

H.E. Filip Vujanović  
President of Montenegro  
Svetog Petra Cetinjskog 12  
81000 Podgorica  
Montenegro

15/2432-16  
15. 12. 11

Your Excellency,

The National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine was informed by the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA) that the new Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts is planned to be adopted. As far as we have learned, the new Law is proposing the method of becoming the member of national academy which is not known in national academies worldwide. As it is practiced in the national academies worldwide, one can become member of national academy only by elections, which are preceded by peer review procedure based on scientific and artistic achievements.

We would like to notice that if it happens that the new Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts imply membership in MASA by verification or in any other way, instead of election on the basis of scientific or artistic achievements, this might produce problems in recognizing Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts as the member of national science academies' family, and may negatively reflect on our further cooperation. Certainly, this would mean that the political will is over scientific integrity and autonomy of scientific institutions in Montenegro.

Your Excellency, we would like to ask you to reexamine the solution that you are proposing, at the moment, in the new Law on Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts regarding the procedure for becoming member of national academy, as well as to protect its' current membership from expelling. We are very committed to continue keeping good relations with Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts as a very active and well recognized institution in the world of national academies. However, this is much conditioned by its success in preserving autonomy in electing new members as well as scientific integrity.

Sincerely yours,

President  
Academician of NASU

Boris Paton

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