



Curuvija Foundation in Serbia

Australian Embassy has supported the project on media freedom conducted by the “Curuvija Foundation” in Serbia. The project- establishing the website to deal with censorship and self-censorship cases called “Cenzolovka” was launched at the press conference on 29 July.

Ambassador to Serbia, HE Julia Feeney said that the freedom of expression and opinion allows for a multitude of voices and views, both supportive and critical of government policy, to be heard and engages the general population in decision making- contributing to an active democratic society.

An environment that promotes and supports quality investigative journalism, along with transparency of ownership allows for the media to play an effective role as a “watchdog for democracy’. This is the case in Australia and must be aspired to in Serbia.

Former Australian Minister and MP, Bob McMullan, also took part at the press conference sharing his professional experience and views on the role of media in a democratic society. McMullan pointed out the necessity of cooperation between media and the government which in his experience was a mutually beneficial relationship.

Mr. Zoran Sekulic, Editor in Chief and Director of Fonet news agency, Mr. Djordje Vlajic, Editor in Chief of 1st program of Radio Belgrade also talked about the current state of media in Serbia referring to the latest set of media laws which are about to be adopted by the Parliament and hopefully will bring some improvement to the media scene.

Executive Director of the “Curuvija Foundation”, Ilir Gasi, thanked the embassy for its support and said that public pressure and raised citizens’ expectations are some of the ways to improve the quality work of contemporary media in Serbia.

