

05



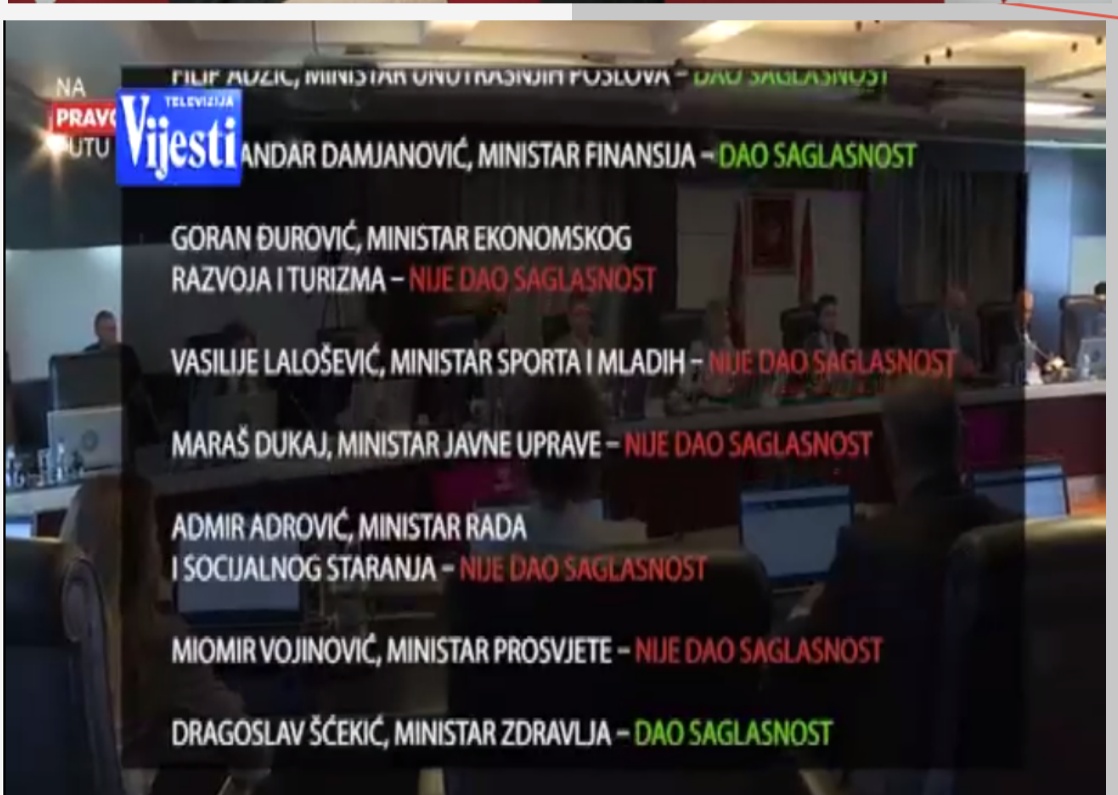
MANS submitted a request to the Secretariat-General of the President of Montenegro for complete documentation on the expenses of the official visit to Croatia and called on the President to use his very example to deviate from the practice fostered by his predecessor. **Bearing in mind that information on the way citizens' money is spent by state institutions is information of public interest, in that regard, its proactive disclosing would be a clear indication of the readiness to contribute to the increase in the transparency of the work of state administration bodies through concrete activities.** The President of Montenegro supported the work of MANS in the hope that all state institutions would follow his example of transparent management. 05/09/2023

08



In an interview with the independent weekly Monitor, the Deputy Executive Director of the NGO MANS points out that **in the past three years, the parties of the new government have completely copied the manner of ruling from DPS, from political hiring and attempts to influence the work of the judiciary, all the way to attitude towards government critics. The continuation of such behaviour inevitably leads Montenegro to a new phase of apathy, which was more than immanent during the period of DPS' rule.** You can read the complete interview *Podjela pljena* at the link below: <https://www.monitor.co.me/dejan-milovac-mans-podjela-plijena/> 08/09/2023

17



NGO MANS emphasizes the importance for the Agency for Prevention of Corruption and the public to be able to check the state of revenues and assets of public officials at any time, especially those that do not come from the state budget, which is also the first step in detecting the so-called "red flags" and possible corruption. Although, according to announcements, the amendments to the Law on Prevention of Corruption were supposed to be decided by the former convocation of the Parliament, there is still **no draft law, which should be preceded by a public debate. Any further delay in the continuation of reforms in the area of the fight against corruption is to the detriment of citizens and the public interest, and represents another step backwards in the process of European integration of Montenegro.** 17/09/2023

19



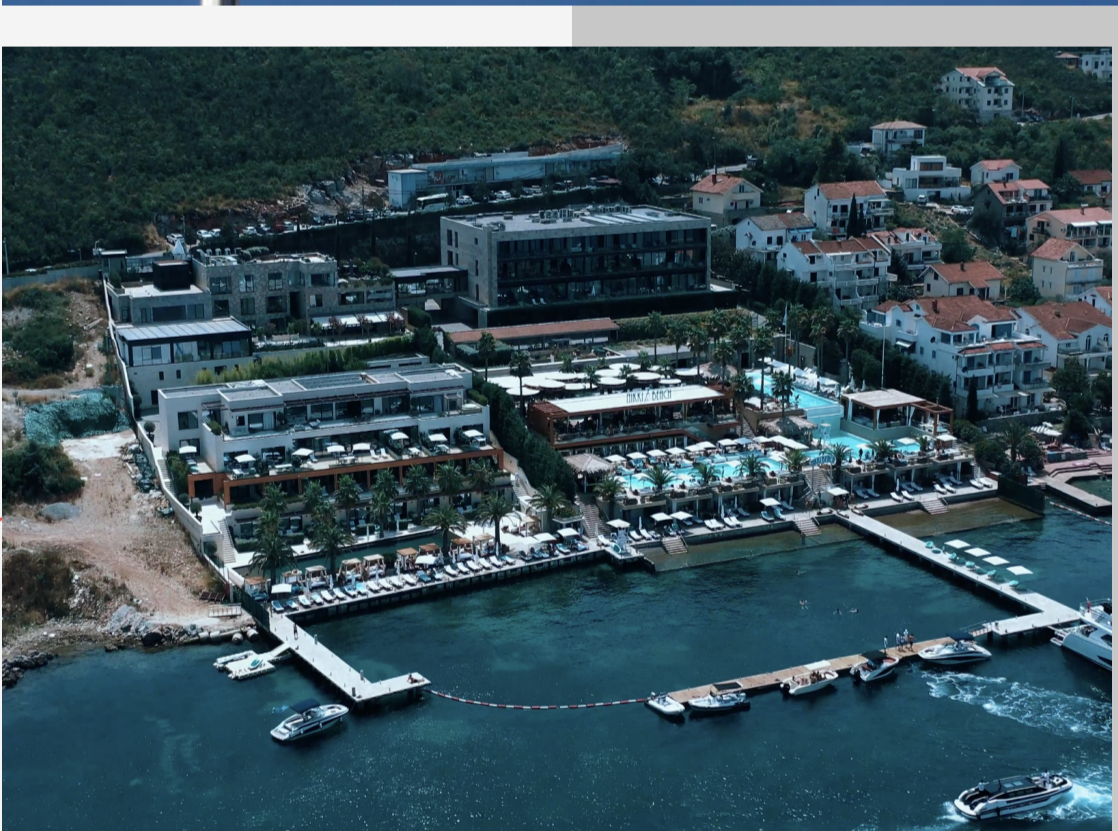
A year after MANS submitted the initiative, the Agency for Prevention of Corruption (APC) will finally check whether the Prime Minister's office violated the Law on Financing of Political Entities and Election Campaigns and spent more than the legal limit ahead of the local elections in 2022. Only a lack of political will could have caused such a delay in acting, which is precisely **the continuation of the pernicious practice of the Agency and its management, which for years has persistently discredited the credibility of that institution, and promoted it as one of the obstacles in the fight against corruption, especially at a high level.** 19/09/2023

21



In a meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and prosecutors, a representative of the NGO MANS pointed out the key challenges of judicial reform. **On that occasion, we particularly emphasized the importance of efficient processing of cases of judges and prosecutors accused of ties to the organised criminal groups, as well as the "Flats" affair as an example of unlawful influence on the independence of the judicial and prosecutorial organization.** 21/09/2023

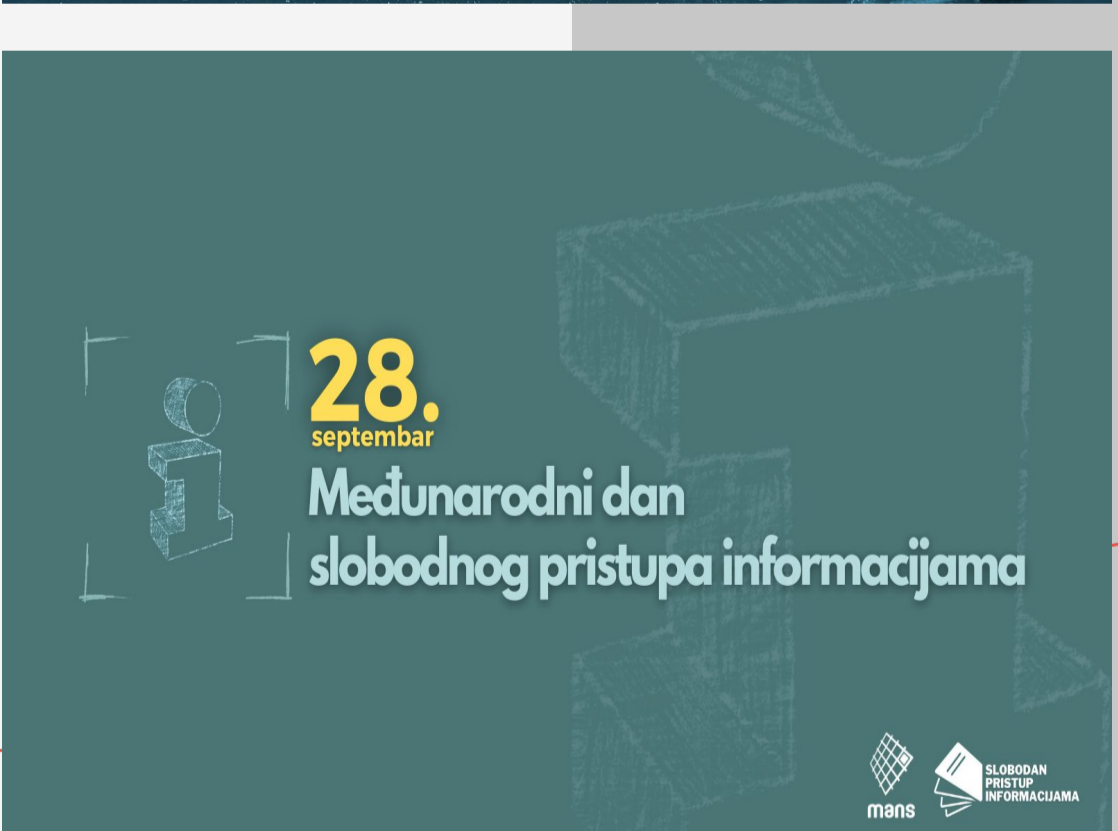
25



MANS is the winner of the award for the investigative story on the Russian off shore millions. The investigative story on how the Zadorin brothers invested their offshore millions in real estate deals in Montenegro was awarded with this year's EU Award for Investigative Journalism 2023.

The story is part of the Pandora Papers series, which was investigated by the MANS Investigative Centre in cooperation with The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. 25/09/2023

28



On the International Day for Universal Access to Information – Montenegro is still a country of many secrets. At the end of 2020, MANS and a coalition of NGOs submitted a draft amendments to the Law on Free Access to Information (the Law on FAI) to the new government, which was supposed to mark a break with the previous practice of withholding data from citizens, and lay a strong foundation for increasing transparency and accountability in the work of state bodies. Three years later, we can state that the so-called transition to a democratic society in this area is still at the very beginning, and that the political elite that makes up the new government has not yet shown enough seriousness and commitment to the public's right to know. 28/09/2023

September in photos

