

Those who until recently declared their love for Montenegro, now express the same patriotism through lawsuits against citizens, ie. the state. Namely, we have once again witnessed an attack on the citizens of Montenegro, this time through lawsuits filed by potential investors in small hydropower plants (SHPP) with the Commercial Court against the state. It is a reaction to the annulment of the concession agreement by the Government, which envisaged the construction of several small hydroelectric power plants.

The announced lawsuits are an additional confirmation of the claims that are already well known to the Montenegrin public - only investors directly benefit from the construction of small hydroelectric power plants, while the state and citizens suffer multimillion damages and are left with only destroyed rivers and disturbed environment. The country is currently in a severe economic, social and health crisis, and it is to be expected that these problems will only deepen because this year will also be marked by the fight against the pandemic. "Precisely because of justified doubts that the construction of small hydropower plants has nothing to do with energy production and sustainable development, but exclusively with the private interests of selected individuals, to the detriment of the environment as a public good, we submitted an initiative to the Constitutional Court last year to review the constitutionality of small energy production. hydroelectric power plant. This was also confirmed by studies on the economic and socio-economic justification of the incentive system prepared by leading domestic and regional experts. Apart from doubts about the fairness of the provisions of the Law on Energy on Incentives, it is clear that the implementation of these projects violates the human rights of local communities, which bear the greatest burden of their construction, and deprives them of the right to decide on their own future. announced from the organizations Eko-tim and WWF Adria.

Although it is up to the relevant courts to decide on the justification of the announced lawsuits, the answer to the question about their moral correctness will be brought by the citizens of Montenegro.

"Also, what is very important to emphasize is that SHP projects have never proven the public interest, which is the basis for granting concessions and performing concession activities," point out the organizations Eko-tim and WWF Adria.

At this moment, when the country is facing many challenges, it is necessary for the Government to take a firm stand on this and many other similar issues and protect the interests of all citizens of our country. We need bold and courageous decisions, such as those to terminate contracts for small hydropower plants, which will have a long-term impact on the democratization of society, chart a path to a sustainable future and build a country where justice and fairness are embedded as its core values.



Citizens of Montenegro in court due to the greed of untried SHPP investors

Source: ecoteam.me