



**Statement by  
Ambassador Dragana Radulović, Permanent Representative of  
Montenegro to the OSCE  
in response to the address by Dunja Mijatović  
Representative on the Freedom of the Media**

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Montenegro would like to warmly welcome the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Ms. Dunja Mijatovic back to the Permanent Council and thank her for her comprehensive Report. We highly appreciate the support and assistance of her personally and her Office in promoting media freedom in Montenegro.

The freedom of media represents a precondition for building an open and democratic society. This is why Montenegro is constantly undertaking extensive steps for enhancing and strengthening the freedom of media. An important step was made when Montenegro decriminalized defamation, but we will certainly not stop there. We will continue to improve legislation and general climate in this field in order to reach the highest international standards.

When it comes to the specific issues mentioned in the Report, let me assure you that Montenegro remains committed to fully investigate all cases of violence against journalists, including the latest one. This incident was strongly condemned by the highest officials and all relevant actors of the society. In this context, we would like to emphasize the full commitment of the law enforcement and competent authorities to continue the investigation after the arrest of the person who committed it in order to bring all those responsible or connected with this despicable assault to justice. Investigations in remaining open cases continue, and will hopefully soon yield results, which is in the best interest of both Montenegrin democratic progress and the promotion of media freedoms in my country.

Mr. Chairman,

Montenegro attaches great importance to the activities carried out by the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media which are intended to further improve media situation in Montenegro and in the OSCE region as a whole. We highly value and support the overall work of the Office RFoM and we stand ready to continue our cooperation in an open and constructive spirit and continue to implement all our OSCE commitments in this and other areas.

Thank you.