

In virtue of Article 41a, paragraph 2 of the General Law on Education (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro” No. 64/02 and 31/05), the Government of the Republic of Montenegro adopted the Decision on Establishment of the Examination Centre of Montenegro at their session held on October 27, 2005. This Decision was published in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro” No. 68/2005. The seat of the Examination Centre is in Podgorica.

In virtue of the Article 41a of the General Law on Education, Examination Centre conducts external evaluation of achieved standards of knowledge and competences of students or candidates. Pursuant to the Article 41b, Examination Centre:

- prepares tasks, organizes and conducts examinations, in accordance with law;
- enables institutions for preparation of implementation of external examinations;
- advises and provides services for external assessment of knowledge;
- investigates and develops external assessment of pupils and students;
- performs the international comparability of the quality of the education system;
- implements international assessments;
- organizes National competition in knowledge;

In addition to activities prescribed by the law, Examination Centre conducts the following activities as well:

- makes and prepares test base and other examination materials,
- prepares and conducts pilot tests,
- makes and prints examination materials, brochures, instructions, etc.,
- keeps appropriate records of external evaluation of knowledge,
- analyses, processes and announces results of external evaluation of knowledge,
- organizes consultations in schools in order to provide expert assistance for improved enforcement of external evaluation of knowledge,
- organizes seminars, consultations, lectures being important for enforcement and improvement of external evaluation of knowledge,
- actively participates and conducts projects that serve for international comparability of education systems.

External assessment of knowledge (lower graduation) is a standardized external assessment of school achievement of students at the end of the third cycle (ninth grade) of primary education. This decision is based on the Law on Elementary Schools (Article 56). Examination Centre is responsible for the preparation of the test material, while the realization of the exam is conducted by the Examination Centre in cooperation with schools.

In addition, Examination Center conducts PISA assessment (Program for International Student Assessment) which is the largest international research in the field of education supported by the OECD. PISA provides an international comparison of the knowledge and skills of young people at the end of compulsory schooling, which also provides a picture how knowledge and skills are used in everyday situations.

Pursuant to Article 8, paragraph 45 of the Law on Montenegrin Citizenship, the Government of the Republic of Montenegro at its session of 31 July 2008 adopted the Decision on Determining the Professional Organization for establishing criteria and assessment of the knowledge of the Montenegrin language in the process of getting the Montenegrin citizenship. According to this decision, the Examination Centre establishes the criteria and assessment of knowledge of the Montenegrin language.

Pursuant to the Law on National Vocational Qualifications (Art. 22), Examination Centre implements the training program for examiners in the process of acquiring professional qualifications, according to Art. 24 of the same law, the Examination Centre shall verify the knowledge, skills and competencies for acquiring the professional qualifications. Examination Centre also maintains the record of licensed

Examination Centre and NGO "London Bridge" in collaboration with The Headmasters 'and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) from the UK are organizing competitions for scholarships for students of the second grade of secondary school, as well as for teachers. The goal of this program is to provide education and training of students in prestigious schools in the UK, improving their English and exploring the culture of that country.