



November 18th, 2025

An open letter to the Government of Montenegro regarding the proposed law on foreigners

To whom it may concern,

My name is Chris and I'm a German entrepreneur running a Gastronomy business and Coworking space called Montenegro Tower. For the last four years, I have been working very hard to renovate an old stone house and make it available for the public to enjoy the views here on the hills of Pečurice. Running a Gastronomy business is rough at the start without external investors and I will struggle from the new rule of hiring three workers due to lack of funds.

I can understand the motivation behind the new laws, Montenegro strives to join the EU and that naturally comes with a lot of changes. Fighting against ghost companies with just a director and no real profit or loss movements also makes sense. But the new law would not only punish those ghost companies, but also "real" companies such as my own business along many others that do not require more workforce due to the nature of their business, i.e. online consulting, small local shops that would have no physical space even to employ additional workers.

Here are some thoughts that I would like to share for your consideration

- 1) Fine-tune the rules so they better target ghost companies and avoid hurting legitimate businesses. For example, introduce exemptions for companies above a certain level of revenue or investment and certain types of businesses with obviously real operations and assets.
- 2) Impose an extra tax or administration fee for ghost companies that do not actually run a business. Expats just want to be able to stay in the country on a permanent basis and would probably be willing to pay a bit extra for it without the need of hiring more staff.
- 3) A big question remains regarding the duration of employment for the three full-time workers. Would they have to be employed for 12 months or only during the 4 months tourist season if the business is catering tourists mostly.

Hopefully this feedback is of value.

With best wishes,

Chris from the Montenegro Tower