

# Judiciaries in Peril

Central & Eastern  
European Judicial  
Exchange Network

January 2021  
& Beyond

## OVERVIEW

In autumn 2020, the CEELI Institute launched its new Spotlight Series of Webinars on the topic — ‘Judiciaries in Peril in Central & Eastern Europe.’ This series shines a spotlight on pressing issues challenging the judiciary in key countries of the region, including Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Montenegro, and Hungary. Each session explores the challenges faced in a particular country that undermine and imperil that nation’s judiciary, including the circumstances underlying recent attacks on the judiciary and how these threaten judicial independence. We also explore possible solutions and remedies that could help strengthen the independence of these judiciaries.

## SPOTLIGHT #3

Tuesday  
26 January 2021,  
6pm CET

Part 1: Presentations  
(55 minutes)

Part 2: Q & A  
(25 minutes)

### TOPIC:

Judiciary in Peril:  
Montenegro  
Case Study

Our third session shines a spotlight on Montenegro’s judiciary, outlining the particular challenges facing that country’s judges. The conversation will be led by Mirza Ademović (Judge in Nikšić Basic Court), Marijana Laković-Dražković, Former Deputy Minister of Justice, and Ivan Vukčević (Program Director for CeMI).

The Spotlight series will be held via Zoom and available in English and Montenegrin.

### REGISTER HERE

Submit questions for the Panel [here](#)

For further information contact  
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### SPEAKERS:



#### Ivan Vukčević

Program Director  
Centre for Monitoring and  
Research (CeMI)



#### Marijana Laković-Dražković

Former Deputy Minister  
of Justice



#### Mirza Ademović

Judge in the Basic Court  
in Nikšić

Following its application in 2008 for EU membership, Montenegro continues its efforts to comply with the EU Acquis, protect fundamental rights, and implement other European standards, including those related to the judiciary. However, specific challenges remain and continue to cause concern. As with other jurisdictions in the region, pressing themes include judicial independence, accountability, and transparency. The judiciary in Montenegro has been the subject of political attacks from both government and opposition parties. Public concern recently has focused on certain court appointments, including the appointment of seven Presidents of Basic Courts and the President of the Supreme Court. Additionally, other challenging issues focus on strengthening the disciplinary framework for judges and prosecutors, and new strategies for downsizing the number of ‘Basic Courts’ (a move is intended to improve efficiencies).