



ATLANTIC
COUNCIL
of MONTENEGRO

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Atlantic Council of Montenegro

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Behind of us is a year of austerity and financial obstacles which we managed to overcome at the best possible manner. With the help from our long-time partners we managed to sustain our work and finish 2012 with vast number of implemented activities and with evident results. Montenegro's path towards Euro-Atlantic family is unstoppable. Even though, a lot has to be done in the forthcoming years in order to achieve full-membership in NATO Alliance.

It is essential, to continue, even more intense, with reforms of all segments of the society. Not because of NATO or anybody else, but because of ourselves and because there is a need for such a reforms in this country. Having in mind that public opinion indisputably plays a very important role regarding Montenegro's membership in NATO raising public awareness will be one of our top-priorities in the forthcoming period.

Challenges are ahead of us, but ambition is not missing. We are committed to achieving our goals in order to transform Montenegro into a modern, safe and secure country.

I would like to use this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and congratulations to all our partners and employees for the remarkable results achieved in 2012, and with the hope that we will continue to achieve even better results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Savo Kentera'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end. It is positioned above the printed name and title.

Savo Kentera
President



ABOUT

The Atlantic Council of Montenegro was founded in 2006 and since then has been a preeminent institution devoted to promoting Euro-Atlantic values and international security. The Atlantic Council of Montenegro was admitted into membership of the Atlantic Treaty Association at the General Assembly held in Athens in 2006.

Since we are facing a turning point in our history, the Atlantic Council provides an essential forum for navigating effective shifts in political and security-related influences. The Atlantic Council established the 2BS Forum as a leading security forum in the region, with its main purpose to become one of the main brainstorming events at the international scene.

The Atlantic Council promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs based on the central role of the Atlantic community

in meeting the international challenges of the 21st century.

The Atlantic Council stimulates dialogue and discussion about critical international issues with a view to enriching public debate and promoting consensus on appropriate responses in Government, the corporate and non-profit sectors, and the media in Montenegro and among leaders in Europe and the USA.



At the same time, important contributions by the Atlantic Council include identifying and shaping responses to major issues facing NATO and transatlantic relations as well as building consensus among political parties towards NATO and Euro-Atlantic integration.

The *Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA)* is a very important pillar of the Atlantic Council, with its young members who participate in many activities in the country and abroad, including various visits to relevant institutions, meetings with ambassadors, attending schools and seminars, and participating in international conferences.

YATA Montenegro is very active in promoting Euro-Atlantic ideas and values among Montenegrin society. This is very important having in mind that Montenegro will soon become a member of NATO. However, before full membership we have to influence increase of public opinion in Montenegro. Atlantic Council is educating YATA Montenegro members in order to create a team of young people who can contribute to these activities as well as who can participate in international activities.

YATA Montenegro contributes and works together with YATA International in order to raise youth's interest in issues of great importance for the world at large.





MISSION

Vision: Ensuring public support of over 50% for the Montenegro's full membership in NATO.

Mission: The Atlantic Council of Montenegro is engaged in implementing all necessary measures and activities, including educational programs and security sector reform, which will lead to the overall social level changes that are required for Montenegro's full membership into NATO and the EU.

Besides this Atlantic Council of Montenegro aims to:

- stimulate dialogue and discussion about critical international issues with a view to enriching public debate
- conduct educational and exchange programs for successor generations of Montenegro leaders so that they have the knowledge and understanding necessary to develop effective policies
- engage students from across the Euro-Atlantic area in the processes of NATO transformation and enlargement

GOALS

- Raising public awareness on NATO and Euro-Atlantic ideas and values
- Emphasize the role and the importance of small countries as Montenegro which can be place for debates and discussions on global issues
- Promoting Euro-Atlantic integration in Montenegro and within the region
- Improvement of the collective security system
- Strengthening regional cooperation
- Youth educational and exchange programs

ACTIVITIES

November 14 - 16, 2011 - **57TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION (ATA) - GA** was held in Tirana, Albania. ATA and YATA delegates from 40 countries gathered for a three day Security Policy Seminar where the most pressing issues for transatlantic security and cooperation have been discussed with political, diplomatic and military representatives from different countries and institutions.



November 30, 2011 - **ROUND TABLE "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND NATO"** - ACM participated at this round table which was held at the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism in Podgorica. The event was organized by the Government of Montenegro and Agency for Environmental Protection. The round table was attended by large number of officials from relevant ministries, institutes and NGO sector.



December 8, 2011 – **CELEBRATION OF THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL’S 5TH ANNIVERSARY** - The celebration held at the Crna Gora hotel was attended by numerous officials and representatives of the diplomatic corps of Montenegro. For their support to the ACM in the previous years plaques were presented to H. E. Sue K. Brown, US Ambassador; Dr. Amadeo Watkins from Kings College in London; Prof. Radovan Vukadinovic, Faculty for political Sciences, Zagreb; Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces of Montenegro and Ministry of Justice. Guests had the opportunity to follow a program which was performed by young members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro.

December, 15-16, 2011 – Members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro participated at the **SEMINAR “DEMOCRATIC CONTROL OF ARMED FORCES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OSCE’S CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY”**. The Seminar was organized by the Security and Defense Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro and OSCE Mission to Montenegro with support of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) IN Vienna and the Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Geneva.

January 17, 2012 – **ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF MONTENEGRO ANNUAL ASSEMBLY** - on this occasion the new ACM Governance Board was elected. Elected members of the Board are: Dr. Ivan Mašulović, Deputy Minister of Defense of Montenegro, Dr. Olivera Injac, Professor at the University of Donja Gorica, Mr. Aleksandar Damjanović, MP, Col. (ret.) Petar Baucal, Dr. Miloš Vukčević, Mediterranean University. At the Assembly new YATA presidency was elected. Elected YATA President and member of the ACM Governance Board was Mr. Vladimir Rajcic.



January, 22-25, 2012 – **TEN MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF MONTENEGRO VISITED NATO HQ, SHAPE AND ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION IN BRUSSELS.** During the meetings with NATO and ATA high officials ten delegates got the opportunity to discuss burning issues of today's international and security affairs. Some of the topics they discussed were: NATO-EU relations, NATO-Russia relations, NATO partnerships with emphasis on Western Balkans, etc.



February 2012 - U.S. ARMY SOLDIERS VISITED THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF MONTENEGRO - U.S. Army soldiers and helicopter crews which provided emergency assistance to Montenegro during February, 2012 as part of the response from NATO allies to Montenegro's request for assistance following record snowfalls visited the Atlantic Council of Montenegro. During this visit U.S. Army Soldiers met in an informal atmosphere with the members of the ACM.



February 2012 - HUMANITARIAN ACTION OF YATA MONTENEGRO - 50 young members of the ACM participated in cleaning snow in front of the hospital and other critical points in town during the big snowfalls.



March 3, 2012 - **WORKING BREAKFAST WITH PARLIAMENTARIANS** - the Atlantic Council organized this meeting with the aim to review the situation in security sector in Montenegro and to evaluate possible solutions for improvement. The topic of this meeting was: "Evaluation of the Results of the Security Sector in Montenegro during the Emergency Situation". The meeting was attended by: Mr. Mevludin Nuhodžić (DPS), Mr. Borislav Banović, (SDP), Mr. Raško Konjević (SDP), Mr. Dragoslav Ščekić (SNP), Mr. Suljo Mustafić (Bosnian Party), Mr. Genci Nimanbegu (Forca) i Mr. Savo Kentra (ACM).



March 28-29, 2012 - **US-ADRIATIC CHARTER DEFENSE MINISTERIAL** - Mr. Savo Kentera, President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro took part in this meeting which was held in Skopje, Macedonia. Mr. Kentera gave a speech on regional cooperation improvement issues.

June 4-6, 2012 - **2BS (TO BE SECURE) FORUM** - More than three hundred international and domestic senior officials, respectable academicians discussed the most important security issues of today's international affairs. The main title of the Forum was „Security Challenges - Chicago Summit: What can the Western Balkans Offer?“ The main message and common conclusion of international and domestic guests of this year's Forum is that the vision of the North Atlantic Treaty Association cannot be fulfilled without the integration of the Western Balkan countries into the Alliance structures. Therefore, today the Western Balkans countries have the possibility to reshape future of the NATO Alliance.



June 23 – July 1, 2012 – Members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro participated at **THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL SECURITY ENVIRONMENT** - around 25 participants from Europe participated in School's program. This School is an annual event organized by the Centre for European and North Atlantic Affairs (CENAA) with the support of NATO, U.S. Embassy in Slovakia, Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia. Master and PhD students, professionals and diplomats discussed different topics, such as: NATO after Chicago, U.S. Foreign and Security Policy, Smart Defense, Cyber Security and Cyber Terrorism, Missile Defense, NATO Post-Afghanistan Operations, Ukrainian Foreign Policy, NATO – Ukrainian Partnership, NATO nuclear Policy, Visegrad Regional Cooperation, and Libya etc.





June 28 - 1 July 2012 - **NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP** - The Euro - Atlantic Council of Macedonia and the Atlantic Council of Albania organized NATO Advanced Research Workshop: Sustained Emergency Relief - Regionally Developed Capacities. The event took place in Struga, Republic of Macedonia. Members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro participated as well.

July 21-28, 2012 - Member of the Atlantic Council participated at the **17TH PORTUGUESE ATLANTIC YOUTH SEMINAR** - YATA Montenegro representative, Vladimir Rakocevic was the only attendee from the Balkan region. Throughout the seminar that lasted for 7 days the youth representatives from 10 European countries, Canada and the Caucasus, underpinning that most of them came from non-NATO members states and the aspirants, got invited to contribute and give their own perspective on the assortment of issues.

September 2012 - Members of the Atlantic Council participated at the **SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM "CONTEMPORARY TERRORISM AND BIOTERRORISM"**, Kolocep Island, Croatia, organized by the Atlantic Council of Croatia.

November, 3-28, 2012 - **SERIES OF LECTURES FOR YATA MONTENEGRO MEMBERS** - Main topics of these meetings were NATO and its past and future engagement. Participants of the meetings discussed founding of the Alliance, history, world peacekeeping missions, future prospects of NATO, as well as terrorism, cyber terrorism etc.



November, 13-14, 2012 – **ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP “CRITICAL ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION”** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro Mr. Savo Kentera visited NATO Center of Excellence Defense Against Terrorism in Ankara, and gave a speech on the topic “Protecting Critical Infrastructure”.

December 4, 2012 – **ROUND TABLE: “THE MILITARY NEUTRALITY – THE NATURAL CHOICE OF MONTENEGRO”** - Mr. Savo Kentera President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro took part in the round table titled „The military neutrality – the natural choice of Montenegro?“ which was organized by Portal IN4S and NGO network “No to War – No to NATO“. Mr. Kentera stressed that Montenegro can’t afford to be a neutral country like Switzerland or Austria because of its geostrategic position, political and economical background etc.

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2013

ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the yearly international flagship event of the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA). As the ATA represents a membership-based organization with national chapters in 37 countries, this event represents a rare, yet highly important occasion for a large part of the ATA-affiliated Atlanticists from all over the world to contribute to specific NATO Public diplomacy campaigns that target policy makers, journalists, experts and the successor generation in a meaningful discussion on NATO and the future of Cooperative Security.

This General Assembly aims to offer a political as well as scientific contribution aimed at promoting an effective approach to cooperative security in the Euro-Atlantic region and beyond. The General Assembly serves to facilitate the meeting between decision-makers and the representatives from centers for study and research coming from NATO and

Partner countries, with particular reference to the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Finally, the General Assembly aims to consolidate a network of researchers and experts on cooperative security, both at the senior and youth levels.

58th General Assembly of the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA) will be held February, 3-6, 2013 in Rome, Italy. On this occasion the new ATA presidency will be elected.



At the same time YATA GA will be held and new Executive Board of the YATA INTERNATIONAL will be elected as well. YATA Montenegro representative will run for the Vice-President function.

PUBLICATION - THE SECURITY MAGAZINE

We are planning to continue publishing this magazine having in mind its importance, significance and contribution to the security processes in the region. The "Security" Magazine is an independent, interdisciplinary and international magazine dealing with security issues in the broad sense following the current topics on global, regional and national level. Just after the first number issued in 2007, this magazine was recognized by many senior executives from Europe and across Atlantic as a high quality and a valuable contribution to the security. Next edition of the Security Magazine will be published in February 2013.

2BS FORUM 2013

The third 2BS Forum will be held with an aim to exceed the high standards set in the previous two years. Its goal is to encourage significant discussion with a wide range of opinions from the key security and foreign policy figures regarding the most important issues in the field of international security. The next 2BS Forums' main focus will be on partnerships globally. These partnerships are changing rapidly and create new platform for international security grand chessboard. Main topics that will be discussed are: Partnership and cooperation between intelligence services, Middle East, Partnership building in Mediterranean etc.





VIII SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The continuation and deepening of reforms is a prerequisite for moving forward in the process of the Atlantic integration as well as pursuing the path of European integrations. Therefore, if this country is to develop and imbed a true reforms it will require trained civilians with developed ability and knowledge of the work, in addition to their already evident energy and dedication. Bearing all above mentioned in mind the Atlantic Council of Montenegro recognizes the need for the further education.

Participants will be young public servants currently involved in the security sector reform processes and students studying these matters which are the future engine of these processes.

RAISING PUBLIC OPINION IN MONTENEGRO

This project is follow up of a conference “Communicating NATO – Working Together to raise Public Awareness in Montenegro” held in September 2010. At that conference recommendation and conclusions concerning improvement of Communication Strategy for Euro-Atlantic integration were identified and presented. Government of Montenegro pledged to implement these recommendations and change Communication strategy in accordance with these recommendations.

Analysis of current achievements and specific obstacles, open dialogue between all subjects involved in this process is one of the goals of this conference. It is necessary to recommend concrete actions which will be efficient in raising public opinion in Montenegro.

Shortcomings of the current communication strategy are obvious, and activities of the Government's team dealing with Euro-Atlantic integration processes are not effective. CSO structures are not coordinated, and media very often doesn't report objectively and sufficiently about these issues. Montenegro's academia is indifferent regarding NATO integration processes.

All of these lead to the stagnation and decreasing of public support in Montenegro concerning Euro-Atlantic integration process. This conference will point out the obstacles and concrete solutions for raising public opinion in Montenegro as well as for improvement of Communication Strategy on Euro-Atlantic integration.

YOUTH ATLANTIC SEMINAR

Youth Atlantic Seminar is an annual event that brings together a large number of young people from all around the world. Youth Atlantic Seminar is held shortly before 2BS Forum where young academicians have the opportunity for exchange views on different topics. A diverse group of young people from abroad and the participation of high level partners is the guarantee of high-quality discussions. The 2BS Forum as well as the Youth Atlantic Seminar represents the irreplaceable experience for those young academicians. Broadening youth knowledge is precondition for strengthening international security having in mind that youth is the future driving force of every society.





Atlantic Council of Montenegro

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