**From:** Snezana Mijuskovic <snezana.mijuskovic@ombudsman.co.me>
**Sent:** 15 October 2021 09:04
**To:** OHCHR-Registry <ohchr-registry@un.org>
**Cc:** milica.kovacevic@ombudsman.co.me
**Subject:** Call for Inputs: Rights of the child & family reunification

Dear sir/madam,

Regarding your questions related to "child rights and family reunification", we provide you a short answer to the questions we considered relevant to our Institution.

Regarding the issues related to the rights of the child and family reunification, we emphasize that the Institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro did not have a large number of complaints. However, when it comes to migrants and their children, according to its mandate, the Department for the Rights of the Child, in cooperation with the NPM (National Preventive Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture), inspects the facilities where children (migrants, asylum seekers) stay, whether the established standards relating to children are being respected.

Considering that Montenegro is a kind of transit country for migrants, even irregular migrants, it requires caution of the competent authorities when classifying certain categories of migrants, and respect for domestic and international regulations and standards regarding guaranteeing the rights of migrants, and thus children.

In order to review the current treatment of migrants in Montenegro, the Protector conducted a survey that included data collection in the field, conducted by the team of the NPM, during which the Protector noted that special attention is paid to vulnerable categories including children and women and the elderly.

When we talk about detainees and their children, and the right to personal relations, which includes the wider right to home and family, we had addresses from parents who are in prison / detention, and who have not had any contact with the child for a long time, bacause that was completely banned from visiting prisons and closed institutions due to Covid-19. In such cases, the guardianship authority, establishes cooperation with the other parent and the prison administration, agrees on the mode of contact via modern technologies.

 Best regards,

**Snezana Mijuskovic**
Zamjenica Zaštitnika ljudskih prava i sloboda Crne Gore
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