

INTERACADEMY COUNCIL
FOR SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

Your Excellency,

Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA) has informed us that the new Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts is planned to be adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro. In this new Law, a new method of election of the members of national academy was introduced which is not known in national academies worldwide. A great number of the world academies has been astonished by this and has expressed their strong disapproval.

MASA is a well recognized institution in the world of national academies of sciences which comes from its prominent activities and firm attitude towards notable international cooperation.

Basic principles of national academies of sciences which originate from its beginnings are **integrity, sovereignty, autonomy** and **independence** and they include a very delicate function of member election which is not to be changed if one wants a relevant academy to be recognized.

We ask you to reconsider this issue one more time and make a decision which will not affect member election of MASA based on its autonomy which will then allow staying in accordance with the basic principles valid in all national academies of sciences in the world.

Academician Ljubiša Rakić

Chairman of the Programme
Committee of IAC SEE