

European Commission presents Montenegro with a questionnaire to assess the country's application to join the EU

PODGORICA, July 22, 2009 –At a ceremony in Podgorica, European Commissioner



for Enlargement Olli Rehn handed over to Prime Minister Djukanovic a questionnaire necessary to prepare an assessment of the country's readiness to fulfil EU membership obligations. The responses provided by the Montenegrin authorities will serve as a basis for the Commission to prepare an opinion the application for EU membership presented by

Montenegro in December 2008. "Today's handing over of the questionnaire is yet another milestone on Montenegro's European path. I think that Montenegro is a very good example of a small country succeeding in European integration ", Commissioner Rehn said.

The questionnaire consists of 2,178 questions on 368 pages. The questions relate to all segments of the European legal framework and the Copenhagen criteria for EU membership. The questionnaire attaches particular importance to the political criteria. Good governance, the rule of law, judiciary reform, the fight against corruption, media freedom – these are all key issues which will form the core of our assessment.

The European Commission's opinion on the county's readiness to become a candidate country will be presented to the EU Council of Ministers who will take a decision.