



**MONTENEGRO**  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration**  
**Directorate General for Consular Affairs**

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro present compliments to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations and has the honor to notify that Montenegro has as of recently learned that Norwegian company "Spectrum" carried out geological-seismic explorations in the disputed area of the Adriatic seabed south of azimuth 231 from September 2013 to January 2014, while neither the Republic of Croatia as the party that commissioned the exploration, nor "Spectrum", as the contracted company, had informed Montenegrin on the activities thereof.

Montenegro, under given circumstances, uses its right based on respective UNCLOS provisions, to inform that we have expressed our regret and lodged official protest to the Republic of Croatia against this unilateral act, and informed accordingly The Government of Norway and Norwegian company "Spectrum", which has undertaken the above said explorations. We use this opportunity to express our disagreement with any new future unilateral acts committed by the Republic of Croatia and by any "third subject" in contravention of the Protocol on the Interim Regime between Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia signed in 2002, that remains in use and in force until the final delimitation of the border at sea and on land between Montenegro and the Republic of Croatia.

We further inform that the Republic of Croatia has subsequently used the data obtained by "Spectrum's", geological-seismic scanning and surveillance to carry out its first bidding procedure in April 2014, when it provided these data together with documentation and graphic presentations needed for licensing exploration and exploitation of carbohydrates in the area south of azimuth 231, claimed by Montenegro, continuing thus breaching the international law and the Protocol on the Interim Regime.

Montenegro reminds that respective UNCLOS provisions oblige all sides involved in territorial disputes, especially relating delimitation of the sea and seabed in epi-continental belt, to search for mutually acceptable interim provisional arrangements, as the best instrument to avoid escalation of the dispute.

Considering that the Republic of Croatia, with assistance of "Spectrum", committed unilateral act in violation of international law and Protocol on the Interim Regime by conducting geological and seismic exploration in the period quoted above, we use this opportunity to inform United Nations that we have requested Republic of Croatia, and the Norwegian company, to submit the originals of seismic imagery with processed and interpreted data related to the area south of azimuth 231 that were given to potential concessioners through Croatian national "Data Room" without our consent.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integrations of Montenegro avails of this opportunity to renew to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations the assurances of its highest appreciation.

Podgorica, 01. December 2014

**Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea**  
**NEW YORK**

