

## **The idea of organization and activities of the Association of Economists and Managers of Montenegro**

### **THE IDEA:**

To create a network of economists and managers of different generations and different areas from Montenegro and other foreign countries and increase their mutual communication. The expected result is to improve economic practice and economic theory, increase competitiveness in the global market and promote the ideas of economic freedom, entrepreneurship and innovations through creative friction in such a network.

### **BACKGROUND TO THE IDEA:**

The Association of Economics and Managers is a creative continuation of a institution inheriting its tradition. The Association of Economics and Managers continues the tradition of the Association of Economists of Montenegro founded in 1954 in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). After the breakup of Yugoslavia in 1999, the Association was pre-registered and in 2003, under The Belvedere agreement, it evolved into the non-governmental organization „Association of Economists of Montenegro” with 15 sections.

Why changing the name?

First of all, it is showed that previous organization was too rigid (it was an alliance of associations at the municipal level, i.e. alliance of institutions established at lower levels). It corresponded to the previous system in which those institutions were in a function of primarily the state and the planned economic system.

Nowadays, such professional associations in the open market economy have to be more flexible and membership in it has to be motivated by desire and interests of each individual member.

New communication technologies enable easier and faster communication between members, and what is of particular importance, freedom in providing new initiatives and proposals at every moment and not only at official sessions as it was earlier the case.

Likewise, a concept of organization based on the principles of an association enables easier participation of members outside Montenegro, which was also the reason of the change of organizational structure.

The Association, in addition to economists, also included managers in order to enhance the practical side of economic knowledge and to initiate a stronger connection of economic theory and economic practice. Likewise, the Association is also open to non-economists, which emphasizes the importance of the principle "Economics cannot be explained only by the economics!".

### **THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Development of Montenegrin economic thought based on the concept of planetary market economy - which includes transfer of modern worldwide theoretical and practical knowledge through our contribution to economic thought and consideration of local conditions in their application.

### **ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

The objective of the Association is achieved through:

- A) Principles of organization;
- B) Areas of operation;
- C) Specific activities;
- D) Intended use of the results.

## **A) Principles of the Association**

Key principles are as follows:

- 1) Membership is voluntarily – freedom of entry and exit;
- 2) Openness – anyone who wants to join, may become the member of the Association, irrespective of professional profile and work he/she is engaged in Montenegro and abroad;
- 3) Initiativeness – each member at any time may give his/hers proposal, initiative, provide information which he/she considers important to other members;
- 4) Electronic decision-making – e-mail communication and voting (not to expect traditional decision-making at sessions and meetings);
- 5) Interdisciplinarity – international connection with other similar associations, international organizations, EU institutions;
- 6) Creativity – discussions within the Association are focused on providing new ideas for the development of economic practice and economic thought and do not have a political character.

## **B) Areas of operation**

The Association would, through its organization and activities, follow the dynamics and changes in real life of Montenegrin economy as a part of planetary economy. The organization and activities are focused on:

- 1) Development issues in Montenegro from the perspective of mega-trends of the European and the global economy, as well as regional markets;
- 2) Activities in the field of stimulation the emergence and development of the domestic entrepreneurial class – particularly, development of entrepreneurship amongst the youth;
- 3) Increase of knowledge and capacity of research methodology in the field of creativity and innovation;
- 4) Development of human capital, managers and leaders;
- 5) History and development of economic thought in Montenegro;
- 6) International cooperation;
- 7) Work on projects with companies, courses and the like;

### **C) Activities**

Central annual activity of the Association is regional Miločer Development Forum, which has been organized since 1993 and is still held each September in the hotel „Maestral“ in Pržno, Miločer.

The Association will be a co-organizer of the “International Exchange for Entrepreneur's Ideas” which will continue to be organized in the honor of Europe Day on May 9.

The Association will organize Forums for different areas of discussion – by electronic means.

Representatives of the Association who coordinate certain areas will periodically hold round tables discussion. The following discussions are planned for this year:

- 1) Investments in Montenegro;
- 2) Development through clusters – especially in wine and meat industry.

Members of the Association will be regularly informed on all public discussions and public lectures at universities in Montenegro, as well as business associations. Members of the Association will mutually exchange information, materials, books, scientific and popular articles and the like.

### **D) Intended use of the results**

Results of all activities of the Association are primarily information and proposals intended for members of the Association and broader public.

The association will not adopt any conclusions on certain issues which oblige anyone, nor has the intention to interfere in activities of any institution or administrative body in Montenegro.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

Organization of the Association is determined by its objective and tasks, i.e. principles based on which the functioning of the association is established.

The Association is composed of the President, four Vice Presidents, the Secretary of the Association and the person engaged in maintaining communication in the Association.

The Presidency of the Association is composed of members from Montenegro and abroad.

The Association also has the Presidency for the specific areas that are completely autonomous in designing its plan and execution of that activity plan. Its only obligation is to inform all members of the Association on their activities. Administrative tasks for each of these areas of the Presidency are performed by the Association office.

Due to exceptional merit for the development of earlier Association of Economists of Montenegro, honorary members are also included in the activities of the Association. In honor of previous activities in the Association of Economists of Montenegro, the Association also elects the Honorary President.

The Association has its own sign and logo.

Motto of the Association, contained in the logo, is: „The Development is the Indicator of the State of the Mind!“.

The Association has its website, maintained by the personnel of the Association.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership is voluntary!

Anyone who wish to become a member should fill in the application form and send it by e-mail.

Membership is free of charge.

By the rule, Association's members pay no participation fee for conferences and round tables organized by the Association.

Materials and information distributed through the Association are free of charge.

**FINANCES:**

The Association is funded entirely by voluntary contributions, aids and donations.

Likewise, the Association can work on projects, provide consulting services and the like and in such a manner provide financial assets.

The Association, according to the Law, submits its financial reports to the relevant institution in Montenegro.

**PREMISES AND CONTACTS:**

The Association has premises at the following address: Crnogorskih serdara, Lamella C, Number 1-2, 81000 Podgorica;

Web page: [www.demcg.me](http://www.demcg.me)

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