are you, Djukanovic? When you lie the most, and you don’t even blink, that is the peak of our catastrophe.

**Article: Ambush for Djukic** (Sačekuša za Đukića)

**Young man from Bar killed in the town centre** (Mladić iz Bara ubijen u centru grada)

**g.a.n.n.i.c.u.S, 6th November at 03:53**

Lemans, I take shit in your Turkish mouth

**Jacques Lemans, 6th November at 02:32**

Frankly, I'm glad you scum will be exterminating each other

**Article: An Old Topic** (Stara tema)

**Serbia: If the church would pay taxes, the budget would be fuller for hundreds of millions of Euros** (Srbija: Kada bi crkva plaćala porez, budžet bi bio puniji za stotine miliona eura)

**Baščelik NK, 11th November at 23:41**

Metropolitan Amfilohije should be sprayed with sulphuric acid.

**Article: Euro cup** (Evrokup)

**Budućnost Voli defeated by PAOK** (Budućnost Voli poražena od PAOK-a)

**Tigar PG, 20th November at 02:05**

You rats, when the team is winning you are nowhere to be found, you bastards, and when it is losing you know how to spit on this club. These lads are in a match every two to three days... Let's go and cheer for them... Take a look at our people, half of these gypsies are cheering against their town, state, club... Go into the hole, you piece of shit.

**Miloš M1, 19th November at 23:49**

I'm a big fan of Crvena Zvezda, but I was for PAOK tonight. You are attacking the bus with the players, you son of a bitc\*\*\*, I fuc\* that abnormality of yours

**Article: A landing on Lovcen** (Desant na Lovćen)

**The Army helps RTCG to directly transmit speech of Djukanovic** (Vojska pomaže RTCG da direktno prenose govor Đukanovića)

**Ovo ono, 19th November at 22:47**

Shut up you scumbag... You should be exterminated so you do not exist anymore, Djukanovic family, your damn seed

**Article: S. B. died in Zagreb** (S.B. preminuo u Zagrebu)

**21st November at 01:44**

S. B. died in Zagreb after heart transplantation. Did he belong to the DPS or the SDP?

The Media Council for Self-Regulation states that the editorial staff of the Cafe del Montenegro web portal and web Portal Analitika in this period very promptly took care of the content and administration of readers' comments which were published, so this body has not noticed comments that contain insults or improper contents of hate speech.Top of Form

The MSS recommends again, because it's the only thing we can do, that the journalistic code of ethics must be taken to respect and the readers' comments should be more carefully administered so as the misuse of "anonymous" and “nickname” comments are reduced to a minimum. It is clear that comments shape the public opinion too, and that the administrators and moderators should act as all other editors as well - take care of the respect of ethics and not approve comments whose contents would not be published in a printed newspaper article either.

In addition to being accountable to the ethical principles of the profession, they are also accountable under the law. And we can testify that profane public speaking from the readers’ comments are slowly transferred to the regular content of the media.