



HUMAN AKCIJA ZA
RIGHTS LJUDSKA
ACTION PRAVA

DAILY "POBJEDA"

Mr Srđan Kusovac, Editor in Chief

SUBJECT: Request for correction

Podgorica, 9 September 2013

Dear Mr Kusovac,

On Saturday, 7 September 2013, in an article on page 3 titled "Raskrinkana obmana tabloida" (Tabloid deception unmasked), and on Monday, 9 September 2013, in an article on page 7 titled "Činjenice ponovo demantovale tabloid" (Facts again confuted tabloid), you published the same sentence: "After the daily *Vijesti* published the story on the alleged assault, NGO representatives Tea Gorjanc Prelević and Daliborka Uljarević gave statements for this media outlet, without waiting for the results of the State Prosecutor's Office, blaming state bodies for not protecting journalists and not enforcing the laws equally to all."

In accordance with the Media Law (Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 51/2002 and 62/2002), which in Chapter VI prescribes the right to correction and reply, I request that you publish a correction, due to the fact that the above sentence is not consistent with what I said to daily *Vijesti* and daily *Dan*, and therefore represents a false informing of the readers of *Pobjeda*.

In fact, in my statement that was published in daily *Vijesti*, I did not "blame the state bodies for not protecting journalists and not enforcing the laws equally to all". On the contrary, I did not deal with state bodies at all, but I argued with the opinion of Mr Popović, who had stated for your newspaper that he is not a public figure, that at the time of the incident he was not in a public place, and that he was therefore photographed illegally. I said, as *Vijesti* published, that "photographing Popović in a public place was not illegal – according to the standards of the European Court of Human Rights, he is a public figure, who must suffer the increased media attention. In this case, the fact that he was accompanied by a security officer of the Prime Minister was of particular public interest. The right to public information therefore prevailed over his right to privacy". I also added that this case justifies the Human Rights Action proposal to introduce criminal offenses to the Criminal Code for protection of journalists in the performance of professional duties. (For your further information, we have proposed the introduction of two offenses, Prevention of journalist in the performance of professional duties and Assault on journalist in the performance of professional duties).

Therefore, you did not have a reason to publish the sentence as such, and in accordance with the Law, I expect that you publish a correction in the next edition.

Tea Gorjanc Prelević
Human Rights Action Executive Director