

CIVIC MOVEMENT



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Građanski pokret URA



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Dritan Abazović

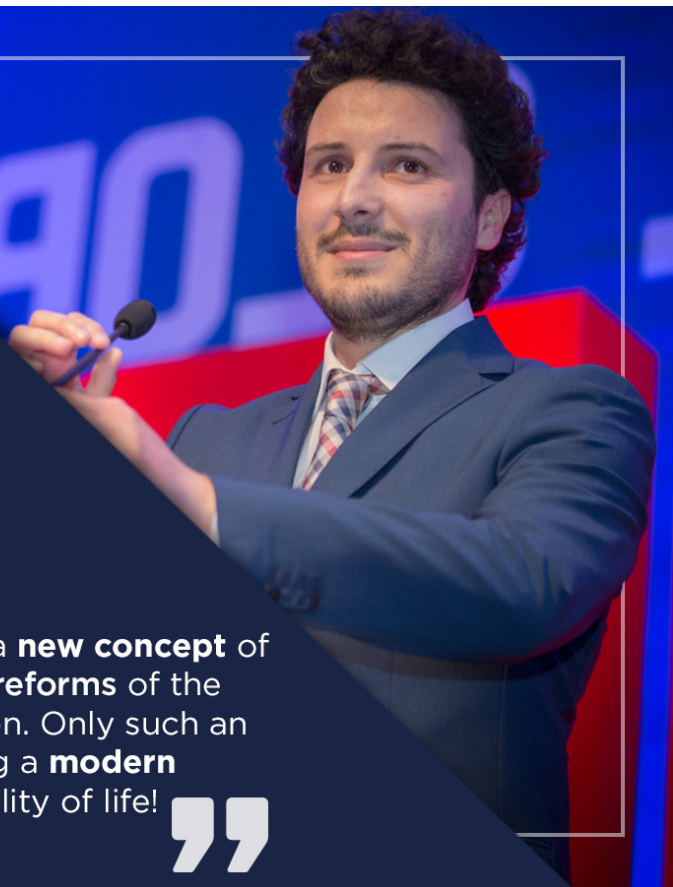
Predsjednik Građanskog pokreta URA

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Our policy is clear!

The shift of government and a **new concept** of governance based on capital **reforms** of the economy, health and education. Only such an approach leads to the building a **modern** European state, with **high** quality of life!

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Who is URA?

URA is a new, pro-European political party which was created as a response from free individuals to the difficult political and economic situation in Montenegro, desiring to finally see democratic change and Montenegro standing among modern European countries with high standards of living.

When were we founded?

Civic Movement United Reform Action (GP URA) is a political party in Montenegro founded on March 14, 2015 which won parliamentary status in the 2016 elections. GP URA describes itself as a reformist civic movement of the centre left, driven by a social liberal political ideology.

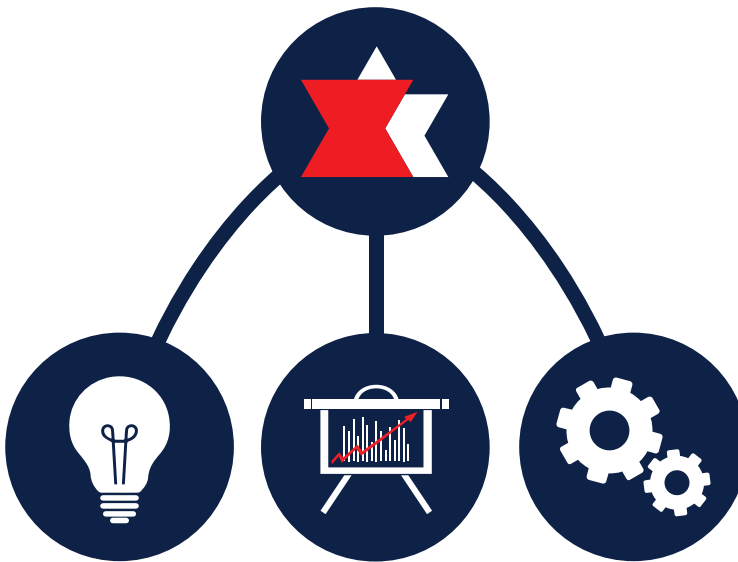
URA's first president was Zarko Rakcevic, who led the party since its founding. At the party's second congress of April 9, 2017, Dritan Abazovic, a member of a minority group, was elected president – the first case of a minority being elected leader of a party with a civic profile in Montenegrin history.

What kind of country do we want?

We want a civic, European, Euro-Atlantic, anti-fascist, enlightened, and modern Montenegrin state established upon the universal civilising values of contemporary society.

Civic Movement URA's mission

Our mission is to implement the reforms necessary in Montenegro to build a modern and prosperous society, and a state based on social justice. A shift in economic policy is needed. Reform is necessary in the country's health and education systems – the basic pillars of development of every modern nation. We are fighting for a community of free citizens and a society led by a responsible and ethical government, under control. We want to make our contribution to transforming into reality the idea of a humane and democratic society of equal opportunity and solidarity. We adhere firmly to the concepts of a constitutional state, the secular community, rule of law, civil society, and a creative and market economy. We are committed to the idea that state progress is based on the principles of sustainable development, environmental protection, and a green economy.



URA's foreign policy goals

URA's foreign policy is clear-cut:

- Montenegro a member of the European Union
- Montenegro a member of the NATO alliance
- Montenegro committed to regional cooperation and good neighbour relations
- Montenegro in friendly relations with all countries of the world

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key goals we are striving to achieve

Civic state

The citizen is the formal and essential bearer of political sovereignty and a key factor of a humane, democratic, and free society.

An internationally recognized and sovereign state of Montenegro founded upon a democratic and secular society is the foundation of our policy. Our platform objectives include the continuous avowal of universal human and civil rights, and the protection of individual and collective freedoms. We are committed to protecting the identity of minority groups, as well as their political assertion through the principles of electoral affirmative action.

Euro-Atlantic values

Our foreign policy goals are clear. After joining NATO, Montenegro must become a member of the European Union as soon as possible. Commitment to these political processes is for us unquestionable and there is no alternative.

Accepting Euro-Atlantic values in the fields of politics, law, economy, security, and the protection of green spaces and the environment is the bedrock of our platform.

Democratic and peaceful change of government

Our goal is a democratic and peaceful change of government. Montenegrin politics and elections are burdened with corruption, immature democracy, and political constraints. Notwithstanding, we will persist in building a political system which puts the free and responsible citizen at its core. Our goal is electoral reform which enables lasting democratic and fair elections, and political competition. Professional posts must be contingent upon knowledge and abilities rather than party affiliation.

Finally, we are convinced that without a periodic change of government, a consolidated democracy and free society is impossible.

Rule of law

Strengthening rule of law and the independence of institutions is the basis for an uncompromising fight against crime and corruption, particularly with high corruption.

Equality for all People, Cultures, and Religions

We are committed to a secular state in which people of equal standing and religions live freely. Montenegro is a multi-ethnic and multi-confessional national community, and we consider this its characterising advantage and the foundation of its social colour. We are committed to a society in which all collective identities may develop and are respected. We have no state in reserve, and therefore Montenegro is above all considered the homeland of all of its citizens, regardless of their personal characteristics, or national, religious, and cultural affiliations.

A new model of economic development

A radical shift in economic policy and a new model of economic development is necessary if we are to depart from the dominance of privileged partners and squanderers towards a realistic economy and people who create and give work to others. URA has presented the public with a comprehensive plan – **ECONOMIC PROGRAM – JOBS FOR ALL** – which includes numerous measures to improve the economic environment.

A frugal, rational, and efficient government

Our state and local communities are costly, irrational, and financially unsustainable. Our policy will be directed towards reforming state and local administrations, reducing the number of employees in the public sector, and consolidating the government and Parliament, with the aim of creating a functional, capable, and efficient state apparatus.

Modern political system

- We will adapt the political system to the needs of a modern society. To improve the democratic environment:
 - We will enable open electoral lists in parliamentary and local elections in order to promote direct democracy. With this, we will eradicate the concept of a party state and increase the responsibility of elected councillors and MPs;
 - We will bring back the system of direct voting for mayors in all municipalities, and including the capital city;
- At least one third of every electoral list must be women, and another third must be citizens under the age of 35.
- We will introduce youth quotas and increase existing quotas for women in electoral lists.



Sustainable Development

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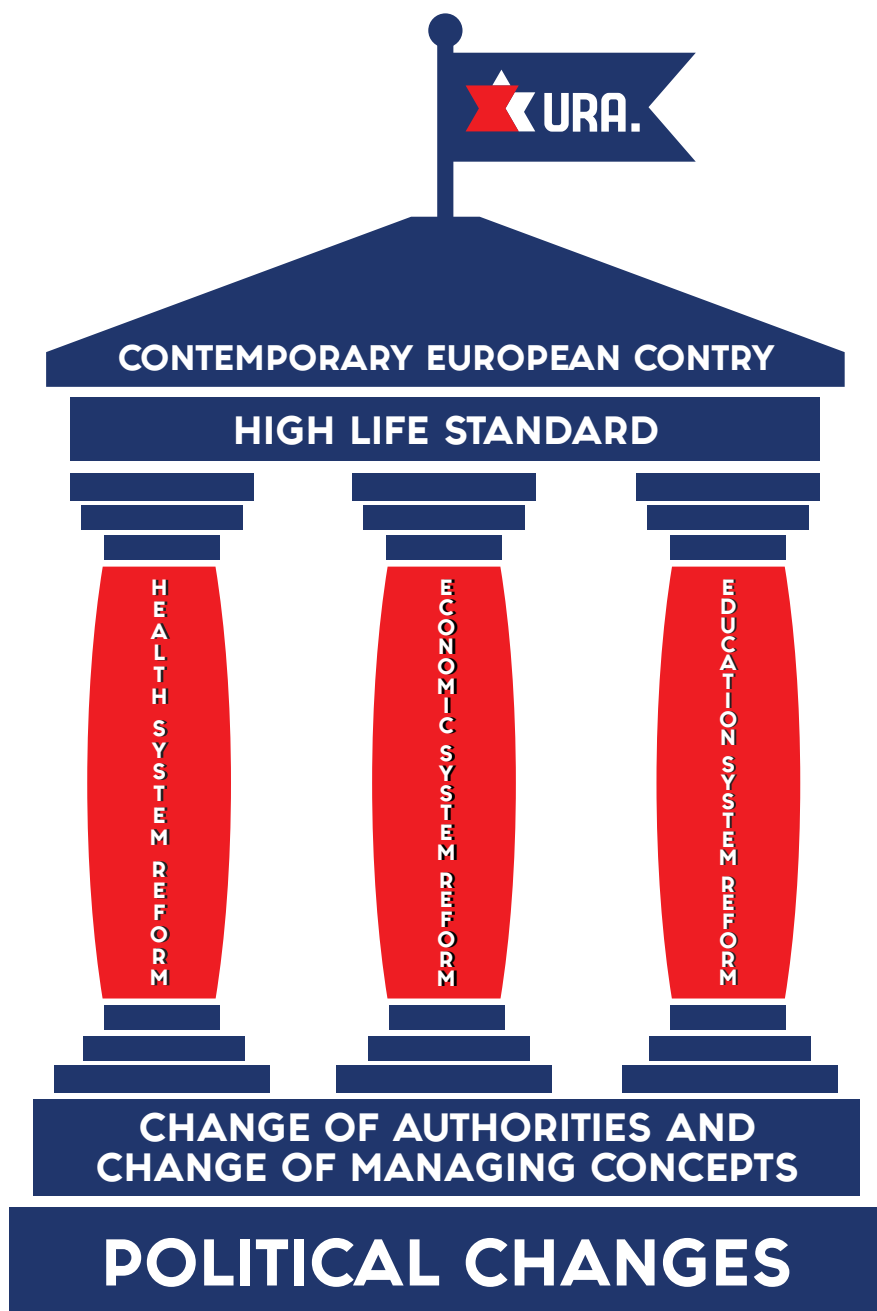
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Balanced regional development

Reducing the gap between the increasingly poorer north and the rest of Montenegro must be achieved through consistent implementation of a regional development policy. Instead of the empty rhetoric aired by the current administration, we will take into account the disparities in territorial development in all sector policies, and will implement multiple activities towards their elimination.



**OUR POLICY STANDS UPON THREE FUNDAMENTAL PILLARS:
THE ECONOMY, HEALTH, AND EDUCATION!**



WE HAVE OFFERED IDEAS FOR MONTENEGRO THROUGH THREE PROGRAMS:

**ECONOMIC PROGRAM – IDEAS FOR MONTENEGRO - JOBS FOR ALL!
HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM – HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!
EDUCATION SYSTEM REFORM – EDUCATION FOR ALL!**

REFORM OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM – JOBS FOR ALL!

Through its political engagement, URA Civic Movement is fighting for a democratic environment, comprehensive rule of law, and independent, and strong institutions as prerequisites for building Montenegro into an economically viable and prosperous state. Our vision of Montenegro is that of a country of prosperous and satisfied citizens with a functional economy of long-term sustainability and based upon the development of a free market, entrepreneurship, economic knowledge and innovation, with strong corrective social mechanisms and an efficient public administration, capable of integrating into the EU's single economic space. URA Civic Movement sees Montenegro as a knowledge-based society and economy, with healthy economic initiatives and where the state plays the role of an active economic manager to secure economic prosperity.



Our vision is of a modern and economically prosperous Montenegro, a country of thriving and satisfied citizens, based upon:

- principles of sustainable development, environmental protection and a green economy;
- a knowledge economy, innovation, an educated and economically viable community capable of long-term development and progress;
- a responsible economy preventing public debt growth and further borrowing to settle its current liabilities;
- a free market of equal opportunity for all companies and entrepreneurs made possible by clear conditions for healthy competition;
- respect of employee rights and which creates conditions for people to work and to be able to live from their work;
- a legal, solidary and just state which cares for and protects all of its citizens, not just a small number of privileged individuals;

HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM – HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!

Reforming the health system, along with the economic, financial and education systems, is a prerequisite to Montenegro's advancement and a higher standard of living for citizens. Civic Movement URA offers a program of health system reform, a priority in our work.

The responsible society in which we wish to live is created and based primarily upon strong systems of health and education, and their related services. While education is the cornerstone of every future, health is the foundation of the present. URA considers access to healthcare a requirement as well as a goal, without which there can be neither economic, political, nor any other form of development.

The healthcare system that we in Civic Movement URA wish to build is based on four key principles, and these are: responsibility, compassion, efficiency, and financial sustainability. The healthcare system must be safe, accessible, free, and of high quality for all citizens. Healthcare projects in Montenegro represent 4.80% of GDP and as such are the smallest in Europe. Montenegrin citizens, despite having general health insurance, pay over 40% of their healthcare needs out of pocket, or about 100 million euros a year.



Our doctors are the lowest paid among all other European countries. Average earnings of employees in the public healthcare sector best represent the attitude of the ruling elite to these workers, the problems they face in their work, and ultimately the health and life of the citizens of Montenegro. As a result, the outflow of Montenegro's best physicians to other countries is very high, while young medics are facing limited admission and access to further training.

We pledge to depoliticise Montenegro's health system in a manner that recognises knowledge and work effort above all else. Expertise, knowledge, and experience must be the only references for performing responsible functions in the system. True health system reform is impossible without complete depoliticisation and a staff free from political influence.

There is no doubt that Montenegro's health system must undergo profound and comprehensive reform. Of course, this is impossible without political and economic changes. The system of sector reforms is interconnected and therefore our overarching need is a stronger and more resilient economy. Nevertheless, it is possible to make small but concrete changes towards implementing the above ideas.



EDUCATION SYSTEM REFORM – EDUCATION FOR ALL!

URA is committed to Montenegro becoming a knowledge society.

In the development of a civic, humane, just, and economically stable state, education must play a pivotal role inasmuch as society must be founded upon knowledge. As a fundamental pillar, education must undergo complete reform and profound transformation. Reform of the education system must move in three directions: better quality teaching staff, better equipped schools, and more functional school curricula.

The education system must be decentralised, transparent, depoliticised, and effective. Special attention must be paid to modernizing teaching methods to ensure these are in step with current trends, and keep pace with the digitalization of knowledge. Harmonising theoretical instruction with practical knowledge is also important, as this is the only way we can respond to the actual needs of the labour market.

Models of good practice already exist from which we can draw possible solutions applicable to our circumstances, and which can ultimately improve our education system. A society based on science and knowledge is a society that strives for prosperity and a better life for every citizen.

URA will give extra attention to the subject of education and to increasing financial resources towards these ends.

URA remains dedicated to the work of implementing essential reforms in order that Montenegrin society may become developed and prosperous, and citizens may live a life worthy of man.