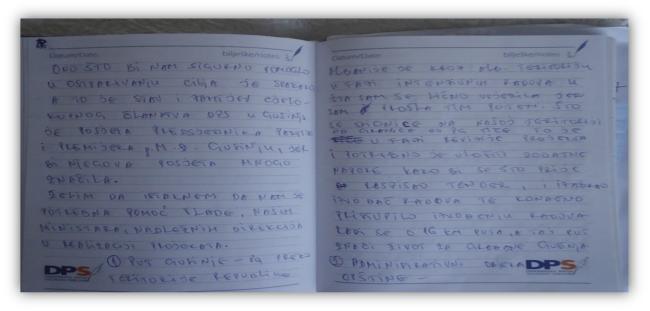
CASE STUDY: A DPS OFFICIAL'S JOURNAL ON VOTE BUYING

I: INTRODUCTION: A few days before the parliamentary elections on 16 October 2016, the Montenegrin media published excerpts from the journal of a prominent member of the ruling Democratic Party of Socialists, the head of the Municipality of Gusinje Anela Cekic. The journal reveals some of the instruments of buying citizens' votes during the election campaign, such as employment, cash payments or providing loans.

II: DPS METHODS TO ACQUIRE VOTES IN ELECTIONS: The journal of the mayor of Gusinje was published in the daily "Dan" four days before the parliamentary elections, and it mentions some of the activities that the party implemented on the territory of Gusinje during the elections.¹

One of the activities mentioned in the journal concerns. With regard to that, it says that the Chairman of the Municipal Committee of the Democratic Party of Socialists of Rozaje Becir Kalac should contact employees of the Montenegro Post, while the prime minister's adviser Miodrag Radunovic should contact employees of the Tax Administration in order to make pressure on them vote for that party. Also, the records from the Anela Cekic's journal point out that it is necessary to contact the owners of bookmakers, retail stores and pastry shops, so that they could talk to their employees, while schools will the schools will strictly employ along the party line. The journal contains the names of those persons as well.



Excerpt from Anela Cekic's Journal

The journal further reports that it is planned that the families of convicts should be promised that they would be released if they entrusted their votes to the Democratic Party of Socialists. Moreover, Gusinje should be visit by the ministers from the ruling party to promise money for agricultural projects.

¹ Article of the daily "Dan", "Zapošljavati strogo partijski" (*Employ strictly along party lines*) dated 12 October 2016

 $[\]frac{http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/zaposljavati-strogo-partijski-studente-placati-30-eura-na-kosovu-pritiskajte-preko-ambasade-907155$

According to the journal, employees in the Embassy of Montenegro in Kosovo should push some voters to support the Democratic Party of Socialists, and that, with the mediation of a party member Sasa Pesic, who is the director of the Electric Power Distribution, the voters of the party should have utility poles installed.

The mayor also recorded that the Democratic Party of Socialists had 460 votes in Gusinje, while in the second estimates that number increased to 523. The journal also provides the list of people living abroad and have the right to in Gusinje, who should come to Montenegro right before the election.

The votes from the diaspora were paid €250 each to come to vote, with the exception of the voters

from Slovenia, who were supposed to get €200.



Gusinje

Furthermore, the journal states that the Association of Pensioners in Gusinje has 250 members, of whom 90 percent of the votes should be provide. According to the projection, to achieve that, postal voting should be enabled for 50 percent of them.



List of Gusinje students studying in Montenegro

Among the documents, there is a list of 43 students from Gusinje studying in Montenegro. The list contains the places of studies, as well as the amount of €30, which will be paid as travel expenses to each who comes to support the Democratic Party of Socialists.

It is interesting that Anela Cekic writes in her journal that one of the local inhabitants should get a heifer from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, with the attached decision that he has been entered in the register of the Ministry. The diary further states

that the Ministry paid €20,000.

Author: MANS Investigation Center Podgorica, October 2016