



ATLANTIC
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of MONTENEGRO

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Atlantic Council of Montenegro

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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear friends of the Atlantic Council,

I am very pleased to address you with this brief introduction before we present all activities implemented in previous year. As you are going to read, people from Montenegrin Atlantic Council were very diligent and committed to promote idea of the Euro-Atlantism supporting crucial state goal – membership to NATO.

The year ahead of us is particularly important in the light of NATO Wales Summit decision to open Intensified and focused dialogue with Montenegro, which will hopefully lead to the invitation for the NATO membership by the end of 2015. However, this decision only depends on Montenegro and its ability to assure the international community that it is ready for the membership. The only way to do so is to show that Montenegro accepts basic principles of democracy such as rule of law, respect for human rights, independence of judicial system etc. Regarding security sector reform much has been accomplished so far but there is also a lot to be done, but our responsibilities won't be over by getting the invitation. The invitation doesn't mean that we are in; it only means that we have to work even harder in order to achieve full-membership in NATO.

In spirit of optimism and deeply committed to contribute to this goal, we wish you more security, democracy and progress as future citizens of the new, 29th NATO member country.

Sincerely Yours,

Vidak Latković, M.A.

Secretary General of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro



Flags at half-mast at NATO HQ to pay tribute to the victims of terrorist attacks in Paris

ABOUT

The Atlantic Council of Montenegro (ACM) 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.

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 on 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 objective of Atlantic Council is to actively shape the security and international policy discourse in Europe and beyond by fostering dynamic involvement of Montenegro and South East Europe Region in international affairs. The Atlantic Council is the main organizer of 2BS Forum, the largest politico-security conference in South East Europe.

The Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA) is 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. 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 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 Montenegro's full membership into NATO as well as the EU.

Mission: The Atlantic Council of Montenegro is engaged in implementing all necessary measures and activities, including lobbying, educational programs and security sector reform, influencing decision makers, as well as academic community 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

2014 ACTIVITIES

• February 6, 2014 - **VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH NATO HQ - CYBER DEFENSE AND SECURITY** - The Atlantic Council of Montenegro (ACM) hosted Video Conference with NATO expert Dr. **Detlef Puhl**, Senior Advisor on strategic communication to the Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges. ACM members, representatives of Ministry of Defense and Ministry for Information Society and Telecommunication, as well as representatives of other state bodies, discussed with Dr. Puhl Cyber Defense and Security in modern world. Dr. Puhl spoke about Cyber Defense Policy and NATO tasks and activities in this field. He stressed that NATO plays modest role in this field and is focused on securing communication lines within NATO network. Dr. Puhl explained that NATO is not involved in national or military cyber operations. NATO is currently working on modernizing systems, as well as cooperating with member and partner nations in terms of providing support in education and training, in order to make their networks secure and resistant towards cyber-attacks. Participants learned about cyber capabilities which are included into regular defense planning process in NATO, as well as about NATO responsibilities in cyber world. This was very insightful lecture followed by fruitful discussion between Dr. Puhl and conference participants.





- February 21, 2014 - **AMBASSADOR OF CANADA TO MONTENEGRO PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL** - H.E. Mr. **Roman Waschuk**, Ambassador of Canada to Montenegro, paid a visit to the Atlantic Council of Montenegro. On this occasion, the Ambassador met with the president of the Atlantic Council, Dr. **Savo Kentera**. They discussed ongoing projects of the Atlantic Council, as well as prospects for future cooperation in order to intensify Montenegro's path towards NATO.

- February 25, 2014 - Conference "**PARLIAMENT AND NATO: ROLE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF MONTENEGRO IN THE PROCESS OF EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION**"- **Bojana Antunović**, representative of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, attended this conference which was organized by the Center for Democratic Transition (CDT) and the Parliament of Montenegro, under the auspices of the German Embassy in Montenegro. The aim of the conference was to initiate dialogue on representative and control role of the Parliament as one of the most important institutions and representative bodies of citizens in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration. The conference consisted of two panels- on representative and control role of the Parliament, and the panelists were members of Montenegrin Parliament.

- February, 25-27, 2014 - **OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE KOZMETSKY CENTER AND ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY, TEXAS, USA** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Dr. **Savo Kentera** paid official visit to the Kozmetsky Center and St. Edward's University. The purpose of the visit was to share perspectives on security and economic circumstances in South Eastern Europe, as well as to explore opportunities for building



academic cooperation in the region with St. Edward's University. Apart from University visit, Dr. Kentera also met with the Mayor and the Governor of Texas. On this occasion, Dr. Kentera became honorary citizen of Texas, where he also received a plaque and a symbol of the City of Austin. There were talks with the Mayor and the Governor about future investments in Montenegro by distinguished companies, such as National Instruments and 3M, as well as other companies from different areas which may view Montenegro and the region as an appealing market for development. What was also discussed were programs of fraternizing of certain municipalities with some towns from Texas. On this occasion, Dr. Kentera was briefed on Austin and Texas economic development, opportunities for business investment, as well as international interests. Special part of the visit was devoted to border security, cyber security, and disaster preparedness. Head of the DHS, as well as his co-workers from different fields, introduced Dr. Kentera with the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan.

• March 11, 2014 - **YATA MEETING WITH NATO PDD REPRESENTATIVE MS. BARBORA MARONKOVA** - Atlantic Council of Montenegro organized this event where Ms. **Barbora Maronkova**, Information Officer for Western Balkans at NATO Public Diplomacy Division, discussed with YATA representatives some of the current topics related to both Montenegro's Euro-Atlantic Integration and the topics related to the world's international affairs. Thus, there was a discussion on Montenegro's progress in NATO integration, as well as the role of public diplomacy in



raising public awareness regarding this process, upcoming NATO Summit, current situation in Ukraine, etc. YATA representatives posed many questions and were interested in the role of media and NGOs in raising NATO awareness, gender equality within NATO, and especially whether there are ways for them to be more involved in the work of NATO. Ms. Maronkova welcomed the interest of YATA and emphasized that they represent one of NATO "target audience".

• March, 28-30, 2014 - **CONFERENCE "OPEN NATO"** - The conference was organized by NATO Membership Council's Communication Team and was held in Maestral Hotel in Budva. On behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro at the conference participated Dr. **Savo Kentera** and Ms. **Nikolina Vujičić**. Open dialogue related to Montenegro's Euro-Atlantic Integration was organized in four panels, where relevant participants from Montenegro, Serbia and Croatia had the opportunity to discuss individual experiences of member countries, the importance and necessity

of integration, as well as cost-benefit analysis of NATO membership. Dr. Savo Kentera spoke about the importance of Montenegro's accession to NATO and said that Montenegro's path towards membership in this organization is an unstoppable process. He emphasized that Montenegro cannot afford to be military neutral since, among other things, historical circumstances, as well as our turbulent environment do not allow it, and added that neutrality is unaffordable also from the financial aspect.



• March 31 – April 2, 2014 - **CONFERENCE “FIVE YEARS OF CROATIA IN NATO”** - At this scientific conference organized by the Atlantic Council of Croatia and Ministry of Defense of Croatia, on behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro participated Prof. Dr. **Olivera Injac**, Board Member,



and Mr. **Vladan Balaban**, president of YATA Montenegro. The conference was held at the Croatian Defense Academy “Petar Zrinski”. This event was organized with a purpose to evaluate Croatia’s current experience as NATO state, as well as to share gained experience with neighboring countries, NATO aspirants. This valuable conference gathered over 50 participants from the region and the USA, representatives of military, governments, academic institutions, Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA) and Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA). The conference addressed the region and path towards NATO membership, current state regarding this issue, as well as the role of the countries from the region in peacekeeping operations. Prof. Dr. Olivera Injac spoke about Montenegro and its current status regarding NATO integration. Within the conference, Philatelic Exhibition under the title “Croatia and NATO: Five years together” was held at Ministry of Defense’s Gallery “Zvonimir” in Zagreb.



- April 16, 2014 - **BUSINESS BREAKFAST** - The Atlantic Council of Montenegro and American Chamber of Commerce in Montenegro have successfully organized Business Breakfast at the Hotel Ramada in Podgorica. In his opening speech, Dr. **Savo Kentera**, president of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, highlighted the importance of further involvement of the business sector in Euro-Atlantic integration, as well as significance of strengthening the competitiveness of domestic companies in international markets, and noted that Montenegro’s membership in NATO will not mean

much if government does not use whatever is being offered. Panelists were Prof. **Amadeo Watkins**, PhD, King's College, London Prof. **Eric Kopač**, PhD, University of Ljubljana, Prof. **Gordana Đurović**, PhD, University of Montenegro and Mr. **Nebojša Kaluđerović**, National Coordinator for NATO. According to panelists' presentation, it has been concluded, among other things, that NATO membership, apart from great advantages in terms of improvement of security and the rule of law, would also allow enhancement of Montenegrin product rating on the international market in terms of competitiveness.

- May 29, 2014 - **60th ATA CHAPTER LEADERSHIP SUMMIT** - ATA Chapters

Leadership Summit was held within this year's 2BS Forum. It was the jubilee 60th Summit held for the first time since its establishment outside Brussels. Jubilee Summit was officially opened by Mr. **Ranko Krivokapić**, President of the Parliament of Montenegro and President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Dr. **Karl A. Lamers**, President of ATA and Dr. **Savo Kentera**, President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro. The Summit gathered around hundred representatives from 36 members of ATA (ATA leaders and young YATA leaders).

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- May 29, 2014 - **YOUTH ATLANTIC SEMINAR** – Youth Atlantic Seminar was organized by the Atlantic Council of Montenegro in Budva, Montenegro. Seminar gathered around 50 participants from more than 15 countries: the United States of America, Armenia, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Italy, Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia, the Netherlands, Turkey, UK, Ukraine etc. After welcoming remarks made by YATA president Ms. Rowinda Appelman and YATA executive vice president Mr. **Daniel Fazlić**, General **John R. Allen**, Former ISAF Commander opened Youth Atlantic Seminar with inspiring speech followed by Q&A. After reviewing YATA International and YATA national chapters half year reports, YATA members and young professionals took part in the discussion on main topics of this seminar: future projects, cooperation, participation, half year plans and finance possibilities.



• May 29-31, 2014 - **2BS (TO BE SECURE) FORUM** - Fourth 2BS (To Be Secure) Forum under the title “NATO in 21st century: New Threats and New Theaters” which gathered around 400 high officials, distinguished scholars, experts from the field of security policy, journalists and young people from around the world, was very impressive and well attended. The number and variety of participants at the third 2BS Forum has surpassed organizer expectations, and is a testimony of the importance of this event and its growing recognition at the international level. Main topics of this year’s 2BS Forum were: the future of NATO enlargement, Afghanistan after 2014, crisis in Ukraine, 29th anniversary of Partnership for Peace, fight against terrorism and cyber defense. Fourth 2BS Forum is organized under the auspices of the Government of Montenegro and in partnership with: NATO, U.S. Embassy in Podgorica, Balkan Trust for Democracy, Municipality of Budva, Norwegian Embassy, German Embassy in Montenegro and Turkish Embassy in Podgorica. 2BS Forum was tremendously well broadcasted in Montenegro and abroad. (Official Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcepTm3SdXo>)

- June 26-28, 2014 - **CONFERENCE “JUBILEE AS A ROAD SIGN FOR SAFE FUTURE”** – This conference was organized in Herceg Novi by NATO Membership Council’s Communication Team, headed by Mr. **Nebojša Kaluđerović**, National Coordinator for NATO and under the auspices of the Slovak Atlantic Commission. On behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro Ms. **Aleksandra Đakonović** took part at the conference. Large number of distinguished speakers, interesting discussions, as well as kind hosts, made this event very useful for all participants. Topics discussed at the conference were: Partnership for Peace – response to challenges; Enlargement 3/7/2; Public Opinion; The price of NATO membership; Effects of NATO membership on the economy; and The role of the Parliament in public dialogue.



- July, 14-18, 2014 - **INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN NEUM “THE BALKANS SUCCESS STORY – MAINTAINING REGIONAL SECURITY AND ENHANCING STABILITY”** - Delegation of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro took part at the International Summer School in Neum, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The delegation consisted of Dr. **Savo Kentera**, President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, and YATA Montenegro members: **Vladan Balaban**, **Robert Ivitsa Shushich**, **Mijat Tomić** and **Đorđe Bušković**. Summer School under the title “The Balkans Success Story – Maintaining

Regional Security and Enhancing Stability” was organized by the Atlantic Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina in collaboration with NATO PDD and with the support of the Atlantic Treat Association (ATA). Numerous issues were discussed in Neum, and the most interesting were certainly those related to NATO Summit in Wales, NATO integration of the Western Balkans countries, current political situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, future of transatlantic bonds etc. Around 30 YATA members from around 15 European countries gathered at the Summer School in Neum. Dr. Kentera took part at the conference as a panelist at the first Panel under the title “Approaching the Wales Summit”.



- July 18, 2014 - **REACT 2014** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro Dr. **Savo Kentera** participated at this conference under the panel titled “NATO membership or neutrality”.

- September, 1-2, 2014 - **9TH BLEED STRATEGIC FORUM** - On behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Ms. **Nikolina Šćepanović** participated at the 9th Bled Strategic Forum (BSF) held in Bled, Slovenia. Under the title “The Power of Trust”, the Forum was organized jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia and the Centre for European Perspective. Long list of prominent speakers and experts discussed various topics, such as: the Philosophy of Leadership, the Spirit of Central Europe, Contemporary Threats: Cyber Security – A Global Challenge and an Opportunity etc.



- September 8, 2014 - **MEETING OF YATA REPRESENTATIVES WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF ASSOCIATION OF PARAPLEGICS - PODGORICA** - President of YATA Montenegro, Mr. **Vladan Balaban**, and Vice-President, Ms. **Nikolina Vujcic**, had a meeting with a representative of Association of Paraplegics – Podgorica, Mr. **Nebojša Miranović**. On behalf of Association of Paraplegics – Podgorica, Mr. Miranović expressed interest in the work of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro and pointed out that the members of this society are equal participants in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration. At the meeting, they talked about activities of both organizations in terms of possible directions of further cooperation. Participants concluded that the education of members of the Association of Paraplegics – Podgorica is a first step towards their active involvement in the process of Montenegro’s NATO integration.



- October 10, 2014 - **8TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF MONTENEGRO** - The Atlantic Council of Montenegro has marked its 8th anniversary by organizing an informal gathering of its members. Since its establishment the Atlantic Council of Montenegro has been devoted to promoting democracy and open dialogue on Euro-Atlantic integrations of Montenegro.

With its future activities and projects, the Atlantic Council of Montenegro will continue to contribute to the development of democratic society, as well as to encourage discussion on key topics in the field of international relations and security.

- October 16, 2014 - **MEETING OF THE YATA PRESIDENT WITH THE U.S. SENATOR CHRIS MURPHY** - During the official visit to Montenegro on October 16, 2014 US Senator and chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe of the U.S. Senate, Mr. **Chris Murphy** met with a group of young leaders to have a closer look at their role in Montenegrin society, as well as their perspective on problems that Montenegro faces. On this occasion, he has met with the President of the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association of Montenegro, Mr. **Vladan Balaban**. The roundtable discussed the role and vision of young people in Montenegro, foreign policy and Euro-Atlantic integration of Montenegro, as well as the security situation in Ukraine and the action of ISIS. Senator Murphy welcomed the proactive role of young people and stressed the importance of their role in Montenegro's integration process.



- October 2014 - **8TH ISSUE OF THE "SECURITY" MAGAZINE** - "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. After the "break" caused by financial crisis, Atlantic Council of Montenegro has been able to start publishing Security magazine again. This new 8 issue of the "Security" Magazine has a completely changed concept aimed at giving a chance to young people, future leaders and professionals in their spheres of interest.

(8th issue can be found at the following link: <http://www.ascg.me/index.php/en/explore-2/security-magazine/1321-security-magazine-8>)



• November 17, 2014 - **VISIT TO THE ITALIAN NAVY AIRCRAFT CARRIER "CAVOUR"** - Members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro visited the Italian Navy aircraft carrier "Cavour". Although primarily a warship, aircraft carrier "Cavour" has three essential components. It has a command-and-control function, serves as an amphibious-logistics platform, and in particular, it has the humanitarian component. During the visit, members of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro had the opportunity to hear a short presentation on the history and purpose of the aircraft carrier "Cavour", organized by Commander Luca Conti and his crew, after which they arranged a tour of the aircraft carrier. On that occasion, the President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Dr. **Savo Kentera** presented a plaque of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro to the Commander **Luca Conti**, as a sign of gratitude for organizing the visit. The visit of the aircraft carrier "Cavour" can be regarded as support to Montenegro on its path towards NATO membership.

• November 26, 2014 - **SEMINAR "EUROATLANTISM - SAFE HARBOR"** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Dr. **Savo Kentera** participated as a panelist on panel titled "Montenegro in the process of Euro-Atlantic integrations before and after the NATO Summit in Wales" within the seminar "Euroatlantism - safe harbor" which was organized by the Humanistic Studies of the University of Donja Gorica in cooperation with the NATO Membership Council's Communication Team, from November, 26 - 28 in Bar. The seminar covered following topics: economy,

security, preservation of the rule of law, pros and cons of NATO membership, as well as Montenegro's progress on the road towards the EU and NATO. Apart from Dr. Kentera at the panel discussion participated also Ms. Dragana Radulović from the Directorate General for NATO and Security Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro as well as **Erik Holmgren**, Head of Political and Economic Section in the United States Embassy in Montenegro. Moderator was Dr. **Olivera Injac**, Professor at Humanistic Studies at the University of Donja Gorica. Dr. Kentera spoke about public support for Euro-Atlantic integration process, as well as further steps of our country on its way to EU and NATO.



- November 28, 2014 - **SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SKILLS - LECTURE TITLED "IS MONTENEGRO READY FOR NATO?"** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Dr. **Savo Kentera** held a lecture entitled "Is Montenegro ready for NATO?" for participants of the School of Business Skills. The lecture was held at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Podgorica. Dr. Savo Kentera spoke about two aspects of the Montenegrin integration process into NATO, national



and international. National aspect refers to the reforms that Montenegro has done so far in the process of integration as well as everything that is still to be done, while the international aspect refers to the events on the international scene, as its potential impact on Montenegro receiving an invitation to join NATO. At the end of his lecture Dr. Kentera pointed out that when the time comes Montenegro will be ready for NATO, but the question is “whether NATO is ready for Montenegro?”. Participants of the School were very interested in this topic which was confirmed by a large number of questions that followed the lecture.



- **ATA’S 60th GENERAL ASSEMBLY (ATA GA)** took place in Brussels, Belgium. On behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, at the 60th ATA GA has participated Mr. **Robert Ivitsa Shushich**. Along with the ATA General Assembly was held the 19th Youth Atlantic Treaty Association General Assembly. The 60th General Assembly has brought together representatives of all 36 ATA members, which discussed the future of the organization.

The YATA General Assembly elected a new Executive Board, and Mr. Robert Ivitsa Shushich, Vice President of the YATA Montenegro was elected as the new Executive Vice President of the YATA International.

- December 15-16, 2014 - **OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SECOND BELGRADE NATO WEEK** - President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Dr. Savo Kentera has spoken at the opening ceremony of the Second Belgrade NATO Week, on December 15, 2014, organized by the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies, Serbia. Dr. Kentera has talked



about Montenegro's first steps towards NATO membership, the reforms implemented in the security sector, particularly stressing the importance of the rule of law.

- December 16, 2014 - **ROUND TABLE "MONTENEGRO AT THE CROSSROADS: 2015 - A MILESTONE OF INTEGRATION"**- On behalf of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Mr. **Robert Ivica Susic** and Ms. **Nikolina Šćepanović** have participated at the round table "Montenegro at the crossroads: 2015 - a Milestone of Integration", organized by NGO "Movement for Neutrality of Montenegro", which was held on December 16, 2014. Along with the representatives of non-governmental organizations, the roundtable was attended by politicians, academics, independent intellectuals, students and representatives of embassies. Key issues discussed were Montenegro's membership into NATO, the issue of military neutrality, as well as the referendum as the most democratic solution of any form of integration.



- December 18, 2014 - **RECOGNITION “SAFE COMPASS”** - On behalf of the YATA Montenegro, Mr. **Vladan Balaban**, received the recognition “SAFE COMPASS” awarded by Alfa Centre from Niksić. The award is given for outstanding contribution in the activities or projects that are aimed at disseminating the idea of Euro-Atlanticism in Montenegro. Awarding ceremony was held at Hotel Ramada in Podgorica.

- **COMPETITION FOR THE BEST ESSAY ON THE TOPIC: “AT THE CROSSROADS OF EAST AND WEST: PERSPECTIVES OF A STUDENT”**- Atlantic Council of Montenegro organized this Competition from November 1 to November 30, when was the deadline for submission of essays. During this period of time ten essays were submitted, after which Selection committee composed of literature professor **Božena Jelušić**, Dr.

Savo Kentera, President of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro and Dr. **Olivera Injac**, Professor at the Humanistic Studies at the University of Donja Gorica, reviewed all essays and decided on the best one. At the New Year’s Reception organized by Atlantic Council of Montenegro, a plaque and a cash prize were delivered to the winner of the Competition, Mr. Lazar Baćović, the third year student of Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro.



• **ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF MONTENEGRO ELECTED NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SECRETARY GENERAL**

- In accordance with the Statute, General Assembly of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro elected new Board of Directors as well as the Secretary General. The new Board of Directors are: Dr. **Savo Kentera**, President, Dr. **Dragan Simeunović**, Belgrade Faculty of Political Sciences, Dr. **Olivera Injac**, UDG, Dr. **Adis Balota**, Mediterranean University, Dr. Sharyl Cross, St. Edward's University in the United States, Dr.

Amadeo Watkins, the King's College in London and Mr. Vladan Balaban, as the President of the YATA Montenegro. The function of the Secretary General of the Atlantic Council will perform **Vidak Latković**, M.A.



• December 18, 2014 - **NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION**

- Atlantic Council of Montenegro held a New Year's reception which was opportunity to presented new Board of Directors, as well as the Secretary General. Also the Reception was an opportunity to deliver a plaque and a cash prize to winner of the competition for an essay: "At the crossroads of East and West: Perspective a student," Mr. **Lazar Baćović**, the third year student of Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro. Among the numerous guests, the reception was attended by H.E. Mr.

Ranko Krivokapić, H.E. Mr. **Igor Lukšić**, ADM **Dragan Samardžić**, representatives of political parties, civil and business sectors, as well as the diplomatic corps in Montenegro.



PLAN OF ACTIVITIES 2015

The Atlantic Council of Montenegro has a long list of activities and projects that will be implemented in 2015. The ACM will continue to implement projects aimed at promoting Euro-Atlantic Integration in Montenegro, as well as youth activities which are very well accepted. Bearing in mind various activities planned for this year, here we will only list the most important ones:

2BS FORUM 2015

The 2BS Forum is a constructive element of the most important meeting of influential international and Montenegrin representatives, who discuss essential questions of international security and security in SEE. This Forum aims to encourage significant discussion regarding the most important dilemmas in the field of international security. 2BS Forum 2014 will address some of the major challenges of the decade. Through discussions, 2BS Forum aims to analyze these modern challenges, risks and threats and explore policy responses. The fifth jubilee 2BS Forum focus will continue to be the future of Southeast Europe integration into European and Euro Atlantic institutions. This year's Forum is particularly important in the light of NATO Wales Summit decision to open Intensified and focused dialogue with Montenegro, which will hopefully lead to the invitation for the NATO membership by the end of 2015. This year's Forum will gather high officials and experts from all around the world and give opportunity for them to discuss most important security issues such as: NATO's Open Door Policy, terrorism, Ukrainian crisis, Ebola and woman's role in security.

ROUNDTABLE ON “CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION”

Atlantic Council of Montenegro in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior will organize this roundtable. Critical Infrastructure is one of the basic elements of the state which is defined as “a group of physical and virtual assets vital to a normal functioning of a country.” Hence, protecting critical infrastructure is one of the fundamental elements of state security. On country level Montenegrin Law on Protection of Persons and Property regulates protection of objects and it gives a list of mandatory protected objects. These objects must have established either internal protection services or have Private Security Agencies protecting them. Roundtable on Critical Infrastructure Protection will gather representatives of key institutions that will share knowledge and experience and lay the foundation necessary for the good cooperation and the exchange of information which are vital in countering threats that jeopardize functioning of critical infrastructure.

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 to 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 and the Youth Atlantic Seminar represent the irreplaceable experience for those young academicians and professionals. Broadening youth knowledge is precondition for strengthening international security, having in mind that youth is the future driving force of every society.

NATO DAY CELEBRATION

On April 4, 2013, the first time the Atlantic Council of Montenegro in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense of Montenegro and the Army of Montenegro organized a celebration in order to mark the day when Washington Treaty was signed and NATO established. Having in mind the success of the first organized NATO Day celebration, we intend to continue with this project and to establish it as our traditional event.

The Celebration of NATO Day will have three segments:

- Educational – education and informing all generations;
- Entertainment – mostly for children and youth;
- Promotional – promoting ideas, achievements, benefits of membership etc.

PUBLICATION - THE SECURITY MAGAZINE

We are planning to continue publishing Security 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. Immediately upon issuing the first edition 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.

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