VUK MARAŠ – CURRICULUM VITAE

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Main:

April 2023 – Current Executive Director

Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) - Montenegro

Main tasks and responsibilities: Coordination, supervision, and implementation of all activities of the BIRN Montenegro. Also responsible for liaison with media, international community, and other relevant stakeholders, as well as for legal representation of the Organization. Oversee development of all legal acts, analysis, and other policy documents.

Main:

2018 – April 2023 Executive Director

Media Association of South-East Europe

Main tasks and responsibilities: Coordination, supervision and implementation of all activities of the Media Association. Responsible for liaison with founders of Association – six professional media from five countries from the Western Balkans region. Also responsible for liaison with media, international community and other relevant stakeholders, as well as for legal representation of the Association. Oversee development of all legal acts, analysis and other policy documents.

Consultancies:

2019 – March 2020 Lead Researcher

Freedom House

Main tasks and responsibilities: Author of the Nations in Transit 2020 Montenegro report. Responsible for the data collection, analysis and reporting on key developments in Montenegro related to the rule of law, democracy development, reforms and human rights and freedoms.

2018 – April 2023 Lead consultant

- 1. Daily Press LTD (Daily and Portal Vijesti)
- 2. Television Vijesti
- 3. Association of Professional Journalists to Montenegro

2019 – March 2022 4. Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN Hub) consultant for Montenegro on the

Media for All project

Main tasks and responsibilities: Organizational development; Project management – development, implementation and reporting; Implementation of the internal procedures, donor requirements and legislation; Policy development and advocacy related to media legislation.

2008 – 2018 Monitoring, Research and Analytics Program Director,

The Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector – MANS, Montenegro.

Main tasks and responsibilities: Coordination and development of the organizational units within the program: (1) monitoring of implementation of legislation, policies and work of institutions and (2) research and analytics. Specialized in Freedom of Information, watchdog of the National Parliament; conflict of interest; public procurements. Extensive experience in development of various monitoring reports and policy products; Development of the program components and internal procedures; Advocacy, public and media relations and media analysis; Relations with the National Parliament and its members as well as Parliaments and MPs from other countries including GOPAC; Relations with the Government and its members; Relations with other stakeholders from three branches of power and international community; Drafting legislation proposals and amendments to the various legislation proposals; Donor liaison; Drafting and submission of initiatives and cases in front of the National Parliament, the Government and other institutions. Supervised, coordinated and implemented over 30 regional and national projects worth in total several million Euros. In depth experience in drafting project proposals, implementation, reporting and donor procedures for the most complicated projects, including those funded by the EU, USA and UN.

2012 – 2016 Member of the Board of Directors

Freedom, Legality and Rights in Europe (FLARE) Network – International Network of Civil Society Organizations for the Social Struggle Against Transnational Organized Crime

Main tasks and responsibilities: Appointed as MANS' representative. Board was in charged for development of the Strategic Plan of FLARE, Projects verification, development of the specific annual action plans and evaluation of the performance of the President and Secretariat.

2007 - 2008 Parliamentarian Programme Coordinator,

The Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector – MANS, Montenegro.

Main tasks and responsibilities: Coordination of watchdog initiative in the National Parliament; Coordination of preparation of regional anti-corruption policies analysis based on relevant international research papers; Relations with the National Parliament and Members of the Parliament; Public relations on programmes issues; Creation of researches, analysis and reports; Cooperation with donors.

2006 - 2007 Assisant for free access to information,

The Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector – MANS, Montenegro.

Main tasks and responsibilities: Submission of free access to information requests to state institutions and appeals to the Administrative court; Maintainance of the FOI-a database and internet presentation section; In charged for direct insight into approved information; Preparation of statistical data regarding implementation of FOI Law.

2006 – 2022 Consultant and guest lecturer for 20+ organization in the Western Balkans region.

SELECTION OF PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS, TRAININGS AND WORKING GROUPS:

- 2022 Member of the Government's Working Group for the development of the three media laws.
- 2021 Member of the Government's Working Group for the development of the Media Strategy and Action Plan 2021 2025
- 2019 Member of the Government's Working Group for development of the new Law on Electronic Media
- 2018 Media Sustainability and Sucessful Media Business Models, Podgorica, Montenegro
- 2018 EU Western Balkan Media Days, Skopje Macedonia
- 2017 Member of the Working Group for Chapter 23 for the Montenegrin EU Accession Negotiations
- 2016 Member of the Government's Working Group for the development of the Public Procurement Law
- 2016 Member of the Coordination Body for Implementation of the Public Procurement Strategy 2016 2020
- 2016 Member of the Coordination Body for Monitoring of the Election Process of the Ministry of Interior
- 2016 Participator in the Parliamentary Committee on implementation of election-related legislation
- 2015 Annual OGP Summit, Mexico City
- 2015 Member of the Working Group for Parliamentary Dialogue on Election Issues
- 2015 Member of the Third Government's Operative Team for Open Government Partnership.
- 2015 Member of the Government's Working Group for the Development of the Public Procurement Strategy 2016-2020
- 2015 Member of the Second Government's Operative Team for Open Government Partnership.
- 2014 Member of the Parliament's Working Group to develop Law on Financing Political Subjects.
- 2014 Member of the Government's Task Force to develop draft Law on Prevention of Corruption.
- 2014 Global Conference on Free and Fair Elections organized by the EU and UNDP, Aman, Jordan.
- 2013 Member of the Parliament's Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process.
- 2013 Policy structure training organized by the German Council on Foreign Relation (DGAP) in Zagreb, Croatia.
- 2013 Policy methodology training organized by the German Council on Foreign Relation (DGAP) in Berlin, Germany.
- 2013 Policy methodology training organized by the International Centre for Policy Advocacy in Budva, Montenegro.
- 2013 Study visit on public procurement to Slovak Republic.
- 2012 Member of the Government's working group to develop Law on Financing Political Subjects.
- 2012 Member of Government's Council for Monitoring of Implementation of National Open Government Partnership Action Plan.
- 2011 Member of the special working group established by the Government of Montenegro and the US Embassy to develop National Action Plan for the Open Government Partnership Program for Montenegro.
- 2011 Study visit to Germany on Free Access to Information legislation implementation organized by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and Government of Montenegro, Berlin, Germany.
- 2011 Parliament Oversight and Politics training organized by Nansen Academy, Lillehammer and Oslo, Norway.
- 2011 What future for Democracy and Civil Society conference organized by Open Society Institute, Yerevan, Armenia.
- 2011 Member of the Government's working group to develop Innovated Action Plan for Fight Against Corruption and Organized Crime.
- 2011 Member of the Government's working group to develop Law on Free Access to Information.
- 2011 Member of the Government's working group to develop Law on Financing of Political Parties.

- 2010 Member of the Government's working group to develop National Strategy for Fight Against Corruption and Organized Crime.
- 2010 International Visitors Leadership Programme three weeks study visit in the US regarding transparency and prevention of conflict of interests, organized by the Department of State, Washington, USA.
- Training of Trainers, special training for certification of the trainers for civil servants, organized by Directorate for Human Resource Management and Regional School for Public Administration (ReSPA), Danilovgrad, Montenegro.
- 2009 Anti-mafia regional conference, organized by FLARE international network in Bari, Italy.
- 2008 Lecturer at MANS's School for Active Society.
- 2008 Accession of the Balkan Countries to the European Union, by EU Commission Brussels, Belgium.
- 2008 European future of the Western Balkans The Role of Young Leaders, by Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence Belgrade, Serbia.
- 2008 Democratic Leadership School consisted of 5 modules:
 - Summer University in Strasbourg, annual conference organized by Council of Europe Strasbourg, France.
 - Fight Against Corruption, Inter-ethnic Dialogue and Political System, by Nansen Humanistic Academy -Lillehammer, Norway.
 - European Integration and Gender Equality Conference Budva, Montenegro.
 - Public Policies Creation, by National Democratic Institute for Foreign Affairs Petrovac, Montenegro.
 - Security, Defence and Money Flows, expert visits to Montenegrin state institutions Podgorica, Montenegro.
- 2007 Regional Cooperation and Accession Process to EU, by European Commission Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2006 Transformation of the Balkans on the Road to European Union, by Czech Council on Foreign Relations Prague, Czech Republic.
- 2006 Best practices in Implementation of Law on Free Access to Information, by OSCE Spillover Mission Macedonia and OSCE Media Center from Vienna Skopje, Macedonia.
- 2006 Implementation of the Law on Free Access to Information in Eastern Europe, by PILI organization from Hungary Belgrade, Serbia.

EDUCATION:

Current MA studies in European Economic Integrations, Economic Faculty, University of Montenegro.

2009 Proficiency English language training - C2 level certificated, Hampstead School of English, London, UK.

2004 - 2010 BSc - Economy Faculty, University of Montenegro.

2007 Bulgarian School of Politics, specialization in political management, 3 modules special studies held in

Skopje, Macedonia; Zagreb, Croatia and Sofia, Bulgaria.

2003 Advanced Intensive English language training programme, Lan Tech Training Center. London, UK.

PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS:

- Author of the Media Ownership Monitor Montenegro, published by GMR and BIRN in December 2023.
- Author of the Study on Foreign Ownership in Media, published by the Centre for Democratic Transition in February 2023.
- Author of the Policy Brief on Media Professionalisation in Montenegro, published by the Digital Forensic Centre in December 2022.
- Contributor to the Illicit Financial Flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, report published by the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime in January 2022.
- Editor of the Analysis of the Media Industry in Montenegro for 2019, published by the Media Association of South-East Europe in September 2020.
- Co-author of the Nations in Transit 2020 Report for Montenegro (Freedom House), published in 2020.
- Co-author of three Reports on Implementation of the Action Plan for the Chapter 23 of the Acquis in Montenegro, published in March, October and December 2017.
- Co-author of the Report on Parliamentary Elections in Montenegro, published in December 2016.
- Author of the Analysis on Implementation of the Public Procurement Law in Montenegro, published in September 2016.
- Co-author of the National Integrity System Assessment of Montenegro, published in August 2016
- Co-author of Publication Implementation of Election Legislation at Local 2014 Elections, published in November 2014.
- Author of the "Report on Operations of the Anticorruption Committee" published in October 2014.
- Co-author of policy paper "Building Trust in the Election Process in Montenegro" published in December 2013.
- Co-author of baseline survey analysis dedicated to public procurement in Montenegro published in November 2013.
- Co-author of policy brief "Winning Elections in Montenegro" published in October 2013.
- Co-author of "Report on Types of Electoral Misuses of Voter Lists and Inspection Supervision" published in June 2013.
- Co author of "Report on Types of Electoral Misuses of Public Funds" published in June 2013.
- Co-author of "Report on the Misuse of State Resources and Public Authorities in the 2012 Parliamentary Election Campaign" published in November 2012.
- Co-author of analysis of Anti-corruption reforms in Montenegro "Tackling Corruption for EU Integration IV" published in March 2012.

- Co-author of "Behind the Statistics" bi lingual publication on final judicial verdicts for corruption and organized crime and on anti-corruption reform in Montenegro published in 2011.
- "Comparative Analysis of Parliaments' Oversight in Defence and Security Area" published in 2011.
- "Comparative Analysis of Civic Participation in Parliaments' Operations", published in 2010.
- Co-author of "Serving private interests", bi lingual publication on adoption and enforcement of the Law on Prevention of the Conflict of Interest, published in 2009.
- "Report on financing presidential electoral campaign in 2008 in Montenegro" published in 2008.
- "Report on financing regular work of political parties in Montenegro for 2007" published in 2008.
- "Comparative analysis on cooperation of National Parliaments in Balkan Countries with citizens" published in 2008.
- "Research on cost of broadcasts of National Parliament sessions on Public Broadcasting Channel" published in 2008.
- "Transparency and activity of Montenegrin Parliament in 2007" bi lingual publication on work of the National Parliament of Montenegro, published in 2007.
- Various, common, bi-lingual narrative reports for the general public and media related to the National Parliament, Freefom of Information, etc.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES (SCALE 1-5, 1=BAD, 5=EXCELLENT):

English	5-writing	5-speaking	5-reading
Italian	3-writing	3-speaking	4-reading

OTHER SKILLS:

Proficient in computer technologies regarding office responsibilities, including office programs, internet browsers, e-mail clients and field related programs. Possesses "B" driver's license.

REFERENCES:

Various domestic and international references available upon request.