

Original scientific article

PERCEPTION OF THE MONTENEGRIN STUDENT POPULATION ON NATO MEMBERSHIP

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SUMMARY:

At the beginning of June 2017 Montenegro has become a full member of the NATO alliance. This decision was preceded by a perennial debate about the pros and cons of such a decision that took place in the framework of the political structures, civil society, the academic community and other segments of the Montenegrin public. The public debate about the impact of the membership on the future of Montenegro took place between the two extremes in the public discourse. On one side, there was a substantiated and warranted debate between those who affirmed this decision and those who opposed it. However, to a large extent, this debate has remained in the shadow of the so-called negative campaign that was followed by a strong populist rhetoric, which has a tray in every way to challenge the arguments of the other side. This negative campaign, which presents itself on both sides, instead of using the arguments and facts, they try to gain the support by reviving the traditional historical narrative of state friends and enemies, traitors and patriots. Rather than using reasonable, logical and practical solutions, both sides in the debate played their cards on emotions and attachment of citizens that affiliate themselves to certain ideological or political programs.

We estimated that it is very important to determine the effect of such campaigns on a portion of the student population in order to determine the perception of these categories of Montenegrin citizens. We analysed the perception and

attitudes of young people through a questionnaire, which in the period from 1 to 15 May 2017, was filled in by 206 students of the University of Montenegro, mostly from the departments of Social Sciences. Of the total respondents, 19% of the students were from the Faculty of Law, 18% of the Political Sciences, 16% of the economy, 5% from the Faculty of Sciences, 14% from the Department of English, 13% of students of History, 9% Psychology and 6% of students from the Department of Teachers.

KEY WORDS:

Montenegro; Young; Perception; NATO; Russia;

SAŽETAK:

Crna Gora je početkom juna 2017. godine postala punopravna članica NATO-. Toj odluci prethodila je višegodišnja debata o pozitivnim i negativnim aspektima takve odluke koja se vodila u okviru političkih struktura, civilnog društva, akademske zajednice i drugih segmenata crnogorske javnosti. Debata o uticaju članstva u NATO, sa jedne strane je vođena kroz razmjenu argumenata onih koji su afirmisali i osporavali tu odluku. Istovremeno, na drugoj strani, vođena je negativna kampanja bez argumenata i činjenica. Negativnom kampanjom, pokušavala se dobiti podrška zasnovana na oživljavanju tradicionalnih istorijskih narativa o *državnim prijateljima i neprijateljima, izdajnicima i patriotama*. Cijenili smo da je značajno utvrditi efekat takve kampanje prema djelu studentske populacije kako bi utvrdili percepciju ove kategorije crnogorskih građana. Percepciju i stavove mladih analizirali smo preko upitnika koji je u periodu od 1. do 15. maja 2017. godine popunilo 206 studenata Univerziteta Crne Gore uglavnom sa katedri društveno-humanističkih nauka. Od ukupnog broja ispitanika, 19% studenata bilo je sa Pravnog fakulteta, 18% sa Političkih nauka, 16% sa Ekonomije, 5% sa Prirodno-matematičkog fakulteta, 14% sa katedre za Engleski jezik, 13% studenata Istorije, 9% Psihologije i 6% studenata sa katedre za Učitelje.

KLJUČNE RIJEČI:

Crna Gora; Mladi; Percepcija; NATO; Rusija;