

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 4, 2008

The Honorable Milo Djukanovic  
Prime Minister  
Republic of Montenegro  
c/o Embassy of Montenegro  
1610 New Hampshire Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Prime Minister Djukanovic:

We are writing out of concern for four American citizens being held in Spuz Prison in Montenegro.

As you know, the Montenegrin government arrested four American citizens in September 2006 on a number of charges. We have been closely monitoring the trial of our citizens through the U.S. Embassy in Podgorica. The names of the citizens are as follows: Mr. Rrok Dedvukaj, Mr. Kola Dedvukaj, Mr. Sokol Ivanaj, and Mr. Doda Lucaj.

Since its independence, Montenegro has been a signatory to many international conventions establishing basic human rights and civil liberties for individuals. While we understand the serious nature of the charges against these individuals, we also expect the government of Montenegro to abide by international law and recognize the rights of these American citizens. We are in receipt of an official translated document in which a Montenegrin government official testifies that international conventions were violated in the arrests of these men (please see attached document).

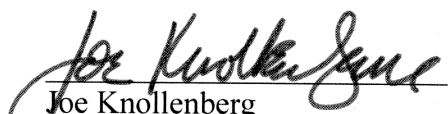
Further, we are concerned about the health and well-being of each of the four men being held by your government. It is our understanding the health of the four men, and of Kola Dedvukaj specifically, is quickly deteriorating. Our Embassy in Podgorica is watching this situation closely, and we expect that your government and those prison officials in direct contact with the four men will cooperate in ensuring their health improves.

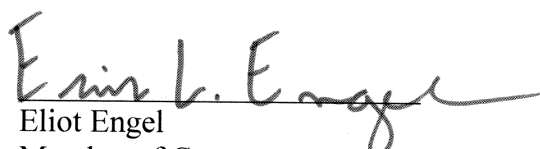
Further, it is our understanding the trial of these four men continues to move very slowly. Your government can be proud of Montenegro's growing democracy. However, a democratic and transparent court with the right to due process for the accused must accompany such a democratic government. We understand the policy of translating court proceedings; however, consistently adjourning the court for days and weeks at a time does not allow for speedy trial. Our citizens deserve basic due process rights, and we look forward to your working with your government to ensure our constituents are given a speedy trial.

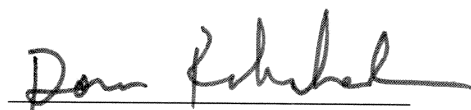
Finally, we are encouraged to hear that your government has arrested and is trying four police officers implicated in human rights violations during the arrest of the four American citizens. We look forward to being kept abreast of this trial by your Embassy in Washington, D.C. and hope the true nature of the September 9, 2006 incident is revealed through this trial.

We will continue to work with our Embassy in Podgorica as well as the Embassy of Montenegro in Washington, D.C. to ensure the American citizens are being treated fairly. We will also continue to monitor the health of these four men and look forward to hearing that their health conditions are improving. Lastly, we look forward to a quick resolution to this case and your prompt response to our concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Joe Knollenberg  
Member of Congress

  
Eliot Engel  
Member of Congress

  
Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress