

## Tele-Montenegro, from Brain Drain to Brain Gain

Montenegro's Ministry of Science establishes "Tele-Montenegro" in cooperation with The Millennium Project. Tele-Montenegro will connect Montenegrins working outside the country to the development process back home.

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Many developing countries and those in economic transition like Montenegro have suffered from the "brain drain" phenomenon. "There are more Montenegrins living outside of the country than living in the country," says Milan Maric, Director of [S&T Group in Montenegro](#) and Co-Chair of the [Millennium Project Node](#) in Montenegro. "Countless conferences, papers, and programs have tried to keep talent from leaving countries like ours and tried to get those who have left to return, but with little success." The Ministry of Science has initiated the "Tele-Montenegro" website in cooperation with The Millennium Project to connect Montenegrins outside the county with development needs in Montenegro. "It's a little bit like computer dating," said Dr. Sanja Vlahovic, Minister of Science, and co-Chair of the Montenegrin Node of The Millennium Project. "People in Montenegro can go to the Tele-Montenegro website and enter their needs – help in business planning, grading papers or tele-teaching, overseas representatives, etc., and Montenegrins outside the country can enter what skills they can offer and search for those who would like assistance from outside the country."



The tele-nation concept was proposed in 1997, in the first of 16 annual [State of the Future](#) reports produced by The Millennium Project to help address the brain drain problem and reduce economic development gaps.

The [Millennium Project](#) is a global participatory think tank with 46 Nodes around the world. Montenegro is one of the newest Nodes of the Project. These Nodes identify thought leaders, scholars, and business planners who can participate in global futures research and make the results available to the people in their countries. They initiate projects like Tele-Montenegro with the support of The Millennium Project system of Nodes around the world. Each year, The Millennium Project updates and improves insights and strategies to help build a better future for all.

The Ministry of Science brought Jerome Glenn, the Project's CEO, and José Cordeiro, Chairman of The Millennium Project Node in Venezuela to Montenegro to speak at "Millennium Project Day" during the annual national [Science Days events of the Ministry of Science](#). They presented the [2012 State of the Future](#) and trained the core team developing Tele-Montenegro. Dr. Cordeiro said, "Tele-Montenegro's slogan should be from Brain Drain to Brain Gain."

Montenegro is one of the few countries that have a separate Ministry just for Science. "This ministry was created as the result of a futures research or foresight study of Montenegro two years ago," said Dr. Srdan Kadic one of the principals of the futures report and member of the Tele-Montenegro core team. "Tele-Montenegro could really help develop our country." Professor Vesna Karadzic, Economics Faculty, University of Montenegro has also joined the team.

### Background

The Millennium Project was established in 1996 as the first globalized futures research think tank. It conducts independent futures research via its 46 Nodes around the world that connect global and local perspectives. Nodes are groups of individuals and institutions that select thought leaders and scholars in their country or region to participate in globally significant research and feed back the results. The South-East European Node was established in 2007 with country Nodes in Slovenia, Serbia, and Montenegro. The MP is supported by UN organizations, multinational corporations, universities, foundations, and the governments of Azerbaijan, Kuwait, Montenegro, South Korea, and the United States.



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“ Tele-Montenegro could really help develop our country. ”