



UMD *Global*
CONFERENCE 2013

MACEDONIA 2013:
100 YEARS AFTER THE TREATY OF BUCHAREST

4th UMD Global Conference
July 24 - August 2, 2013
Skopje and Ohrid, Macedonia



4th United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference

4та Глобална Конференција на
Обединетата Македонска Дијаспора

Macedonia 2013: 100 Years After the Treaty of Bucharest
Македонија 2013: 100 години по Букурешкиот договор

July 24-August 2, 2013
24 јули до 2 август 2013



UNITED
MACEDONIAN
DIASPORA
ОБЕДИНЕТА МАКЕДОНСКА ДИЈАСПОРА



IRENA GAPKOVSKA



LJUBINKA GLIGOROVA



NATASHA STOJMANOVSKA



CHRISTELLE SOSSON



MARIJA VOLKANOVSKA



LIDIJA JANEVSKA



ANA TRAJKOVSKA



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Dear UMD members and friends of Macedonia,

We are happy to announce our 4th Global Conference this year for the very first time in Skopje, Macedonia. On behalf of our Board of Directors, the Advisory Council, Global Regional Representatives, and the entire membership of the United Macedonian Diaspora, we would like to welcome your attendance and interest in this year's gathering!

Macedonia 2013: 100 Years After the Bucharest Treaty is the theme of this year's conference, which is a commemoration of a path travelled and the promise of the journey ahead as we build stronger friendships and partnerships. United for the future of Macedonia and Macedonians worldwide!

As our nation has matured over the past nearly two and a half decades of independence, the activities of our organization have matured as well. Likewise, as the challenges that our nation faces on the regional and international stage become more complex, the United Macedonian Diaspora has responded by owning up to their complexity and being an organizing force and a responsible voice for Macedonians globally.

Beyond our operational successes in areas like policy, the underlying current that runs through our agenda is one of strategic foresight. Therefore, in parallel to our pursuit of issues that are of immediate importance to the Macedonian diaspora around the world, we also look down the road and sow the seeds of strategic partnerships, cultivating friendships and understanding of our key positions by important officials and stakeholders in the international community. Lest we forget, the Macedonian people are still being denied their most basic of rights. The privileges that Macedonia deserves as full members of certain multilateral organizations are being held at ransom and our identity is being denigrated and distorted by a small but well-funded network of actors who seek to tear at the Macedonian national fabric. UMD has been diligently working to help counter this false narrative, and among many others this will be a topic of discussion at this year's conference.

This conference is an important milestone for our organization, but it also marks the beginning of a different kind of challenge. As our outreach has grown so has the need to operationalize our agenda on a broader spectrum. Donations have been the vehicle through which we got off the ground and reached for our first major goals, but as we attempt to reach more hearts and educate more minds about the injustice Macedonians face around the world, we will continue to depend on your support!

We expect this year's conference to be even more successful than our last Global Conference. The task of putting together this conference for the very first time in our homeland Macedonia has been both challenging and enjoyable, and we are pleased with the outcome. It would not have been possible without the leadership of our Planning Committee Chair Sasho Manevski, our Academic Committee Professor Nevena Trajkov, Dr. Teon Djingo, and Dr. Nikola Zezov, our Fellow Ana Donevska David, Social Media Coordinator Milka Trajkova, and our entire volunteer team in Skopje. We would also like to thank our sponsors, members, and donors for helping to fund our signature event of the year!

In light of the overwhelming interest and increased attendance, we will be providing a full repertoire of leading Macedonian thinkers, doers, artists, and performers! Please accept our gratitude for the support and participation in the 4th Global UMD Conference!

Respectfully yours,

Stojan Nikolov
Chairman, UMD Board of Directors

Metodija A. Koloski
President



Почитувани ОМД членови и пријатели на Македонија,

Со големо задоволство Ви објавуваме дека четвртата глобална конференција оваа година по прв пат ќе се одржи во Скопје, Република Македонија. Во името на нашиот одбор на директори, советничкиот совет, глобалните регионални претставници, како и целото членство на Обединета македонска дијаспора, сакаме да Ве поканиме на овогодинашниот собир!

Македонија 2013: темата на овогодинашнава конференција е 100 години од Букурешкиот договор, комеморација на досегашниот изодениот пат и ветување за битката која допрва ни претстои на патот, градејќи силни пријателства и партнерства. Обединети за иднината на Македонија и Македонците во целиот свет!

Во изминативе скоро две децении од независноста на Република Македонија, паралелно со созревањето на нашата нација, созреваа и активностите на нашата организација. Обединетата македонска дијаспора како организирана сила и глас на Македонците глобално, одговорно им се спротивставува на сè покомплексните предизвици со кои се соочува нашата нација на регионално и глобално ниво.

Покрај нашиот оперативен успех во области како политиката, главната матрица на нашата агенда ја отсликува стратешкото планирање. Затоа, паралелно со решавањето на прашањата од неодолен карактер за македонската дијаспора во светот, ние градиме стратешки партнерства преку поттикнување на пријателство и разбирање за нашите клучни позиции од страна на важните официјални и клучни претставници во интернационалната заедница. Воедно, да не забораваме дека на македонскиот народ сè уште му се негираат неговите основни човекови права. Привилегиите кои Македонија ги заслужува како рамноправна членка на одредени мултилатерални организации се држат во заложничка ситуација и нашиот идентитет се деградира од страна на мала, но добро спонзирана мрежа на актери чија крајна цел е уништување на македонскиот национален идентитет. ОМД неуморно и посветено му се спротивставува на овој лажен наратив, кој впрочем ќе биде и дел од темите за дискусија на овогодинашнава конференција.

Оваа конференција претставува важна пресвртница за нашата организација, но воедно го одбележува и почетокот на еден нов предизвик. Со зголемувањето на нашето влијание пораснува и потребата од проширување на нашата агенда. Донациите се нашето главно средство преку кое започнавме да функционираме и да ги остваруваме првите важни цели. Меѓутоа, додека се обидуваме да допреме до повеќе срца и да еуцираме повеќе умови за неправдата со која се соочуваат Македонците низ светот, ќе продолжиме да зависиме од вашата поддршка!

Нашите очекувања се дека овогодинашнава конференција ќе доведе до поголеми успеси од претходната. Задачата да го организираме собирот по прв пат во нашата прадедовска и историска татковина Македонија претставуваше голем предизвик и задоволство и ние сме мошне задоволни од конечниот резултат. Целата организација немаше да биде возможна без водството од нашиот директор на одборот за планирање, Сашо Маневски, професорите од академскиот одбор, проф. Невена Трајков, д-р Теон Џинго и д-р Никола Жежов, нашиот стажират Ана Донева Дејвид, координаторот за социјални медиуми Милка Трајкова и целиот волонтерски тим во Скопје. Воедно би сакале да им се заблагодариме на нашите спонзори, членови и донатори, за донациите кои го помогнаа одржувањето на нашиот најзначаен настан на годината!

Во пресрет на големиот интерес и зголеменото присуство на конференцијата, се потрудивме да обезбедиме полн репертоар од водечките македонски интелектуалци, артисти и изведувачи! Ви изразуваме најдлабока благодарност за Вашата поддршка и учество на 4-та ОМД глобална конференција!

Со почит,

Стојан Николов,
Претседател на Одборот на директори на ОМД

Методија А. Колоски
Претседател



UNITED
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ОБЕДИНЕТА МАКЕДОНСКА ДИЈАСПОРА

ABOUT US

Founded in 2004, the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) is a leading international non-governmental organization addressing the interests and needs of Macedonians and Macedonian communities throughout the world outside of Macedonia. With its headquarters in Washington, D.C., UMD is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit charity in the United States, registered charity in Canada, and a non-profit in Australia, and has operations throughout Europe.

UMD clearly and energetically articulates the voice of Macedonians within the community of nations, to protect and promote Macedonian interests and culture. UMD supports individual liberty and freedom, democracy, free markets, peace, human rights and human dignity in Macedonia, in Southeast Europe and internationally. UMD's premier publication is *UMD Voice* – a quarterly magazine.

UMD recognizes that the success and well-being of Macedonian communities worldwide is essential for the success and well-being of Macedonia.

UMD John L. N. Bitove, C.M. Macedonian Heritage Scholarships

The UMD John L. N. Bitove, C.M. Macedonian Heritage Scholarship Program was established in 2010 to assist Macedonians pursuing undergraduate degrees in Australia, Canada, Europe, and the United States. Named after the prominent Canadian-Macedonian businessman, the purpose of the program is to advance the education of Macedonians who are guided by the values of their Macedonian upbringing and heritage.

The UMD Fund for Macedonian Cultural Awareness and Promotion

Macedonia's rich heritage is one of the country's best Ambassadors to the world. To this end, UMD organizes numerous events throughout the year to promote Macedonian heritage. In previous years, UMD has participated in cultural festivals at various American universities, organized the International Multicultural Food Festival at Edith Cowan University, and sponsored numerous film festivals around the world. UMD was also a major sponsor of the 2009 Macedonian-North American Conference of Macedonian Studies, which is held every three years.

The UMD Charitable Efforts

UMD recognizes that the Diaspora has a unique responsibility to give back to those in need in Macedonia. UMD undertakes projects such as providing clothing for the elderly and children, school supplies for children, among other efforts. Our goals are to continue to help relieve educational, health and economic challenges faced by Macedonians, work with public and private bodies to undertake charitable activities in Macedonia, and coordinate disaster relief aid to Macedonian people in their hour of need. Our signature projects of the year are the Ajvar 5K Run/Walk and the UMD Dr. Irfan Maksudov Memorial Health Clinic.

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ОБЕДИНЕТА МАКЕДОНСКА ДИЈАСПОРА

ЗА НАС

Основана во 2004, Обединетата македонска дијаспора (ОМД) е водечка интернационална невладина организација која се грижи за интересите и потребите на Македонците и македонските заедници насекаде во светот. Со седиште во Вашингтон, ОМД е регистрирана како 501(c)(3) непрофитна хумантирана организација во Соединетите Американски Држави, хуманитарна организација во Канада и непрофитна организација во Австралија. ОМД има свои ограноци и низ Европа.

ОМД јасно и енергично го артикулира гласот на Македонците во заедниците низ светот, со цел да ги заштити и промовира македонските интереси и култура. Организацијата ги поддржува индивидуалните слободи и права, демократијата, слободните пазари, мирот, човековите права и достоинство во Македонија, во југо-источна Европа и на интернационален план. Водечката публикација на ОМД е тромесечниот магазин ОМД Глас.

ОМД јасно посочува дека успехот и благородноста на македонските заедници на светско ниво се од суштинско значење за успехот и благосостојбата на Македонија.

ОМД Џон Л. Н. Битов стипендии за македонско наследство

ОМД Битов програмата за стипендирање е основана во 2010 за да им помогне на Македонците на додипломски студии во Австралија, Канада, Европа и САД. Именувана по познатиот бизнисмен и столб на глобалната македонска заедница Џон Л.Н. Битов, Целта на ОМД Битов стипендиите е да го унапреди образованието на младите Македонци кои се водени од вредностите на нивното македонско воспитување и потекло.

ОМД фонд за македонска културна промоција

Богатото наследство на Македонија е еден од најдобрите нејзини амбасадори во светот. За таа цел, ОМД организира бројни настани на годишно ниво за да ја промовира македонската култура. Во изминатите години, ОМД учествуваше на културни фестивали на различни универзитети во САД, го организираше мултикултурниот фестивал на храна при универзитетот Едит Ковен и партиципираше со спонзорство на голем број филмски фестивали низ светот. ОМД беше главниот спонзор на македонско-американската конференција за македонски студии која се одржува на секои три години.

Хуманитарните активности на ОМД

ОМД смета дека дијаспората има исклучителна одговорност кон оние на кои им е потребна помош во Македонија. Помеѓу другите активности, ОМД организира и акции за собирање на облека за возрасни лица и деца и школска опрема за помладите ученици. Нашата цел е да им помогне на Македонците кои се соочуваат со образовните, здравствените и економските предизвици, да работиме со јавниот и приватниот сектор за организирање на хуманитарни активности во Македонија, како и координација на помошта за Македонците кои се погодени од елементарни непогоди. Нашите препознатливи настани кои ги организираме на годишно ниво се маратонот Ајвар 5К и ОМД др. Ирфан Маскудов меморијалната здравствена клиника.

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**ОМД планирачки одбор за
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Sasho Manevski

Academic Conference

Teon Djingo
Nevena Trajkov
Nikola Zezov



Писмо од Премиерот на Република Македонија Никола Груевски

Почитувани,

Дијаспората претставува значаен и неразвоен дел на секоја држава. Република Македонија има своја бројна дијаспора, која во континуитет ја покажува својата поврзаност со татковината преку несебичната материјална, хуманитарна, и останати форми на помош, како и преку поддршката која ја дава со создавање на пријатели и интересни групи кај релевантните меѓународни чинители со цел промоција на прашањата од национално значење за државата.

Еден од значајните интереси на Владата на Република Македонија е зачувување и унапредување на врските и соработката со нашата дијаспора, преку поттикнување на сите оние форми на контакти што ќе значат создавање на една заемна и ефективна врска. Наша крајна цел е непосредно и интензивно да ја анимираме дијаспората во актуелните, реформски процеси во Македонија што ќе придонесе за нивно активно вклучување во инвестициски потфати во државата како и поинтензивна соработка и вклучување во сите сегменти во општеството. Токму оваа влада го овозможи право на иселениците да гласаат, да земаат канадски и австралиски пензии во Македонија како и да вклучи повеќе од 30 лица од дијаспората на повеќе високи државни функции кои даваат значаен придонес во развојот на државата.

Активноста на Обединетата македонска дијаспора (ОМД) како реномирана организација која работи на заштита и промоција на интересите и правата на Македонците ширум светот е комплементарна со политиките на Владата. Во оваа насока, Четвртата глобална конференција во организација на ОМД, претставува извонреден настан, чија реализација оди во насока на владината определба за активно вклучување на дијаспората во прашањата од значење на македонската нација.

Овој настан ќе претставува одлична можност голем број на наши иселеници да ја посетат својата татковина и да се запознаат и да дебатираат за клучни настани во историјата на Македонците. Програмата на Конференцијата нуди дебата за настани чии последици се чувствуваат до денешен ден а улогата на актерите на тие настани во голема мера наликува на улогата која ја играат нивните современици. Како таква, Програмата ги содржи сите предуслови за интересни полемики и дијалози кои можат да помогнат во давање на одговори за актуелни предизвици со кои се соочуваме.

Конференцијата ќе има големо значење и за запознавање на македонските иселеници со културата како и со можностите за инвестирање во Македонија и проширување на нивните бизниси. Евентуалната одлука за инвестирање ќе биде од обострана корист, како за Македонија, така и за бизнис интересите на нашите иселеници а зацврстувањето на врските со татковината ќе претставува додадена вредност на реализираниот деловен потфат.

Токму затоа, би сакал да Ви посакам успешна партиципација на Четвртата глобална конференција и продолжување на Вашите активности во насока на подобрување на личната благосостојба како и во насока на унапредување на просперитетот и економскиот развој на Република Македонија.

Со почит,

Никола ГРУЕВСКИ



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR

July 24-27, 2013

United Macedonian Global Conference

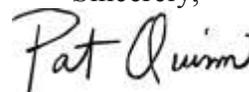
Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to extend my warmest regards to everyone gathered for the 4th Annual United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference that will highlight historical events in Macedonian affairs.

I commend the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) for organizing this event, and for your continued dedication to representing the interests and needs of Macedonians both at home and in their communities around the world. Illinois is proud to be home to more than 50,000 Macedonian-Americans, who have long dedicated their skills and knowledge as well as their entrepreneurial talent to the growth and development of the State of Illinois both culturally and economically.

The theme of this year's conference is "Macedonia 2013: 100 Years After the Treaty of Bucharest," which will coincide with the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Balkan Wars and the Treaty of Bucharest. Throughout its history, Macedonia has made great strides, joining the United Nations and the Council of Europe, achieving candidacy for joining the European Union, and applying for NATO membership. I applaud everyone gathered at this conference to honor the great patriots who made sacrifices in order to achieve Macedonia's independence and ensure a better quality of life for future generations of their countrymen and women.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable conference.

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Governor



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Michael R. Pence
Governor

July 24, 2013

Greetings,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Fourth Annual United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference, taking place for the very first time in your ancestral homeland, Macedonia. This is an event of historic proportions and would not have been possible without the United Macedonian Diaspora. For the many hours of hard work and planning an event such as this entails, I offer my utmost thanks and appreciation to everyone who made this event possible.

Indiana is proud to have a large Macedonian-American population that has contributed so much to our state and the United States as a whole. Thank you for enriching the culture of our state and strengthening the U.S.-Macedonian relationship.

On behalf of the state of Indiana, I wish all in attendance a memorable, educational, and inspirational experience.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Pence
Governor of Indiana



STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE
100 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925
(410) 974-3901
(TOLL FREE) 1-800-811-8336
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY
GOVERNOR.O'MALLEY@MARYLAND.GOV

A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the great state of Maryland, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 4th Annual United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) Global Conference, being held for the first time in your homeland of Macedonia.

By fostering unity among Macedonian people, the United Macedonian Diaspora promotes the Macedonian tradition within the framework of various advocacy, educational, and charitable programs.

In Maryland, our diversity is our greatest strength and an integral part of our progress as a people. We Marylanders applaud UMD's efforts to promote diversity in our homes by highlighting the importance of Macedonia's historical, spiritual, and cultural heritage.

Best wishes for a festive week in your homeland.

Sincerely,

Governor



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

July 24, 2013

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 4th Annual United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference.

On behalf of the great state of Michigan, I would like to congratulate you on hosting this year's conference in your ancestral homeland for the very first time. Michigan is home to over 125,000 Macedonian-Americans, and I am honored to recognize this event and all that it represents for your community. The Macedonian historical, spiritual, and cultural tradition is an important one, and I pleased to see that the conference will highlight past and present Macedonian affairs and their implications for cultural advancement in the years to come.

Again, welcome to the 4th Annual United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference. Please accept my very best wishes for a productive, memorable and enjoyable gathering.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rick Snyder'.

Rick Snyder
Governor



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P.O. BOX 001
TRENTON
08625
(609) 292-6000

CHRIS CHRISTIE
GOVERNOR

July 24, 2013

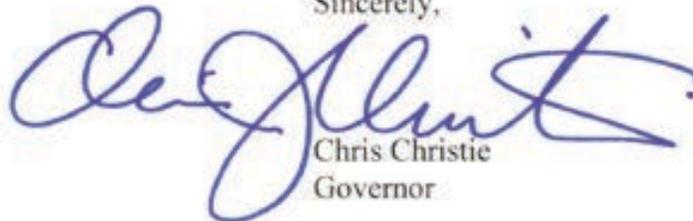
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am pleased to extend greetings to all those gathered for the 4th United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) Global Conference as you commemorate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Balkan Wars and the signing of Treaty of Bucharest.

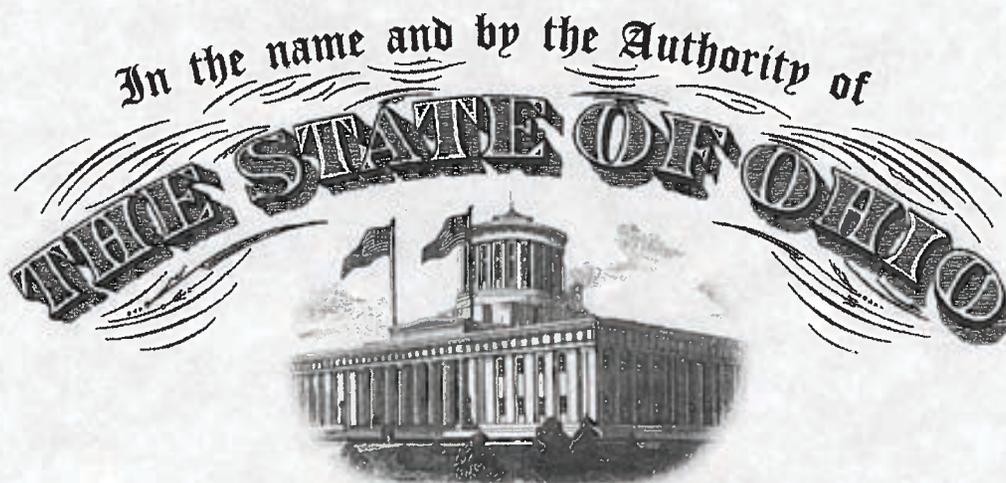
I am proud to be Governor of one of the most diverse states in the nation. This conference is an opportune time to recognize and celebrate the many contributions of the Macedonian-American community. I commend the UMD for their commitment to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of Macedonia, while also organizing a conference that brings people together to exchange ideas and increases understanding of Macedonia's rich history.

Best wishes to all for a memorable and successful conference.

Sincerely,



Chris Christie
Governor



John R. Kasich

Governor of Ohio

hereby officially recognizes

UNITED MACEDONIAN DIASPORA GLOBAL CONFERENCE

On behalf of all Ohioans, I want to welcome all those attending the 4th United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference. I am delighted to acknowledge all visitors and participants for their contributions to the success of this conference. I extend my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

On this 24th day of July, 2013:

John R. Kasich
Governor





COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

July 24, 2013

Mr. Metodija A. Koloski
1510 H Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Koloski:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am pleased to congratulate everyone attending the 4th United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference.

Virginia is strengthened by the diversity of its residents and we are blessed to have a large and vibrant Macedonian community in the Commonwealth. The economic and cultural outreach efforts Macedonian Virginians has enriched us all and helped to promote fairness and tolerance while maintaining pride in our own individual identities.

I also want to commend the organizers for their hard work and dedication to fostering unity among Macedonian people and advancing their interests through educational advocacy, charitable efforts, and social and cultural events. As you visit your ancestral homeland for this conference, remember to continue looking forward as you work to promote your historical, spiritual and cultural heritage. The Commonwealth is grateful for the opportunity to share in your rich culture.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable conference in Macedonia.

Sincerely,

Robert F. McDonnell



Premier of Ontario - Première ministre de l'Ontario

July 24-August 2, 2013

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to send warm greetings to everyone participating in the 4th annual United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference being held in Macedonia.

Ontario is a proud collection of different ancestries, histories, languages and beliefs. Our province's greatest strength is our diversity. I would like to thank Macedonian Canadians for their contributions to our province's economic, social and cultural life. You have helped make Ontario, and Canada as a whole, a more vibrant place to live.

To all participants: I hope you enjoy your time in your ancestral homeland and embrace this opportunity to further celebrate and learn about Macedonian archeology, history and traditions.

I would like to thank the organizers for facilitating this conference and for bringing together the global community of Macedonians.

Please accept my best wishes for an inspiring conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier



CANDICE S. MILLER
10th District, Michigan

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
320 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2166
FAX: (202) 225-1188

DISTRICT OFFICE:
4001 VAN DYKE AVENUE
SHELBY TOWNSHIP, MI 48317
(586) 997-5010
FAX: (586) 957-5013



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2210

COMMITTEE ON
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
Chairman

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY
Chairman
Border and Maritime Security

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Railroads, Pipelines,
and Hazardous Materials
Water Resources
and Environment

July 24, 2013

Greetings to the Participants of the 2013 UMD Global Conference:

It is my sincerest pleasure to issue a letter of greeting for the United Macedonian Diaspora's 4th Global Conference. I am honored to be able to be a part of the vital relationship between the United States and the Republic of Macedonia.

My congressional district is home to one of America's largest Macedonian-American communities, and I am exceedingly proud to call them my friends. Having such a large diaspora community in my district, I have come to know very well the positive contributions put forth by that community and other similar communities worldwide.

As the founder of the first-ever Congressional Caucus on Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans, I strive to continue to improve the relationship between our two nations and to promote a wider cooperation between Macedonia and its European neighbors. The relationship between the United States and Macedonia has enabled Macedonia to become a beacon of peace and stability in Southeast Europe, and I look forward to continuing this unique relationship in the upcoming years.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for the paramount contributions Macedonia has made to the global community by serving as a leader in promoting democracy, freedom, and liberty. I wish you all the best in your continuing efforts and hope your 4th Global Conference is a huge success!

Sincerely,

Candice S. Miller
Member of Congress



BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Dir. District, New Jersey

2370 BAYBORN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5751
(202) 225-5752 FAX

ROBERT A. ROE FEDERAL BUILDING
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PATERSON, NJ 07650
(973) 823-5162
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<http://pascrell.house.gov>
bill.pascrell@us.house.gov



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

July 18, 2013

United Macedonian Diaspora
1510 H Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Friends:

I would like to offer my greetings to all those attending the 4th United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference, July 24 through 27, 2013 in Skopje, Macedonia.

The United Macedonian Diaspora works on behalf of the Macedonian people around the world. From performing service projects benefitting the Macedonian poor, to petitioning actively for Macedonian membership in the EU and NATO, the UMD has played an important role in inspiring and mobilizing Macedonian advocacy. The strength of the relationship between Macedonia and the United States bears testament to the progress UMD has made in Washington. I look forward to continuing my work in Congress to maintain and enhance this important partnership.

This year's conference is well timed to celebrate the rich history of the Macedonian people, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Bucharest and the 110th anniversary of the Ilinden Uprising. Since achieving independence over twenty years ago, Macedonia has displayed a strong commitment to improving democratic standards and international human rights in the Balkan region. I am especially proud to represent a vibrant and active community of Macedonian Americans in my home state of New Jersey.

It is my hope that this year's UMD Global Conference will inspire future generations of Macedonian leaders in communities around the world. Best wishes for many years of continued success, and please feel free to contact me if I may be of assistance on any issue.

Sincerely,

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

*Mitro to all -
God Bless
Bill P.*



МПМ
Медиа Принт Македонија

Анебрук

Угледски

ВЕСТ

Спорш

ТЕА

ИКС

Медиа Принт Македонија

Скопје, 17 јули 2013 година

Ми претставува посебна чест, како Преседател на Управниот одбор на Медиа Принт Македонија и уште повеќе, како прв добитник на за мене многу значајната награда UMD Macedonian Heritage Public Service Award во 2009 година, да ви посакам успешна 4-та годишна глобална конференција, токму во Република Македонија.

Во 2009 година, со врачувањето на наградата ОМД ме препозна како човек кој неуморно работи за унапредување на квалитетот на живеење на Македонците во Македонија и надвор од неа. Јас денес ќе напоменам дека улогата која ОМД ја има надвор од границите на Република Македонија, е од сериозно значење за зачувување, промовирање, унапредување и пред се поттикување на вредностите кои нашиот народ и нашата земја ги имаат во историска смисла, денес и најважно, во иднина. Тие вредности се неменливи и не карактеризираат нас како нација, а воедно се еднакви со вредностите врз кои се темелат демократиите од евроатланското семејство.

Темата која ја одбележува овогодинашната глобална конференција „100 годишнина од Букурешкиот договор“, е тема која како сериозен дел од нашето минато не задолжува да ја отвараме и дебатираме, и јас би сакал тоа да ни биде повод да отвориме теми за тоа каде и како ја гледаме Македонија во иднина.

Како добитник на првата награда UMD Macedonian Heritage Public Service Award во 2009 година, како Претседател на 62. Заседание на Генералното собрание на Обединетите нации, и како пријател на ОМД, можам да ве уверам дека моите заложби за остварување на највисоките интереси на Република Македонија, пред се влез во ЕУ и НАТО, унапредување на демократскиот развој, правната држава, човековите права и заштитата на животната средина, ќе бидат и понатаму дел од мојот личен највисок приоритет.

Уште еднаш, ви посакувам успешна работа и плодни резултати.

Со почит,

Д-р Срѓан Керим

Престедател на Управниот одбор на Медиа Принт Македонија



МПМ
Медиа Принт Македонија

Анебуик

Утрински

ВЕСТ

Слово

ТЕА

ПКС

Media Print Macedonia

Skopje, June, 17, 2013

It is a great honour for me, as President of the Board of Media Print Macedonia, as well as the first laureate to receive the UMD Macedonia Heritage Public Service Award in 2009 - award I hold very dear, to wish you a successful, 4th Annual Global Conference, in the Republic of Macedonia.

With the award in 2009, UMD has recognized me as a dedicated man who tirelessly works for the improvement of the quality of life, of both the Macedonians in Macedonia and those who live abroad. Today, I would like to emphasize that the role that UMD plays outside of Macedonia's borders has outstanding importance for the preservation, promotion, advancement, and above all, the revitalisation of the values that our people and our countries have in historical sense today, and most importantly, in the future. Those values are unchangeable, and represent intrinsic feature of us as a nation. They are on equal foot with the values that lay at foundations of the democracies of the Euro-Atlantic family.

The underlying topic of this year's global conference „100th Anniversary of the Treaty of Bucharest”, is a topic which reflects serious portion of our past and thus obligates us to open it up and debate on it. Having said that, I would like to suggest that we use the main topic of the Conference to inspire discussions on where and how we see Macedonia in the future.

As the first laureate of the UMD Macedonian Heritage Public Service Award in 2009 and also in my capacity as a President of the 62nd United Nations General Assembly, I would like to assure you that my commitments for the achievement of the noble goals of Republic of Macedonia, above all, the accession into the EU and NATO, the advancement of the democratic development, the rule of law, the human rights and the protection of the environment, will remain high on my list of personal priorities.

Once again, I wish you successful work and fruitful outcome of the gathering.

Sincerely,

Dr Srgjan Kerim

President of the Board of Media Print Macedonia



Обраќање на Зоран Заев, Претседател на СДСМ по повод Конференцијата на ОМД во Скопје

Почитувани гости и делегати,

Драги пријатели и сонародници,

Ми претставува огромна чест да се обратам пред Вашиот конгрес и да им посакам добредојде на сите делегати и гости, наши блиски пријатели во нашата убава и горда Македонија.

Република Македонија ја живее третата декада како независен член на меѓународната заедница на нации. Сите постигнавме многу изминатите години, унапредувајќи ги мирот, стабилноста и шансата за просперитет на нашите генерации. Македонија стана членка на ОН, Светската банка, му се приклучи на Партнерството за мир на НАТО, ѝ беше доделен статус на земја-кандидат за членство во ЕУ и исто така претседаваше со Советот на Европа. Не помалку важен е и економскиот пораст во овој период, со огромен потенцијал за негово интензивирање во периодот што доаѓа. Македонија е место каде што различни етнички групи и религии живеат заедно и се обидуваат да најдат заеднички решенија за заедничките проблеми и предизвици. Со настаните од 2001 година оваа земја изгуби скапоцени животи, но и ја научи вредната лекција да ги сочува мирот, дијалогот и соработката за идните генерации.

Сепак, фер е да се каже дека Македонија денес се наоѓа на крстопат, одредувајќи ги своите идни патишта и судбини. Демократскиот систем нуди еднакви шанси за сите страни да се натпреваруваат за гласот на нашите граѓани. Во изминатиот период видовме зголемени тензии и конфликти долж политичките и идеолошки линии, што создадоа негативна слика за нашата земја. Ова набрзо ќе се смени, барем на страната на СДСМ, којшто јас гордо го претставувам денес обраќајќи се пред оваа ценета публика. Денес одлучени сме да промовираме и спроведеме различен пристап во политиката. Нудиме нови вредности коишто зборуваат за отворен дијалог, можност за слушање и дискутирање, толерирање на различно мислење и наоѓање заедничко разбирање, барем кога станува збор за највисоки национални приоритети.

Во однос на последното, како што сите знаете, оваа земја и сите ние што живееме или сме со срце и мисла овде, се соочуваме со најтешкиот од сите предизвици. Де факто блокадата од нашиот јужен сосед Грција на нашиот пат за придружување кон НАТО и ЕУ. Блокадата, како што сите знаеме, ниту е фер, ниту се базира на принципи. Тоа е нешто што сите ние, без оглед на социјалниот статус, возраста, родовата или политичка припадност, тешко можеме да го разбереме и практично невозможно е да го прифатиме. Блокадата исто така има скриени, ама значителни по обем, негативни економски последици. Овде зборувам за изгубените странски директни инвестиции, средства од ЕУ и други области, изгубени перспективи за генерации невработени млади луѓе, стопирање или одложување на важни реформи, итн. Овие економски изгубени можности, но и нашата желба за потврдување на македонската позиција како еднаква во рамки на европското семејство на нации бара разумен и мудар пристап.

Нашата историја нè научи дека во времиња на големи предизвици, обидувајќи се барем да ги надминат, нашите луѓе се силни, обединети и храбри. Нашата историја нè учи и дека и покрај притисоците, обидите за асимилација или другите постапки на владетелите од регионот, македонското име, припадност, јазик, култура преживеаја и станаа посилни. Не е потребно многу да се навратиме во историјата за да видиме дека Македонија беше многу остроумна успевајќи да влезе во ОН во 1993 година, на тој начин избегнувајќи ја најверојатно долгата меѓународна изолација и несигурната перспектива за потврдување како независна држава. 20 години подоцна Македонија е сè уште (сега уште повеќе) призната како Македонија, а нејзиниот јазик и култура се исто така македонски. Без многу понатамошно елаборирање, Македонија и сите ние треба да бидеме мудри и повторно да го совладаме овој предизвик/блокада.

Почитувани пријатели и сонародници,

На Македонија сте ѝ потребни не само заради финансиската поддршка, туку и за да ѝ помогнете на секој можен начин во најдоброто промовирање на нашата култура, јазик и цивилизациски вредности. Македонија исто така треба да научи повеќе за добрите работни практики на Западот, подобрите начини за организирање и функционирање на општеството, подобриот начин за пристапување кон и решавање на проблемите.

Социјалдемократскиот сојуз на Македонија сврте нова страница во своето функционирање. Нашиот приоритет е економијата, просперитетот и благосостојбата на нашите граѓани. Сите предизвици пред овие цели ќе ги



разгледаме, анализираме и ќе ги совладаме на најефикасниот можен начин. На тој пат нè се потребни нашите сонародници, вие што живеете и работите во странство, за да ни помогнете така како што споменав претходно. Потребни сте ни како силно лоби, присуство, влијание во земјите во коишто живеете. Македонската дијаспора мора да биде обединета, силна и влијателна во корист на сите нас, но и на генерациите што доаѓаат. Во оваа битка со предизвици, мене, нам, на сите нас нèе потребен искрен приод и јасни идеи и цели. СДСМ и понатаму го поддржува учеството на Дијаспората во Собранието, како сигурен начин за одржување силни и отворени односи. Исто така ќе бараме и ќе се залагаме за други форуми на соработка, вклучително почесто организирање настани како овој конгрес.

Како политичка партија со јасна и остварлива цел за преземање на водството на оваа земја, СДСМ ќе понуди повеќе перспективи и можности за нашите луѓе што живеат во странство да инвестираат во Македонија. Најмалку од она што може да се очекува се придобивките што им ги даваме на странските инвеститори. Нашиот пристап е дека инвестирањето, а не само едноставното префрлање пари дома, ќе биде од корист не само за сегашните, туку и за многу идни генерации. СДСМ ќе понуди вистинско партнерство на нашата дијаспора кога ќе ја освоиме власта на наредните избори.

На крај, драги пријатели, дозволете ми повторно да ви посакам успешна работа и пријатен престој во нашиот заеднички дом - Македонија.

* * *

Address of Zoran Zaev, President of SDSM at the occasion of UMD Conference in Skopje

Respected quests and delegates,

Dear friends and compatriots,

It presents great personal honor to address your Congress and welcome all delegates and guests, our close friends in our beautiful and proud Macedonia.

Republic of Macedonia lives through its third decade as independent member of the international community of nations. We have all achieved much in the past years, promoting peace, stability and chance to prosper for our generations. Macedonia became member of the UN, World Bank, joined NATO Partnership for Peace, was awarded the status of EU candidate country and also chaired the Council of Europe. Not of lesser importance is the economic growth in this period, with still vast potential of its intensifying in the period to come. Macedonia is place where different ethnicities and religions live together and try to find common solutions to common problems and challenges. The events of 2001 cost this country precious human lives lost, but also brought valuable lessons to keep peace, dialogue and cooperation for the generations to come.

But, it is fair to say that Macedonia today is also at cross-roads, determining its future path and fortunes. The system of democracy offer equal chances for all parties to compete for the vote of our citizens. In the past period, we saw increasing tensions and conflicts long political and ideology lines that brought negative image for our country. This is about to change, at least on the part of SDSM, whom I proudly represent today addressing this distinguished audience. Today, we are determined to promote and enforce different approach in politics. We are offering new values, that speak of open dialogue, chance to listed and discuss, tolerate different opinion and find common understanding, at least on the part of themes of highest national priority.



On the latter point, as you all know, this country and all of us living or being with hearts and minds here face most difficult of all challenges. De-facto blockade of our southern neighbor Greece to our path to join NATO and the EU. The blockade, as we also all know, is not fair, nor principles-based. It is something that all of us, regardless of social status, age, gender or political affiliation feel as difficult to understand and practically impossible to accept. The blockade has also hidden, but very significant in volume, negative economic consequences. Here, I refer to lost FDIs, EU funds and different areas, lost perspectives for generations of jobless youth, important reforms being halted or delayed, etc. These economic lost opportunities, but also our wish to verify Macedonia position as equal in the European family of nations requires rational and clever approach.

Our history teaches us that at times of great challenges, our people have been strong, united and brave in at least trying to overcome it. Our history also teaches us, despite pressures, attempts to assimilation or other actions of rulers from the region, the Macedonian name, ethnicity, language, culture survived and became stronger. It does not take much to go way back in history, to see that Macedonia was very smart in managing to enter UN in 1993, thus avoiding possibly lasting international isolation and uncertain prospects of establishment as independent country. In the 20 years after, Macedonia is still (even more) recognized as Macedonia, its language and culture being also Macedonian. Without much further elaboration, Macedonia and all of us need to be smart and overcome this challenge/blockade again.

Dear friends and compatriots,

Macedonia needs you not only as providing financial support, but also assisting in every possible way to best promote our culture, language and civilization values. Macedonia also needs to learn more about good working practices on the West, better ways to organize and function of society, better way in approaching and dealing with problems.

The Social Democratic Union of Macedonia has turned new page in its functioning. Our priority is economy, prosperity and well-being of our citizens. All challenges that lie before these goals we will consider analyze and deal with in most efficient way possible. On this path, we need our compatriots, you, that live and work abroad to help in ways I mentioned before. We need you as our strong lobby, presence, influence in the countries of your residence. Macedonian Diaspora needs to be united, strong and influential to the benefit of all of us, but also generations that follow. In this struggle with challenges, I, we, all of us need honest approach and clear ideas and objectives. SDSM will remain supportive of Diaspora participation in Parliament, as solid way to keeping relations strong and open. Also, we will seek and advocate for other forums of cooperation, including more often organizing events, as this Congress.

As political party with clear and achievable goal to take leadership of this country, SDSM will offer more prospects and possibilities for our people living abroad to invest in Macedonia. The benefits we give to foreign investors should be least of what to expect. Our approach is that with investing and not simply transferring money home shall benefit not only present, but many generations to come. This will be real partnership that SDSM will offer to our Diaspora, when we will win office in the next elections.

At the end, my friends, allow me again to wish you fruitful work and enjoyable stay in our joint home - Macedonia.



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Office of the Ambassador

Skopje, Macedonia
July 15, 2013

On behalf of the U.S. Embassy in Macedonia, allow me to welcome you back to your beautiful homeland! I know that you will enjoy your time with colleagues, family, and friends in this great country. I also wish to congratulate the United Macedonian Diaspora for organizing and hosting their 4th annual Global Conference. I am pleased to be a part of this event and to participate in a conference committed to sharing constructive ideas for the betterment of the Republic of Macedonia and all of its citizens.

On this 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Bucharest, it is important to reflect on the many lessons history has to offer so that our current efforts can lead to positive and lasting results. The Macedonian diaspora is a vital part of the process of moving this country forward. Each member of the diaspora can play an important role in furthering Macedonia's economic and political development and in helping it move along the path toward full Euro-Atlantic integration. I encourage each of you to remain invested and involved in Macedonia's advancement.

I also would like to reaffirm the commitment of the United States Government and the U.S. Embassy in Skopje to work with the citizens of Macedonia to help them achieve their goals. We have long been Macedonia's friend and partner, and we will continue to support efforts to help strengthen this multi-ethnic, multi-religious democracy.

Again, allow me to welcome you back to Macedonia. May your time here be fruitful and inspiring.

With warm regards,

Paul D. Wohlers
U.S. Ambassador to the
Republic of Macedonia



JOHN L.N. BITOVE C.M.

99 BLUE JAYS WAY, SUITE 300
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5V 9G9

To my fellow Macedonians

God has blessed my wife Dotsa and I with 85 years on this planet and 64 years together. During this time we have seen incredible changes in our world. As Macedonians we have witnessed events that our parents and grandparents never thought would happen. Many feel that on September 8, 1991 the "fight" was over as our beloved Macedonia celebrated its long overdue independence. While there was cause to celebrate, we now know the battle still rages and that we must continue our impassioned efforts to achieve the equitable treatment which all countries deserve.

United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) continues to be the most unifying organization I have seen in all my years. Their global reach has never before been achieved to this extent and their results achieved to date are unparalleled. But as I stated earlier, there is so much more to be done and we cannot stop now! So I urge you to continue to support the cause by supporting the UMD in any way you can

Long live a free and independent Macedonia!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Bitove". The signature is stylized and cursive.

John L.N. Bitove, CM
JLNB/lb



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July 16, 2013

Dear Friends,

Macedonia is the land of sun, and this summer it is also the land pleased to host all of you for the 2013 United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) Global Conference.

Like many of you, I am incredibly proud of my Macedonian heritage. My grandparents came to the United States many years ago, but they never forgot about their traditions, culture and what it meant to be Macedonian. Through countless stories, they relayed their love for Macedonia and nurtured an appreciation for their homeland in their children and grandchildren. A consistent theme in all of these stories was the resilience and dignity of the Macedonian people.

This message told to me by my grandparents – that Macedonians have a unique resilience and dignity – is the reason why Macedonia is an independent country today. In its two-and-a-half decades of independence, the spirit of Macedonians has grown strong as our people at home and across the world have realized themselves professionally, spiritually and socially.

Within Macedonia, there is an inherent fraternal system where countrymen watch out for countrymen, but outside of its borders, the UMD unifies the human rights, educational, and social causes that are important to Macedonians. It not only focuses on our future, but also helps us appreciate our roots and motivates us to continue working for a brighter and more prosperous Macedonia.

On behalf of the UMD, I'm pleased to welcome you to the conference, and thank you for standing for a homeland we are all so proud to be from!

Best regards,



Letter from Ambassador Ljubica Z. Acevska

July 24, 2013

Esteemed friends, Macedonians, and UMD members,

I hope you are enjoying visiting our homeland and attending the United Macedonian Diaspora's 4th Global Conference in Skopje, Macedonia.

For close to a decade, UMD has been the primer organization for Macedonians in the world and I could not be prouder of their work in Washington, D.C. and the world. I congratulate the entire UMD team for organizing this conference and bringing Macedonians from 26 countries to Macedonia.

Being aware of the developing dynamics between Macedonians at home, Macedonians abroad, and the synergies within our communities paints a complex picture of the issues we are dealing with. Knowing where the threads unravel is absolutely essential to understanding the issues, contributing to, and strengthening the Macedonian cause.

I served proudly as Macedonia's first Ambassador to the United States following our independence, and I continue to be a vocal supporter of all issues relating to Macedonia. If you are reading this it means that you are also interested in the wellbeing and prosperity of our nation. I urge you to join the dialogue during UMD's conference because together we are stronger!

Lastly, please consider contributing to the United Macedonian Diaspora so that we can continue to organize, sharpen and represent Macedonian interests around the world!

Best regards,

Ambassador Ljubica Z. Acevska



Поздравно писмо за четвртата глобална конференција на ОМД

Почитувани браќа и сестри Македонци,

Ми претставува вистинска чест и задоволство што ја имам можноста да Ве поздравам на Четвртата глобална конференција организирана од ОМД на тема “100 години од потпишувањето на Букурешкиот договор”

Одбележувањето на 100 годишнината од Букурешкиот договор, не може а да не се спореди со фактот дека оваа година светот одбележува 65 години од донесувањето на Универзалната декларација на ОН како определба на цивилизираниот свет за почитување на основните човекови права. Заеднички ќе се согласиме дека денес во 2013 година, Македонија и Македонците повеќе ги чувствуваат последиците од Букурешкиот договор, отколку придобивките на Универзалната декларација за почитување на човековите права, посебно настраданите и протераните Македонци и нивните потомци од соседните земји.

Букурешкиот договор значеше реализација на хегемонските аспирации на соседните народи а за македонскиот народ предизвика нови страдања, крвопролвања и иселувања. Судбината на нашите дедовци и баби, татковци и мајки напишана во Букурешкиот договор одредила со крв и солзи да ги напуштат своите домови во Леринско, Солунско, Воденско, Банско, Петричко, Разловечко и денес да живеат или да почиваат во туѓи земји низ целиот свет. Генерациите Македонци, нивни потомци денес гласно зборуваат во Америка, Австралија и ширум Европа за неправдата нанесена врз македонскиот народ пред точно еден век.

Поради таа причина во нашата Татковина Република Македонија, во Скопје собрани сме Македонци од четирите дела на Македонија кои живеат на четири страни на светот. Но самото постоење на Република Македонија и македонскиот народ значи негација на повеќевоковната политина на соседните држави за непостоење на македонска држава и народ.

Почитувани,

Мојата генерација Македонци на патот кон евроатлантската интеграција на нашата Татковина е соочена со предизвиците на новото време но и со старите политики на соседните држави. Оттука апелирам до младите Македонци да ја прифатиме од постарите генерации штафетата на македонскиот непокор и достоинствено да ја предадеме на генерации кои доаѓаат.

Нека оваа Конференција симболично го означи обединувањето на Македонија и од Вардарска, Пиринска и Егејска Македонија но и на тие кои живеат од дијаспората и сите заеднички да испратиме порака со светот дека ние сме Македонци, отсекогаш сме биле и засекогаш ќе останеме.

Ви посакувам одлично здравје и расположение,

Мики Додевски

Пратеник во Собранието на Република Македонија



A letter of greeting for the Fourth Global Conference of the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD)

Dear Macedonian brothers and sisters, dear guests,

It is a real honor and a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to welcome you at the *Fourth Global Conference* organized by UMD on the occasion of “100 year of the signing of the Treaty of Bucharest.”

The marking of the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Bucharest must be complimented with the fact that this year the world mark 65 years from the Universal Declaration of the UN as a determination of the civilized world for the appreciation of the basic human rights. We all agree that even today in the year 2013, Macedonia and the Macedonians feel the consequences of the Treaty of Bucharest much more than they feel the benefits of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially the Macedonians and their descendants from the neighboring countries who suffered and were driven out of their homes.

The Treaty of Bucharest meant a realization of the hegemonic aspirations of the neighboring nations, whereas for the people of Macedonia, it caused new sufferings, bloodshed and migrations. The destiny of our grandfathers and grandmothers, fathers and mothers which was written in the Treaty of Bucharest, dictated that they should leave their homes in Lerin, Solun, Voden, Bansko, Petric and Razlog with tears and to live or to have their resting places in foreign countries around the world. The generations of Macedonians and their present-day descendants in America, Australia and all across Europe have voiced their discontent about the injustice inflicted on the people of Macedonia exactly one century ago.

Therefore, Macedonians from the four parts of Macedonia who live in the four parts of the world are gathered together in the city of Skopje – the capital of our motherland, Republic of Macedonia. The very existence of the Republic of Macedonia and the Macedonian people represents a negation of the multi-secular policy of non-existence of the Macedonian nation and people of the neighboring countries.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Macedonians of our generation on the road to the Euro-Atlantic integration of our country are faced with the challenges of the modern times, but also the old policies of the neighboring countries. Hence, I appeal to the young Macedonians to take over the relay of the Macedonian resistance from the older generations and to honorably hand it over to the generations who come after them.

Let this conference symbolically mark the unity of the Macedonians from Vardar, Pirin and Aegean Macedonia, as well as those who live in the diaspora, so that we can all together send a message to the world that we are Macedonians, we have always been and we will be Macedonians forever.

May you all stay in good health and mood,

Miki Dodevski

Member of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia



10.07.13

Почитувани пријатели,

Добредојдовте на четвртата по ред Глобална Конференција организирана од страна на Обединетата Македонска Дијаспора. Ми претставува посебна чест и задоволство да ви посакам срдечно добредојде во нашата татковина, Република Македонија. Го споделувам со вас чувството на радост кога конечно ќе си дојдеме сите дома, макар на кратко колку што ни дозволуваат животните обврски. Денес тука не има во голем број, допатувани од сите краишта на светот, што е само потврда за силната врска која ја имаат нашите иселеници со Македонија. Иселениците во целина се една од клучните алки на македонското општество и секогаш биле присутни во социо-политичкиот и економскиот живот на нашата татковина. Иселениците и денес се активно вклучени во градењето на нашата заедничка иднина и иднината на Македонија, и за прв пат по нашата самостојност се достоино претставени во Собранието на Република Македонија преку свои директно избрани претставници.

Почитувани, навршуваат 100 години од потпишувањето на Букурешкиот Договор, договор кој стави крај на постоењето на една и единствена Македонија, и стави печат на тажните судбини на нашите браќа и сестри македонци, поделени меѓу соседните земји. Велат дека познавајќи ја историјата, можеме да ја предвидиме иднината. Светот секогаш прави баланс меѓу доброто и лошото, црно и бело, и неправдите ги поправа на свој посебен начин. Можеби ќе поминат уште 100 години, но еден ден ќе ја видиме повторно, обединета Македонија како дел од обединета Европа.

Македонија е среќна што нашите иселеници ја сакаат својата татковина, се организираат во најразлични друштва, здруженија и асоцијации, но е посебно среќна што постои организација како Обединетата Македонска Дијаспора, која секојдневно го пренесува гласот на македонските иселеници во сите светски центри, градови и држави, и се бори за македонските интереси насекаде во светот. Ме радува што соработката со ОМД расте од ден на ден и се надевам дека повеќе македонци ќе дадат подршка на нивната мисија во иднина.

Ви посакувам пријатен престој во Македонија и многу успех во понатамошните животни патишта. Ве поканувам да ја прошетате и запознаете Македонија, особено главниот град Скопје кој по прошетката ќе се сложите, навистина е променет.

Со почит,
Павле Саздов

Телефон: +389 2 311 2255 / Мобилен: +389 75 444 595 / Факс: +389 2 321 2809 / Е-Пошта: p.sazdov@sobranie.mk



10.07.13

Dear friends,

Welcome to the fourth Global Conference organized by the United Macedonian Diaspora. It is a great honor and a real pleasure to wish you all a warm welcome to our homeland, Republic of Macedonia. I share the feeling of joy when we can finally all be at home, even for a short period of time as much as our responsibilities allow. We are all gathered here today, many have travelled from different and far parts of the World, which once again shows the strong bond that our diaspora has with Macedonia. The diaspora as a whole is one of the key chains of the Macedonian society and has always been present in the socio – political and economic life of our country. Even today our diaspora is actively involved in the creation of our future and the future of Macedonia, and for the first time since our independence, it is appropriately represented in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia through directly elected members.

My friends, it has been 100 years since the Bucharest Treaty, a treaty that put an end to the existence of the one and only Macedonia, and put a stamp on the sad destiny of our Macedonian brothers and sister, divided between the neighboring countries. They say, if you know the history, you can predict the future. The world always creates a balance between things, good and evil, black and white, and always finds a way to repair the injustices in its own exceptional ways. Maybe another 100 years will pass, but one day we will see Macedonia united, as part of united Europe.

Macedonia is fortunate that our diaspora loves their homeland, is organized in various groups, organizations and associations, but it is particularly fortunate that we have an organization such as the United Macedonian Diaspora, organization that broadcasts the voice of our Macedonian diaspora in all world centers, cities and countries, and fights for the Macedonian interests all over the world. I am happy to say that our cooperation with UMD has grown in time and can only hope to see more Macedonians support their mission in the future.

I wish you all a pleasant stay in Macedonia and success in your future endeavors. I invite you all to travel and get to know all of Macedonia, especially our capital city of Skopje, which you will agree, has changed quite a bit.

Sincerely,
Pavle Sazdov

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Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia
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ОБЕДИНЕТА МАКЕДОНСКА ДИЈАСПОРА ДОБРОДОЈДОВТЕ ДОМА!

По девет години од основањето и одржани три глобални конференции во Северна Америка, организацијата Обединета Македонска Дијаспора конечно доаѓа и дома, во Република Македонија.

Ги поздравувам напорите кои ОМД ги прави во промовирање на македонските интереси во светот и организирањето, посебно на младите иселеници од Македонија (независно дали се родени во или надвор од Македонија). За овој краток период од основањето до денес, ОМД се промовира во една од најсилните организации на иселениците од Македонија и тоа на глобално ниво. ОМД успеа да биде присутна насекаде, во сите земји каде што живеат иселеници од Македонија но и во земјите во соседството каде живее огромен број на припадници на македонското малцинство. Како еден од најдобрите лобисти на Република Македонија, ОМД успеа да поттикне и голем број на политичари во земјите каде што дејствува, да ги промовираат интересите на Република Македонија.

Посебно ги поздравувам напорите кои ОМД ги прави за одбраната на нашето вековно име. Очекувам во годините што следат, ОМД да ги насочи своите активности и кон заштита и чување и на другите обележја на македонскиот идентитет, пред се кон чувањето и негувањето на столбовите на македонскиот идентитет, македонскиот јазик и култура.

Се надевам дека соработката на Агенцијата за иселеништво на Република Македонија со ОМД која е на исклучително високо ниво уште повеќе ќе ја унапредиме. Како резултат на таа соработка, договорено е и одржувањето на Четвртата глобална конференција на ОМД и на Четвртата годишна конференција на иселеничките организации на Агенцијата за иселеништво на Република Македонија во исто време (ОМД од 24 до 27 јули, а Агенцијата за иселеништво на 25 и 26 јули) и на исто место (во хотелот Александар Палас во Скопје).

Од мое име и од име на Агенцијата за иселеништво на Република Македонија, на сите членови на ОМД, на сите учесници и гости на Четвртата глобална конференција им посакувам топло добредојде во Република Македонија и успешна работа на конференцијата.

Васил Наумов

Агенција за иселеништво на Република Македонија

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Trinity Hotel Kukuta Berovo - Alexandra, Damjan, and Gavril Betinski



United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference

Greetings!

On behalf of the Advisory Council for Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the 4th Annual UMD Global Conference. We recognize the integral role the Macedonian diaspora communities play in promoting the cultural vitality of the Macedonian people and their Balkan neighbors worldwide. This year's conference, which commemorates the 100th anniversary of the conclusion of the Balkan Wars, resonates deeply with all those of Southeast European descent whose lives and futures were indelibly altered by the conflict. We regard it as a great privilege to jointly commend both the past sacrifices and future progress in Southeast Europe on this special occasion.

While it is certainly appropriate to recognize the great strides made by Macedonia, including its ascension to the United Nations and European Council, we look forward to the day when Macedonia is invited to join and contribute to the collective endeavors of the European Union and NATO. Europe's economic and social prosperity in the future is contingent upon the EU's ascension of the Balkan states, which are poised to expand the alliance's global reach and insure its lasting organizational legitimacy.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is proud to be home to several thousand Macedonians whose distinct cultural presence is vibrant and enduring. We look forward to forging lasting bonds between the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia and strengthening our already close national relations.

Once again, we extend our warmest greetings to all those participating and wish you a successful conference!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ajla Delkic".

Ajla Delkic
Executive Director



TURKISH COALITION of AMERICA

July 10, 2013

We wish to congratulate the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD) on hosting the 4th Annual Global Conference, this year for the first time in Macedonia, from July 24 to August 2, 2013.

We are pleased that this conference will serve to expand knowledge and understanding of the Balkan Wars, which had devastating effects on the region's peoples.

Our partnership with UMD and support for Macedonian Americans is longstanding. Beginning in the formative years of UMD, The Turkish Coalition of America (TCA) supported the institutional growth of UMD with multi-year grants that helped it grow as a grassroots organization representing Macedonians worldwide. In August 2010 and March 2012, TCA sponsored and jointly organized with UMD two congressional delegations to Macedonia and Turkey, the largest delegations from Congress ever to have visited Macedonia. These efforts, as well as our many joint outreaches to Congress and the U.S. Administration on issues that concern Southeastern Europe have helped enhance understanding on the importance of the region and the voice of our communities in the nation's capital.

Today, both countries remain strong regional allies, with Turkey being the first country to recognize the Republic of Macedonia with its rightful name after gaining independence in 1991. Turkey, a key NATO member, also is a steadfast supporter of Macedonia's NATO membership. Indeed, the dynamic political as well as economic ties between the two countries derive their strength from a shared history and culture. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk - the founding father of modern Turkey - lived and studied in Bitola (Manastir) between 1896 - 1899. His father was born in Kojajik in western Macedonia. Many Turkish Americans too call Macedonia their ancestral homeland. The chairman of TCA, Dr. Yalcin Ayasli, is one of them. It therefore carried special meaning for him, his family and TCA when he was presented UMD's Macedonia Friendship Award in the presence of President Gjorge Ivanov, on his visit to Macedonia in September 2011.

While the shared history between Turks and Macedonians also includes painful memories, the Macedonian and Turkish nations today look to the future, celebrate their shared cultural heritage and continue to build bridges of friendship.

TCA is proud to support the UMD, continues to advocate the full integration of Macedonia into the EU and NATO and remains committed to strengthening the friendship and solidarity between the Turkish and Macedonian communities in the U.S.

Sincerely,

G. Lincoln McCurdy
President

Turkish Coalition of America

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4th United Macedonian Diaspora Global Conference Program

As of July 21, 2013 – Subject to Change

All events are at Aleksandar Palace unless otherwise noted below.

Wednesday, July 24, 2013

1:00 pm	Registration Opens
6:00 pm	Buses Depart for Reception from Aleksandar Palace
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador Paul D. Wohlers at U.S. Ambassador's Residence (<i>invitation only</i>)
8:30 pm	Buses Depart Reception to Aleksandar Palace
8:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Official Welcome Reception at Aleksandar Palace

Thursday, July 25, 2013

8:00 am	Registration Opens
8:30 am – 10:30 am	Opening Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stojan Nikolov, Chairman, UMD Board of Directors - Metodija A. Koloski, President, UMD - Dr. Srgjan Kerim, President, 62nd General Assembly of United Nations and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia - Vasil Naumov, Director, Agency of Emigration of the Republic of Macedonia - Miodrag (Miki) Dodevski, Macedonian Member of Parliament from Australia - Pavle Sazdov, Macedonian Member of Parliament from North America - Nevena Trajkov, Eastern Michigan University - Nikola Zezov, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Philosophy, Institute for National History - Aleksandar Krzalovski, Executive Director, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation - Metodija Tosevski, former Minister of Finance in the first Government of the Republic of Macedonia and Representative of the Macedonians from the Aegean part of Macedonia - Ismail Bojda, President, Union of Macedonians of Islamic Faith - Peter Dallas, Macedonian Heritage Village



3:20 pm – 3:45 pm	<i>'The Macedonian Question' Among Greek Intellectuals: the Case of Ion Dragoumis</i> Georgios Michalopoulos, Oxford University, Faculty of Philosophy
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Coffee Break
4:00 pm – 4:25 pm	<i>The Position of the Church in Macedonia During the Balkan Wars (1912-1913)</i> Silvana Sidorovska-Čupovska, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History
4:25 pm – 5:20 pm	Balkan Wars: War Tactics Panel <i>Featuring:</i>
4:30 pm – 4:55 pm	<i>The Memories of Cola Nicea: Understanding the Collaboration Between Vlach Armatoles and Slav Comitadjis, During the Ilinden 1903 Anti-Ottoman Macedonian Rebellion</i> Vladimir Cretulescu, University of Bucharest, History Faculty, Centre of Ottoman and Turkish Studies
4:55 pm – 5:20 pm	<i>Some Critical Remarks on the Role of Romania in the Balkan Wars</i> Marius Diaconescu, University in Bucharest, Faculty of History
5:20 pm – 5:45 pm	<i>Warfare Tactics of the Balkan Allies and the Ottoman Army During the Battle of Kumanovo from 23/24.10.1912</i> Andrej Iliev, Aleksandar Petrovski, Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski"
5:45 pm	Conclusion of Presentations for Day 1
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Reception hosted by NGO Art Studio
8:30 pm – 12:30 am	Macedonian Cultural Celebration and Dancing <i>Featuring:</i> Bajsa Arifovska Kalevala Vlatko Lozanoski LOZANO

Friday, July 26, 2013

8:00 am	Registration Opens
8:30 am – 10:55 am	Treaty of Bucharest: Repercussions Panel <i>Featuring:</i>
8:35 am – 9:00 am	<i>The Influence of the Bucharest Treaty on the Political-Administrative Division of Ethno-Geographic Macedonia and Migratory Flows in the Balkans</i> Toni Mileski, Zlatko Nikoloski, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Philosophy, Institute for Security; Ministry of Foreign Affairs



- 9:00 am – 9:25 am *The Balkan Wars and its Aftermath, with Particular Emphasis on Bošniaks in Macedonia*
Ze'kir Ramčilović, Jahja Kemal College
- 9:25 am – 9:40 am Coffee Break
- 9:40 am – 10:05 am *Recontextualization of Music and Dance in Macedonia after the Bucharest Treaty*
Velika Stojkova-Serafimovska, Ivona Opetčeska- Tatarčevska, Skopje
Institute for Folklore; Ministry of Culture
- 10:05 am – 10:30 am *The 1913 Bucharest Peace Treaty and Genocidal Policies Towards the Macedonian Nation*
Aleksandar Stojcev, Museum of Peace, Security and Defense Research, Macedonia
- 10:30 am – 10:55 am *The Treaty of Bucharest and the Macedonian National Liberation and Revolutionary Movement (1913-1934)*
Nikola Zezov, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Philosophy, Institute for National History
- 10:55 am – 11:50 am Treaty of Bucharest: Residual Effects in Contemporary Politics Panel
Featuring:
- 11:00 am – 11:25 am *The National and State Formation of the Republic of Macedonia - Historical Overview on the Influence of Bulgaria and Greece Upon the Macedonian Question Until Present*
Oliver Andonov, MIT University of Skopje
Ivanka Dodovska, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Law
Katerina Neškova, *Dnevnik*
- 11:25 am – 11:50 am *Cultural Evolution, Not Terrorism. Toward a Balkan Switzerland*
Krste Petkov Misirkov's Political Thought
Josette Baer, University of Zurich, Institute of Philosophy
- 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Luncheon: Macedonian Foreign Policy since 1991
Featuring:
- His Excellency Nikola Poposki, Foreign Minister of Macedonia
Moderated by Aleksandar Mitreski, UMD Vice President
- 2:00 pm – 4:35 pm Treaty of Bucharest: Residual Effects in Contemporary Politics Panel
Featuring:
- 2:05 pm – 2:30 pm *Macedonians in the Greek Civil War in British Diplomatic Correspondences*
Todor Čepreganov, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History



2:30 pm – 2:55 pm	<i>The European Convention on Human Rights and its Relevance to the Macedonian Minority in Greece and Bulgaria</i> Alexander Karapancev, University of Exeter
2:55 pm – 3:20 pm	<i>Denial of the Name as a Consequence of the 1913 Treaty of Bucharest</i> Jovanka Kepeska, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Philosophy
3:20 pm – 3:35 pm	Coffee Break
3:35 pm – 4:00 pm	<i>The Macedonian Diaspora of the United States and Canada in Moving the American Government and the United Kingdom for the Formation of a Unified, Independent Macedonian State (1944-1948)</i> Sonja Nikolova, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Philosophy
4:00 pm – 4:25 pm	<i>The Policy of the Albanian State to Change the Macedonian Toponyms in Albania</i> Vasil Sterjovski, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History
4:25 pm – 4:55 pm	Republic of Macedonia: Modern Government Panel <i>Featuring:</i>
4:30 pm – 4:55 pm	<i>Macedonians in Croatia: A Successful Story in the Balkans</i> Irena Avirović , Teon Đingo, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History
5:00 pm	Conclusion of Presentations for Day 2
6:00 pm	Buses Depart for Museum of Macedonian Revolution
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Reception at Museum of Macedonian Revolution Hosted by His Excellency Dr. Gjorge Ivanov, President of the Republic of Macedonia
9:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Buses Start Departing back to Aleksandar Palace
11:30 pm – 4:00 am	Generation “M” Zurka featuring DJ CJ Molotov

Saturday, July 27, 2013

8:00 am	Registration Opens
8:30 am – 12:10 pm	Republic of Macedonia: Modern Government Panel <i>Featuring:</i>
8:35 am – 9:00 am	<i>The Relations Between Macedonia and Serbia</i> Dejan Marolov, University of Goce Delčev, Faculty of Law
9:00 am – 9:25 am	<i>Imposing Compromise. Consociational Arrangements in Macedonia and Bosnia-Herzegovina</i> Adis Merdzanović, University of Zurich, Institute of Philosophy



- 9:25 am – 9:50 am *Freedom of the Media in Macedonia*
Andrej Novakovski, Western New England University
- 9:50 am – 10:15 am *Minority Rights in the Republic of Macedonia and the Macedonian Situation in Neighboring Countries*
Vladimir Ortakovski, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Security
- 10:15 – 10:30 am Coffee Break
- 10:30 am – 10:55 am *The Name Dispute Negotiations Between the Republic of Macedonia and Greece*
Zhikica Pagovski, American University, School of International Service
- 10:55 am – 11:20 am *Security Policy of the Republic of Macedonia: Between Security Threats and Political Capacities*
Rade Rajkovčevski, University of Bitola – Sv. Kliment Ohridski Faculty of Security
- 11:20 am – 11:45 am *From Bucharest to Bucharest: The Division of Macedonia and Greek Politics Towards the Macedonian Question in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*
Straško Stojanovski, University of Goce Delčev, Faculty of Law
- 11:45 am – 12:10 pm *The Historical Legitimacy of the Autocephalous Status of the MOC-OA as the Successor of the Ancient Archdiocese of Ohrid*
Dragan Zajkovski, Borče Ilievski, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History
- 12:10 pm – 2:00 pm Luncheon: Macedonia's Economic Development: Attracting Investments
- Featuring:*
- His Excellency Vladimir Pesevski, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia
 - Dimitar Bogov, the Governor of the National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia
 - His Excellency Jerry Naumoff, Minister of Foreign Investments of the Republic of Macedonia
 - Hristijan Delev, Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Macedonia
 - Vladimir Kofcegarki, Macedonian Trade Council Asia Pacific
- Moderated by Stojan Nikolov, Chairman, UMD Board of Directors
- 2:00 pm – 3:45 pm Republic of Macedonia: Societal Issues Panel
- Featuring:*
- 2:05 pm – 2:30 pm *Diversity is a Part of the Macedonian Identity*
Kočo Andonovski, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia



2:30 pm – 2:55 pm	<p><i>George Atanasoski - One of the Most Successful Macedonian Businessmen in the World</i> Slave Katin</p>
2:55 pm – 3:20 pm	<p><i>Political and Cultural Influence of the North American Continent on Folklorist Gjorgji Tomov and Businessman Slavko Mađarov</i> Mišo Netkov</p>
3:20 pm – 3:45 pm	<p><i>The Statue, National Identity and Social Cohesion of Macedonia: An Anthropological Discourse</i> Dragica Popovska, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Institute for National History</p>
4:00 pm	Conclusion of Presentations for Day 3
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Reception
8:30 pm – 10:30 pm	<p>Gala Dinner and Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emcee: Elizabeth Naumovski (English) and Dimitar Atanasovski (Macedonian) - Sv. Zlata Meglenski Women's Choir Performs Macedonian Anthem - Prayer - Welcoming Remarks by Stojan Nikolov, Chairman, UMD Board of Directors - Aleksandar Mitreski, Chair, UMD Advisory Council and Vice President Presents UMD Lifetime Achievement Award to Atanas Kolarovski - Presentation of Posthumous Award for Metropolitan Kiril - Metodija A. Koloski, President, UMD Introduces and Presents Award Recognition to Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski - Keynote Remarks by Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski
10:30 pm – 1:00 am	<p>Cultural Program and Dancing</p> <p><i>Featuring:</i></p> <p>Sv. Zlata Meglenska Women's Choir Baklava Macedonia Band with singers Adrijana Janevska, Viktorija Loba, and Violeta Tomovska</p>



UMD GC2013 Biographies of Discussants, Moderators, Panelists, Performers, Presenters, and Speakers

As of time of printing on July 21, 2013 – some may not be included...



Violeta Ackoska, Ph.D., is a full professor and coordinator of the postgraduate studies program at the Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. She was awarded her Ph.D. in Historical Science upon presentation of her thesis *Agriculture and the Village in Macedonia During 1944-1953*. Her research interests include Macedonian and Balkan history of the 20th century, political history, social and cultural history, inter-ethnic

relations, victims of the communist regime, agrarian policy, the history of historiography, methods and methodologies, problems in teaching history, and historical science. Ackoska is an accomplished author with numerous publications in scientific works for scientific reviews, books, and additional materials for teaching history. In addition to her publications, she is cited for interviews, columns, television and radio programs, critiques, and frequently gives public speeches about historical subjects, as well as provide commentary, scenarios, and interviews for documentaries.



Kocho Andonovski, Program Director of the LGBTI Support Center (subsidiary of the Macedonian Helsinki Committee. Focal point for reporting on the situation with the rights of the LGBTI people in the Republic of Macedonia towards ILGA Europe and Coordinator of the LGBTI Program of the Helsinki

Committee in the Republic of Macedonia (including monitoring of the implementation of the Recommendations of the Council of Europe on combating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and documentation of the legal and medical practices towards the changing of the gender identity; Coordinator of the project "Improving participation in the democratic processes of the ethnic communities smaller than 20%" supported by EIDHR; Developing indicators for measuring discrimination on the local level: lecturing/trainer on the workshops with the local Councils, administration and NGO's in all 84 municipalities in the Republic of Macedonia for "Implementation of indicators for measuring discrimination on the local level" and writing reports about the findings during the visits of the Municipalities, especially on the work of the local Commissions for equal opportunities between men and women; Writing reports for the Helsinki Committee "Monthly reports on the situation with the human rights in the Republic of Macedonia"; Lobbying and reporting nationally and in the European Commission/DG Enlargement as well as for the American Embassy on the situation with the rights of the LGBTIQ persons; Actively involved in the work of the National Coordinative Body for Combating Discrimination; Permanent work with the Media. He was born in Bitola, Macedonia and has studied at the London School of Public Relations, and Ss. Cyril and Methodius University.



Dimitar Atanasovski began his career at the age of 18 as a young and energetic broadcaster for the Macedonian National Television. Over the course of the past seven years, he has taken part in all of the crucial TV projects throughout Macedonia and the surrounding region. Dimitar was originally educated as a lawyer but decided instead to pursue his passion for media. His contributions are evident in numerous

projects, including, among others: Effect (MRT 1), Plachalnik (K-15 TV), Trotoar (Channel 5, MRT 1), M2 Show (Sitel), a humanitarian concert for the monastery of St. Jovan Bigorski (MRT, Sitel, Channel 5), and Macedonian Points Eurovision 2013. Atanasovski has served as the presenter and moderator of almost all events of national interest in Macedonia: the celebration of 20 years of independence, the welcoming of the Macedonian handball and basketball teams after their success at the European Championships, Macedonia Sport Oscar 2012, and the traditional New Year's party at Macedonia square in Skopje. He has also directed numerous presentations by leading private corporations including T-home, Bi-milk, Coca Cola and Toyota, as well as the annual Balkan Spa Awards and Coffee-fest Skopje. Atanasovski has attended seminars on debating and building leadership capacity (Towson University - Maryland), media influence (Stockholm), and business management (Breviary Skopje). Currently, Dimitar Atanasovski is a spokesperson for the French clothing brand Celio and the Japanese car manufacturer Toyota. He works as a radio broadcaster at City Radio and TV personality at All our song, on MRT 1.



Bajsa Arifovska is born on 25th of January 1978 in Kochani, Macedonia. After finishing grade-school in 1992, she continued studying music high-school in Shtip. With great curiosity she studied the basic music theories and instruments, the piano

and the violin were her primary ones, but she also played flute, clarinet and saxophone when given an opportunity, because these instruments weren't available for every-day use back then.

She moved a lot as a child, which was a good chance to grow and soak up in Macedonian folklore the traditional way, especially in the regions of Maleshevo, Pijanec and Osogovo in eastern Macedonia. The inheriting musical genes come from both sides of her family. From one side we have zurla and tapan players from the village Ratevo, near Berovo town, and from the other, admirers of the urban traditional song.



She starts in the Skopje Music Academy in 1996, where she meets prof. Dragan Dautovski, who teaches her the traditional instruments: kaval, gajda, tambura, tapan, etc. With Dautovski (as part of the Dragan Dautovski Quartet) she starts her professional music career and tours Macedonia, Europe, and the World (Italy, France, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Russia, Portugal, England, Australia). At Dautovski's initiative, in 2000, she takes part as traditional instruments teacher in the state musical high-school 'Ilija Nikolovski - Luj', where she works to this day and accomplishes various musical projects.

Since 2003 she also works as arranger and conductor of the Mandolin Orchestra of Roma cultural and educational center 'Darhia', where she also accomplished several projects and toured the Balkan states. As a multi-instrumentalist Bajsa is an active participant on various international World Music & Fusion projects. She's played in dozens of concerts and TV shows on the Macedonian national television and other local TV stations as well. Bajsa is also external collaborator in the National Ensemble for Folk Dances & Songs - 'Tanec' from Skopje. As a teacher she participates in various traditional music seminars, like the annual Macedonian Pearl Folk.

Her solo projects include 'Bajsa Arifovska & Macedonian Chalgia' (2008), and she's also composed the music for the coreo-drama 'Broken Dream' (2009). Her various other projects can be seen in the discography section.



Irena Avirovik is a Ph.D. candidate at the Institute of National History, where her working dissertation is titled *Macedonian Emigration to the United States Between the Two World Wars*. Avirovik graduated from the Faculty of Philology "Blaze Koneski" in Skopje, in the Departments of Italian Language and Literature, and Spanish Language and Literature, and also holds a Masters in Advanced East European Studies from the University of Bologna, Italy. She has worked as a research assistant since 2010, and has

published several articles in national and international journals, as well as a monograph entitled *Patterns of Migration - Patterns of Segregation? A Macedonian Micro-Study*. She has worked as an Italian and Spanish language instructor at the "Casta Diva" school for foreign languages since 2005, and previously taught at University American College Skopje from 2009 to 2012.



Josette Baer, Ph.D., graduated from Zurich University (UZH) with a PhD dissertation entitled *Politik als praktizierte Sittlichkeit. Zum Demokratiebegriff bei Thomas G. Masaryk und Václav Havel (Politics as Pragmatic Morality. The Notion of Democracy in the Political Thought of Thomas G. Masaryk and Václav Havel)*. From 1988 to 1993, she studied Slavonic philology and political

science with a focus on political philosophy and international relations, and the history of Eastern Europe. From 1996 to 2001, she specialized in the 19th century intellectual history of the Slavic-speaking countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Her projects were supported by various stipends, which resulted in research in Budapest (Hungary), Bratislava (Slovakia) and Leeds (UK). In 2001, she received a three-year stipend from the

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) and moved to Seattle, Washington, where she taught and researched at University of Washington's Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies. The philosophical faculty of UZH approved her thesis *Slavic Thinkers. Intellectual History and Political Thought in Central Europe and the Balkans, 19th Century* in the summer of 2006. As a fellow of the Open Society Institute (OSI), she taught from 2004 to 2006 in Minsk (Belarus) and St. Petersburg (Russia). Since the autumn term of 2006, she has taught at UZH, and the Faculty of Philosophy of UZH appointed her titular professor in June 2012. Her upcoming publication is entitled "Warum bin ich ein Bürger?" *Karel Havlíček zur alltäglichen Korruption im Böhmen des 19. Jahrhunderts* ("Why am I a citizen?" *Karel Havlíček on Everyday Corruption in 19th century Bohemia*), due out in 2013 in *Geld*. Basel: Schwabe, 2013.



Baklava

<http://www.baklava.com.mk/>

An unraveling exceptional fusion of Macedonian, Ladino (the language of Sephardic Jews),

Turkish and Gypsy sounds – a minimalist musical concept with Elena's voice transporting you on a multicultural odyssey.

If you look a little bit closer, you will realize that we are "surrounded" by baklavas. Our first major challenge is to draw this perfect geometric shape in the auditive space.

The baklava is both a powerful and an extremely sweet dessert. Anyone who has ever tasted baklava could not have remained indifferent. Our second major challenge is to penetrate the secrets and recipes of the musical delicacies of the Macedonian folk music tradition.

Baklava is a musical group with a minimalist musical concept: the sound is made by only one female vocal and two string and percussion instruments. The third major challenge is the musicianship: simplicity and unpretentiousness.

Apart from the remakes of Macedonian folk compositions, Baklava's worldview is open to other folk traditions as well. But the key challenge is to create original music in a vivid dialogue with the aesthetic achievements of traditional Macedonian music. Baklava was formed in 2005 as a result of the bond between the individual musical experiences of its members in their personal projects as well as the collaboration with other musicians and bands. Baklava has produced three albums: *Baklava* (2007), *Kalemar* (2008), and *Me Mankas Mucho* (2011).



Dimitar Bogov, the Governor of the National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia, has over twenty years of working experience including nine years in management positions in the governmental sector, one year in business consultancy, and four years in a senior position in the largest Macedonian bank. He held managerial posts in the State Statistical Office and Ministry of Finance involving the production of

macroeconomic statistics, economic analysis, macroeconomic forecasting, economic policy proposals and negotiation with the IMF. He also worked with the Macedonian Business Resource Center dealing with financial analysis and preparation of investment projects and business plans for small private sector companies. From 2002-2007, he worked as a chief economist in Stopanska Banka AD Skopje, a member of NBG Group, where he was responsible for economic and market analysis, business planning, management accounting and risk management. From 2007-2011, he was the Vice Governor of the National Bank of Republic of Macedonia responsible for financial markets, f/x reserves management and payment systems and assumed the role of Governor in 2011. He holds an MBA degree from Sheffield University.



Gjorgji Cakarjanevski, Ph.D., completed his doctoral studies in History from the Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, and has been working at the Institute for National History since 1976. He completed his Masters at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje in 1989, and defended his doctoral

dissertation *State Legal Aspects in Action on the Headquarters of NOV and PO in Macedonia (1941-1945)*. Cakarjanevski acquired a senior fellowship in 1999, and in 2001, during his post-graduate studies at the Institute of National History, was made instructor for the subject of "History of the Macedonian nation from the Balkan wars to 1945". In 2002, he was granted the position of full professor. He is also a professor at the Faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Goce Delcev in Stip in the department of history and archeology. He has authored and co-authored publications, monographs, collections of documents, and historical atlases. He has published over 80 scientific articles and participated in more than 50 conferences, of which most were international. Cakarjanevski is a member of the editorial boards of several scientific journals, organizational boards and commissions, served as the Secretary of the Association of Historians of Macedonia, served two terms as vice president of the Council of INI (2001), President of the Council of INI (2006 to present), and as Head of the Department of History of the Macedonian People. He is a recipient of the Goce Delcev Award.

Viktorija Cavkoska. Born in Struga, Macedonia, Viktorija Cavkoska completed her university education at Iustinianus Primus Law Faculty, in Skopje, Macedonia, where she graduated *summa cum laude* in 2001. That same year she attended an extensive research study program "Human Rights for Future

Decision Makers" at the University of Dubrovnik's Institute of Human Rights in Croatia.

In 2003, Cavkoska was invited by Dr. Volker Rittberger to join the elite University Eberhard Karls in Tübingen – Germany at the Institute for Political Sciences to study the United Nations System - Economy and Politics. Through this program, she ended up in New York for an internship program with the United Nations in 2004. She was ranked in the top 10% best students in Germany by a survey conducted by *Der Spiegel* and McKinsey & Company in 2004.

After completing a Master of Science at the Faculty of Law in Skopje in the field of international law and politics with her thesis *The Influence of the Documents of the Council of Europe on the Position of Minorities in Romania, Slovakia and Italy and How They Correlate to the Macedonian Case*, which was published as a book in 2008, Cavkoska enrolled as a visiting researcher at the University of Stuttgart's Institute of Political Sciences. She will earn her doctorate this year from the University of Tübingen Law School in Germany. Her dissertation is on the topic of *The Role of the Politics in the Reconstitution of the European Court of Human Rights - a Challenge for the European Integration*.

Cavkoska has held numerous positions in the German and Macedonian governments. In 1997, she was the Personal Assistant to a Council Member in the Municipality of Struga, Macedonia. Under a joint program between the National Democratic Institute based out of Washington, D.C. and the Macedonian Parliament, from 2000-2002, Cavkoska worked in the Parliament as a Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Commission for International Affairs. She also worked as a Professional Assistant at the Parliament's Law Department. Additionally, Cavkoska has worked as a Personal Assistant to Andrea Krueger, Member of Parliament of the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg in Germany. From December 2007 until March 2010, she worked as a Professional Advisor at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France. Cavkoska is currently Deputy-Head of the International Law Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia.

Fluent in English and German, Cavkoska has participated in an extensive number of international and domestic conferences, seminars, and symposiums. In addition to being a published author on human rights, she has written two poetry books, published by the Macedonian Ministry of Culture in 1995 and 1997, and has written articles for international publications on minorities in Southeast Europe, and the role of international organizations.



Todor Cepreganov is a Professor and Director of the Institute of National History (2001-2012). His fields of interest are the relations of the Great Powers towards the Balkans and Macedonia from 1918 onwards. He has published more than 40 monographs and collections of documents as well as over 150 journal articles. He has led 8 projects and collaborated on 5. He has held fellowships in the United States and the

United Kingdom. His latest publications include: *The History of the Macedonian People*, Institute of National History, Skopje, 2008; and *Testimonies for the Macedonian Identity in the 18th-20th centuries*, Institute of National History, Skopje, 2010; *The*



Greek Civil War in the British Diplomatic Correspondence, Documents, Institute of National History, Skopje, 2011; and *Great Britain and Macedonia 1918-1940, Documents*, Institute of National History, 2011.



Vladimir Crețulescu is a PhD student currently preparing an interdisciplinary History – Political Science thesis under a joint supervision programme, at the University of Bucharest History Faculty and the Université Montesquieu - Bordeaux 4. His thesis subject is 'Representing the identity of Macedonian Aromanians (1903-1912)'. The thesis is to be written in French, its original prospective title being *Les représentations identitaires sur les Aroumains de Macédoine (1903 – 1912)*.

Vladimir Crețulescu also has a Masters Degree in Medieval Studies and a BA in Art History, obtained from the University of Bucharest History Faculty in 2010 and 2008, respectively. He equally possesses a BA in Film Directing from the National University of Theatrical and Cinematographical Arts (UNATC), in Bucharest.

He writes film reviews for an online portal and is a Romanian – English / English – Romanian translator, officially certified by the Romanian Ministry of Culture.



Sinisa Daskalovski, Ph.D., is a full time professor at the Institute for Security, Defense and Peace. He completed his undergraduate studies in the Department of Security, Defense and Peace, Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, and then postgraduate studies with a paper defense at a specialist seminar in Belgrade, Serbia (1987). He acquired both a Master of

Science (1991) and Ph.D. (1997) from the Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje.

From 1980-1988, he worked for the former Yugoslav People's Army (JNA), and was assigned as an instructor to the then Socialist Republic of Macedonia Headquarters for Territorial Defense (TO) to train personnel in the field of defense and protection. He taught courses and trained students in *Security and Intelligence Activities* and *Tactics and Fire Training*. In the 1988/89 academic year, he was elected as a Lecturer at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, and subsequently as Senior Lecturer (1994), Assistant Professor (1997), Associate Professor (2002), and full time Professor (2007), in the Department of Defense and Protection and Defense Science within the Faculty of Philosophy. He also served as the Department Head for several terms. He was assigned a position in the Institute for Security, Defense and Peace in 2009. He has held courses at various faculties, including the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food, Faculty of Physical Education, as well as a course for postgraduate studies on *European Integration and Communications* at the Institute for Sociology. He has also received invitations to hold courses on military organization at the Military Academy.

Daskalovski has had successful cooperation with both governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as with an American expert team that was working on the *Stability and Maintenance Program*. In addition, he participated in forums centered on

the relationship between the Republic of Macedonia and NATO. At the invitation of the President of the Republic of Macedonia, the Ministry of Defence, and the Faculty of Philosophy, he participates and contributes to discussions in the development of national defense strategy. He has also received invitations from the newly established Center for Security Policy, and contributed to discussions on topics within the themes *the Macedonian public with regard to the relations of the Republic of Macedonia*, and *NATO and the role of the NATO missions in Republic of Macedonia*.

In addition, he is the author of many papers, including three most recent: *The Development and Upgrading of the Republic of Macedonia's Military Organization Model* (International scientific conference The Balkans-security challenge for Europe and the International Community, Congress Center of UKIM, Ohrid, 1-3, October 2010); *The Significance of National and Historical Experience in Shaping the Military Organization of the Modern Republic of Macedonia During the Second World War* (International scientific conference); *Macedonia Through the Centuries* (Institute of History, Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje, Skopje 11-12 November 2011); *Crisis and Development Discrepancies in the Balkans as a Challenge for Security in the Region, Security and Euro Atlantic Perspectives of the Balkans* (International scientific Conference, Ohrid 25-26 May, 2012). He also participated in the first scientific symposium on *Defense After the Cold War period*, in Ohrid (1996).



Marius Diaconescu Ph.D., has been a lecturer at the University of Bucharest since 2002. He teaches courses in the Faculty of History on Romanian Medieval History, Latin Paleography, and the History of Vlachs from the Balkans and Northern Carpathians. He graduated from Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, in 1995, and received his Ph.D. in History in 2004 from *Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary*. His research

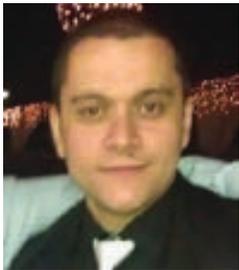
interests include the history of Central and South-Eastern Europe, focusing on two major themes, the Romanians in Middle Ages and the interethnic relations from the Middle Ages to today. Recently, he has explored the history of Vlachs from the Balkans and Northern Carpathians, and has opened a new topic of research for his students. In the context of his interest for the Vlach history, he is studying the Balkan Wars. He has published over 30 studies, articles and editions of historical sources. In his studies, based especially on the archival sources, he promotes the free myths perspective on history. He is the Director of the Historical Archive of Romania - a research center at the University in Bucharest, and is a member of scientific committees for several journals in Romania. Details on his *Curriculum Vitae* can be seen on his webpage www.mariusdiaconescu.ro.



Vasilka Dimitrovska is a researcher and blogger from the Republic of Macedonia, professionally engaged in public archaeology and cultural heritage. Vasilka holds a Master of Science in Archaeology from University of Belgrade, and currently, is a Ph.D. candidate in Prehistoric Archaeology. She takes part in many



excavations, writes and publishes scientific and popular articles on archaeological issues, participates in public debates and symposiums and gives professional advice about Macedonia's cultural heritage. Her area of expertise in archaeology is prehistory, mainly stone tools, technology, and raw materials. In 2010, Vasilka was proclaimed one of the most influential bloggers in the Balkans and accepted the award for best promoter of cultural heritage in the Republic of Macedonia. She is a member of EAA, AARG and MAND. She supports the use of CC licenses and free and open access to knowledge on the Internet. Since 2012, Vasilka is the co-founder/head of HAEMUS - Center for Scientific Research and Promotion of Culture, based in Skopje. She is also a professional licenced tourist guide, and she is an author for the upcoming official Guide on the Skopje's Old Bazaar.



Teon Djingo, Ph.D., earned his Bachelors degree in 2005 from the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje, Institute of History, and in 2008 defended his Masters thesis entitled *Great Britain's Idea for Creating a Balkan Pact (1939 - 1941)*. After obtaining his MA in History, in 2009 he enrolled in the PhD program of the Institute of National History, where

he developed his doctoral thesis entitled *The Balkans Through the Policy of Great Britain in the Interwar Period*. He authored numerous articles in national and international scientific journals, as well as composed, edited and translated collections of documents such as *Great Britain and Macedonia (1918-1941)* together with Todor Cepreganov. Dingo has been employed as a research assistant in the department of Balkan studies at the Institute of National History since 2008.



Milorad (Miki) Dodevski is the first Member of Parliament in the history of democratic Republic of Macedonia who represents the interests of the Macedonian diaspora from Australia and Asia. Miki Dodevski was born in Skopje, but moved to Melbourne with his family in 1993. Dodevski holds a Bachelor of Business from Victoria University. Before his election as a representative in the Macedonian Parliament, he worked

as a manager in the banking and finance sector in Australia. Dodevski was the initiator and leader of a number of projects and activities within the Macedonian diaspora in Australia. His past voluntary community activities include: member of the Macedonian Alliance in Melbourne, founder and president of the Macedonian Film Festival in Australia, member of the Macedonian Community Council of Victoria and chairman of the Initiative Board for the organization of the biggest meeting of the Macedonian community in Australia in 2008. Throughout more than 10 years of community volunteering and devotion, he has always had the community interests at heart, with the aim of representing the Macedonian community to the general Australian public and to support the advancement of Multiculturalism in Australia.

On his initiative and also as the founder, recently the first NGO was formed in the Republic of Macedonia called

“Macedonian Society for Friendship with Australia” with the aim of advancing the ties between the people of Australia and Macedonia on all levels. In April 2013, a commemoration of ANZAC Day was held for the first time in Macedonia, attended by many distinguished guests and representatives of government, diplomats and Australian expats in honor of soldier John Paterson from Australia who is buried in the British war cemetery in Skopje.

As a representative of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Dodevski has greatly contributed to the social development of the Republic of Macedonia and has always stood up for the interests of the Macedonian expatriates in Australia. In his frequent visits to Australia, Dodevski has met many Australian representatives at all governing levels, as well as initiating and supporting closer collaboration between Australian and Macedonian organizations and businesses. He has a strong belief that the national identity of every Macedonian in the diaspora is inextricable part of their individual success and with that to the success of the community in which they live. Being aware of the historic importance of the role of a leading representative, a primary goal of the perennial activism of Dodevski, is the diaspora to become an equal partner in the development of the Republic of Macedonia and to further strengthen the excellent ties between his two countries.



Ivanka Dodovska Ph.D. was born in Skopje. She finished her bachelor degree on Faculty of Law “Iustinian I”, on Political studies in May 2004. In the academic year 2004/2005 she enrolled on the graduate studies on State-Law History of Macedonia, on the Faculty of law “Iustinian I” in Skopje. She acquired the academic degree Master of legal sciences on the field of State-law history after successfully defended master theses entitled “The Exchange of Minorities

Between the Kingdom of Greece and the Bulgarian Empire and the Process of Establishment of the National States on the Balkan”, on December 1st, 2009. With decision of the Scientific council of the Faculty of law “Iustinian I”, University “St. Cyril and Methodius” in Skopje, on 22.12.2008 she was elected for junior assistant on the subject Contemporary European and Macedonian History (19-20 century), on the political studies and journalistic studies. With decision of the Scientific council of the Faculty of Law “Iustinian I”, Univ. “St. Cyril and Methodius” in Skopje, on 24.03.2010 she was elected for teaching assistant on the scientific field History of law, by which she is continuously included in the cooperation activities on the subjects: Contemporary European and Macedonian History (19-20 century) on the political studies and journalistic studies, History of Diplomacy on the political studies, and the master studies of International law and International relations, and History of law. On November 6st, 2012, she acquired the academic degree Doctor of legal sciences after successfully defended doctoral theses entitled “The Balkan Entente of 1934 - 1941, and the Macedonian Question”. With decision of the Scientific council of the Faculty of law “Iustinian I”, University “St. Cyril and Methodius” in Skopje, on 31.01.2013 she was elected for assistant professor on the scientific field History of law. On the Faculty of law “Iustinian I”, beside the aforementioned subjects, PhD. Dodovska is engaged also on the master studies of Applied politics, and the Tempus programs



on the political studies on the subjects: Political History of the Balkan (19-20 century) and History of diplomacy.



Samuel Foster is currently in his second year of a Ph.D. at the University of East Anglia where he previously completed both a BA and an MA in History. His principal area of interest focuses on British perceptions and portrayals of the Western Balkans through the lens of pre-Communist Yugoslavia and Yugoslavism. The current working title of his thesis is *British Travellers and pre-Communist Yugoslavia 1900-1941*. Samuel has presented

papers based on his research at numerous conferences within the United Kingdom including the BASEES/ICEES European Congress held in Cambridge in April 2013. In November 2012, he was invited to participate as a discussant at a local history conference in Novi Sad in northern Serbia. He has also written for the British photography magazine *Source* on the political exploitation of imagery from the Balkan Wars during the 1990s.



Vera Goseva, Ph.D., earned a Bachelors degree from Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, at the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of History in 1987. She completed her Masters degree at the same University in 1993 on *The Role of Pavel Satev in the Macedonian Liberation Movement after the May Manifest of 1924*, whereby she received the academic title of Master of historical science. The

same year, she was employed in the Department for the Interwar Period at the Institute for National History in Skopje. In 2000, at the University Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, she defended her doctoral dissertation *The Ilinden Organisation Between the Two World Wars*, and she became a doctor of historical sciences. She was selected as a Scientific Adviser Senior / Full Professor in 2010. Her fields of research are: Macedonian emigration to Bulgaria between the two world wars, economic history, the revolutionary movement, and the Balkan wars. She was a member of the Presidency of the Association of Historians of Macedonia in the period from 2007-2010.



His Excellency Nikola Gruevski became the sixth Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia in 2006. He is the first-elected European head of government born in the 1970s, and is currently, the second youngest Prime Minister in Europe at the age of 42.

Prior to becoming Prime Minister, Prime Minister Gruevski, who has led his party VMRO-DPMNE since 2003, was a member of the Macedonian Parliament and

opposition leader. In the past, he has served as Macedonian Minister of Trade, Minister of Finance, and was the Advisor to

the Minister of Finance for the Republic of Serbia as part of a USAID project.

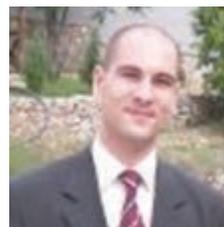
Prime Minister Gruevski earned a degree from Bitola's St. Clement of Ohrid University's Faculty of Economics in 1996, and in 2006, he acquired a Master of Science in Economics from Skopje's Ss. Cyril and Methodius University's Faculty of Economics.

Prime Minister Gruevski and his wife Borkica reside in Skopje with their daughters Anastasija and Sofija. He and his family are guided by a strong faith in God and the ideal of constant and truly dedicated work for the well-being and prosperity of Macedonia and its citizens.



Liljana Gushevska was born in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. She finished her undergraduate studies at the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Department of Macedonian Language and South-Slavic Languages, where she also acquired her MA and PhD degrees. Her current position is Associate Professor at the Institute of National History, Skopje, Department of Revival and National Liberation

Movement of the Macedonian People in 19th century until 1912. Since 2004, she has also been engaged at the State University in Tetovo, the Macedonian Language Department, as a Lecturer. Her research interests are the History of Macedonian Language and Literature, the Revival Movement and National Awakening, as well as the National Identities and the Balkan Wars. She has participated in numerous projects and conferences, and has published her works in proceedings and journals in Macedonia and abroad. Her involvement in different bodies of the Association of Historians of the Republic of Macedonia (AHRM) led to her being a current member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of History* published by the AHRM.



Andrej Iliev, Ph.D., is a doctor of historical sciences and teaches 8 subjects as an Assistant Professor at the General Mihailo Apostolski Military Academy in Skopje. His subjects include: The Evolution of Combat, Unconventional Warfare and Armed Conflict, Collective Security and Defense Systems, Globalization and Security, RHB

Security and Protection, and Modern Security Systems. He has authored several historical books, such as: *Military Operations of the Ottoman Army in Macedonia (1371-1689)*, *Military Operations of the Ottoman Army in Macedonia (1876-1909)*, *RHB support for the Macedonian Army*, and so on. He is the author of more than 30 international papers among, which the most notable are: *The Warfare Tactics of the Macedonian Revolutionary Forces From the Kresna Uprising until the Young Turk Revolution* (2011), *Notes of Evliya Çelebi About Macedonian Cities* (2012), *Forecasting and Grim Scenarios Presented by the Collapse of the Former Yugoslavia* (2012), and *NATO and EU Initiatives for Regional Cooperation in SEE Countries*, Skopje, 2011.

Borce Ilievski, Ph.D., completed his higher education at the Department of History at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje. Ilievski finished his BA studies in 2000, was awarded an MA in



Historical Studies in 2003, and a PhD in Historical Sciences in 2008. He has been an employee of the Faculty of Philosophy since 2005, and was elected as an associate professor in 2013. His latest publications include: *Македонско-српските црковни односи 1944-1970*, Скопје, 2011 (*The Macedonian-Serbian Church Relations 1944-1970*, Skopje, 2011); *The Macedonian-Serbian Church Conflict from 1945 to the Present*. In 2012, he published *Re-Sakralisierung*

des öffentlichen Raumes in Südosteuropa nach der Wende 1989?, Herausgegeben von Alojz Ivanišević. Frankfurt am Main, 2012, 133-145.



His Excellency Dr. Gjorge Ivanov, the President of the Republic of Macedonia was born in Valandovo, a town in the South-East of Republic of Macedonia. After completing his elementary and high school education in Valandovo, he commenced studies in Law at the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje. While at University, Ivanov became politically active in liberal and reformist-oriented youth organizations. In 1988, his career with the national

broadcaster “Macedonian Television” began, where he was ultimately promoted to the position of Editor. He was also active in the movement to reform the political system, which aimed to promote ideas such as political plurality and the free market economy. In 1995, Ivanov returned to the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, earning a Master’s Degree in Political Science with a thesis entitled: “Civil Society - New Contradictions of an Old Debate.” During his PhD research he focused on building democracies in divided societies and successfully defended his PhD thesis entitled “Democracy in Divided Societies: The Case of Macedonia.”

At the Law Faculty, a long-time centre of Macedonian political life, Professor Ivanov taught political theory and political philosophy to his students, introducing new teaching methods, which helped open Macedonian academia to Western universities through contemporary literature and magazines. In 1999, he was a Visiting Professor to the South-East Europe Programme at the University of Athens, Greece. Knowing that opening the Republic of Macedonia to the West will require the efforts of upcoming generations, he also became active in EU’s TEMPUS Programme for the Republic of Macedonia, introducing a reformed curricula and English language Master Programmes.

Ivanov is a leading expert on civil society, being the first to introduce its systematic research in Macedonian academia. He has been a consultant to leading think-tanks and researchers. Generations of leaders have passed his training in political management. Professor Ivanov is the co-founder of the first Macedonian political science journal “Political Opinion”, and the founder and Honorary President of the Macedonian Political Science Association. He is also one of the founders of the Institute for Democracy, Solidarity and Civil Society, a renowned Macedonian think-tank which has helped shape the political landscape in Macedonia. While never a party member, he became active in helping fashion

the policy of the reformist VMRO-DPMNE party, which supported his presidential nomination in 2009. He won the elections with a distinctive majority.

During his Presidential mandate, Professor Gjorge Ivanov has received numerous invitations to give lectures at renowned universities in the European centers. In October 2009, he was awarded the title Doctor Honoris Causa at the TOBB University of Economics and Technology, one of the most prominent private universities in Turkey, whereas he talked on the topic “The Millet System – Forgotten History or Recipe for the Future”. The title Doctor Honoris Causa was for the second time awarded to President Ivanov by the Rector of the Istanbul University in March 2011. On this occasion Professor Gjorge Ivanov held a lecture on the theme “The Megapolis as a Societal Management Model of the 21st Century”. The last awarded title Doctor Honoris Causa, President Ivanov received in Bucharest, Romania, at the Christian University “Dimitrie Cantemir” in October 2011. In September 2011, President Ivanov was awarded the highest Order of the St. Lazarus Order from Jerusalem.

President Ivanov is married and has one child.



Andrijana Janevska was born in Skopje, the capital of the Republic of Macedonia, where she currently works and lives. Since 2002, she has been engaged as a violinist at the Macedonian Opera and Ballet. Andrijana started her music education

at the School Centre for Music Education in Skopje at the age of 6 and later on continued her studies at the Music High School in Skopje. In 2004 she completed her undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Music in Skopje, the Department of string instruments – violin, and in 2011 she earned her MA degree in Music Theory and Pedagogy. Apart from her professional engagement, Andrijana has also had a successful music career for more than 15 years as a singer, songwriter and producer on the Macedonian music scene. She works as an associate lecturer at the Private Music School Enterprise and since 1999 is a regular member of the chamber choir Sv. Zlata Meglenska.



Alexander Karapancev is currently a law student at the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom. Prior to pursuing an education in law, Alexander completed his Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science at the University of Western Ontario in Canada, graduating on the Deans List. At Western, Alexander was quite involved in student life. He was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity where he held

the position of Vice President and was honoured with the Best Officer, Campus Involvement, and Recruitment Awards. As VP, he organized London, Ontario’s largest food drive in cooperation with the London Food Bank, which received recognition from politicians at all levels of government, including the Ontario Premier’s Office. He was also an executive member of the Inter Fraternity Council and Treasurer of the Macedonian Students Association. In 2011, he received the UMD John L. N. Bitove, C.M. Macedonian Heritage Scholarship Award. Being active in politics since his teen years, Alexander has been involved in



election campaigns for various levels of government. Last year, he was selected by his riding association to be a delegate at the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party Conference.

At Exeter, Alexander is an executive committee member of the Conservative Future Society. As a shooting sports enthusiast, he is also social chairman of the University's Rifle Club. He has appeared numerous times on Exeter's 87.7FM radio discussing international politics and societal issues. Alexander has also publically debated politics for Exeter's Debating Society.

Being a supporter of UMD since its early days, Alexander is a strong advocate of the Macedonian cause and is thrilled to be attending this year's conference. Currently studying law, he is interested in applying International and European legal principles to the political problems facing Macedonia and the Macedonian people.



Jovanka Kepeska, Ph.D., defended her dissertation entitled *Modern Scientific and Technological Development*, and earned her interdisciplinary doctorate (philosophy, sociology, political economy) from the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade, Serbia. From the time she was appointed lecturer in 1974 to her retirement in 2005, she served as a professor for categories of social

theory across various faculties at the University Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, but served longest as a professor for the Faculty of Philosophy. She was also engaged in postgraduate studies at several other universities in Skopje.

Kepeska's scientific interest center mostly around philosophical and sociological themes of contemporary democratic development of the world and society. Published books include: *Modern Scientific and Technological Development -Philosophical and Sociological Aspects* (1997), *Topics of the Sociology of Sport* (2000), *Why and How in the Dispute for our Name* (2010), and *Totalitarian Consciousness and Us* (2011). Previously, Kepeska published the book *Our Present Moment*. She has published more than 300 scientific articles and essays in national and international journals, periodicals and daily newspapers. Kepeska also participated in many international and domestic projects and presented at more than 50 conferences, including conferences in the UK, Ireland, U.S., Poland, Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, and Montenegro.



Dr. Srgjan Kerim. A seasoned diplomat, economist, scholar and businessman, Dr. Srgjan Kerim brings with him a wealth of experience in international political and economic affairs.

In the field of academia, Dr. Kerim was a professor of international economic affairs with the Faculty of Economics of the University of Belgrade. In addition, he was a visiting professor at the University of Hamburg (Germany) and at New

York University. He has lectured widely on Balkan issues, is the author of 12 books dealing with international politics, economics and youth and poetry. He has written more than 100 scholarly papers, many of which have been published in countries across

Europe. He holds a doctorate in international economics from the Faculty of Economics of the University of Belgrade and is fluent in English, French and German as well as Serbian, Croatian and Bulgarian.

Dr. Kerim represented his country as Ambassador to Germany, from 1994 to 2000, and to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, from 1995 to 2000. During this period, from 1999 to 2000, he served as Special Envoy of the Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe.

Over the course of his distinguished career spanning more than three decades, from 2000 to 2001, Dr. Kerim was Foreign Minister of the Republic of Macedonia, in which capacity he also served as Chairman of the South-East European Cooperation Process. He then became his country's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, from 2001 to 2003, during which time he served as vice-chairman both of the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 2002) and of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002). In addition, he was a member of the group of facilitators of the President of the fifty-sixth UN General Assembly, focusing on UN reform, and was a co-organizer of the Regional Forum on Dialogue of Civilizations (Ohrid, 2003).

Since 2003, Dr. Kerim has been General Manager of Media Print Macedonia in Skopje. From 2006-2008 he was General Manager for South-Eastern Europe of the WAZ Media Group, based in Vienna. Since 2008 he is serving as Member of the Board based in Vienna, and as Special Advisor of the WAZ Media Group for political issues.

From September 2007 to September 2008 Dr Kerim was President of the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly. During his Presidency, the Assembly has focused on the following key issues: Responding to Climate Change, Financing for Development, Implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Advancing United Nations Reform, Following up on measures to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Since September 2008 Dr. Kerim is serving as Special Envoy of the Secretary General on Climate Change.

Awarded with several decorations, amongst them the Grand Cross of Merit with star of the Federal Republic of Germany; Grand Decoration of Honor in Gold with Sash for Services to the Republic of Austria; Great Cross of Merit with brilliants of the Principality of Lichtenstein; Grand Cross of Merit Melitensi Special Class of the Sovereign Order of Malta; Golden Medal of Honor of the OIER (Organization for International Economic Relations); Honorable Decoration for Merit of the Republic of Albania; Kentucky Colonel, Highest decoration of the State of Kentucky, USA; Honorary degree of the Gumilev Eurasian National University in Astana, Kazakhstan

He is also the author of 12 books and of more than a hundred periodical publications in the fields of economics, international relations, politics and youth-related issues.

Born on 12 December 1948 in Skopje, Dr. Kerim is married to Snezana Lazova Kerim, with three children.



Metodija A. Koloski is Co-Founder and President of the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD), headquartered in Washington, D.C. Koloski is an expert on Macedonia's right to its name, minorities in Southeast Europe, and NATO and EU enlargement issues, and his opinion-pieces on these topics have been published in the Washington Times, the Foreign Policy Association,



The Hill's Congress Blog, the National Post, the Journal Gazette, and the International Relations Forum. He is frequently quoted in the Macedonian and international media on topics related to Macedonia and the diaspora.

In his previous capacities, Koloski has worked for the Foreign Policy Association, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and DLA Piper LLP. He holds a Bachelors of Arts from Manhattanville College in Political Science and International Relations.

Koloski's family migrated to the United States from Macedonia in the early 1950s due to communist Yugoslavia's anti-democratic policies. Koloski was born and raised in Garfield, New Jersey. His family has roots in the Republic of Macedonia, Aegean Macedonia, and Korca, Albania.



Natasha Kotlar-Trajkova is a historian and works as an Assistant Professor at the Institute of National History in Skopje. Her fields of interest include: the national awaking and revolutionary movements, national identity, the Balkan wars and ethnicity, and history textbooks. She has collaborated on many projects and has participated in a number of domestic and foreign scientific conferences. She is author and co-

author of many journal articles and several publications. Her latest publications include: *18th Century Macedonia (1800 – 1902)*, MI-AN, Skopje, 2007 (as co-author); *Testimonies About the Macedonian Identity (18th-20th century)*, Skopje, 2010, (as collaborator); and *Commander Nikola Petrov Rusinski (1875-1943)*, Skopje, Menora, 2013, (as author). Since 2011, she has been the president of the Association of Historians of the Republic of Macedonia (AHRM).



Aleksandar Kržalovski. Born on June 19, 1969 in Skopje. Graduated at the Electro-Technical Faculty in Skopje in 1993. During the studies he was actively involved in three civil society organizations. Started to work in MCIC in 1995. Since 2009 he is Executive Director of MCIC and is responsible for the programs for relations with communities and for the Balkans. He has extensive experience in coordination and management of different projects and programs

(including identification, drafting, monitoring and evaluation) including the large humanitarian operations (1999-2001) and activities targeting sensitive groups (religious communities, former combatants). He is a member of the National Council for European Integrations within the Macedonian Parliament. Since 2000, he participates in consultancy missions for organizational and program evaluations in Macedonia and the Balkans. He is co-author of several publications.



Vlatko Lozoski – Lozano is a Macedonian singer from Kičevo - Republic of Macedonia. He is one of the most powerful male vocals on the Macedonian pop music scene. Together with Esma Redžepova, he

represented Macedonia in the Eurovision Song Contest 2013 in Malmö, Sweden.

Even as a child, Lozano simply knew that music would be his greatest passion and profession. He plays piano, accordion and guitar. His first public appearance was as a participant in the talent show Mak Dzvezdi (September 2007 - May 2008). A month later, he won the Grand Prix on the first Macedonian Radio Festival called Starry Night. He sang the song “Vrati Me” which was also his first official single. His second single was called “Obicen Bez Tebe”. In October 2008, singing his only third official single at the time “Vremeto Da Zastane”, Lozano was awarded by the jury the Debut Prize at MakFest, the most prestigious music festival in Republic of Macedonia. Two days later, on the final evening he won the MakFest Grand Prix, which was awarded by the audience. “Sonce Ne Me Gree” was his next single. In February 2009, he participated in Macedonia's national selection for the Eurovision Song Contest 2009 singing his fifth single “Blisku Do Mene” and was placed fourth. The song was elected to represent Macedonia on The Virtual Eurosong Festival “Second Chance”. In June 2009 Lozano participated on the Pjesma Mediterana Festival in Budva, Montenegro. In July, he participated on the Slavianski Bazar Festival in Vitebsk, Belarus and won the second prize. Next, Lozano performed “I’m Your Angel” along with Magdalena Cvetkoska on the Golden Wings Festival in Moldova, and they won the second prize. He was also awarded the Best Male Voice. His first album named “Lozano” was released in early 2010. In February 2010 he participated in the Macedonian national selection for the Eurovision Song Contest 2010 singing “Letam kon tebe”. He ended up in the fourth place.

With his enormous music talent and brilliant interpretation Lozano amazes both the audience and the critics. He is also very well known for his wonderful performing of old Macedonian folk songs, which are part of the Macedonian tradition and cultural inheritance.



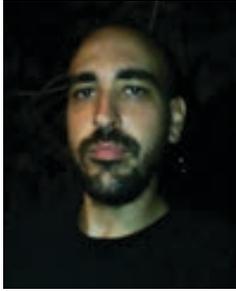
Dr. Dejan Marolov was born in Stip, Republic of Macedonia. He obtained his B.A. from the Faculty of Law at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, and his M.A. in Nice, France at the European Institute of High International Studies. Marolov acquired the title doctor of legal sciences in 2011 at the European Centre for Peace and Development in Belgrade, Serbia. He has published one book and several research papers in different international journals. He is part of the international editorial lists of several international journals. Currently, he is working as lecturer at Goce Delchev University.



Adis Merdzanovic is a Ph.D. candidate at the Departments for Political Science and Philosophy of the University of Zurich (UZH), Switzerland. In 2010, he received an M.A. in political science from this institution, where he also worked as a teaching assistant for courses dedicated to political philosophy and Swiss domestic politics. His current research focuses on constitutional order in divided post-conflict societies, using the perspective of political theory, in particular the



theory of consociational democracy. At UZH, he is also co-teaching a course on the European Union's Accession and Neighborhood Policy.



Georgios Michalopoulos is currently finishing his PhD at Oxford. His research focuses on the diplomatic history of early twentieth century Greece, and especially on the Macedonian Question and Greece's approach to it. Georgios has also spent time in Athens, Berlin, Helsingborg, Aarhus, Madrid, Minsk, and Cambridge where he studied European history, analytic philosophy, theology,

languages, linguistics, and Viking archaeology.

Georgios is at present preparing an article on entertainment during the German occupation of Athens (1941-44), based on oral testimonies of survivors. He is also writing on the anticommunist camps for kids that were set up during and after the Civil War and where many kids of Macedonian origin and communist ideology were indoctrinated.

His published works include "Greek historiography and the establishment of the Bulgarian Exarchate," "Oliver Cromwell" (a short biography for non-specialists), and "Martin Luther, his views on the Statehood, and the Italian Renaissance."

He speaks French, Spanish, Italian, a bit of German and Russian.

Toni Mileski, Ph.D., is an associate professor and researcher in the Department of Security, Defense and Peace, Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. His research fields are political geography and geopolitics, environmental security, energy security, and migration and conflicts. In 2005, he defended his doctoral dissertation "Political



and Geographical Position of the Republic of Macedonia: Perspectives for Development into Euro-Atlantic Ambient".

Professor Mileski has participated in several scientific and research projects. He served as project assistant for the project "Partners for Peace and Prevention", in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Initiative for Building Peace and Democracy. He was also a project leader in the implementation of the Open Journal System for the Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University. In October 2012, he participated in the International Voluntary Leadership Program (IVLP). The program was organized by the United States Embassy, and held sessions in Washington D.C., New York City, and Boston.

Professor Mileski, is editor-in-chief of the internationally peer-reviewed, and open access journal, Security Dialogues. He is also a member of the editorial board of Italian book series Globolitical, which provides a forum for participants to discuss issues related to geopolitics, geo-strategy, security, sociology, economics, conflict prevention and resolution, lands, borders, peoples, and more.

Prof. Mileski has participated in many national and internal conferences, and has authored and coauthored over 80 scientific papers, books, textbooks and book manuals.



Antonio Miloshoski. Born on 29 January 1976 in Tetovo. Graduated from the Faculty of Law in Skopje in 1999. In 2002 attained Masters Degree on European integration from Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn, Germany. Since 2005 worked as a scientific associate in the Institute for Political Sciences of the Gerhard Mercator University in Duisburg, Germany, where he also began his doctoral studies.

Since 2011 he is Member of Parliament in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Policy, except in the period 2006-2011 when he was Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Antonio Miloshoski represented the Republic of Macedonia before the International Court of Justice in the lawsuit against Greece for violation of the Interim Accord of 1995 signed between the two countries.

In the period May 2000-September 2001 he was spokesperson of the Government, while in 1999-2000 he was Head of Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia.

Since 2004 he is member of the Executive Committee of VMRO-DPMNE. In the period 1997-1998 he was Deputy President of the Union of Young Forces of VMRO-DPMNE. For a period of time he was columnist in the newspapers "Dnevnik" and "Utrinski vesnik". He is founder of the Association of Citizens "Youth Euro-Atlantic Forum" situated in Skopje and is member of the German association South-East Europe.

In September 2012 he was Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Mission that observed the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Belarus, while in December 2011 he was member of the Delegation of the International Republican Institute (IRI) during the parliamentary elections in Egypt.

He speaks English, German, Serbian, Croatian and Bulgarian language. Antonio Miloshoski is married with one child.



Aleksandar Mitreski was born in Skopje, Macedonia, and as a young adult immigrated to the United States to complete his graduate studies in Electrical Engineering from Louisiana Tech University. He also holds a Master of Business and Administration from University of Arkansas at Little Rock. With over 10 years in the electric utility industry, Mitreski currently works for ISO New England, where he designs

the regional wholesale energy markets. During one of the summer breaks from his university studies, on his way home to Macedonia, he met his wife, Jasmina, with whom they have two children.

As one of the co-founders of UMD, since the beginning Mr. Mitreski has volunteered his efforts to build an organization that will unite the Macedonians worldwide. He was the inaugural Chairman of the Board, and has continually served as the Vice President of the organization. Mitreski also chairs the UMD Advisory Council.

The German DJ and Producer "**CJ Molotov**" who is of Macedonian heritage, is widely known during the last 12 years for his songs and DJ mixes. With over half a million views on



his YouTube Channel, and with his regular submission of songs on Beatport, iTunes and Amazon worldwide, CJ Molotov is seen as a phenomenal producer of house and electro music.

He is also the producer of other artists. Directly from the clubs of Germany, CJ Molotov has prepared a special DJ-set in festival-style for a perfect summer party at Skopje's club Paradiso for the UMD Global Conference.



His Excellency Jerry Naumoff was appointed the Minister responsible for attracting foreign investment to the Republic of Macedonia in May 2013. He was born and grew up in Columbus, Ohio where his family, with roots in Gavato, Macedonia, owned and operated a successful restaurant for over 30 years. In 1980, he earned a football scholarship at Ball State University and obtained his Bachelor's Degree in marketing

and business administration. He began his career in employee benefits, human resources and risk management, and worked for several large insurance companies and top-ranked Chicago-based consulting firms. In 1993, he founded The Naumoff Group, Inc., a total risk management advisory firm. In addition to being a member of the UMD Advisory Council, Naumoff also serves on the Board of Directors of Macedonia 2025.

Jerry and his wife LuAnn, until recently, lived in the Chicago area, and have six children, two of which were adopted from the orphanage in Bitola, Macedonia. Their sons Anthony and Nicholas both live and work in Skopje, Macedonia.



Elizabeth Naumovski is the Vice President of Marketing at Caldwell Securities Ltd., based in Toronto, since joining the firm in 1997. During this time, she has been responsible for marketing, corporate communications and public relations. Naumovski is on the marketing committee of the Investment Industry Association of Canada. She also serves on the Board of the Macedonian Film Festival, is a former Board member

of the Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame, and for many years has raised money for the Princess Margaret Hospital, and Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research. Naumovski has also hosted and guest hosted Money Line, a live hour-long call-in show on Rogers television, where she most recently filled in for Dale Goldhawk on Goldhawk Live. In 2009, she climbed Stromboli, an active volcano north of Sicily, in the Aolian Islands.

Zlatko Nikoloski, Ph. D., born in Skopje in 1969, and is currently working for the Ministry of Internal Affairs – Sector of Conterminous Affairs and Migrations of the Republic of Macedonia, simultaneously involved as a visiting professor of the Faculty of Business Studies of EURO COLLEGE in



Kumanovo. He graduated from Law School and completed his Ph.D. studies at the Institute of Security, Defense and Peace at the Faculty of Philosophy, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, the title of his doctoral thesis being *The Importance of the Macedonian Diaspora for the Development and Peace of the Republic of Macedonia* thus acquiring the degree of Ph. D in Peace and Development. He is the author of the book entitled *Migrations – Counter-indications or*

Reason for Positive Effects, 2010, as well as of several works in the field of migrations and security. He has been following the problems of migrations and the potential of the Diaspora, which enabled him to participate at many important domestic and international conferences.



Stojan Nikolov was born and raised in Strumica, Macedonia, he moved to the United States during high school as an exchange student. He is married and has two children. Nikolov holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance, a Masters in Business Administration from Louisiana Tech University, and is also a Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS). He currently works as a Project Manager/Consultant for an

organization overseeing the electrical demands for New England. In the past, he has worked as a Financial/Business Analyst and Project Manager in both the HR Consulting and Outsourcing and the Marketing and Media Information industries.

During his time with UMD, Nikolov has led many projects and initiatives. Since 2008, he has served as the Development Director for our quarterly magazine and premiere publication, UMD Voice. He also heads up UMD's youth program for developing and encouraging young Macedonian leaders, Generation M. A firm believer that only united and through hard work and collaboration can Macedonia and our people prosper and correct the mistakes and injustices of the past, Nikolov has devoted much of his own personal time and energy to contribute towards this end through UMD over the last few years.



Sonja Nikolova, Master, earned a Bachelors degree from „Ss. Cyril and Methodius University“ in Skopje, at the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Common National Defence in 1995. She completed her Masters degree at the Institute of national History in 2012 on the „Party organization of Shtip and the activity of Kiro Kukushev-secretary of the Local Committy of CPY for Macedonia“ whereby she received

the academic title of Master of historical science. In 2013 she started the doctoral studies on the University of from „Ss. Cyril and Methodius University“. Her field of interest was Contemporary history of Macedonia and Balkan especially the role of Metodija



Shatorov Sharlo in the Macedonian revolutionary movement. She works in the Public Company „Isar“ in Shtip. She has published several articles on the role of Metodija Shatorov Sharlo in the Macedonian revolutionary movement.



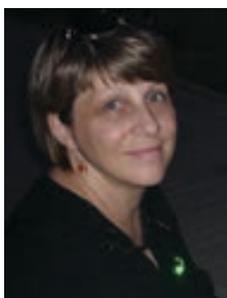
Slave Nikolovski-Katin is a publicist whose literary works are devoted mostly to the life of the Macedonians living all over the world, and to many other aspects related to our diaspora, as well as to our culture, literature, language, history, journalism and religion. He is known to the Macedonian and the international public for his numerous publications, and journal and research papers. Katin is an author of 45 publications that could be found and read on his website: www.slavekatin.com.

The literary opus of Slave Nikolovski-Katin is very rich and, starting with his first work English-Macedonian Limnological Dictionary (1986) to date, the following works should be singled out: The Macedonians in the United States and Canada (2002), (in Macedonian and English); The Macedonian Orthodox Churches in Australia, Canada and the United States (1990); Macedonian Holocaust” (1991); Macedonian Emigrant Press (1993); Ilinden 1903-2003 and the Macedonian Emigrants (1998); (in Macedonian), then the monographs: Andrea Branov from Melbourne (2001); The Janovskis from Toronto (2002); Steve Stamevski from Detroit (2005); George Tomov, from New York (2007); Boshko Rajchovski-Pelisterski from Florida (2008); Metropolitan Kirill (2007), as well as the books about the great benefactors from the Macedonian diaspora: Atanas Bliznakoff (2000/2013); Peter Stamatoff (2010), and George Atanasoski (2012), (in Macedonian and English). He is also known for his translation of the historical novel Alexander the Great (1988) from English into Macedonian by Ulrich Vilken.



Andrej Novakovski graduated from Jahja Kemal College in Struga, Macedonia in 2010, and is currently a junior majoring in Political Science and minoring in Philosophy at Western New England University in Massachusetts. Some of the extracurricular organizations in which he is involved include: President of the Model United Nations Club at Western New England University, mentor at the United

and Mutually Equal’s Connection Mentoring program, open house Associate, peer tutor and office assistant.



Ivona Opetcheska-Tatarchevska was born in Struga, south-west Macedonia. Bachelor of Ethnomusicology at Faculty of Music, University St. “Ciril and Metody”-Skopje. Master of science on Institute for Ethnology and Anthropology at the same university. Working experience in music pedagogy (1996-1998); (1998-2004); worked as assistant - dance researcher in Institute for Folklore Research “Marko

Cepenkov” Skopje; (2005/2006) Lecturer on Faculty of Music Art-Skopje (2005-2007). From October 2005 works in Ministry of Culture –Cultural Heritage Protection Office. In the period

2007-2010 is a junior researcher in the project ”Nation – building processes in Southeastern Europe” at the Free University, Institute for South-eastern Europe - Berlin. From 2010 is external researcher within Berlin Phonogram Archive on the digitalizing of the Koppers-Sonnenberg collections. Active member in International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM) Study group for Ethnochoreology from 2004. From 2006 member of SOKOM (Composer’s association in Macedonia). As expert for Intangible Cultural Heritage, is a member of working expert’s groups of UNESCO and WIPO. Participated in organization’s councils of: Festival for traditional instruments and songs “Pece Atanasovski” - Dolneni (1998-2002); Ethnoacoustic festival-Ohrid (2000); Student folk festival-Skopje (2002) e.t.c. Active participant on international symposiums: in Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Italy, Great Britain, Romania, Austria, Germany, South Africa, Poland. Fields of interests: Dance ethnology; Iconography of music and dance; Kinetography Laban analysis; Mediterranean and Slavs cultures; Protection of intangible cultural heritage with special accent on macedonian traditional and folk dances. Published in professional journals: „Music“, „Macedonian folklore“, „Macedonian Music“.



Professor Vladimir Ortakovski was born in Skopje, Macedonia. He graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade with a degree in International Politics. He obtained his M.A. and LL.D. in International Law and International Relations at the Faculty of Law in Belgrade. In 1989, he was promoted to Docent, in 1994 to Associate Professor, and in 1997 to Full Professor at the Faculty of Security at the University “Sts. Cyril and

Methodius” in Skopje. In 2001, he was promoted for the second time to Full Professor in Public International Law.

He was Deputy Minister for Science in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia from 1993 to 1996. He was the undersecretary and later Assistant to the Minister at the Ministry of Education and Science from 2000 to 2004. He was president of the Committee on Foreign Diploma Recognition at the Ministry of Education and Science from 2002-2006. He was a member of Senatus at the University St. Kiril and Metodij Skopje from 1996-2000; since 2008 and presently he has been a member of Senatus of the University St. Kliment Ohridski in Bitola.

He has written extensively on International Law, Diplomacy, Ethnic Minorities etc. He has published over 220 bibliographic units consisting of scientific and specialist publication in journals and newspapers, papers at symposia and scientific gatherings in Macedonia and abroad. He participated in around 60 international conferences, round tables, symposiums, presenting his papers (in Europe and USA). He made a number of study visits to international organizations or to higher education institutions abroad, participated in international seminars and conferences, as an expert or member of the governmental or ministerial delegation in international meetings. Prof. Ortakovski is the author of seven books and four university textbooks and manuals. He was awarded the state prize “Goce Delchev” for the best scientific publication in 1996 for his book “The International Position of Minorities”. His book “Minorities in the Balkans” was published by “Transnational Publishers, Inc.”, Ardsley, New York, in 2000.



He was Dean at the Police Academy from 2004-2008 and was Head of Postgraduate Studies in the field of Security from 2006-2008. He has been Head of Department for Social-Politic and Law Sciences at the Faculty of Security since 2005. He continues to lecture on Public International Law, International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights and Minorities Rights Law as well as Diplomacy and International Security. Currently he is lecturing at the Faculty of Security at graduate and postgraduate studies. He is also lecturing as visiting professor at a number of other Higher Education Institutions. He is a Member of the Council of Centre for Strategic Research, in Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA) (since 2000), and a President of the State Council for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (since 2009).



Zhikica Pagovski is the UMD Regional Representative for Washington, D.C./ Maryland/ Virginia. He is currently doing an M.A. program in International Affairs (concentrating on Diplomacy and International Security) at American University's School of International Service. He obtained his B.A. from the American University in Bulgaria with Summa

Cum Laude, double-majoring in European Studies (Honors) and Political Science and International Relations (Honors). He was recognized for his accomplishments with the Presidential Medal for the most outstanding and well-rounded senior in his class. He was also recognized for outstanding achievement in the field of European Students by American University's School of International Service in Washington, D.C. Zhikica Pagovski is working as a Program Assistant at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. In his previous professional capacity, Pagovski worked at the United Nations, and the Government of Macedonia. Pagovski was also a consultant at the Challenge Future think tank organization in Slovenia. His academic work was previously published in renowned journals in Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Columbia, and his scholarly work has been presented at conferences in Germany, Poland, Hungary, and most recently at the School of Foreign Service (Georgetown University) European Union Conference.



His Excellency Vladimir Peševski is the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs for the Government of the Republic of Macedonia. He received his Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje in 1993. In 2001, Peševski completed a Master of Arts in Business Administration from the University of Sheffield (UK), through a program affiliated with the

City College in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Prior to his appointment in the Ministry of Economic Affairs in 2009, Peševski worked in various positions both in and out of the corporate world, including as an Assistant in the Center for Research in New Technologies within the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (1993-1996), Management Consultant for

a USAID project in strategic management and finances in the Macedonian Business Center (1996-1998), General Manager for SEAF Macedonia (1998-2005), Member of the First Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Macedonia (2003-2006), as a Lecturer of M.A. studies at the University of Sheffield, through a program based out of the City College in Thessaloniki (2004-2007), and as General Manager for the SEAF South Balkan Fund (2005-2009). In 2001, Peševski also served as a short-term advisor to former Macedonian President Boris Trajkovski, where he advised on economic policies and measures in the areas affected by the 2001 political crisis.



Aleksandar Petrovski obtained a Masters in Geographic Information Systems, and their implementation in defense (military geography and topography). He works as an assistant at the General Mihalo Apostolski Military Academy in Skopje. He is the author of more than 10 international articles, including: *Geographical Information Systems for Achieving Defense Needs*, (Skopje, 2011), *Comparative Analysis of Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Asia Pacific*, (Skopje, 2011), *Regional and Global Conflicts Through the Prism of Multiculturalism and Multilateralism* (Skopje, 2012), and *Security Sector Reform in the Republic of Albania for the Prevention of Organized Crime* (Tirana, 2013). He is an assistant in 5 subjects at the Military Academy: Military Geography and Topography, Hydrology and Flood Phenomenology, Forest Fires and Floods, Typology of Civilian Disasters and Accidents, Unconventional Weapons and Armed Conflicts (C-IED).



His Excellency Nikola Poposki was appointed the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia in July 2011. Prior to his appointment, he was the Ambassador of the Republic Macedonia to the European Union from 2010 to 2011. Minister Poposki has held numerous positions in the public and private sectors, including: team leader of the Joint Research Centre at the European Commission from 2006-

2009, for which he was awarded the Excellence Award for his contributions to policy development of the EU towards the Western Balkans; Client Relationship Manager for DEPFA Bank in Dublin from 2005-2006; Secretary of the French Embassy to the Republic of Macedonia from 2001-2004, of which from 2003-2004 he worked in the Analysis and Development Department of the Rouen Port Authorities; and Manager's Assistant for the British Royal Engineers Quality from 1999-2001. In addition, he is a European Commission trained internal auditor for implementation of integrated environmental management and health and safety standards (ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001).

Minister Poposki earned his Bachelors in Economics from Sts. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia, and the University of Nice, France on a French Government Scholarship. He holds a Masters in Languages and International Trade in the European Union from the University of Rennes and Sts. Cyril and Methodius University, as well as a Masters of Arts in European Economic Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges.



In addition to his native Macedonian, Minister Poposki is fluent in both English and French, and is conversational in Croatian, Dutch, and Italian. He is married and has one child.



Dragica Popovska, Ph.D. is an assistant professor at the Institute of National History in Skopje. She graduated and also holds a Master from the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. Popovska defended her Ph.D. dissertation at the Institute of National History in Skopje. Dr. Popovska's research is in the field of socio-cultural anthropology and cultural history. Her interest is focused on "sacred" spaces in

Macedonian culture, religion and religious traditions and ethnic identities and interactions. The results of the mentioned research topics have been presented at many international conferences and domestic scientific gatherings. Popovska is an author of monographs and many scientific papers, published in Macedonia and abroad.



Rade Rajkovcevski is a PhD candidate and senior teaching assistant in the Department of Police Sciences at St. Kliment Ohridski University's Faculty of Security in Skopje, Macedonia. He is currently working on "*Development and Perspectives of International Police Cooperation in Europe*". Rajkovcevski graduated in 2002 as an Infantry Officer of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia at the Military

Academy in Skopje. In 2002-2003, he worked as a Commander of the Motorized Infantry Platoon within the First Professional Brigade of the Army of Republic of Macedonia. He completed his professional education in the field of civil protection and security in 2005, and worked in the same area in Northern France. His academic carrier began in 2006 when he was elected teaching assistant at the Faculty of Security. In 2010, he defended his Master's thesis entitled "*Elements of Security Policy Aimed at Preventing Conflicts in the Republic of Macedonia*" (2010). Throughout his academic career, he has written a significant number of papers related to security issues. He is also part of the EU funded FP7 project, and has participated in many conferences in Macedonia and abroad. His main areas of research are related to: organization, education, oversight and functions of the police; professional subculture and standards in the security sector; security policy; and international security cooperation.



Dr. Zekir Ramcilovic is a Professor at Yahya Kemal College-Skopje and is also a Counselor at the Municipality of Petrovec, Macedonia. He completed his Ph.D from the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University's Institute for National History. In 2006, he earned a pedagogical specialization for being a director of a primary school from University American College Skopje. He holds a BA and MA from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics from Ss. Cyril and Methodius University. He is

native in Bosnian and Macedonian and speaks English, Turkish, and Serbo-Croatian.



The Honorable Pavle Sazdov was elected member of the Macedonian Assembly in the 2011 Parliamentary Elections, and is the first MP representing the interests of the Macedonian diaspora from North and South America. Prior to his election, Mr. Sazdov served as State Secretary for the Macedonian Ministry of Information Society and Administration (2010 to 2011), where he was responsible for many projects, including the

"Interoperability" project, the "Document Management System" for the State Administration, "e-Forms", "Government IT network", "e-Textbooks", and "e-Content". He was also involved in the development of the Strategy for Public Administration Reform in the Republic of Macedonia.

Prior to moving to Macedonia from Canada, Mr. Sazdov held numerous positions, primarily in the private sector. From 2005 to 2010, he provided consulting in information technologies for Best Buy Co. Inc., North America's largest electronics retailer and service provider.

The Honorable Pavle Sazdov holds a Diploma in Network and Internet Security (highest honors) from Everest College – School of Technology, in Mississauga, Canada, as well as Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from FON University – Faculty of Information and Communication Technologies, both in the field of information sciences and technologies. He was recently appointed Senior Fellow at New Westminster College of Canada. In addition, he has earned many industry related certificates from prominent companies in the information technology industry. Mr. Sazdov has also authored several professional and scientific articles in the field of information sciences and technologies.

In addition to his native Macedonian, Mr. Sazdov is fluent in English and is conversational in Bulgarian, Croatian, and Serbian. He is married and has one child.



Radmila Sekerinska is serving her fourth mandate as Member of Parliament. She is the Chair of the National Council for European Integration of Macedonia.

Šekerinska was Deputy Prime Minister for European Integration and National Coordinator for Foreign Assistance of the Republic of Macedonia (2002-2006) and also was the acting Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia on two

occasions in 2004. During her term as a Deputy Prime Minister responsible for European Integration, the European Council granted Macedonia a status of candidate country for accession to the European Union.

At the Congress of the Socialist International held in July 2008, she was elected Vice-President of this organization. She was the President of the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia (SDUM) from 2006 to 2008, when she resigned after the party has been defeated on the early Parliamentary elections.

Šekerinska acted as a Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election



Observation Mission for the Presidential election in the Kyrgyz Republic in July 2009 and for the Parliamentary election in May 2012 in Armenia.

Radmila Šekerinska holds a Master's Degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. She graduated at the Skopje's Faculty of Electrical Engineering with a degree in Power Engineering.



Silvana Sidorovska - Cupovska, Ph.D., completed her studies at the Philosophy Faculty of the Institute of History in Skopje in 1989. Since 1994, she is employed at the Department of the National-Revolutionary and Revivalist Movement, at the Institute for National History in Skopje. In April 2000, she defended her Master's thesis *Преродбара во*

Велес и Велешко од почетокот на XIX век до 1912 година (The Revival in Veles and Veleško from the beginning of 19th century to 1912). In March 2006, at the Institute of National History in Skopje, she defended her doctoral dissertation on *Educational and Cultural Conditions in Macedonia in the 19th century*. In 2006, she was made a Fellow at the Institute for National History to research: *History of the Macedonian People from 1371 to the Balkan Wars and Balkan History and Macedonians in the Diaspora*. She teaches the following subjects: History of the Macedonian National Liberation Movement 19th century to 1919, The Balkans in the Era of the Formation of Nation-States and Cultural History of Macedonia. She has participated in numerous conferences and symposiums in the country and abroad, and has implemented several national and international projects. She is currently working on the national project: *Health and Healthcare in Macedonia in the 19th century*.



Strasko Stojanovski, Ph.D., earned his doctorate from Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Philosophy, Institute of Sociology in Skopje. He completed his Bachelors and Masters at the same institution. He is interested in: the construction of collective identities, ethnic groups, nationalism, multiethnic coexistence in the Balkans and in Macedonia, and constructing permanent peace-sociological aspects. In 2011, he became Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, at Goce Delcev

University in Stip, Macedonia. The subjects he teaches include: Sociology of Law, Philosophy of Law, and Political Sociology.



Doc. Dr. Aleksandar Stojcev was born in Belgrade. Stojcev graduated from the Department of History at the Faculty in Philosophy, in Skopje, in 2001. After the successful defence of his MA thesis "The Dojran positions at the Macedonian front 1915-1918" in 2006, and his doctoral dissertation "The Macedonian Front 1915-1918" at the National History Institute in Skopje, in 2009, he earned the title

PhD in History. In 2012 (16th July to 3rd August), he participated and was certified in the program "Conflict Resolution" organized by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Government, held in several locations throughout the United States.

From 2002 to 2005, Stojcev was engaged as a younger assistant at the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski" in Skopje, and promoted to a military history assistant professor, in 2009. Parallel to his lecturing career at the Military academy in Skopje, he also taught at the Goce Delcev University in Stip and the School for pilots in Skopje. He is highly interested in research and museum work. Starting from 2006, Stojcev was elected the head of the Military History Department at the War museum within the Ministry of Defense. In June 2002, he participated in the training seminar of the Coalition for Peace, on the subject of "Internet usage by the practitioners of international security policies", organized by the Government of Switzerland and the Cabinet of the President of the Republic of Macedonia. From 2000 to 2003, Stojcev took part in the research project "War history course - computer supported teaching." From the beginning of 2005, he is a participant in the international research project for cultural reorganization of the Prespa region, implemented by the Central European University in Budapest, the Institute and Museum of Prehistoric Archeology in Ohrid, Sweet Briar College in USA, Durham University in England and the U.S. National Park Service. In 2006, he became the director of the National War Museum in Skopje.

Aleksandar Stojchev is the author of the following publications: 155 original historical maps for the English edition of "The War History of Macedonia" - published in Skopje, 2004; 13 original historical maps as part of the permanent exhibition "Anti-Fascist Assembly for the People's Liberation of Macedonia (ASNOM) 1944-2004" - at the National Museum of Macedonia, 2004; 4 original historical maps for the permanent numismatics exhibition at Ohrid Bank in Ohrid, May, 2005; "Dojran 1915-1918 (Military operations)" - monograph, published in Skopje, 2007; Several professional papers related to the war history of Macedonia, published in the magazines "Odbrana" and "Shtit", from 2001 to 2012; "Noble Prize Winners and ARM for peace" - permanent photo exhibition, 2011; "General Mihailo Apostoloski Memorial Room" - museum exhibition, 2012; "Treaty of Bucharest and the Division of Macedonia in 1913" - documentary screenplay, produced by the Macedonian Radio-Television.



Velika Stojkova Serafimovska, Ethnomusicologist, born 1973 in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia. Graduated in ethnomusicology at the Faculty for Music Art in Skopje and MA studies on ethnomusicology on the Faculty for Music Art in Belgrade (Serbia). Finishing PhD studies at University "St. Kiril and Metodij", Skopje, R. Macedonia.

Her research as an ethnomusicologist is focused on the function and the aesthetic in rural tradition, the ritual folklore and the ritual songs and dances in Macedonia, the multipart rural singing and the transition in the Macedonian music tradition. She is also interested in the music folklore of the minorities in Macedonia. Until now she has acquired 20 years of experience in fieldwork, mostly in rural areas of Macedonia. Her research includes old polyphonic rural singing, male and female. She works at the Institute for Folklore research "Marko Cepenkov" - Skopje. Her working experience also includes working at the



State Ensemble for folk dances and songs in Macedonia “Tanec”, stage performance of Macedonian folk songs, research activities in preparing choreographies and working with the vocal group in singing old songs and the reconstruction of polyphonic singing that is almost disappearing in the field. She is also a leader of the vocal group “Clear Waters” performing authentic Macedonian folk songs. She is involved in several projects connected with ethnology and ethnomusicology in Macedonia, and collaborates with numerous ethnomusicologists from the Balkan countries. She is Chair of the ICTM National committee of Macedonia, Chair of the ICTM study group “Music and Dance in South-eastern Europe”, a member of the Balkan Musical Forum, the southeast European forum for intangible heritage – UNESCO, the Composers’ Association of Macedonia, ICTM and other. Until now, she has actively participated in 23 international conferences and symposiums in Macedonia and abroad. Her papers have been published in several music magazines.

The Women’s Chamber Choir “**St. Zlata Meglenska**” exists as a part of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and it is the first of its kind of choirs in the Republic of Macedonia. Letka Dimovska Polizova is the founder, artistic director and the conductor of the Choir. She acquired high reputation through her activity as a founder, a conductor and a successful leader of several choirs in Macedonia. She is a winner of numerous important national and international prizes.

As a leader of the children’s choir of Macedonian Broadcast, then the choir “Zlatno Slavejce” (“Golden Nightingale”), Youth Mixed Choir “Koco Racin”, Chamber Choir of the Orthodox cathedral “St. Climent Ohridski”, Women’s Chamber Choir “**St. Zlata Meglenska**” and many others, she achieves the epithet the most successful female conductor in Macedonia.

The Choir is composed by 25 women’s voices that belong to young educated musicians, students of the Faculty of Music Art in Skopje. Although they are volunteers, these young people contribute to the reputation of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Macedonian cultural tradition and popularity of the choral church singing in authentic way and high quality.

Supported by the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign affairs, as well as several embassies of the Republic of Macedonia abroad, the choir accomplished excellent international presentation and affirmation of Macedonian Church music in the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Serbia, Slovakia, Croatia, Poland, Portugal, Belgium, Monte Negro, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, Australia, Espania, USA, Austria and other countries.



Nevena Trajkov is a lecturing professor of political science at Eastern Michigan University. Her primary areas of teaching are American government, comparative politics, international relations, global issues, ethnic conflict, and civil rights. Her area of research interest involves relationships

between power parity in divided societies and their influence on democratic quality. She received invitations to present her research by various international political associations and institutions, including the Canadian Political Science Association, the American Political Science Association, the International Sociological Association, and the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Nevena is also a contributing author to

two upcoming encyclopedias on economics and government to be released by the California based publishing company ABC-CLIO. Her professional experience includes working as a research analyst for the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, statistical consultant for the Ann Arbor based Methods Consultants of Ann Arbor, and education coordinator for the Michigan Council on Economic Education. Prior to her decision to pursue a Ph.D. in political science, Nevena previously obtained an M.A. in political science from Wayne State University, an M.B.A. from the Walsh College of Accountancy and Business, and a B.S. in music performance and education from Eastern Michigan University. She also holds a certification of Croatian language from the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Zagreb.



Ambassador Paul D. Wohlers was sworn in as the sixth U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on August 11, 2011. He arrived in Skopje on September 12, and presented his Credentials to the President of the Republic of Macedonia on September 13, 2011. Ambassador Wohlers is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service who was unanimously confirmed by

the Senate on August 2, 2011 to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia. Prior to his nomination, he served as Deputy Executive Secretary at the U.S. Department of State. Mr. Wohlers previously served as Director of the Office of Caucasus Affairs and Regional Conflicts in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé d’Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Skopje, Deputy Director of the Executive Secretariat Staff, and Senior Watch Officer in the Operations Center. Earlier in his career, Mr. Wohlers held diplomatic postings at U.S. embassies in Bucharest, Moscow, and Nicosia. In Washington, Mr. Wohlers worked on arms control issues in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs and was Desk Officer for Bangladesh in the Bureau of South Asian Affairs. He also served on the Executive Secretariat Staff.

Prior to joining the State Department, Ambassador Wohlers served as a Naval Flight Officer. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, and earned a J.D. from the University of Washington.



Christopher Yvon has been British Ambassador to Macedonia since August 2010. Before that he was Deputy Head of International Organisations Department from 2007 to 2010. He has particular experience of multilateral work, especially in UN issues. His experience includes areas such as human rights and UN Security Council work.

Christopher began his career in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1989. He has been posted to

Prague, Bangkok, Riyadh and Port Louis.

Christopher attended Marling Grammar School in Stroud, Gloucestershire.

He is married to Annette and has two daughters and one son.



Dragan Zajkovski, Ph.D., has been an assistant professor and docent at the Institute of National History in Skopje since 2008. His research focuses on religion and the Christian church in Macedonia. He obtained his MA in 2004 and his Ph.D. in 2011. His Ph.D. thesis is entitled *The Christian Church in Macedonia in the Early Middle Ages*. His latest

publications include: Христијанството во Македонија (I – IV век) (*Christianity in Macedonia 1st-4th century*) and several articles in the field of Church history published in relevant scientific journals. One of the articles is Писмата на александрискиот патријарх Кирил до македонските епископи Флавијан и Руф како сведоштво за црковните прилики во Македонија (*Letters from Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria, to the Macedonian Bishops Flavian and Ruf as a testimony for Church Affairs in Macedonia*). Since 2010, he has been member of the Presidency of the Association of Historians of the Republic of Macedonia (AHRM).



Nikola Zezov, Ph.D., completed his undergraduate studies in 1995 in the Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. The same year he enrolled in MA studies of the same Department, in the Contemporary History Program. In October 2000, Zezov defended his MA thesis entitled *The Regime of the Kingdom of the SCS and the Resistance of Macedonian People in the District of Bregalnica (1918-1924)*. Since 2002, he has been part of the academic staff of the Department of History, and is a

teaching assistant for the course “Modern History of Macedonian Nation”. In 2006, he defended his PhD thesis entitled *The Macedonian Question in Yugoslav-Bulgarian Relations between the Two World Wars* and was awarded with the title of PhD in Historical Sciences. He participated in several symposia on historical sciences (in Romania, Bulgaria, and Croatia), and many seminars covering topics in teaching methodology. Zezov also worked on implementing ECTS in institutions of Higher Education in Macedonia. He is also the author of several published articles in scientific journals and teaches the courses “The History of Macedonia in the Twentieth Century” and “Didactics of Teaching History” at the Department of History. Since 2009, Zezov has been the Vice Dean for Education at the Faculty of Philosophy.



Doc. Dr. Oliver Andonov was born in Skopje, the Republic of Macedonia. He was raised in the town of Kriva Palanka where he completed his primary education. In 1989, he graduated from the Land Army Military High School in Sarajevo, as an artillery man in the typographic-triangulation service. In 1999, Andonov earned his BA degree from the Institute of Defense at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje. In 2007 he successfully defended his master

thesis “Ethno-political mobilization and the conflict process in the Republic of Macedonia” at the Institute of Defense in Skopje. In 2010, he was awarded his Ph.D. in Peace and Development, upon presentation of his doctoral dissertation “The model of advance warning of the EU and its influence on the safety policy in the Republic of Macedonia”. Since September 2011, Andonov has been promoted by the MIT University in Skopje to an assistant-professor at the Faculty of security, criminology and financial control and a lecturer in Criminal Intelligence, Criminal Methodology and Financial Crime Research Methodology.



Katerina Neskova was born in Skopje, the Republic of Macedonia. Since 2012, she has been working as a journalist for the daily newspaper Dnevnik, covering politics and research issues. Her career was launched at the local newspaper Vreme in 2004 and she also worked for the newspaper Nova Makedonija and as an editor for the weekly newspaper Forum. In 2005, she graduated from the Justinianus Primus Faculty of Law, where she is currently finishing her master studies in International Law and Politics.



Vasil Sterjovski was born in the village of Gorna Gorica, Mala Prespa region, Republic of Albania. In 2006, he graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje at the Department of History and is currently finishing his master studies at the Institute of National History in Skopje, with focus on the History of the Macedonian people (1913-1945). In the period

2002-2007 Sterjovski was elected three times the president of the Macedonian Student Society of the neighboring countries of the Republic of Macedonia. Since 2007, he serves as the president of the Youth Union and a member of the central executive committee of the Macedonian alliance for European integration. In the period 2007-2010, he served as the mayor of the municipality of Pustec. Since 2010, Sterjovski has been the head of the Water Authority & Waste Management for the rural area of county Korca, Albania.



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LJUBINKA OLGROVA

Ljubinka Olgrova is a graduated architect from Skopje. She says, "I like painting. For me it is both relaxation and excitement. Part of my life."



VEŠKA SOTIROVSKA

Veska Sotirovska now lives in Skopje after a worldwide career in the Diplomatic Corps. Her love and passion of art comes from her experiences in France and Macedonia. The combination of French Impressionist and traditional Macedonian make her style unique.



JULIETE SOSSON

Although Juliete Sosson is just 9 years of age, she is a full member of NGO Art Studio. She loves to draw and is determined to be a professional artist when she grows up.



IRENA GAPKOVSKA

Irena Gapkovska is Founder and President of NGO Art Studio in Skopje and a Resident Artist at the prestigious Bakehouse Art Complex in Miami, Florida. By using the aesthetics of ancient Macedonian art to express the spirituality of the subject, she makes a bridge between abstract and figurative realities.



LIDIJA JANEVSKA

Lidija Janevska is a fashion designer whose clothing expresses form and elegance. In her art she express her passion for life through colors, which speak for themselves with the power and character of the impressionist style, bringing strength to her ideas and emotions.



GORAN VELJANOSKI

Goran Veljanoski is a graphic designer. He expresses his thoughts through his drawings and by making music.



NATASHA STOJMANOVSKA

Natasha Stojmanovska is a graduate architect who gets inspiration from the organic form of the human body and the different colors of the human emotion. She presents her ideas on paper in strong and colorful tones, capturing specific moments of life's celebrations.



MARIJA VOLKANOVSKA

Marija Volkanovska is a dentist living and working in Skopje. Her art relates to the vivid colorful landscapes and cultural traditions of Macedonia. She expresses her art on paper with lots of strong positive colors that capture life all around us.



ANA TRAJKOVSKA

Ana Trajkovska is studying graphic art at D.S.U.P.U. "Lazarus Licoenski" in Skopje and has been the Manager of NGO Art Studio for more than two years. Her current paintings combine her love of music with her love of the visual arts while demonstrating her style of impressionist-expressionism.



CHRISTELLE SOSSON

Christelle Sosson was born in Soissons, France and is now attached to the Diplomatic Corps in Skopje after getting her Master's Degree in Geology. She is passionate about her daughter, her horse, and her artwork.



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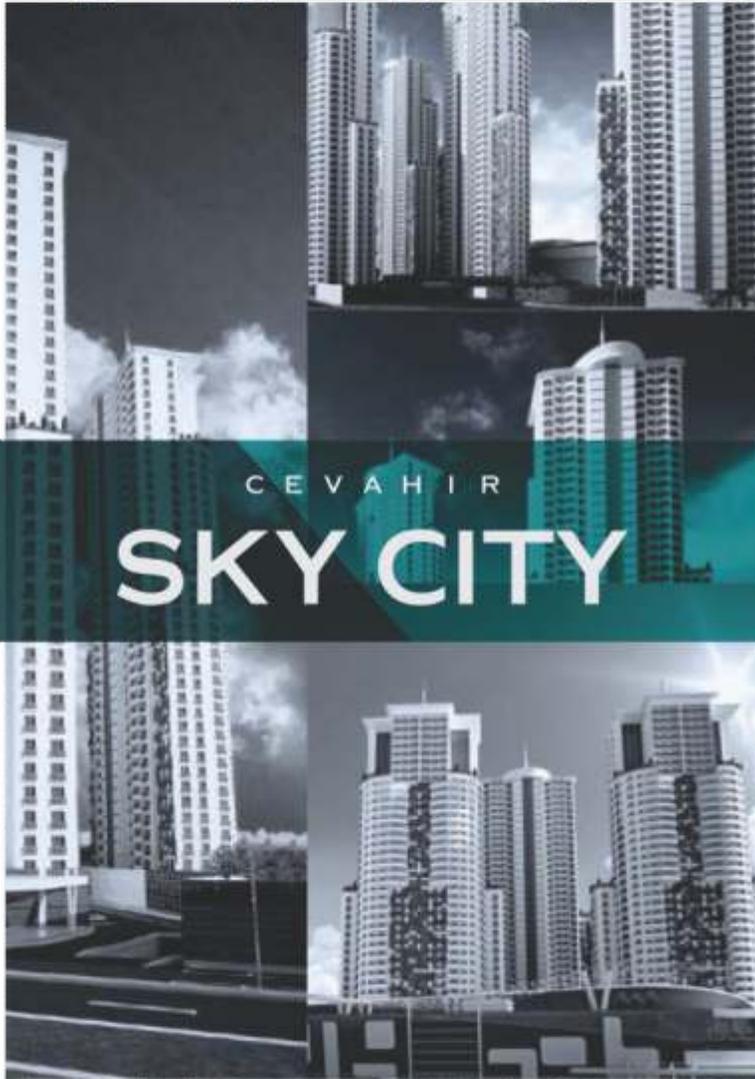
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