

Ministry of the Interior

Mr. Raško Konjević, minister

Podgorica, 9 July 2013

SUBJECT: Access to information on the actions of the authorized officers of the Police Directorate against persons who publicly expressed their opinion

Dear Mr. Konjević,

We kindly ask for the following information:

1. which authorized officer of the Police Directorate and on what basis gave the order to prohibit the banner of the handball fan group "Eagles" from Cetinje, containing the inscription: **"Milo, brother, do you have any job for me? I vote for the DPS."**, during the handball match between Lovćen and Metalurg, played on 27 February at Sports Centre "Lovćen";
2. which authorized officer of the Police Directorate and on what basis gave the order to prohibit the banner of the handball fan group "Eagles", containing the inscription: **"Milo, brother, did you look for that job for me, tell me so I can decide for which party to vote, just make sure it's not at the Department of Otolaryngology, because I don't have a degree from UDG"**, during the handball match between Lovćen and Sloga, played on 2 March 2013 at the Sport Centre "Lovćen";
3. which authorized officer of the Police Directorate and on what basis gave the order to prohibit the banner of the handball fan group "Eagles", containing the inscription: **„My Lord, forgive me, I don't need the job after all, why are you**

angry?”, during the handball match between Lovćen and Zagreb, played on 16 March 2013 at the Sports Centre “Lovćen“;

4. which authorized officer of the Police Directorate and on what basis gave the order to prohibit the banner of the NGO “No to War – No to NATO”, containing inscriptions **“Your hands are bloody”** and **“Our children murderers of other children?!”**, during the ceremony organized by the Atlantic Alliance of Montenegro and the Ministry of Defense, on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the establishment of NATO, on 4 April 2013, at *Delta City* shopping mall in Podgorica;
5. why and on what basis were the members of the group “OTPOR (Resistance) to Montenegrin regime”: Boško Vukićević, Željko Tomović and Biljana Knežević from Podgorica and Slobodan Blečić from Nikšić, who protested in front of the Parliament of Montenegro on 31 May 2013, arrested;
6. whether the actions of the Internal control of the police operation were conducted in relation to the above mentioned items 1-5, and if yes, we ask for the information on the conducted actions?

The above mentioned actions of the Police Directorate officers sparked public anxiety and suspicion of abuse of power for personal and party use, in violation of freedom of expression, and therefore we are asking you to give us the access to the information we asked as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Elma Kurtanović
Human Rights Action