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Developing a Governmental Minority Policy for Montenegro

Second Roundtable

Minority Councils

Hotel Bianca, Kolasin, Montenegro, June 2-3, 2006

Agenda and Schedule

June 1, 2006

Arrival of participants

June 2, 2006

10:00 -10:45

Opening of the roundtable

Livia Plaks, President, Project on Ethnic Relations

Gezim Hajdinaga, Minister for the Protection of Rights of Persons Belonging to National and Ethnic Groups of Montenegro

11:00 -17:00

Roundtable

Chaired by

Livia Plaks, President, Project on Ethnic Relations

Alex N. Grigor'ev, Director for Western Balkans, Project on Ethnic Relations

Session I (11:30 – 11:45) Coffee Break

International Experience

What is the experience (positive and negative) of other countries in forming minority councils, minority self-governments, etc? How can Montenegro avoid the mistakes of its neighbors regarding the establishment and functioning of the councils?

13:00 -14:30

Lunch

14:30 -17:00

Session II (15:30 -15:45 Coffee Break)

Establishing Minority Councils in Montenegro

Who will form these councils? How will the councils be established (legislation, procedures, methods, etc.)? Who will be the members of these councils? What are the main tasks and competencies of the councils? What are the hopes and expectations of minorities with regard to the councils? What would be the relationship between the councils and Montenegro's present governmental bodies and the parliament? What will be the relationship between the councils and minority political parties? Who will finance the councils and be responsible for their budgets? What is the most realistic timeframe for establishing the minority councils in Montenegro?

19:00

Dinner

June 3, 2006

10:00 – 13:00

Session II (continued) (11:30 – 11:45 Coffee Break)

13:00-13:30

Press Conference

13:30 – 15:00

Lunch

Departure of participants

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