Ohrid, le 24 Mai 1994

La Commission des relations avec les pays européens non membres, réunie à Ohrid les 23 et 24 Mai 1994, se réjouit de l'adoption par la Commission Permanente de l' Assemblée Parlementaire du Conseil de l' Europe, le 28 février 1994, de la Résolution 1027(1994) sur l' embargo imposé par la Grèce à l' ex-République Yougoslave de Macédoine, et constate avec une inquiètude croissante le refus de la Grèce de se conformer aux dispositions de la Résolution quelque trois mois après son adoption.

La Commission note que l' embargo continue de mettre à mal l' économie de l' ex-République Yougoslave de Macédoine et la fragile stabilité de cette région particulièrement vulnérable, elle en appelle à l' Assemblée Parlementaire pour qu'elle consacre un nouveau débat à la question de l' embargo au cours de sa prochaine session plénière, éventuellement selon la procédure d'urgence, afin que soient prises des mesures plus efficaces en vue de la levée de l' embargo et de la tenue de discussions approfondies visant à une solution pacifique et constructive du problème.

RÉSOLUTION 1027 (1994)[1]

relative à l'embargo imposé par la Grèce à l'encontre de l'ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine

1. L'Assemblée a débattu de l'embargo commercial imposé par la Grèce à l'encontre de l'ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine.

2. L'Assemblée désapprouve fermement les mesures prises par le Gouvernement grec qui peuvent avoir un effet déstabilisateur dans une région particulièrement vulnérable à l'heure actuelle.

3. Elle exprime aussi son appui à la demande adressée par la Commission européenne au Gouvernement grec pour que l'embargo, qui pourrait violer les règles de l'Union européenne, soit levé dans les plus brefs délais.

4. L'Assemblée invite la Grèce et l'ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine, dont le parlement bénéficie du statut d'invité spécial auprès de l'Assemblée, à faire preuve de bonne volonté en vue de régler leurs différends d'une manière pacifique et constructive.

5. L'Assemblée invite le Président en exercice du Comité des Ministres, le Président de l'Assemblée et le Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe à prendre des initiatives concrètes visant à réunir les parties concernées en vue de trouver une solution définitive.

1. Texte adopté par la Commission Permanente, agissant au nom de l'Assemblée, le 28 février 1994 (Rapporteur: M. Reddemann).

ADDENDA

ADDENDUM 1

Mr. Igor Spirovski, Secretary General of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Dimitar Trajkovski, Chief of the Office of the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

ADDENDUM 2:

Dr. Bećir Žuta, Minister-Coordinator in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Stevo Crvenkovski, Minister of Foreign Relations

Dr. Sofija Todorova, Minister of Development

Mr. Tuše Gošev, Minister of Justice

ADDENDUM 3:

Mr. Tomislav Stefkovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the VMRO-DPMNE (Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization - Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity)

Mr. Ljubomir Popovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the SDU (Social Democratic Union)

Mr. Muhamed Halili, (replaced by Ramadani) Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the PDP-NDP (Party for Democratic Prosperity - People's Democratic Party)

Mr. Petar Georgiev, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the LP (Liberal Party)

Mr. Kiro Popovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the SP (Socialist Party)

Mr. Petar Gošev, President of the DP (Democratic Party)

Mr. Slave Kelešov, representative of the Party of Yugoslavs

Mr. Vladimir Golubovski, President of the VMRO-DP (Democratic Party)

Mr. Mitko Anastasovski, representative of the VMRO -Fatherland Party

Mr. Faik Abdi, President of the PCER (Party for Complete Emancipation of Romas)

Mr. Ferid Sadiku, representative of People's Democratic Party

ADDENDUM 4:

The representative of the Albanians, Dr. Xheladin Murati, President of PDP

The representative of the Turks, Mr. Erdogan Sarač, President of the Democratic Party of the Turks

The Representative of the Romas, Mr. Faik Abdi, President of PCER (Party for Complete Emancipation of Romas)

The Rrepresentative of the Serbs, Mr. Dragiša Miletić, President of the Democratic Party of the Serbs in Macedonia

The Representative of the Vlachs, Mr. Mite Kostov, President of the League of the Vlachs

ADDENDUM 5

The Representative of the Macedonian Orthodox Church - Metropolitan Timotej

The representative of the Islamic Religious Community - Hađi Sulejman Effendi Ređepi, President

The representative of the Catholic Church - Monseigneur Ante Cirimotić

ADDENDUM 6:

Helsinki Citizen's Assembly of Macedonia, Mrs. Slobodanka Markovska, President

- A representative from the Forum of Human Rights,
- Macedonian Council of the European Movement, prof. Vladimir Cvetkovski, President
- Alliance of the Trade Unions of Macedonia, Mr. Živko Tolevski, President
- Youth Council of Macedonia, Mr. Zoran Kostov, President
- Committee on the Macedonian-Greek Dialogue, Mr. Meto Jovanovski President
- The Consulate of the First Child's Embassy in Macedonia, Mr. Kole Angelovski
- Organization of the Women of Macedonia, Mrs. Nadežda Gerasimova, President
- Organization of the Albanian Women, Tetovo, Mrs. Mućarem Rusi, President
- Movement of the Environmentalists of Macedonia, Dr. Josif Tanevski, President
- Organization of Peace and Justice.
- Syndicate of Students and Pupils
- Citizens' Union Ohrid.

ADDENDUM 7

- The Radio and Television of Macedonia
- NIP „Nova Makedonija„ (The Newspaper and the Publishing House)
- Newspaper in Albanian language „Flaka e Vlazerimit„
- Newspaper in Turkish „Birlik„
- „A1„ Independent Television
- Independent newspaper „Delo„
- Local „Ohrid„ Radio

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Youth Council of Macedonia, Mr. Zoran Kostov, President

Committee on the Macedonian-Greek Dialogue, Mr. Meto Jovanovski President

The Consulate of the First Child's Embassy in Macedonia, Mr. Kole Angelovski

Organization of the Women of Macedonia, Mrs. Nadežda Gerasimova, President

Organization of the Albanian Women, Tetovo, Mrs. Mućarem Rusi, President

Movement of the Environmentalists of Macedonia, Dr. Josif Tanevski, President

ADDENDUM 7

The Radio and Television of Macedonia

NIP „Nova Makedonija„ (The Newspaper and the Publishing House)

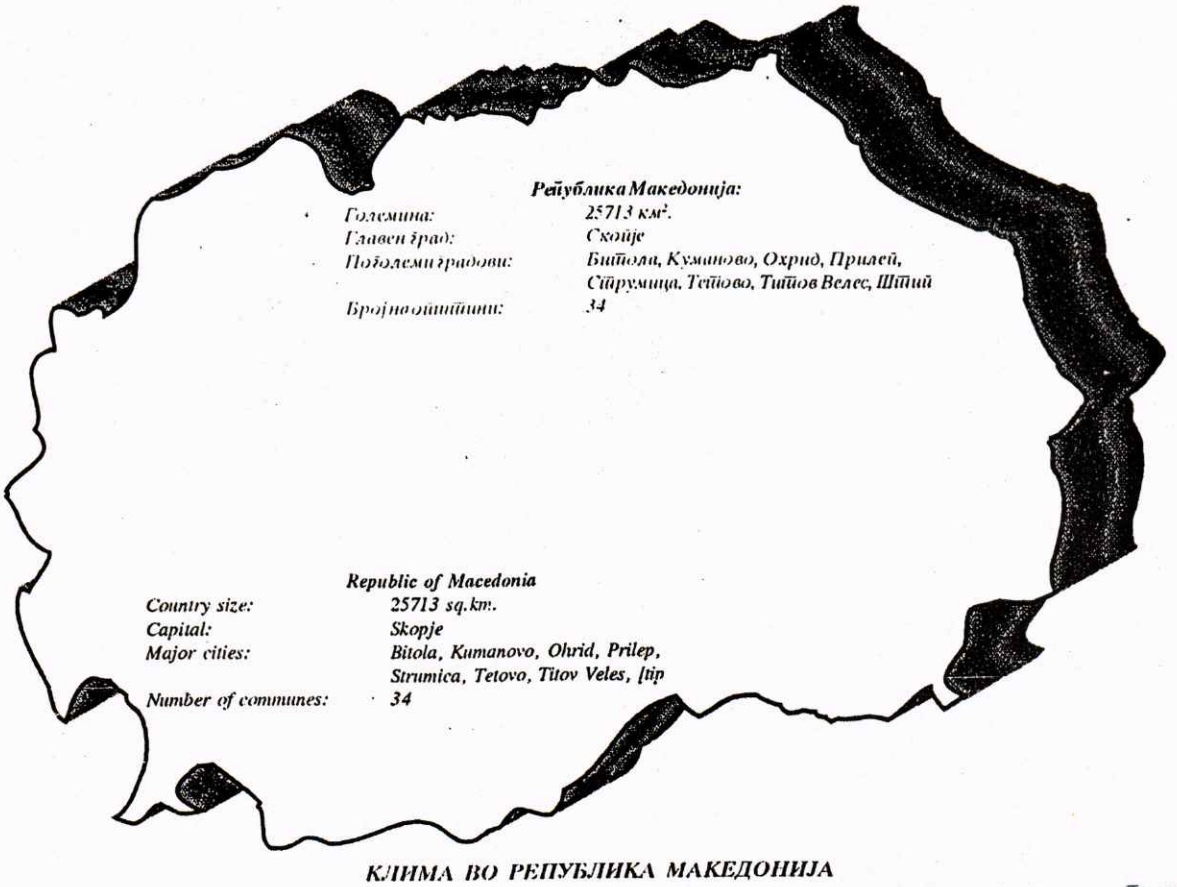
Newspaper in Albanian language „Flaka e Vlazerimit„

Newspaper in Turkish „Birlik„

„A1„ Independent Television

Independent newspaper „Delo„

Local „Ohrid„ Radio



КЛИМА ВО РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА

Територијата на Република Македонија се наоѓа под влијание на континенталната и медитеранската клима. Оттаму произлегуваат и две специфични годишни времиња: студена и влажна зима и суво и топло лето. Освен овие два климатски типа, во пределите на високите планини се јавува и планинска клима.

Максималните месечни температури се јавуваат во јули и август, а минималните во јануари и февруари.

Максималната релативна влажност е забележана во декември, а минималната во август. Најголема релативна влажност има Полошката котлина, а најмало Гевгелиското Поле.

Според податоците од осум климатолошки станици средната годишна облачност за периодот 1987-1992 се движи од 4,2 десетини во Охрид до 5,0 десетини во Крива Паланка.

Според распределбата на врнежите, во Македонија има сушни, средно врнежливи и изразито врнежливи подрачја. Најмногу врнежи паѓаат во есенските и зимските месеци. Главниот максимум се јавува во ноември и октомври, а споредниот во март, април и мај.

Ветровите дуваат главно од северниот квадрант. Најпознати ветрови се вардарецот и југот.

Годишната сума на сончевиот сјај се движи од 2100 до 2450 часови.

Појавата на температурни инверзии во Македонија е присутен феномен. Тој посебно се јавува во подрачјата на котлините каде што се собира магла, а што условува инверзија.

CLIMATE IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

The territory of the Republic of Macedonia is influenced by continental and mediterranean climate. Therefore two specific seasons follow: cold and wet winter and warm summer. Besides these two climate types, in regions of high mountains appears a mountain climate.

Maximum monthly temperatures appear in July and August and minimum in January and February.

Maximum relative humidity is noted in December and minimum in August. The highest relative humidity has Polo{ka basin and the smallest Gevgelisko Pole.

According to data of eight climatological stations mean annual cloudiness for the period of 1987-1992 ranges from 4,2 tenths in Ohrid to 5 tenths in Kriva Palanka.

According to distribution of precipitations there are dry, mean rainy and markedly rainy regions in Macedonia. Most of precipitations fall in autumn and winter months. Main maximum appears in November and October, and secondary in March, April and May.

Winds blow mainly from the northern quadrant, but in individual regions their direction changes in dependance on relief structure. The most known winds are Vardarec and Jug.

Annual amount of sunshine ranges from 2100 to 2450 hours.

Occurence of temperature inversions in Macedonia is a present phenomenon. It especially appears in regions of basins where fog gathers which creates inversion.

ПОВАЖНИ ТЕЛЕФОНСКИ И ТЕЛЕФАКС БРОЕВИ

Хотел "Белви" - Охрид

тел: 00 389 96 31 144
00 389 96 25 000
00 389 96 31 480
00 389 96 33 480

Телекс: 53 881

Факс: 00 389 96 33 928
00 389 96 31 212

Стручни служби на Собранието на Република Македонија

тел/факс: 00 389 96 30 110
телефон: 00 389 96 30 080

Канцеларија на Комисијата

телефакс 00 389 96 30 045

ПРЕСС-ЦЕНТАР

тел/факс 00 389 96 30 005
00 389 96 30 055
00 389 96 30 040

MORE IMPORTANT TELEPHONE AND TELEFAX NUMBERS

Hotel „Belvue„ -Ohrid

Tel: 00 389 96 31 144
00 389 96 25 000
00 389 96 31 480
00 389 96 33 480

Telex: 53 881

Fax: 00 389 96 33 928
00 389 96 31 212

Staff Services of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

Tel/Fax: 00 389 96 30 110
Telephone: 00 389 96 30 080

Office of the Committee

telefax 00 389 96 30 045

PRESS-CENTER

Tel/Fax 00 389 96 30 005
00 389 96 30 055
00 389 96 30 040

И Н Ф О Р М А Ц И И

Собранието на Република Македонија како домаќин на Комисијата на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа за односи со европските земји нечленки, во хотелот "Белви" обезбеди простории, технички и сите други видови услуги за непречено одвивање на седниците и сите други активности што ќе ги имаат сите учесници на овој значаен настан.

Работата на Комисијата ќе се одвива во големата сала за седници што се наоѓа на I кат-долу, со посредство на современа техника на озвучување за меѓусебна комуникација на учесниците во расправата на Комисијата, а паралелно со тоа организиран е симултан превод на пет европски јазици: англиски, француски, германски, италијански и македонски. Веднаш до неа, сместена е официјалната канцеларија на Комисијата, во која за потребите на европските парламентарци се обезбедени неопходните технички помагала: телефон и факс-врски, машини за пишување, компјутери и слично.

На II кат-долу се наоѓа официјалната канцеларија на службите на Собранието на Република Македонија, која ќе ги дава сите информации што се во функција на седниците на Комисијата и други дневни известувања.

Со оглед на тоа што станува збор за настан од вонредно значење за Република Македонија, за потребите на домашните и странски новинари на вториот кат-долу е сместен и ПРЕСС-центар. Во него се обезбедени сите неопходни услови за непречена работа и известување на новинарите од работата на Комисијата.

На влезот во хотелот "Белви" постојано ќе работи ПТТ-служба, опремена за ПТТ-врски во земјата и странство.

Во текот на одржувањето на овој собир ќе работи и здравствена екипа-амбуланта, што е сместена во приземјето на хотелот.

Распоредот на работните простории што ќе функционираат за време на одржувањето на седниците се обележани на посебни информативни паноа.

Членовите на Комисијата за односи со европските земји нечленки на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа, ќе имаат свои бецови, како и вработените на Собранието. Новинарите акредитирани за овој настан, ќе бидат обележани со постојните бецови со кои се акредитирани во Собранието на Република Македонија.

INFORMATION

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, as a host of the Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Relations with European non-Member States, has provided rooms in the hotel „Belvue„, technical and all other types of services for undisturbed holding of the session and carrying out of all other activities of the participants in this significant event.

The activity of the Committee is going to be carried out in the big hall for meetings located on the first floor-downstairs, by means of modern technique for sound recording of the mutual communication of the participants in the colloquy of the Committee, and parallely to that a simultaneous translation has been organized in the five European languages: English, French, German, Italian and Macedonian. Immediately next to the hall, the official office of the Committee is located, where the necessary technical facilities are provided for the needs of the European parliamentarians: telephone and fax-connections, type writers, computers and so on.

The official office of the services of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia is on the second floor-downstairs. It will give all the information in function of the session of the Committee and other daily announcements.

Considering the extreme importance of this event for the Republic of Macedonia, there is a PRESS-center for the needs of the domestic and foreign journalists on the second floor-downstairs. All the necessary conditions for undisturbed working and informing of the journalists in relation to the work of the Committee are provided in it.

At the entrance of the hotel „Belvue„ the Postal Telegraph and Telephone (PTT) Services equipped for PTT connections in the country and abroad will be working constantly.

Health Service team - clinic located on the ground floor of the hotel will work in the course of this gathering.

The arrangement of the working premises which will function during the holding of the session is marked on separate information boards.

The members of the Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Relations with the European non -Member States, will have their own badges, as well as the employees of the Assembly. The journalists accredited for this occasion, will be marked by the existing badges for accreditation of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia.

СРЕДБИ И РАЗГОВОРИ

Во рамките на работата на Комисијата за односи со европските земји нечленки на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа, во текот на денешниот ден (23 мај), се предвидени бројни средби и разговори со претставници на највиското државно раководство на Република Македонија, Владата и со претставници на политичките партии.

По состанокот што ќе биде посветен на тековни прашања од работата на Комисијата, во 11,00 часот европските парламентарци ќе имаат средба со претседателот на Собранието на Република Македонија, господинот **Стојан Андов.**

Според Програмата, во 14,30 часот, членовите на Комисијата на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа ќе разговараат со претседателот на македонската Влада, г-дин **Бранко Црвенковски.** На разговорите ќе учествуваат и претставници на македонската Влада, министерот-координатор во Владата, г-дин **Бекир Жута**, министерот за односи со странство, г-дин **Стево Црвенковски**, за внатрешни работи, г-дин **Љубомир Фрчковски**, за развој, г-ѓа **Софија Тодорова** и министерот за правосудство и управа, г-дин **Туше Гошев.**

Во текот на денешниот ден (во 16,00 часот), европските парламентарци ќе се сретнат и ќе разговараат со свои колеги од македонскиот Парламент. На разговорите ќе присуствува по еден претставник од секоја политичка партија што е застапена во Парламентот.

Во вечерните часови (18,00 часот) гостите од Парламентарното Собрание во вилата "Билјана" ќе ги прими претседателот на Република Македонија, г-дин **Киро Глигоров**. Веднаш потоа (во 20,00 часот) во хотелот "Метропол", претседателот на Собранието на Република Македонија, г-дин **Стојан Андов** ќе приреди коктел за гостите и учесниците на разговорите на кој ќе присуствуваат и дипломатско-конзуларни претставници во Република Македонија.

MEETINGS AND TALKS

In the framework of the proceedings of the Committee on Relations with European Non-Non-Member Countries of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, a number of meetings and talks with highest representatives of the State, the Government, and the political parties of the Republic of Macedonia have been scheduled for the day (May 23).

After the Meeting dedicated to regular issues in the work of the Committee, the European Parliamentarians shall meet with the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Stojan Andov, at 11.00 a.m.

According to the Program, the Members of the Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly will have talks with the Prime-Minister of Macedonian Government, Mr. Branko Crvenkovski at 2.30 p.m. At the talks, representatives of Macedonian Government, the Minister-Coordinator in the Government, Mr. Bećir Žuta, the Minister of Foreign Relations, Mr. Stevo Crvenkovski, the Minister of Interior, Mr. Ljubomir Frčkovski, the Minister of Development Mrs. Sofia Todorova and the Minister of Justice, Mr. Tuše Gošev, will take part.

In the course of the day (today, at 4.00 p.m.) the European Parliamentarians will meet and have talks with their Macedonian colleagues from the Macedonian Parliament. At the talks, one member of each political party represented in the Parliament will take part.

In the evening hours (6.00 p.m.), the guests from the Parliamentary Assembly will have a reception by the President of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Kiro Gligorov. Right after the reception (at 8.00 p.m.), the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Stojan Andov, will host a cocktail for the guests and the participants at the talks, with the presence of representatives of foreign diplomatic-consular missions in the Republic of Macedonia.

ПРОГРАМА ЗА УТРЕ

Во текот на утрешниот ден, Комисијата на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа за односи со европските земји нечленки ќе оствари средби и разговори со претставници на повеќе заедници, организации и со претставници на средствата за информирање.

Според Програмата активностите ќе започнат во 9,00 часот, со средба на европските парламентарци со претставници на националните заедници што живеат во Република Македонија, а веднаш потоа, во 10,30 часот и со припадници на Македонската православна црква, на Исламската верска заедница и на Католичката црква.

Во попладневните часови, членовите на Комисијата ќе разговараат со претставници на невладини организации од Република Македонија (14,30 часот), а потоа ќе имаат средба и со средствата за информирање (во 16,00 часот), по што ќе следи Конференција за печатот, радиото и телевизијата (во 17,30 часот).

Во 20,30 часот, претседателот на Собранието на Република Македонија, г-дин **Стојан Андов**, за гостите ќе приреди вечера во ресторанот "Бисер" во Струга.

PROGRAMME FOR TOMORROW

During the following day, The Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Relations with the European non-Member States, will carry out a series of meetings and talks with representatives of more communities, organizations as well as with representatives of the media.

According to the Programme, the activities shall start at 9.00 a.m. with a meeting of the European parliamentarians with representatives of the national communities living in the Republic of Macedonia, and immediately after that, at 10.30 a.m. with members of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, the Islamic Religious Community and the Catholic Church.

In the afternoon, the members of the Committee will talk to the representatives of the non-governmental organizations of the Republic of Macedonia (at 2.30 p.m.), and after that they will have a meeting with the media (at 4.00 p.m.), followed by the Press-Conference (at 5.30 p.m.).

At 8.30 p.m. the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Stojan Andov, will host supper for the guests in the restaurant „Biser„ in Struga.

ПРОГРАМА ЗА ПРИДРУЖНИТЕ ЧЛЕНОВИ

Во придружба на некои од членовите на Комисијата на Парламентарното Собрание на Советот на Европа за односи со европските земји нечленки, се и нивните сопруги. За нивниот престој во Охрид е подготвена посебна програма, која, меѓу другото, предвидува посета на атељето на академскиот сликар, охриѓанецот **Вангел Наумовски**, на Работната организација "Отекс" и на други знаменитости на градот Охрид и неговата околина.

PROGRAMME FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Some of the members of the Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Relations with the European non-Member States are accompanied by their spouses. There is a special programme for their stay in Ohrid, which, among other things, provides for a visit to the painter's studio of the artist Vangel Naumovski from Ohrid, to the Manufacturing Organization „Oteks„ and to other sights of the city of Ohrid and its vicinity.

РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА

REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА

ПОВРШИНАТА на Република Македонија изнесува 25.713 км^2. Триесет и четири планински врвови се повисоки од 2000 м.надморска височина, од кои највисок е врвот КОРАБ со 2764 м. Поголеми реки: ВАРДАР, БРЕГАЛНИЦА, ПЧИЊА, ТРЕСКА, ЦРНА РЕКА, СТРУМИЦА, ЦРН ДРИМ, РАДИКА, и други. Најголеми езера се: ОХРИДСКОТО ЕЗЕРО 348,8 км2, на надморска височина од 695 м, ПРЕСПАНСКОТО ЕЗЕРО 274 км2, на надморска височина од 853 м и ДОЈРАНСКОТО ЕЗЕРО 43 км2. Најголемо вештачко езеро кое се користи за хидро енергија е МАВРОВСКОТО ЕЗЕРО, на надморска височина од 1233 м. Најголеми полиња се: ПЕЛАГОНИЈА, ПОЛОГ и ОВЧЕ ПОЛЕ.

Во шумите, кои се богати со дивеч, преовладува буката и дабот. Климата е умерено континентална, а по долината на реката Вардар навлегува и средоземна клима.

Главен град на Република Македонија е СКОПЈЕ, кој е најголем политички, културен и стопански центар.

МАКЕДОНИЈА е позната по производството на ферментиран тутун, а фабрики за преработка и производство на цигари има во Прилеп, Куманово и Скопје.

Климатските погодности овозможуваат производство на ран зеленчук и овошје.

Најголемо учество во извозот имаат црната металургија, производството на готови текстилни производи, електрични апарати и машини, хемиски производи и нафтени деривати.

ПОЛОЖБАТА на Македонија, климатските погодности и богатството на културните споменици се предуслови за развој на сите видови туризам: летен, зимски, транзитен, ловен и други. Познати туристички места се: ОХРИД, ПРЕСПА, СТРУГА, ДОЈРАН,МАВРОВО ШАР ПЛАНИНА, ПЕЛИСТЕР, КРУШЕВО И ДРУГИ.

REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

THE TERRITORY of the Republic of Macedonia amounts to 25.713 km2. Thirty four mountain peaks are higher than 2 000 m. above sea level, of which the highest is KORAB with 2 764 m. Larger rivers are: VARDAR, BREGALNICA, PČINJA, TRESKA, CRNA REKA, STRUMICA, CRN DRIM, RADIKA, etc. The largest lakes are: OHRID LAKE 348,8 km2, 695 m. above sea level; the PRESPA LAKE 274 km2, 853 m. above sea level and DOJRAN LAKE with 43 km2. The largest artificial lake used for production of hydro energy is the MAVROVO LAKE, 1 233 m. above sea level. The largest plains are: PELAGONIJA, POLOG AND OVČE POLE.

In the forests, abounding in game, the beech and the oak trees are prevalent.
The climate is moderate continental, and along the River Vardar valley the Mediterranean climate penetrates.

The capital of the Republic of Macedonia is SKOPJE, the largest political, culture and economic center.

MACEDONIA is well known for production of fermented tobacco, and its cigarettes factories are located in Prilep, Kumanovo and Skopje.

The climate allows for the production of early vegetables and fruits.

The ferrous metallurgy, manufactured textile products, electric appliances and machines, chemical products and oil derivatives contribute to the largest share of the exports.

The LOCATION of Macedonia, the advantages of its climate and the affluence of cultural monuments are the prerequisite for the development of all kinds of tourism: summer, winter, transitory, hunting and other kinds. Well known tourist spots are: OHRID, PRESPA, STRUGA, DOJRAN, MAVROVO, ŠAR PLANINA, PELISTER, KRUŠEVO and etc.

НАСЕЛЕНИЕ - Според последниот попис во 1991 година во Република Македонија живеат 2.033.964 жители од кои 1.314.283 Македонци или 64,6 отсто, 427.313 Албанци, или 21 отсто, 97.416 Турци или 4,8 отсто, 55,575 Роми или 2,7 отсто, 44,159 Срби или 2,2 отсто, 8.129 Власи или 0,4 отсто и 87.089 жители од други националности или 4,3 насто.

Поголемиот дел од населението живее во градовите, 58 отсто, а останатиот дел,42 отсто, во селските населби.

POPULATION

According to the last 1991 census, the Republic of Macedonia has 2.033.964 people, out of which 1.314.283or 64,6% are ethnic Macedonians, 427.313 or 21% ethnic Albanians, 97.416 or 4,8% ethnic Turks, 55,575 or 2,7% Romas, 44,159 or 2,2% Serbs, 8.129 or 0,4% Vlachs and 87.089 or 4,3% other nationalities.

The larger part of the population, 58%, lives in the towns, and the rest, 42% in the rural settlements.

М А К Е Д О Н Ц И - јужнословенски народ што го добил името по областа Македонија. Потомци се на старите словенски племиња кои во VI и VII век го населиле Балканскиот полуостров во сливовите на реките Вардар, Струма, Места и Бистрица, во Родопските планини и котлини и во приморјето на Егејското Море, особено во Солунскиот залив.

M A C E D O N I A N S - south Slavic people called after the territory of Macedonia. They are descendants of the old Slavic tribes which settled the Balkan Peninsula in the 6-th and 7-th century along the basins of the rivers Vardar, Struma, Mesta, and Bistrica in the Rodopski mountains and valleys and on the Aegean seashore, especially in the bay of Thessaloniki.

МАКЕДОНСКИОТ ЈАЗИК - спаѓа во групата јужнословенски јазици. Формиран е од говорот на словенските племиња кои се населиле најдлабоко на југот на Балканот. Еден од нив, солунскиот, во втората половина на IX век бил основа на првиот словенски книжевен јазик т.н. старословенски. Уште тогаш се изразени некои јазични карактеристики кои поблиску ја поврзуваат македонската јазична група.

Во натамошниот развој, под влијание на несловенските балкански јазици, македонскиот јазик претрпел значителни промени. Како резултат на тоа, современиот тип на македонски јазик бил во основа формиран веќе до XV век.

Елементите на народниот македонски јазик од XVII век почнале да продираат во јазикот на Црковната книжвеност. Во почетокот на XIX век се печатат првите книги на современ македонски јазик.

Основа на книжевниот јазик се т.н. централни говори од областа на Велес, Прилеп, Битола и Кичево.

THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE - belongs to the group of south Slavic languages. It is formed from the speech of the Slavic tribes which settled most deeply in the south of the Balkans. The speech of Thessaloniki, in the second half of the 19-th century was the basis for the first Slavic literary language i.e. Old Church Slavonic. Even since then some language features had been expressed, closely connecting the Macedonian language group.

In the further development, under the influence of the non-Slavic Balkan languages, the Macedonian language suffered significant changes. As a result of that, the contemporary type of the Macedonian language had already been formed, in its basic features, until the 15-th century.

The elements of the people's Macedonian language of the 17-th century started to penetrate the language of the Church Literature. At the beginning of the 19-th century the first books are printed in the contemporary Macedonian language.

The so-called central speeches from the area of Veleš, Prilep, Bitola and Kičevo are the basis for the literary language.

ГРАДОТ НА УНЕСКО

ОХРИД - познато летувалиште и пристаниште на Охридското езеро по старословенската ахритектура и многувековни црковни објекти.

Се споменува уште во III век, а во IX и X век како престолнина на македонскиот цар Самоил израснал во најразвиен црковно-просветен и културен центар на Балканот и пошироко. Во овој период градот Охрид бил главно средиште на црковно-просветна дејност на Климент, кој изградил повеќе цркви во кои била воведена словенска богослужба, со што биле поставени темелите не само на македонската словенска школа, туку и на словенската црква. Манастирот што го носи неговото име, станал главен центар за стекнување на високо црковно и просветно образование. Со тоа, Климент уште како учител ги поставил темелите на ОХРИДСКАТА КНИЖЕВНА ШКОЛА, која постепено израснала во развиена високошколска институција и средиште на првиот СЛОВЕНСКИ УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ. Затоа тој со право се нарекува КЛИМЕНТОВ УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ.

Како резултат на интензивната учителска дејност, за кусо време Климент успеал да просвети околу 3500 словенски свештеници, учители и други културни дејци.

За градот Охрид врзана е и дејноста на Наум, под чие раководство биле изучени голем број црковно-просветни и културни дејци. Сето тоа овозможило Охрид да се претвори во расадник на словенската култура, зашто од овој град биле растурани низ Македонија и целиот словенски свет голем број словенски книжевни трудови. Затоа со право за името на Климент и Наум е врзан и називот Охридски.

Стариот град Охрид со тврдините доминира над крајбрежната равница на брегот на Охридското Езеро.

Во околината на Охрид се пронајдени наоѓалишта на праисториски населби, на пример, (Требениште, северно од градот).

мп

THE UNESCO TOWN

O H R I D - the well known summer resort and port on Ohrid Lake, famous for its old Slavonic architecture and many centuries old church buildings.

There is mention of the town in the historical records of the III-rd century, but during the IX-th and X-th centuries, as a capital of the Macedonian Czar Samoil, it grew into the most prosperous religious and culture center on the Balkans and broader. During that period, Ohrid was the center of Kliment's religious and teaching activities. Kliment built a great number of churches in which the service in Macedonian language was introduced for the first time, thus laying the foundations not only of the Macedonian Church, but the Slavonic Church as well. The Monastery which bears his name, became the main center for acquiring higher religious and teacher's training and education. Thus, Kliment as a teacher laid the foundations of the OHRID LITERARY SCHOOL, which gradually grew into a real institution of higher education and the heart of the first SLAVONIC UNIVERSITY. That is way it was ascribed the name KLIMENT'S UNIVERSITY.

As a result of the intensive teaching, Kliment succeeded in educating 3 500 Slavonic priests, teachers and others to be immersed latter in spreading the culture.

Naum's work is also affiliated with the town of Ohrid; under his guidance many people were trained to spread religion, education and culture. All that contributed for Ohrid to acquire the role of a hotbed of Slavonic culture, because form this town a great number of Slavonic literary works were distributed throughout Macedonia and the entire Slavonic World. That is way the name „Ohridski„ has been rightfully attributed to the names of Kliment and Naum.

The old town of Ohrid and its fortress, overlook the plain on the shore of Ohrid Lake.

In the surroundings of Ohrid, archeological findings of prehistoric settlements have been excavated, such as Trebenište in the north part of the town.

ОХРИДСКА АРХИЕПИСКОПИЈА - црковна организација со седиште во Охрид. Ја основал цар Самоил како патријаршија, а по 1018 година станала архиепископија. Се протегала во границите на Самоиловата држава, а подоцна е сведена на 14 епархии, од кои 9 биле митрополии, а 5 епископии. Имала статус на афтокефална црква и била единствена македонска институција во Турското царство.

По големите територијални придобивки на Балканот, турската централна власт почнала да го менува односот кон Охридската црква. Така, од XVII век охридските архиепископи сé повеќе биле изложени на напади од Цариградската патријаршија која настојувала да има целосна контрола над Охридската црква, што довело до укинување на афтокефалноста на Охридската архиепископија, на 16 јануари 1767 година и нејзино припојување кон Цариградската патријаршија.

Титулата охридски архиепископ на чело на Македонската православна црква повторно е воспоставена од 4 октомври 1958 година.

OHRID ARCHEPISCOPY - religious institution whose headquarters are located in Ohrid. It had been founded by Czar Samoil as a Patriarchy, to become after 1018, an Archepiscopy. It extended within the borders of Samoil's State, and latter was reduced to 14 eparchies, out of which 9 were metropolitan dioceses, and 5 episcopies. It was autonomous and the only Macedonian institution to exist during the Turkish Empire.

After great territorial gains on the Balkans, the Turkish central power changed its approach to the Ohrid Church. Thus, from XVIIth century on, the Ohrid archepiscopies were more and more exposed to attacks from the Czarigrad's Patriarchy, aspiring to impose full control over the Ohrid Church, which led to abolition of the autonomous status of the Ohrid Archepiscopy on 16 January 1767, and its annexation to the Czarigrad's Patriarchy.

The title „Archbishop (Archiepiscop) of Ohrid„, as a head of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, was reinstated on 4th October 1958.

О Х Р И Д С К О Е З Е Р О

Се наоѓа на југозападниот дел на Република Македонија, окружено со планината Јабланица и Мокра Планина на запад и со Галичица на исток. Охридското езеро е настанато по тектонски пат. Со површина од 348 км^2, е едно од најголемите езера на Балканскиот Полуостров и најголемо во нашата земја. Значително поголем дел од вкупната површина на Езерото и припаѓа на Република Македонија, а другиот дел на соседна Албанија. Неговата најголема длабочина изнесува 294 м, и во тој однос, тоа е едно од најдлабоките природни езера на Балканот. Езерото лежи на надморска височина од 695 м. Вода добива од бројните извори покрај брегот и од подводните извори. Особено се познати изворите што се наоѓаат во подножјето на планината Галичица. Охридското езеро е едно од најбистрите езера и се карактеризира со исклучително богата флора и фауна. Познато е по охридската пастрмка, која во другите езера во светот одамна изумрела, потоа јагулата, летницата, белвицата, крапот и други слатководни риби.

Бистрата езерска вода, песочните плажи и поволните климатски услови се основа за развој на езерскиот туризам. На охридското крајбрежје се изградени бројни современи туристички сместувачки капацитети и викенд населби, а особено значење имаат древните цркви и манастири и други значајни културно-историски споменици.

OHRID LAKE

It is located in the southwest part of the Republic of Macedonia, surrounded by the mountain of Jablanica and Mokra Planina in the west, and by Galičica in the east. Ohrid Lake is created in the tectonic way. With the surface of 348 square km, it is one of the biggest lakes in the Balkan Peninsula and the biggest one in our country. Notably larger part of the total surface of the Lake belongs to the Republic of Macedonia, and the other part belongs to the neighbouring Albania. Its biggest depth is estimated to 294 m, and regarding this, it is one of the deepest natural lakes in the Balkans. The Lake lies on 695 m. height above sea level. It collects water by numerous springs beside the coast and by underwater springs. The springs located at the foothill of the mountain of Galičica are especially famous. Ohrid Lake is one of the brightest lakes and it is characterized by extraordinary reach flora and fauna. It is famous for its Ohrid trout (pastrmka), which became extinct in other lakes of the world a long time ago, then for its eel (jagula), letnica (type of trout), belvica (bleak), krap (carp) and for other freshwater fish.

The bright water of the Lake, the sandy beaches and the convenient climatic conditions are the basis for development of the Lake tourism. Numerous modern tourist accommodating facilities and weekend settlements have been built on the shore of Ohrid Lake, and the ancient churches and monasteries, as well as the important cultural and historic monuments are especially significant.

О Х Р И Д С К И Л Е Г Е Н Д И

За тоа како градот Охрид го добил своето име, се раскажуваат повеќе легенди кои се пренесуваат од генерации на генерации.

Едната од нив говори дека градот го добил сегашното име уште од времето од пред владеењето на македонскиот цар Самоил, чии крепости се издигаат и ден денска над стариот дел на градот.

Според легендата самоиловите војници по една тешка битка се враќале дома. Изморени од долгиот пат, тие кога го виделе пред себе ридот на кој денеска се простира градот разочарано извикале Ох, рид. таа изрека, според легендата станала име на градот, кој прерастнал во идна престолнина на царството на Самоил.

Друга легенда говори дека градот го добил името според населбата покрај езерото која се викала Lihnida, а кое се трансформирало во името Охрид.

Една од најубавите легенди на овој прекрасен град е и легендата за девојката Билјана по која е испеана и песната "Билјана платно белеше": Младата убавица Билјана во песната се опева како синоним на македонската жена која трудољубиво го белела својот чеиз во бистрите води на Охридското Езеро. Трговците што го воделе карванот крај неа, таа милно ги молела да не ѝ го згазат платното што го бели, зашто тоа е даровно. Наменето за момчето кое го љуби и за кое ќе се мажи...

Според оваа легенда од жал кон саканото момче што не е со неа, Билјана долго плачела. Со време, на местото каде што таа плачела бликнале два извора. И ден денеска тука истекуваат бистри води познати како "Билјанини извори".

OHRID LEGENDS

There are many legends how the city was called, handed down from generation to generation.

One of them says that the city had gained its present name since before the reign of the Macedonian Tsar-Samuil, whose fortresses have been raised above the old part of the city until today.

As the legend says the soldiers of Samuil were coming back home after a difficult battle. Fatigued by the long way, beholding the hill before them where the city is located today, they shouted disappointedly - „Oh rid„ (Oh hill). That saying, according to the legend, became the name of the city, which was turned into the future capital of the kingdom of Samuil.

Another legend says that the city obtained its name after the settlement, near the lake, called „Lychnidos„, and this name was transformed in the name „Ohrid„.

One of the most beautiful legends about this splendid city is the legend of the girl Biljana after which the song - „Biljana platno beleše„ (Biljana whitewashed her linen) has been composed: The song sings the praises of the young beauty Biljana, synonym for a Macedonian woman, who diligently whitewashed her dowry in the bright waters of Ohrid Lake. She asked gently the merchants who led the caravan beside her not to step on the linen she whitewashed, because she received it as a gift. It was intended for the boy whom she loved and whom she would marry...

This legend says that, longing for the beloved boy who was not with her, Biljana cried a lot. In time, two springs broke out at the place where she wept. Until today the bright waters known as „Biljana's springs„ flow here.

КУЛТУРНИ МАНИФЕСТАЦИИ

Охридското крајбрежје во летниот период е средиште на повеќе значајни културни манифестации, познати во Европа и светот. Во рамките на фестивалот "Охридско лето" реномирани музички уметници од Македонија, Балканот, Европа и светот, секое лето настапуваат во црквата "Света Софија" надалеку позната по својата акустичност.

Во овој период во Охрид се одвива богат културно-забавен живот, а посебно туристичко доживување се приредбите од "Балканскиот фолклорен фестивал", на кој настапуваат реномирани ансамбли од соседните земји, презентирајќи ја изворноста на народната песна и игра, обичаите и севкупното творештво на народниот гениј. Тоа е незаборавна глетка на прекрасни народни носии, везови, шари и обичаи.

Светскиот поетски фестивал познат како "Струшки вечери на поезијата" постои повеќе од 30 години. Тоа е вистински празник на поезијата, приредба единствена од ваков вид во светот на која секоја година учествуваат по над 200 истакнати поети од Европа и светот. Традиционално воспоставено признание е "Златен венец" и наградата "Браќа Миладиновци".

Меѓу повеќето носители на признанието "Златен венец" се: БЛАЖЕ КОНЕСКИ (Р.Македонија), ЕУЦЕНИО МОНТАЛЕ (Италија) ТАДЕУШ РУЖЕВИЧ (Полска), АРТУР ЛУНГВИСТ (Шведска), ЛАСЛО НАГ (Унгарија), ДЕСАНКА МАКСИМОВИЌ (СРЈ), ФАЗИЛ ХИСНИ ДАГЛАРЦА (Турција), ВИСТАН ХЈУ ОНД (САД), ЈАНИС РИЦОС (Грција),АЛЕН ГИНЗБЕРГ (САД), РАФАЕЛ АЛБЕРТИ, ХРИСТО ХОРХЕ ПАДРОН И ПАБЛО НЕРУДА (Шпанија) и други.

Меѓународниот семинар за македонски јазик,литература и култура, што традиционално се одржува секое лето,собира познати професори-слависти од целиот свет чија специјалност е изучувањето на македонскиот јазик.

CULTURE EVENTS

Ohrid is a center of many significant culture events during summer known in Europe and the world. Every summer in the scope of „Ohrid Summer Festival„, distinguished musicians from Macedonia, the Balkans, Europe and the world, give concerts in the church of „St. Sophia„, famous for its acoustics.

During the summer season, Ohrid is a place of affluent culture and entertainment events. Specially, „the Balkan Folk Festival„, during which distinguished folk ensembles from the neighboring countries perform original folk songs, dances, customs and the creative genius of peoples, is a highlight tourist attraction. It creates a memorable sight of beautiful folk costumes, embroideries, colors and customs.

The international poetry festival known as „Struga Poetry Evenings„ has been held for more than 30 years. It is a real celebration of poetry, a unique event of this kind in the world during which more than 200 well known poets from Europe and the world participate every year. The traditionally established awards are: „the Golden Wreath„ and „Brothers Miladinovci„.

Among the well known recipients of the award „the Golden Wreath„ are: BLAŽE KONESKI (R. Macedonia), EUDZENIO MONTALE (Italy), TADEUSH RUDZEVICH (Poland), ARTHUR LUNGVIST (SWEDEN), LASLO NAG (Hungary), DESANKA MAKSIMOVIC (FRY), FAZIL HISNI DAGLARGA (Turkey), W. HUGH AUDEN (USA), IANIS RITSOS (Greece), ALLEN GUINSBERG (USA), RAPHAEL ALBERTTI, HRISTO HORHE PADRON, PABLO NERUDA (Spain), and others.

The International Seminar on Macedonian Language, Literature and Culture, which is held traditionally every summer, gathers famous professors, Slavists from the whole world, whose specialty is studies in Macedonian language.

ADDENDA

ADDENDUM 1

Mr. Igor Spirovski, Secretary General of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Dimitar Trajkovski, Chief of the Office of the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

ADDENDUM 2:

Dr. Bećir Žuta, Minister-Coordinator in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Stevo Crvenkovski, Minister of Foreign Relations

Dr. Sofija Todorova, Minister of Development

Mr. Tuše Gošev, Minister of Justice

ADDENDUM 3:

Mr. Tomislav Stefkovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the VMRO-DPMNE (Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization - Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity)

Mr. Ljubomir Popovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the SDU (Social Democratic Union)

Mr. Muhamed Halili, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the PDP-NDP (Party for Democratic Prosperity - People's Democratic Party)

Mr. Petar Georgiev, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the LP (Liberal Party)

Mr. Kiro Popovski, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Group of the SP (Socialist Party)

Mr. Petar Gošev, President of the DP (Democratic Party)

Mr. Slave Kelešov, representative of the Party of Yugoslavs

Mr. Vladimir Golubovski, President of the VMRO-DP (Democratic Party)

Mr. Mitko Anastasovski, representative of the VMRO -Fatherland Party

Mr. Faik Abdi, President of the PCER (Party for Complete Emancipation of Romas)

Mr. Ferid Sadiku, representative of People's Democratic Party

ADDENDUM 4:

The representative of the Albanians, Dr. Xheladin Murati, President of PDP

The representative of the Turks, Mr. Erdogan Sarač, President of the Democratic Party of the Turks

The Representative of the Romas, Mr. Faik Abdi, President of PCER (Party for Complete Emancipation of Romas)

The Rrepresentative of the Serbs, Mr. Dragiša Miletić, President of the Democratic Party of the Serbs in Macedonia

The Representative of the Vlachs, Mr. Mite Kostov, President of the League of the Vlachs

ADDENDUM 5

The Representative of the Macedonian Orthodox Church - Metropolitan Timotej

The representative of the Islamic Religious Community - Hađi Sulejman Effendi Ređepi, President

The representative of the Catholic Church - Monseigneur Ante Cirimotić

ADDENDUM 6:

Helsinki Citizen's Assembly of Macedonia, Mrs. Slobodanka Markovska, President

A representative from the Forum of Human Rights,

Macedonian Council of the European Movement, prof. Vladimir Cvetkovski, President

Alliance of the Trade Unions of Macedonia, Mr. Živko Tolevski, President

Youth Council of Macedonia, Mr. Zoran Kostov, President

Committee on the Macedonian-Greek Dialogue, Mr. Meto Jovanovski President

The Consulate of the First Child's Embassy in Macedonia, Mr. Kole Angelovski

Organization of the Women of Macedonia, Mrs. Nadežda Gerasimova, President

Organization of the Albanian Women, Tetovo, Mrs. Mućarem Rusi, President

Movement of the Environmentalists of Macedonia, Dr. Josif Tanevski, President

ADDENDUM 7

The Radio and Television of Macedonia

NIP „Nova Makedonija„ (The Newspaper and the Publishing House)

Newspaper in Albanian language „Flaka e Vlazerimit„

Newspaper in Turkish „Birlik„

„A1„ Independent Television

Independent newspaper „Delo„

Local „Ohrid„ Radio

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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: CRISIS EN EL PARTIDO PARA LA PROSPERIDAD DEMOCRATICA Y REPERCUSIONES PARA LA ESTABILIDAD MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

Desde la constitución de la República de MACEDONIA, la comunidad albanesa se ha configurado como uno de los principales factores de estabilidad del país, en un entorno caracterizado por la crítica situación económica, el conflicto bélico en la ex-YUGOSLAVIA y las presiones exteriores ejercidas por países vecinos, fundamentalmente.

En este sentido, el Partido para la Prosperidad Democrática (PPD), representante mayoritario de la población albanesa de MACEDONIA, se ha mostrado como una pieza clave para la consolidación política de la República, adoptando una postura constructiva, mediante la colaboración con el Gabinete de CRVENKOVSKI y la participación en las labores parlamentarias, determinada por la búsqueda de un reconocimiento de los derechos de su comunidad en este nuevo Estado.

Han sido, precisamente, los escasos resultados prácticos obtenidos en este ámbito, a juicio de determinados sectores del partido, los que han originado la crisis abierta en esta formación política, cuestionándose, no los objetivos finales, pero sí los medios y métodos utilizados por la anterior cúpula directiva para lograrlos.

1. EVOLUCION DE LA CRISIS Y SITUACION ACTUAL DEL PPD

La existencia de tensiones en el seno del PPD, derivadas de las diferencias de criterios entre las distintas ramas territoriales del partido, cristalizaron el pasado mes de diciembre en la dimisión del Presidente del mismo, NEVZAT HALILI, y de los restantes miembros de la Ejecutiva, quedando pendiente la celebración de un Congreso Extraordinario para la elección de los nuevos líderes de esta formación.

Los principales artífices de esta crisis han sido las ramas de TETOVO y de GOSTIVAR, caracterizadas por su progresiva radicalización en la defensa de los derechos y reivindicaciones de la

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población albanesa en MACEDONIA. La ausencia de resultados prácticos ha servido de caldo de cultivo para las tesis radicales frente a la moderación de la línea oficial de NEVZAT HALILI.

En este sentido, las principales acusaciones en contra de los ex-dirigentes del PPD han estado centradas en la pasividad de éstos ante cuestiones de especial trascendencia, como la celebración de un referéndum para la autonomía política de MACEDONIA Occidental, la consideración de la población albanesa como "Nación constituyente", o la elaboración de un nuevo censo.

Los radicales, lejos de acatar la autoridad del Consejo para la preparación del Congreso Extraordinario del Partido, máximo órgano de dirección tras la dimisión de HALILI, han realizado diversos intentos para hacerse con el control del PPD. El más relevante fue la convocatoria de una reunión del Comité Central de GOSTIVAR, que, a pesar de la falta de "quorum", determinó un nuevo liderazgo, encabezado por el representante de la zona de TETOVO, MENDUH THACI.

Esta "nueva" dirección no ha sido reconocida por los miembros del grupo parlamentario del PPD ni por los Ministros albaneses en el Gobierno, además de por la mayoría de las alas moderadas de SKOPJE y de KUMANOVO, que siguen reconociendo como único órgano legítimo al Consejo encargado de preparar el Congreso en el que debe ser elegida la nueva cúpula dirigente del partido.

Actualmente, la principal controversia viene determinada, precisamente, por la celebración del Congreso Extraordinario del PPD, ya que los radicales, conscientes de que tal vez no cuenten con los apoyos suficientes, se niegan a la realización del mismo, intentando con ello consolidar su actual posición y no perder su dudoso liderazgo, obtenido por medios pocos ortodoxos.

La celebración del Congreso Extraordinario se percibe, en la gran mayoría de los círculos políticos albaneses, como la única vía de solución a la crisis abierta en el seno del PPD, sin que ésta cristalice en una escisión del partido.

Sin embargo, el sector liderado por THACI, consciente de la imposibilidad de seguir manteniendo indefinidamente la negativa a la celebración del citado Congreso, ha optado por la creación de un órgano específico para la preparación de otro Congreso paralelo, único al que ellos reconocen la suficiente validez y legitimidad. Este hecho puede conducir, obviamente, a la posibilidad de que se convoquen dos Congresos independientes, acentuando la crisis ya existente.

A consecuencia de ello, el Comité de Coordinación de Partidos Albaneses en la ex-YUGOSLAVIA ha nombrado una comisión de intermediación, con el objeto de acercar la postura de las dos partes, evitar la celebración de congresos paralelos y, en última instancia, conseguir que los principios democráticos sean los que

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inspiren cualquier solución a la que se llegue, para, en definitiva, mantener la cohesión interna del PPD.

Mientras se consigue el mencionado acercamiento entre ambas tendencias, tanto los miembros del PPD en el Gobierno como los que están presentes en el Parlamento continúan su trabajo sin que haya indicios de que se vaya a interrumpir éste, beneficiándose, en parte, de que la participación en el Ejecutivo macedonio no es cuestionada por el ala radical, aunque sí el carácter "colaboracionista" de ésta.

2. IMPLICACION DE ALBANIA Y KOSOVO EN LA CRISIS DEL PPD

La implicación de ALBANIA en la crisis del PPD ha sido patente desde el inicio de la misma, ya que desde TIRANA, especialmente desde la Agencia oficial de noticias (ATA), se han venido fomentando las críticas contra la gestión de HALILI y de la cúpula directiva del partido, bajo las premisas de pasividad y "colaboracionismo" con las autoridades macedonias, en detrimento de los objetivos albaneses.

Paralelamente, se ha ejercido una actividad de apoyo al ala radical del PPD, reflejada en la asistencia de diplomáticos albaneses a la reunión de GOSTIVAR y en el respaldo de los principales líderes del Partido Democrático de ALBANIA (PDA) al liderazgo encabezado por THACI.

A pesar del evidente interés de ALBANIA en este contencioso, hay que tener en cuenta el intento del Presidente, SALI BERISHA, de que no se le implique en la crisis de la principal fuerza política albanesa en MACEDONIA, optando por utilizar principalmente la estructura del Partido Democrático Albanés (PDA) para apoyar a los sectores de TETOVO y GOSTIVAR.

Sin embargo, desde otra perspectiva, más que un apoyo real de ALBANIA a las tesis radicalizadas de TETOVO y GOSTIVAR, puede afirmarse que el objetivo de las autoridades albanesas es una renovación de la cúpula directiva del PPD, como medio de superar el estancamiento al que había conducido la gestión de HALILI, dar paso a líderes más jóvenes y capaces de reactivar el interés de esta comunidad, así como asegurarse una directiva más dependiente de los postulados de TIRANA.

La intromisión albanesa en esta crisis apoyando a los "golpistas" de GOSTIVAR ha sido claramente criticada desde el sector moderado del PPD, no en cuanto a la legítima influencia e, incluso, labor mediadora que pueda ejercer ALBANIA, sino en relación con la injerencia del PDA en asuntos internos de otro partido, planteándose, en este sentido, la no fácil diferenciación entre el régimen albanés y el partido gobernante en la actualidad.

En esta misma línea, la Liga Democrática de KOSOVO (LDK), presidida por RUGOVA, no ha mostrado su apoyo a ninguna de las tendencias enfrentadas, entendiendo que los problemas internos

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de una formación política deben ser resueltos desde dentro y, en todo caso, por métodos democráticos.

Con este planteamiento, RUGOVA discrepa de la aquiescencia otorgada por TIRANA a los sectores radicales y del procedimiento empleado por éstos para hacerse con el control del PPD e imponer sus tesis. Por este motivo, la LDK se ha mostrado partidaria de favorecer la celebración de un único Congreso Extraordinario, como medio para solucionar la controversia actual, evitando la escisión del partido.

3. VALORACIONES

Es obvio que la importancia de la actual crisis abierta en el seno del PPD viene determinada por las repercusiones que la misma puede tener para la estabilidad política de MACEDONIA. En principio, aunque no parece probable una división del partido, esta opción no puede descartarse de antemano, en función del inmovilismo de las posturas adoptadas por ambas tendencias.

En este sentido, de producirse tal escisión y un posterior rechazo a participar en las tareas de Gobierno y en las parlamentarias, la continuidad de la actual coalición gobernante en MACEDONIA correría el riesgo de desaparecer, dando entrada en el Ejecutivo a partidos macedonios más nacionalistas, con el consiguiente deterioro de la situación, no sólo para la comunidad albanesa, sino también para el consenso político interno del país.

Los líderes del PPD, tanto de una como de otra corriente, son conscientes de ello, por lo que no es probable que, aún en el caso de que se imponga la tendencia más radical, se produzca su salida del Gobierno o un abandono de las labores parlamentarias. Ello se explica por el hecho de que la principal causa del enfrentamiento no haya sido tal participación, sino lo conseguido con ella.

Puede afirmarse que existe un relativo acuerdo en cuanto a las cuestiones y objetivos fundamentales determinados por la realización del censo y el reconocimiento de la comunidad albanesa como pueblo constituyente del Estado macedonio, fundamentalmente.

Sin embargo, como ocurre en otros escenarios albaneses, el principal escollo está determinado por las discrepancias en cuanto a la idoneidad de los métodos empleados y la rapidez de los procedimientos utilizados para la consecución de las metas propuestas.

Desde esta perspectiva y en el contexto de los diferentes grupos políticos que representan a las distintas comunidades albanesas fuera de ALBANIA, el interés principal pasa en la actualidad por la superación de la crisis del PPD y la consecución de la unidad del mismo mediante la celebración de un Congreso Extraordinario único, evitando a toda costa cualquier quiebra en la cohesión de los postulados albaneses.

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En este sentido, cabe destacar, por último, el especial interés que reviste la postura adoptada por el líder albano-kosovar, IBRAHIM RUGOVA, quien, abogando por el consenso y la solución democrática interna en el PPD, pretende evitar, además de un peligroso precedente en cuanto a injerencias externas en problemas propios de un partido y en beneficio de tesis y métodos radicales, la pérdida de la cohesión y la unidad que ha caracterizado la actuación de los diferentes grupos políticos albaneses en los diferentes ámbitos territoriales de la ex-YUGOSLAVIA.

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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE BULGARIA CON ALBANIA Y MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

Durante los pasados días 25 a 28 de abril se han sucedido las visitas de los Presidentes de MACEDONIA, K. GLIGOROV, (días 25 y 26) y ALBANIA, S. BERISHA, (días 27 y 28) a BULGARIA. Ambos encuentros han sido calificados de "históricos", no sólo por la simbólica presencia de los máximos dirigentes de estos países en SOFIA, sino también por su importancia en el marco de las relaciones bilaterales búlgaras con los países del área balcánica.

Las estancias en BULGARIA de GLIGOROV y BERISHA no han estado exentas de cierta polémica y, a pesar del esfuerzo realizado por acercar posiciones y presentar el lado positivo de ambos encuentros, se han puesto de manifiesto las discrepancias existentes en las difíciles relaciones de SOFIA con sus vecinos balcánicos.

1. RELACIONES BILATERALES BULGARO-MACEDONIAS

El Presidente de MACEDONIA llegó a SOFIA en un clima que no era el más favorable, ya que, si bien las relaciones entre ambos países desde el reconocimiento de MACEDONIA como Estado independiente por parte búlgara están determinadas por la existencia de recelos mutuos, las contradicciones existentes se han acentuado en los últimos meses.

En este sentido, destaca la fuerte polémica surgida en torno a la existencia del idioma macedonio, considerado un dialecto del búlgaro por parte de SOFIA, y que determinó el fracaso de la reciente visita a SKOPJE del Ministro de Educación búlgaro. También hay que señalar la creciente actividad propagandística de organizaciones nacionalistas macedonias en el PIRIN búlgaro. En definitiva, polémicas surgidas de la falta de confianza de unos y otros en las fronteras actualmente establecidas.

En este contexto, la presencia del Presiente GLIGOROV en SOFIA ha sido insuficiente para impulsar las relaciones bilaterales, ni siquiera en aquellas cuestiones que por una y otra parte se consideran especialmente urgentes, como la construcción de nuevas líneas de comunicación entre ambos países.

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Por consiguiente, en contra de las declaraciones oficiales y a pesar de las esperanzas que se habían depositado en este encuentro por parte búlgara, la visita de GLIGOROV puede considerarse un fracaso, por cuanto cuestiones formales, como la del idioma macedonio, han constituido un obstáculo importante que ha impedido abordar otros temas. Dicho contencioso amenaza con adquirir una proporción similar al problema greco-macedonio en relación a los símbolos estatales de estos últimos.

A pesar de estos mutuos recelos, el aislamiento económico de MACEDONIA, debido al embargo griego y a las sanciones contra SERVIA y MONTENEGRO, está forzando a un mayor entendimiento entre ambos países y a una creciente cooperación política y económica que, en cualquier caso, se haya muy por debajo de sus verdaderas posibilidades, ya que está siempre condicionada por los contenciosos señalados entre SOFIA y SKOPJE y por la limitada capacidad de inversión búlgara.

En este sentido, la clase política búlgara considera que los intentos de aproximación de MACEDONIA a BULGARIA están caracterizados por la coyuntura actual del bloqueo de sus flujos económicos en el sentido del eje Norte-Sur. Una vez que esta situación se modifique, las relaciones entre ambos países pueden entrar en una etapa de mayor distanciamiento.

2. RELACIONES BILATERALES BULGARO-ALBANESAS

La visita del Presidente BERISHA a SOFIA se enmarca dentro de un intenso contacto diplomático entre ambos países y, en concreto, en respuesta a la realizada por ZHELEV a TIRANA el pasado año. Con este desplazamiento se culminan dos años de normalización y desarrollo de las relaciones bilaterales albano-búlgaras.

Al margen de las entrevistas con el Presidente ZHELEV, el Primer Ministro BEROV, y el Presidente del Parlamento YORDANOV, el acto central de la visita del Presidente albanés fue la intervención ante el Parlamento búlgaro, aprovechada por BERISHA para exponer la evolución del proceso de democratización de su país, y sobre todo su postura sobre el conflicto yugoslavo.

BERISHA se mostró muy crítico con BELGRADO como responsable del conflicto en BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, que calificó como el más grave para EUROPA desde el fin de la última Guerra Mundial, dado el riesgo de que estos enfrentamientos se extiendan a toda la región balcánica. Asimismo, corresponsabilizó de la actual situación a otras fuerzas nacionalistas balcánicas, en velada alusión a GRECIA y al apoyo que este país viene prestando a BELGRADO.

Respecto a KOSOVO, el Presidente albanés, tras señalar que la situación sufre una rápida degradación a causa de la intransigencia servia, destacó que evitar una explosión de violencia en esta región debe constituir una prioridad para todos los países preocupados por la estabilidad de los BALCANES.

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En este sentido, BERISHA propuso intensificar las relaciones albano-búlgaras en los campos político, económico y militar en el marco de las distintas estructuras europeas, la Asociación para la Paz y la Cooperación Económica del Mar NEGRO.

El Presidente albanés recalcó que, si los conflictos armados alcanzan a KOSOVO, será imposible evitar que la guerra se extienda, al menos, a todos los BALCANES.

En relación a MACEDONIA, BERISHA señaló que la estabilidad de este país es fundamental para prevenir la extensión del conflicto hacia el Sur de los BALCANES. Esta afirmación coincide con los objetivos de la diplomacia búlgara, aunque, por otro lado, la injerencia de TIRANA en la reciente escisión del principal partido albanés en MACEDONIA pone, cuando menos, en duda las verdaderas intenciones de la política exterior albanesa respecto a su vecino del Este.

Al igual que en el caso de la visita de GLIGOROV, la de BERISHA también estuvo rodeada de polémica y su alocución en el Parlamento búlgaro fue recibida con división de opiniones entre los parlamentarios, abandonando la Sala los diputados del Partido Socialista Búlgaro, por considerar que el Presidente albanés estaba utilizando la ocasión para verter todo tipo de críticas contra BELGRADO.

3. CONCLUSIONES

La presencia del Presidente macedonio en SOFIA ha venido a confirmar que, a pesar de que las actuales circunstancias económicas parecen ser las más idóneas para una intensificación de las relaciones entre ambos países, éstas se encuentran condicionadas por contenciosos que, aunque aparentemente resultan menores, son fruto de una desconfianza mutua que únicamente puede ser superada con el paso del tiempo.

En este sentido, la visita de GLIGOROV ha puesto de relieve que MACEDONIA trata de encontrar un equilibrio idóneo en sus relaciones con los países vecinos, entre los que la República Federal Yugoslava y GRECIA cuentan, a pesar de la situación actual, con grandes posibilidades, dado que, desde el punto de vista económico, son los que presentan mejores ofertas para la economía nacional macedonia.

Las relaciones con ALBANIA tampoco están exentas de cierta controversia y así, aunque SOFIA y TIRANA comparten sobre el papel similares criterios sobre la crisis originada por la desmembración de YUGOSLAVIA, una parte importante de la clase política búlgara desconfía de las verdaderas intenciones albanesas en relación al futuro de los BALCANES y de su aproximación a TURQUIA.

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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: EVOLUCION DE LA SITUACION EN KOSOVO.

0. INTRODUCCION

En los últimos años, la atención exterior y los mayores esfuerzos de la Comunidad Internacional respecto a la ex-YUGOSLAVIA han estado dirigidos a la solución del conflicto en BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, donde se vive una situación de guerra abierta, dejando en un segundo plano el tratamiento de otros contenciosos, que, como el de KOSOVO, constituyen importantes focos potenciales de tensión en la región.

La situación en KOSOVO viene caracterizada por un enfrentamiento a diferentes niveles, aunque sin incluir aún la violencia abierta, entre la mayoría de la población allí asentada de origen albanés y las autoridades políticas y militares servias en la región, con las pretensiones independentistas de aquélla y la negativa absoluta de estas últimas como cuestión clave del problema.

1. SITUACION ACTUAL EN KOSOVO

La reciente creación y organización de un "Ministerio de Defensa" en el marco de la autoproclamada República Albanesa de KOSOVO ha provocado una importante reacción de las autoridades de BELGRADO, encaminada, fundamentalmente, a la detención y procesamiento de los kosovares implicados, de los que ya varios han sido juzgados y condenados a diversas penas de prisión.

Si bien la acusación oficial inicial se realizó sobre la calificación penal de "preparación de insurrección armada por medios violentos", la dificultad de mantenerla obligó a las autoridades judiciales servias de KOSOVO a modificar tal calificación y recurrir a los tipos penales ya habituales en este tipo de procesos en la ex-YUGOSLAVIA: actividades hostiles al Estado y amenaza a la integridad territorial.

Es significativo que en los actuales procesamientos se vincule a líderes de la Liga Democrática de KOSOVO (LDK) con la organización de fuerzas paramilitares y del citado Ministerio de Defensa, sin que se les haya encausado por tal motivo. Igualmente, es relevante que, mientras que se hace referencia a BUJAR BUKOSHI,

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Primer Ministro de esta autoproclamada República, y a los dos Vicepresidentes de la LDK, ANTON KOLAJ y FEHMI AGANI, no se mencione a IBRAHIM RUGOVA, lo que, en medios albaneses, se entiende como una prudente medida servia ante la "inmunidad internacional" del líder político kosovar.

La implicación de dirigentes albano-kosovares en los procesos judiciales abiertos se percibe en esta comunidad como el intento de BELGRADO de poder eliminar en el futuro a importantes líderes de la LDK, tomando como base legal el reconocimiento judicial de la involucración de éstos en los hechos actualmente enjuiciados. Con ello se pretende conseguir crear un elevado clima de confusión en aquella comunidad y, además, se avanzaría en el objetivo servio de presentar a esta organización política como un grupo terrorista.

En este sentido, la argumentación oficial señala que el objetivo kosovar pasa por la creación del Ministerio de Defensa para preparar la insurrección armada, destinada a conseguir la independencia de KOSOVO y su posterior anexión a ALBANIA. Ello es consecuente, según la comunidad albano-kosovar, con las acusaciones servias en cuanto al secesionismo de los kosovares, la realización de preparativos pre-bélicos y, en definitiva, la presentación del radicalismo albanés como verdadero detonante de un potencial conflicto.

2. CONCLUSIONES

Lo anteriormente expuesto debe enmarcarse, desde la óptica servia, bajo diversas premisas, que, a su juicio, justifican su actuación y, más allá, vienen a definir su postura respecto al contencioso kosovar.

Se destaca, en primer lugar, la consideración de que KOSOVO-METOHIJA forma parte de la actual República Federal Yugoslava (RFY) y que cualquier cuestión relativa a esta región es de carácter exclusivamente interno, por lo que no es comprensible ni aceptable ninguna intromisión exterior en relación con la misma.

Ello es lo que fundamenta, dentro de esa misma argumentación, la actuación de los órganos competentes para juzgar cualquier acto dirigido contra el orden constitucional establecido y, a la vez, la acción represora del Estado contra todo tipo de actividades subversivas, independientemente del grupo de población del que procedan, lo que difícilmente se aplica, como es obvio, si los causantes son servios.

Por ello, la adopción por parte albano-kosovar de una postura victimista está absolutamente injustificada, ya que, desde el planteamiento servio, es esa comunidad la que ha rehusado integrarse en el Estado de ciudadanos, no de naciones, de la RFY y, por ende, participar en la vida política de la nación defendiendo sus derechos de forma "democrática". De ahí la lógica servia de

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los procesos judiciales y de la represión policial contra los albano-kosovares y su intento de enmarcar todo ello en un aparente plano de legalidad.

La parte albanesa de KOSOVO, desde un punto de vista obviamente contrario, toma el argumento del genocidio y de la represión policial y militar como base de crítica hacia el exterior de la actuación servia y como reafirmación de sus deseos secesionistas.

A ello se unen otras medidas de BELGRADO contra instituciones culturales albano-kosovares que incluyen la confiscación de los edificios respectivos como medio de presión añadido sobre esa comunidad, como ha ocurrido recientemente con la Academia de Artes y Ciencias de KOSOVO y con el Instituto Albanológico de PRISTINA.

En esta línea y sobre la base anterior, los líderes de la LDK, respaldados por ALBANIA en esta cuestión, argumentan la necesidad del establecimiento en KOSOVO de un protectorado de NACIONES UNIDAS, como paso previo en todo caso a la independencia y reconocimiento internacional de su República.

Sin embargo, frente a esta aparente unidad de planteamientos albano-kosovares y la incuestionabilidad de su líder, IBRAHIM RUGOVA, todos estos sucesos generan diferencias de opiniones en cuanto a la respuesta que debe ofrecer la comunidad albanesa de KOSOVO. Ello puede generar que en la LDK germine la semilla de la división, como ya ocurriera recientemente en el seno de la principal fuerza política albanesa, el Partido de Prosperidad Democrática, en MACEDONIA.

De llevarse a cabo tal escisión, aunque no se estima probable a corto plazo, cabe señalar que, muy posiblemente, se producirá un acercamiento a ALBANIA de la rama más radical y el "aislamiento" interno del ala más moderada, siguiendo el precedente macedonio.

Por lo que se refiere, en definitiva, al ámbito de negociación entre las autoridades de la RFY e IBRAHIM RUGOVA, puede destacarse el hecho de que, hasta ahora, no se ha producido acercamiento alguno en las posturas respectivas. Según BELGRADO, los ofrecimientos para realizar contactos discretos con la parte albanesa han sido siempre rechazados por ésta, que sólo aceptaría, como mal menor, la configuración de KOSOVO como una República dentro de la RFY, para, en el plazo de dos o tres años, hacer uso del derecho de autodeterminación y acceder a la independencia.

Cabe concluir, por tanto, que la segura continuidad temporal del conflicto kosovar y las características de tensión y ausencia de diálogo efectivo entre las partes implicadas determinarán la ausencia de cambios significativos en este contencioso, que aún sigue a la sombra de la evolución que experimente el de BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA y el de KRAJINA, sin que exista en este momento gran interés por ninguna comunidad para provocar un estallido de la

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violencia armada en KOSOVO, que implicaría, sin duda, a otros países de la región balcánica.

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ASUNTO: BALCANES: SITUACION EN LA REGION DE PIRIN.

0. INTRODUCCION

La región de PIRIN, cuya capital es BLAGOEVGRAD, es la provincia de BULGARIA que, atendiendo a criterios étnicos, culturales y geográficos, es considerada en la actualidad la "MACEDONIA búlgara".

Esta circunstancia convierte a la mencionada República exyugoslava en uno de los objetivos prioritarios de la política exterior búlgara, volcada en la estabilidad de la región balcánica. Esta política, en lo que se refiere a la vecina MACEDONIA, está caracterizada por tres líneas de acción fundamentales.

En primer lugar, por la renuncia a toda reivindicación territorial basada en la minoría búlgara de MACEDONIA, lo que se ha plasmado en el reconocimiento por parte de SOFIA del Estado macedonio.

En segundo término, por el temor a convertirse, a su vez, en objeto de reclamaciones fronterizas, dado lo cual BULGARIA no ha reconocido, sin embargo, la nacionalidad macedonia.

Por último, SOFIA considera que otros Estados balcánicos con intereses nacionales en la zona y con una política exterior agresiva pueden constituir un importante factor de inestabilidad, pudiendo incluso incitar o provocar un estallido de violencia en la zona que involucre a la propia BULGARIA en un conflicto armado. En consecuencia, SOFIA ha optado por adoptar y propugnar una postura de neutralidad absoluta de todos los países del área en los actuales conflictos abiertos por la desintegración yugoslava.

Dada la continuidad geográfica, étnica y cultural de la región de PIRIN con parte de MACEDONIA, ambas mantienen unos estrechos lazos, que, además de los mencionados vínculos, se fundamentan en la actualidad en un considerable incremento de sus relaciones económicas.

En consecuencia, los temores de SOFIA a que, en caso de una extensión de los conflictos a MACEDONIA, BULGARIA se vería irremediablemente implicada en los mismos no parecen exagerados, dada la predisposición de numerosos habitantes de la zona de PIRIN, bien organizados, a ayudar a sus "hermanos" del otro lado de la frontera.

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La cuestión es si esta participación popular en los acontecimientos de la vecina República empujaría a una intervención estatal.

1. SITUACION SOCIO-ECONOMICA DE LA REGION

Como en el resto del país, la crisis económica afecta también a la región de PIRIN, aunque en esta provincia, dadas sus características específicas, la situación de la economía se encuentra todavía más deteriorada.

La aguda crisis es consecuencia de la excesiva dependencia regional del Complejo Militar Industrial, que, tras la pérdida de sus mercados tradicionales y el corte de parte de las subvenciones estatales, se ha visto obligado a reducir drásticamente su producción. Por otro lado, influye también de forma importante el bajo rendimiento que se le está sacando a monocultivos como el del tabaco, de los que vive un porcetaje significativo de la población.

Por consiguiente, el poder adquisitivo de los habitantes de esta provincia se encuentra por debajo de la media nacional, enfrentándose a un panorama aconómico con escasas perspectivas de mejora a corto o medio plazo.

La mala situación de la industria de defensa ha sido causa de diversas protestas sindicales de variada importancia, aunque la conflictividad laboral en general se ha mantenido dentro de unos cauces normales.

En este contexto, dadas las escasas oportunidades que presenta el panorama interior, la población ha intensificado los contactos comerciales con MACEDONIA, aprovechando en la mayoría de los casos los lazos familiares existentes entre uno y otro lado de la frontera.

El reconocimiento de MACEDONIA por parte de SOFIA ha contribuido también a esto y, en consecuencia, a juicio de las autoridades locales y de la población en general, se considera positiva y adecuada esta iniciativa de su diplomacia, que, además de incentivar los lazos económico-culturales y posibilitar la normalización de las relaciones entre ambos lados de la frontera, ha permitido una mayor integración social en la zona.

Sin embargo, no todos los líderes de PIRIN enjuician de forma positiva la línea política desarrollada posteriormente por SOFIA con respecto a SKOPJE, destacando que ésta se ha visto excesivamente perjudicada por las rivalidades y contradicciones de la clase dirigente búlgara.

En todo caso, dada la crisis por la que, a su vez, atraviesa MACEDONIA, no parece que intensificar las relaciones económicas con esta República sea una solución de futuro ideónea para los habitantes de PIRIN.

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2. IMPACTO EN LA REGION DE UN HIPOTETICO CONFLICTO ARMADO EN MACEDONIA

Según las autoridades locales, el principal problema para la región en caso de conflicto en la vecina República sería el de la afluencia de refugiados, siempre que BULGARIA lograra mantenerse al margen de los enfrentamientos armados y no se viera militarmente involucrada.

Los máximos dirigentes búlgaros han expresado repetidas veces su temor a que, en caso de ataque a MACEDONIA, se produjese una reacción "espontánea y popular" de los habitantes de PIRIN en apoyo de sus vecinos del otro lado de la frontera, lo que, con grandes posibilidades, empujaría a SOFIA a una intervención armada en esa República.

Esta "justificación" no es totalmente compartida por los responsables políticos de la región, que, si bien contemplan como muy posible una extensión de los conflictos a MACEDONIA y que numerosos búlgaros cruzasen la frontera para luchar, no consideran que, irremediablemente, ésta conlleve una implicación general de su país.

Varios son los factores, tanto de orden interno como externo, que hacen pensar a los políticos locales en una extensión de los enfrentamientos a MACEDONIA. Entre los primeros destacan la mala situación económica, las diferencias étnicas y religiosas y los intereses irreconciliables de las distintas fuerzas políticas, todo lo cual genera una fuerte tensión social que se presenta como el elemento más distorsionador.

Por lo que respecta a los externos, éstos se relacionan principalmente con los intereses nacionales de los Estados vecinos y con el desarrollo geográfico, hasta la fecha, del conflicto yugoslavo: de Norte a Sur.

En este sentido, destacan la actitud de GRECIA; la agresividad de SERVIA, que, en opinión de los dirigentes de PIRIN; no se resistirá a la tentación de intervenir en MACEDONIA; y, por último, los intereses de ALBANIA, fundamentados en la minoría albanesa y respaldados por TURQUIA.

Dos escenarios son los más comunmente barajados en la región de PIRIN. Por un lado que elementos extremistas originen un conflicto interno, utilizando para ello a la minoría de origen albanés, de forma que éste justifique una intervención militar servia en ayuda de esta etnia.

Por otro, a medio plazo, que el conflicto pueda extenderse a través de KOSOVO, ya que una vez cerrado el frente bosníaco, los servios se lanzarán sobre KOSOVO, involucrando a las comunidades servia y albanesa de MACEDONIA en ese conflicto y, por último, estos enfrentamientos terminarían por trasladarse a suelo macedonio.

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De cumplirse alguna de estas hipótesis, la región se enfrentaría a una afluencia de refugiados estimada entre 200.000 y 500.000 desplazados.

A pesar de que se insiste por parte búlgara en que no se negará asilo a ningún refugiado, se reconoce que éstos causarán graves problemas, tanto económicos como sociales, que, incluso, podrían llegar a afectar a la integridad de la provincia, en parte debido a la falta de previsión de las autoridades para elaborar planes de contingencia en este sentido.

3. PAPEL DE LA ORGANIZACION REVOLUCIONARIA INTERNA DE MACEDONIA

En el panorama socio-político de la región de PIRIN destaca por su importacia la Organización Revolucionaria Interna de MACEDONIA (ORIM), asociación de carácter no político cuyo objetivo fundamental es explicar a la población búlgara la cuestión macedonia y las repercusiones que podría entrañar para BULGARIA.

Esta Organización cuenta con una importante tradición histórica, ya que la ORIM fue creada en el siglo pasado con el objetivo de fomentar el acercamiento de la población macedonia de origen búlgaro hacia BULGARIA. En 1.990, retomando este bagaje histórico, se fundó la nueva Organización.

La organización cuenta con una distribución territorial que cubre todo el país, aunque es en el PIRIN donde la ORIM tiene una mayor presencia e influencia, de forma que, además de tener unas estructuras locales más fuertes que los partidos políticos nacionales, cuenta con el apoyo mayoritario de la población e, incluso, con la simpatía y el respeto de las formaciones políticas.

La ideología de la ORIM se estructura en torno a tres principios básicos:

- MACEDONIA constituye un Estado independiente y soberano.
- La población eslava de MACEDONIA es parte del pueblo búlgaro.
- Respeto de las fronteras actuales.

En el segundo Congreso Nacional de la Organización, celebrado este mes de abril, se volvió a reiterar la necesidad de proteger a los macedonios-búlgaros y de luchar contra la influencia de otras organizaciones cuyos intereses son contrarios a la ORIM, como por ejemplo las financiadas por intereses turcos o servios.

El hecho de no haberse constituído en partido político y, en consecuencia, estar alejada de la lucha por el poder, le ha reportado grandes beneficios, contribuyendo a su expansión nacional y a contar con el apoyo de simpatizantes cercanos al poder, constituídos en una especie de "lobby" cuya eficacia, según

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portavoces de la propia Organización, quedó probada con el reconocimiento de MACEDONIA.

Desde el punto de vista operativo, los miembros de la ORIM se encuentran muy concienciados de que la agresión servia, albanesa, o griega a MACEDONIA puede producirse en cualquier momento y, por consiguiente, se muestran preparados y dispuestos a actuar en territorio de la vecina República y a defender a los macedonios de origen búlgaro del mencionado ataque. En ese caso, la Organización se siente capaz de movilizar a un gran número de simpatizantes.

Sin embargo, a pesar de esta reacción "espontánea", el Presidente de la ORIM no cree posible que BULGARIA llegara a intervenir oficialmente en la vecina República, circunstancia que únicamente se produciría en caso de una agresión directa de SERVIA, dada la conciencia histórica del pueblo búlgaro y el temor a la potencialidad del Ejército yugoslavo.

En cuanto a las relaciones con MACEDONIA se refiere, la ORIM ha iniciado contactos con la organización que, con el mismo nombre y similares objetivos, opera en esa República.

4. CONCLUSIONES

En la región búlgara de PIRIN se viven con especial intensidad los sucesos producidos en la vecina MACEDONIA, dados los vínculos étnicos y culturales que unen a ambos lados de la frontera. La mala situación económica de esta provincia ha llevado a sus habitantes a buscar una alternativa comercial en el vecino país, reforzándose así los lazos entre dichas comunidades.

El reconocimiento de la ex-República yugoslava por parte de SOFIA ha contribuido de forma positiva a normalizar las relaciones entre el PIRIN y la zona fronteriza macedonia, aunque las autoridades locales no consideran muy coherente la política búlgara en relación con el contencioso macedonio.

Los dirigentes políticos de PIRIN consideran que el riesgo de extensión de los conflictos a MACEDONIA es muy alto, dada la confluencia de numerosos intereses nacionales contrapuestos y a la tensión social interna. La afluencia de los varios cientos de miles de refugiados que previsiblemente generaría el estallido de la violencia entrañaría unas graves consecuencias para la región de PIRIN, por cuanto constituirían un factor de desestabilización muy importante para una región que padece una profunda crisis económica y que no cuenta con las infraestructuras necesarias para recibir a semejante número de desplazados.

Una participación armada popular de los habitantes del PIRIN en MACEDONIA en defensa de sus "hermanos" macedonios parece inevitable, dada la actitud de organizaciones como la ORIM, de amplia implantación y aceptación en la región, que propugnan la mencionada línea de acción. Sin embargo, aún presuponiéndose dicho escena-

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rio, no está del todo claro que esta participación extra-oficial búlgara conllevase, como temen las autoridades de SOFIA, una situación límite que inevitablemente empujase al país a involucrarse activamente en los supuestos enfrentamientos de MACEDONIA.

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ASUNTO: BALCANES: SITUACION ECONOMICA DE MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

La situación económica de MACEDONIA continúa degradándose a causa del embargo internacional impuesto contra SERVIA y MONTENEGRO y las malas relaciones que siguen imperando con su vecina GRECIA.

Aunque se ha mejorado el estado de determinados sectores, principalmente el energético, el comportamiento de las variables macroeconómicas continua mostrando una evolución negativa que el programa elaborado por las autoridades macedonias no ha logrado detener, en parte debido al reducido margen de maniobra (aislamiento, acceso restringido a la financiación internacional...) que éstas padecen.

En este contexto, el precario estado de la economía es otro de los factores que contribuye a la inestabilidad política interna y la tensión social que afectan a esta República.

1. EVOLUCION DE LA ECONOMIA NACIONAL. LOS EFECTOS DEL AISLAMIENTO.

El aislamiento internacional de la RFY está afectando a los macedonios prácticamente en la misma medida que a los directamente sancionados, debido a la dependencia económica que esta ex-República yugoslava mantenía con respecto al resto de la Federación. Así, el comercio macedonio a través de las tradicionales vías de comunicación de SERVIA ha quedado reducido a niveles mínimos, sufriendo la economía nacional cada vez en mayor medida los negativos efectos del conflicto en BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

Por consiguiente, en SKOPJE se teme en gran medida los efectos que pueda tener la entrada en vigor de la Resolución 820, que, a juicio de numerosos expertos del país, puede conllevar al aislamiento de MACEDONIA o, en el mejor de los casos, obligará a los exportadores a buscar nuevas vías de comunicación mucho más costosas que por tanto redundarán significativamente en la competitividad de los productos macedonios.

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Por el contrario, se ha incrementado el comercio con ALBANIA, controlado en su mayoria por miembros de dicha comunidad, lo que explica que en las regiones próximas a la frontera de este Estado se disfrute de unas condiciones de vida algo más benignas. También se han visto aumentadas notablemente las transacciones comerciales con TURQUIA, país interesado en conseguir una mayor presencia e influencia en MACEDONIA.

En este contexto de aislamiento, uno de los potenciales factores de desarrollo económico con los que cuenta MACEDONIA consiste en recuperar el eje de comunicaciones entre los mares ADRIATICO Y NEGRO.

En consecuencia, la situación económica interna de MACEDONIA no difiere de manera sustancial de la de su vecina del Norte. Aunque ésta es, lógicamente, algo mejor, los problemas a los que deben enfrentarse diariamente los ciudadanos son similares en ambas Repúblicas: paro, depreciación de la moneda nacional (50% desde la introducción de dinar) e hiperinflación. El origen de estas dificultades y sus consecuencias siguen, asimismo, una pauta común. Caída de la producción y del comercio exterior, exhaustas reservas de divisas, y debilidad financiera estatal son las causas; caída drástica del poder adquisitivo de la población y aparición del mercado negro son las principales consecuencias de la convergencia de todas las variables mencionadas.

El Producto Interior Bruto (PIB) de MACEDONIA, que podría haberse reducido el pasado año en torno a un 20 %, está fundamentado en los sectores industrial y minero, que suponen un 50% del total. Dentro de éstos destacan las industrias textil, alimentaria, química y metalúrgica. El sector primario por su parte comporta el 18% del PIB. Los principales cultivos son los vegetales, frutas y tabaco. MACEDONIA es, sin embargo, deficitaria en cereales ya que sus cosechas apenas cubren un 30% del consumo nacional. La mayor parte del sector primario se encuentra en manos privadas, mientras que por el contrario el industrial es en su mayoría de propiedad estatal constituyendo por su parte el sector terciario el término medio. Este sector constituye el 32 % del PIB, destacando la actividad del turismo.

Como en el resto de las Repúblicas ex-yugoslavas el sector público cubre prácticamente el 95% de la producción total del país.

El salario mínimo fijado y garantizado por el Gobierno de SKOPJE es de 110.000 dinares (11.000 pesetas, aproximadamente), lo que está lejos de las retribuciones reales establecidas por el mercado laboral que se reducen en algunos casos a más de la mitad.

Los escasos recursos financieros del Estado impiden que, por el momento, esta medida haya tenido algún efecto práctico, dado lo cual se estima que el poder adquisitivo de la unidad familiar apenas alcanza el 75% del valor de la cesta de la compra. Por

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consiguiente, según las últimas estimaciones, prácticamente uno de cada tres macedonios vive por debajo del umbral de pobreza.

Las previsiones realizadas por las autoridades de SKOPJE reafirman la tendencia negativa apuntada, siempre que no se produjese un cambio sustancial en la situación exterior, (el reconocimiento no ha sido mas que el primer paso), que permitiese abrir nuevas perspectivas para la evolución económica.

Así, el mínimo de desempleados no tardará en superar los 200.000 trabajadores, acercándose de esta forma la tasa de paro al 28% de la población activa.

El Producto Nacional Bruto (PNB) percápita podría verse asimismo reducido a muy corto plazo en un 50%, pasando así a situarse en una cifra en torno a los 800 dólares.

El comportamiento de la inflación, por su parte, no se está correspondiendo con las previsiones oficiales para 1993, que habían fijado como objetivo un incremento de los precios cercano al 240%. En parte, esto es consecuencia de que el Gobierno se ha visto obligado a actualizar las tarifas de la mayor parte de las empresas públicas, dado que el mantenimiento artificial de los precios estaba afectando a su viabilidad.

Estas subidas de precios endurecerán la postura de los sindicatos en sus negociaciones con el Ejecutivo, decididos los primeros a detener el deterioro del nivel de vida de un 30 % sufrido el pasado ejercicio, aunque previsiblemente alcanzarán el acuerdo necesario para mantener una estabilidad socio-laboral aceptable.

El anuncio por parte del Banco Europeo de Reconstrucción y Desarrollo (BERD) de admitir como miembro a MACEDONIA en breve, significa un importante aliciente para un país que a pesar de su delicada situación económica no ha recibido, hasta el momento, ayuda ni financiera ni técnica por parte de las distintas Instituciones Financieras Internacionales. La creación de nuevos sistemas de abastecimiento energético y la construcción de infraestructuras e instalaciones turísticas serán los destinos de la financiación aportada por el BERD, caso de que los griegos no consigan detener el proyecto.

Por lo que concierne a la situación energética, esta parece haber mejorado ostensiblemente, habiéndose regularizado en gran medida los suministros petrolíferos, por lo cual el Gobierno está contemplando la posibilidad de terminar con las restricciones vigentes.

Hace ahora un año el Ejecutivo macedonio introdujo un programa de estabilización, consistente en una reforma monetaria (intentando mantener un tipo de cambio fijo), en políticas fiscal y de rentas restrictivas y un control selectivo de precios.

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Esta estrategia dió unos resultados positivos en los primeros meses, sobre todo en la reducción de la tasa de inflación mensual, aunque esto último a costa de mantener unos precios de ciertos bienes y servicios públicos excesivamente restringidos, que han conducido a algunas empresas estatales a situaciones próximas a la quiebra.

El Ejecutivo se ha visto obligado a fijar unos precios más realistas para permitir que las compañías públicas obtengan los niveles de ingresos necesarios para asegurar su liquidez. Esta medida tendrá sin duda efectos inflacionistas, ya que los precios energéticos serán unos de los que primero se verán afectados por la subida. Como consecuencia de todo ello, la inflación se ha situado en estos primeros meses del año en una tasa mensual del 25%.

2. CONCLUSION

La admisión de MACEDONIA en la ONU contribuirá a mejorar la situación económica de esta República ex-yugoslava, por cuanto se mejorarán sus posibilidades de acceder a la financiación internacional. Esta es al menos la esperanza que comparten autoridades y población, aunque por otro lado son conscientes de que esta solución de compromiso adoptada por la Comunidad Internacional no es más que un modesto avance hacia la normalización de la situación económica macedonia, irremediablemente ligada a la consecución de una estabilidad política aceptable en la zona.

Una prueba más de ello es la entrada en vigor de la Resolución 820, que pretende el total aislamiento de SERVIA y MONTENEGRO, y cuyos efectos se dejarán sentir también en la débil economía macedonia.

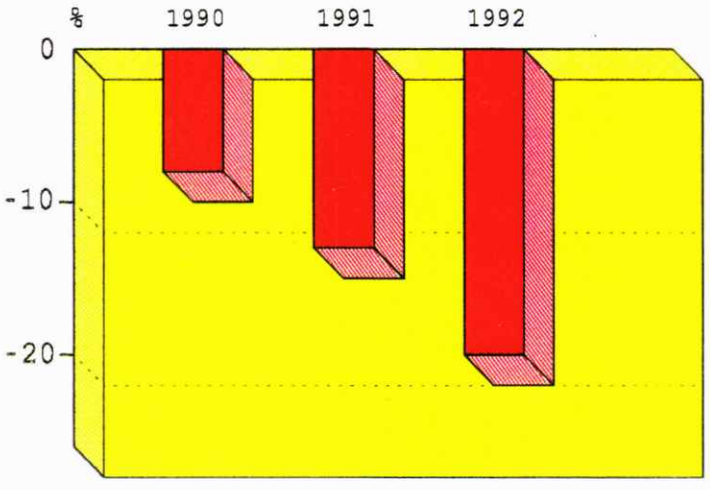
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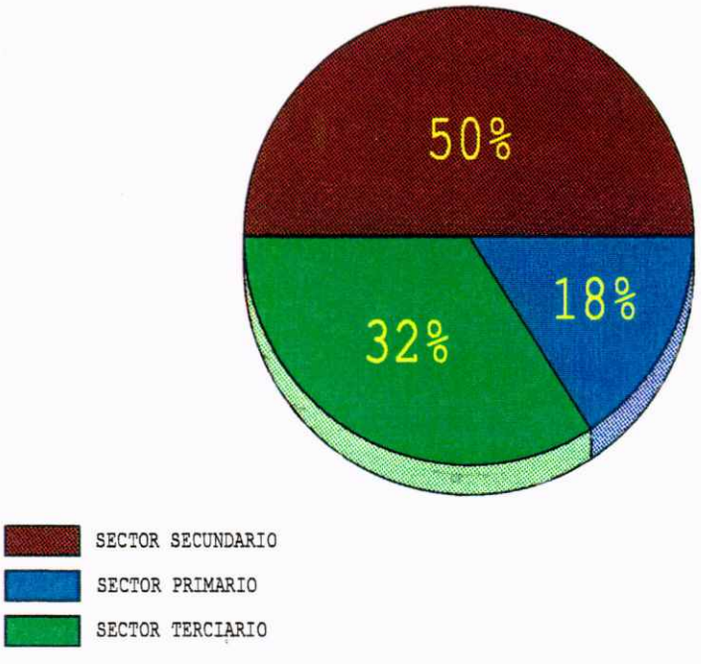
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MACEDONIA

VARIACION PORCENTUAL DEL P.I.B.



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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: SITUACION INTERNA DE MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

La consolidación del Estado y la resolución de todos los problemas, tanto de índole externa como interna, son los ámbitos principales sobre los que SKOPJE está desarrollando su principal esfuerzo.

Desde el punto de vista interno, las relaciones y tensiones interétnicas se configuran como la principal causa de inestabilidad, junto con la situación económica, mientras que, cara al exterior, la continuación de las conversaciones con GRECIA respecto al contencioso del nombre constituye uno de los primeros objetivos de la política macedonia.

1. PROBLEMAS INTERETNICOS

Dentro de sus aproximadamente dos millones de habitantes, la población macedonia está constituida por numerosos grupos étnicos, entre los que pueden destacarse albaneses, turcos y servios. A pesar de la integración de otras minorías en la sociedad macedonia, los citados grupos presentan diferentes problemas en cuanto a sus relaciones mutuas y a su situación en MACEDONIA.

Así, son los servios y los albaneses los que acuden en mayor medida a la bandera de la discriminación en cuanto a la escolarización en sus propias lenguas, espacios en los medios de comunicación social, presencia proporcional en la administración pública y, fundamentalmente, en lo relativo a su no consideración como pueblos constituyentes de la nación macedonia (el preámbulo de la Constitución señala que "MACEDONIA es el Estado Nacional del pueblo macedonio").

Por lo que respecta a la minoría servia, asentada principalmente en la región de KUMANOVO, representantes de este grupo y del Ministerio del Interior macedonio han mantenido contactos en los que se ha puesto de manifiesto el reconocimiento del Ejecutivo de SKOPJE de la existencia de los servios como nacionalidad o minoría específica en la República.

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Aunque una modificación de la Constitución no es viable actualmente, sí parece factible que se comiencen a aplicar los acuerdos relativos a la enseñanza y a los espacios en medios de comunicación en servio, sobre la base de un número mínimo de alumnos y porcentajes.

Otro de los aspectos específicos y no menos importante de este acuerdo es la garantía de libertad religiosa y de elección de Iglesia, con lo que los ciudadanos macedonios ortodoxos podrán depender de diferentes jurisdicciones de la Iglesia Ortodoxa. Este hecho implica que la Iglesia servia, que no reconoce a la macedonia con jurisdicción independiente, haría una admisión implícita de la misma en el momento en que pidiese permiso para sus servicios, como si se tratase de una Iglesia extranjera.

Respecto a los albaneses, grupo que constituye la tercera parte de la población, no se ha producido, ni es probable que así sea, una mejora de las relaciones con los macedonios, debido, fundamentalmente, a la mutua falta de voluntad de integración.

Este hecho, al tratarse de los dos principales grupos de población, incidirá negativamente en el desarrollo de las estructuras de la República macedonia, en sentido amplio, llegando a constituir un potencial foco de inestabilidad del país.

En este mismo ámbito, hay que destacar la continuidad de la crisis ya apuntada en el último congreso del principal grupo político albanés, el Partido de Prosperidad Democrática (PDP). En esta formación política se está consolidando un ala radical encabezada por MENDUCH TACI, líder local de TETOVO, el cual está demandando insistentemente la dimisión de los actuales líderes del Partido, a los que acusa de ser conformistas con el poder.

No es factible, sin embargo, que, al menos a corto plazo, dimita NEVZAT HALILI, Presidente del PDP, quien no deja de mostrar sus simpatías por los radicales, a pesar de mantener que la cuestión albanesa progresa en la dirección adecuada, aunque lentamente.

Dentro de los contenciosos pendientes entre los grupos albanés y macedonio no deja de tener importancia la cuestión del censo de población, dada las diferencias entre las cifras y porcentajes que manejan unos y otros; el problema de la enseñanza en albanés y la ley electoral, cuyas demarcaciones en distritos es considerada perjudicial, por parte de los albaneses, para los partidos de la oposición y las minorías.

2. SITUACION POLITICA INTERNA

A pesar de haberse barajado la posibilidad de adelantar las elecciones, en la situación actual no es probable que esta decisión se tome a muy corto plazo y, mucho menos, con el consenso de las principales fuerzas políticas. La razón no es tanto intentar cumplir el período legislativo como las divergencias existen-

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tes en cuanto a la ley electoral, habiendo rechazado recientemente el Parlamento la propuesta del Gobierno por el procedimiento de urgencia.

En este sentido, tanto el PDP albanés como la minoría turca demandan insistentemente la reforma de una ley que les perjudica al atomizar sus poblaciones, de forma que los turcos, por ejemplo, no han podido conseguir representación parlamentaria.

Esa oposición principal, tanto a esa reforma como al adelanto de las elecciones, viene por parte de la Organización Revolucionaria Interior de MACEDONIA (VMRO), que teme sufrir un descenso en sus votos, dada la segregación de diferentes corrientes dentro de su seno, lo que ha dado lugar a la formación de nuevos grupos políticos.

También existen otros intereses personales, como es el caso de parlamentarios escindidos de otros partidos y que ahora forman parte de pequeñas formaciones políticas o permanecen como independientes, temiendo perder su escaño en las próximas elecciones.

En las actuales circunstancias, puede afirmarse que en dichas elecciones seguirá vigente la actual coalición gubernamental, Alianza Social Demócrata (SDS) y Partido Reformista Liberal (PRL), que recogerá los votos de los macedonios moderados. El PDP, por su parte, aglutinará a la inmensa mayoría del voto albanés.

Hay que destacar que uno de los principales temas de enfrentamiento entre las formaciones citadas lo constituirá, sin duda, el tratamiento constitucional de los albaneses. En este sentido, el PDP aboga por la consideración de MACEDONIA como Estado binacional (macedonios, albaneses y otros) o multinacional, donde todas las nacionalidades tengan carácter de constitutivas y, por tanto, con iguales derechos.

3. SITUACION ECONOMICA

La dependencia económica de MACEDONIA respecto a la República Federal Yugoslava (RFY) y, más concretamente, al espacio económico servio, que constituía su principal mercado así como su fuente de materias primas, ha provocado que la economía macedonia se esté viendo fuertemente perjudicada por las sanciones impuestas a la RFY: los daños directos esgrimidos por el Primer Ministro ascienden a dos billones de dólares.

Así, antes de la desintegración yugoslava, un 75% de la exportación macedonia (principalmente productos agrícolas, textiles y plomo) tenía como destino, bien final o como simple tránsito, a SERVIA.

A pesar de que estas pérdidas se estaban intentando paliar con una violación casi sistemática del embargo decretado por Naciones Unidas, las presiones internacionales han obligado al Gobierno de SKOPJE a aplicar rigurosamente la Resolución 820.

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Al margen del perjuicio global que esta medida va a ocasionar a las economías tanto yugoslava como macedonia, la decisión tendrá repercusiones directas en las economías y comercios familiares de la zona de BRANJE, al Sur de SERVIA, y la de KUMANOVO, al Norte de MACEDONIA, regiones tradicionalmente interrelacionadas en su comercio de productos agrícolas, ganaderos, lácteos, etc.

En esta línea, hay que señalar que son abundantes los signos de pobreza social y económica en MACEDONIA (los niveles de producción y el ingreso medio han descendido el pasado año más de un 50%), de los que no dejan de ser un reflejo fiel las huelgas, la deficiente infraestructura sanitaria, o la propia fragilidad de la moneda.

Este ámbito puede considerarse como uno de los principales factores de riesgo de desestabilización interna, si bien, por el momento, el deterioro de la situación no parece que vaya a alcanzar cotas alarmantes.

4. CONCLUSIONES

Desde el punto de vista interno, puede señalarse que MACEDONIA se encuentra frente a dos potenciales factores de desestabilización: las relaciones interétnicas, fundamentalmente entre los dos principales grupos de población (macedonios y albaneses), y la difícil situación económica.

La evolución en ambos campos tendrá un reflejo inmediato en la esfera política de la República. Así, si se impone la tendencia más radical del Partido de Prosperidad Democrática (PDP), puesta de manifiesto en el último congreso del mismo, esta formación política podría abandonar la coalición gubernamental, lo que provocará una crisis en el Ejecutivo de SKOPJE.

De presentarse esa situación, se plantea la posibilidad de un adelanto de las elecciones, pese a todos los reparos y posiciones particulares ya expuestos, o bien un giro del Gobierno macedonio hacia formaciones nacionalistas, lo que no beneficiaría, obviamente, el entendimiento con los diferentes grupos étnicos.

Es previsible que la situación económica, tras los ajustes sufridos por la aplicación real del embargo a la RFY, tienda a estabilizarse en un nivel que sea, al menos, sostenible por el momento. En este ámbito incidirán de forma determinante el comportamiento de la inflación, el crecimiento del paro y la casi inexistente activación de las principales reformas económicas.

Junto a lo anterior, la situación en KOSOVO y el litigio del nombre de la República entre MACEDONIA y GRECIA, principalmente, se configuran como factores externos de innegables repercusiones en el ámbito interno de este país balcánico, afectando de forma primordial, tanto a su estabilidad política, como a su seguridad.

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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: SITUACION POLITICA INTERNA EN MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

La detención en la República MACEDONIA de un grupo de ocho macedonios de etnia albanesa, entre los que destacan los Viceministros de Defensa y de Sanidad, ha sido generalmente interpretada como una muestra de la inestabilidad política que padece esta República de la ex-YUGOSLAVIA y del incierto futuro que afronta el Gobierno de SKOPJE, acosado por la crisis económica y la radicalización de la minoría albanesa, con la dificultad añadida de contar con un margen de maniobra muy limitado a causa de los enfrentamientos internos en el Ejecutivo.

Los detenidos están acusados de organizar actividades hostiles en contra de MACEDONIA, de preparar una insurrección armada para la desmembración de la misma y de traficar con armas, todo ello en connivencia con intereses foráneos.

Las autoridades macedonias solamente han confirmado la detención del Viceministro de Defensa macedonio, HISEN HASKAJ, pero no la detención del Viceministro de Sanidad, IMER IMERI, que podría haber aprovechado la falta momentánea de pruebas para salir del país, o pedir asilo político en algún Consulado.

En los registros efectuados se localizaron un número indeterminado de armas, así como diversos documentos que, según fuentes oficiales, contienen los planes para formar organizaciones clandestinas de carácter paramilitar que pretendían llegar a agrupar a varios miles de macedonios de etnia albanesa.

Lógicamente, el suceso está siendo aprovechado a nivel interno por los partidos políticos macedonios de acuerdo con sus intereses, pero también está teniendo implicaciones en el exterior, ya que el acontecimiento ha trascendido las fronteras de MACEDONIA relacionando en el asunto a ALBANIA, SERVIA y GRECIA.

1. REACCIONES INTERNAS

Por parte del Gobierno macedonio y de las más altas autoridades de la República se ha tratado de minimizar estos sucesos, destacando el carácter plural de MACEDONIA, y de restar importan-

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cia al supuesto peligro derivado de una organización terrorista presuntamente bien equipada y organizada.

Los nacionalistas macedonios son los que intencionadamente han procurado exagerar y sobrevalorar los acontecimientos, que han resultado muy idóneos como argumento para defender su disconformidad con lo que juzgan política contemporizadora del actual Gobierno de coalición respecto a la minoría albanesa.

Estos partidos nacionalistas macedonios han incidido, lógicamente, en el hecho de que entre los detenidos se encuentra el Viceministro de Defensa, con las repercusiones que para la seguridad nacional podría tener este hecho. La realidad es que la participación de albaneses en el Gobierno CRVENKOVSKI, ya sea ocupando alguna Cartera o en segundos puestos ministeriales, es difícilmente soportada por aquellos partidos.

El Partido de la Prosperidad Democrática (PPD), mayoritario entre los albaneses, ha valorado el suceso como una consecuencia lógica de la rápida desintegración de YUGOSLAVIA, que propició la organización de este tipo de formaciones en la actualidad carentes ya de sentido. De esta forma, el PPD declina su más que posible responsabilidad sobre el asunto, evitando realizar una condena expresa del mismo.

2. REACCIONES EXTERNAS

Dado que en MACEDONIA confluyen intereses de todos los países vecinos, éstos se han visto también indirectamente relacionados con el descubrimiento de este grupo paramilitar albanés.

ALBANIA ha sido acusada por las autoridades macedonias de ser parte activa en el tráfico ilegal de armamento que tenía como destino MACEDONIA, imputación que obviamente ha sido categóricamente rechazada por parte de TIRANA, pero que, de acuerdo con el origen de las armas encontradas, no parece desencaminada.

Los albaneses han querido ver en el suceso, sin embargo, la implicación de BELGRADO, de acuerdo con su táctica de favorecer la inestabilidad interna de MACEDONIA como forma de acrecentar sus debilidades político-económicas y conseguir así más fácilmente su supuesta integración de una nueva YUGOSLAVIA. Simultáneamente, el régimen servio aprovecha, según TIRANA, para desacreditar la causa albanesa y en concreto la de los albano-kosovares.

Este argumento ha sido recogido y extendido por los medios de comunicación macedonios próximos al Gobierno, que lo han utilizado como prueba de que las principales amenazas para la estabilidad de MACEDONIA proceden del exterior.

En esta línea se hace alusión al eje ATENAS-BELGRADO, cuyos intereses en relación a MACEDONIA, a juicio de los mencionados medios de comunicación, serían convergentes.

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3. VALORACION

A pesar de la importancia que por parte de determinados sectores políticos macedonios se ha querido dar a esta acción policial, lo cierto es que la misma no parece rebasar el ámbito de una actuación de carácter puntual y localizado, con suficiente control por parte de las autoridades de SKOPJE.

El momento en el que se produce la detención de este grupo de albaneses, coincidiendo con la gira balcánica del nuevo Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores griego y con unas agresivas declaraciones de MILOSEVIC hacia la futura viabilidad de MACEDONIA, indican que las consideraciones de tipo político han primado sobre otros criterios (fundamentalmente seguridad) a la hora de llevar a cabo las detenciones.

Así, el Ministerio del Interior macedonio podría haber decidido poner en marcha la operación policial en el momento político considerado más rentable y oportuno para consolidar la soberanía del nuevo Estado, sobre todo ante la actitud demostrada por los países vecinos.

De esta forma, las autoridades macedonias obtienen un rendimiento político de esta demostración de "fuerza" y de control de la situación tanto en el exterior como en el interior de la República.

Por otro lado, aunque no hay que descartar categóricamente un apoyo a la insurrección armada de albaneses en MACEDONIA procedente de países vecinos interesados en una desestabilización de esta República, los riesgos de utilización de esta vía albanesa para estos fines son tan imprevisibles e incontrolables para toda la región, dada la inmediata conexión con problemas latentes tan preocupantes como el de KOSOVO, que animan a considerar con cautela la idea de que los mencionados intereses de los países vecinos puedan instrumentalizarse por estos métodos subversivos.

Desde el punto de vista de la política interna, el momento escogido para efectuar las detenciones se presentaba también especialmente propicio, dada la fase de crisis que atraviesa el partido mayoritario albanés, en vísperas de la elaboración del censo oficial, y, por último, debido a la difícil posición que mantienen los cinco albaneses miembros del Ejecutivo de CRVENKOVSKI, que, junto con otros factores, afectan a la propia operatividad de este Gabinete.

En este sentido, se espera que la oposición nacionalista macedonia aproveche la coyuntura para exigir la dimisión del Gabinete, con el objetivo de eliminar de éste a los miembros pertenecientes a la comunidad albanesa.

En este contexto, es previsible una mayor inestabilidad política interna que, como se percibe desde hace tiempo, debe tener como solución más coherente la celebración de elecciones anticipa-

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das que contribuyan a clarificar la escena política macedonia y formar un Gobierno con el consenso suficiente para acometer los graves problemas socio-económicos que afronta el país.

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NOTA INFORMATIVA

ASUNTO: BALCANES: SITUACION DE LA MINORIA ALBANESA EN MACEDONIA.

0. INTRODUCCION

La reciente detención de un grupo de albano-macedonios acusados de estar relacionados con formaciones terroristas de carácter independentista ha servido para centrar nuevamente la atención internacional en la importancia que tiene la cuestión albanesa en la consolidación y viabilidad como Estado de la antigua República Yugoslava de MACEDONIA.

Así, la minoría albanesa, tanto por su fuerza e iniciativa interna como por las posibilidades de ser objeto de manipulación por parte de intereses externos, constituye el principal factor potencial de desestabilización en MACEDONIA.

1. SITUACION DE LA MINORIA ALBANESA

Por el momento, y a pesar de la existencia de incidentes aislados como el anteriormente mencionado, la comunidad albanesa no está representando un obstáculo decisivo en el desarrollo estatal macodonio, sobre todo si se compara la actuación de aquélla con la de otras minorías en determinadas Repúblicas pertenecientes a la antigua YUGOSLAVIA, como es el caso de CROACIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA y la República Federal Yugoslava (RFY).

En SKOPJE se valora positivamente la oportunidad que se disfruta de poder afianzar las estructuras estatales mediante un proceso pacífico, que, lenta pero progresivamente, está favoreciendo un ambiente social y político más relajado que en otras zonas.

A pesar de este relativo optimismo, la clase política macedonia es consciente de los grandes retos que afronta el país y de los riesgos que amenazan su estabilidad, entre los que unánimamente se destacan los derivados de la presencia de una importante minoría albanesa.

Así, en los círculos políticos de la capital macedonia se minimizan las amenazas contra la seguridad nacional procedentes del exterior. Entre las capitales de los paises vecinos, la que

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ha dado muestras de una mayor belicosidad ha sido BELGRADO, pero, en líneas generales, no se considera que MACEDONIA sea de interés prioritario para una RFY centrada en la resolución de los contenciosos de CROACIA y de BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, máxime si se tiene en cuenta la escasa entidad de la comunidad servo-macedonia.

Los partidos nacionalistas macedonios estiman que, a pesar de lo anterior, la actual denominación de la Reública anima a la RFY a considerar la hipótesis de volver a incluir a MACEDONIA en una "nueva YUGOSLAVIA".

Otra cuestión que vincula a MACEDONIA con la RFY es la innegable inmediata relación causa-efecto existente entre la evolución de los acontecimientos en el vecino KOSOVO y su influencia en la primera República, aunque, en este caso, el catalizador de esta relación es precisamente la comunidad albano-macedonia y no el interés directo de BELGRADO.

Respecto a esta compleja cuestión, los sectores políticos más nacionalistas son reacios a reconocer que la política interna macedonia respecto a sus minorías tenga que verse condicionada por la existencia de problemas similares en el exterior, mientras que los dirigentes más pragmáticos son partidarios de una cooperación efectiva en ese sentido entre BELGRADO y SKOPJE.

Por consiguiente, la presencia de la comunidad albanesa en MACEDONIA y la forma como se produzca y estructure la asimilación e integración de esta etnia en el conjunto de la sociedad macedonia contituyen un interés prioritario para el país.

El actual nivel de convivencia entre los albaneses y los macedonios de origen eslavo, es en líneas generales, aceptable y las experiencias recientes demuestran que existe una mayor confianza entre ambas comunidades que la que, en principio, podría suponerse.

Sin embargo, el proceso de integración social es lento y difícil, sin que, por el momento, exista un deseo decidido por parte de ninguna de ambas etnias de llevar a cabo el mismo. Por todo ello, la situación actual puede definirse como de existencia de dos sociedades paralelas bien diferenciadas, que mantienen un grado de convivencia caracterizado por la tensión contenida.

Al igual que en otros focos de conflicto, latentes o ya abiertos, originados por la desaparción de la antigua YUGOSLAVIA, lo más preocupante de la cuestión albanesa en MACEDONIA es la falta de planteamientos políticos que permitan un acercamiento entre las partes enfrentadas, el cual posibilita, a su vez, superar el enfrentamiento derivado de la intransigencia de concepciones radicalmente opuestas.

En este sentido, la demanda por parte de la comunidad albanesa de que su comunidad sea dotada del estatus de Nación constitu-

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yente es la piedra angular que condiciona en la actualidad el diálogo político entre esta etnia y la eslavo-macedonia.

En SKOPJE se considera que dotar a los albaneses del mencionado estatus se convertiría en un peligroso precedente que daría pie a que esta etnia incrementase sus demandas de autonomía política, hasta llegar a plantear, incluso, la autodeterminación.

Sin embargo, hasta los partidos más nacionalistas reconocen la necesidad de que los albano-macedonios cuenten con todos los derechos que la legislación internacional reconoce a las minorías nacionales.

La participación en el Gobierno de coalición de la principal formación representante de la minoría albanesa, el Partido para la Prosperidad Democrática (PPD), puede considerarse como la muestra más decidida e inteligente para llevar adelante la integración de esta etnia en la sociedad macedonia y contribuir a la estabilidad interna del país.

Sin embargo, esta medida no ha aportado todo lo que se esperaba cara a la normalización de las relaciones ni a que se produzcan avances en la cuestión básica mencionada. Tampoco ha servido para resolver otra demanda prioritaria albanesa: la elaboración de un nuevo censo que sirva para determinar la verdadera dimensión de la comunidad albanesa, censada en la actualidad en un 21% de la población y estimada, según los propios albaneses, en algo más del 40%.

Contar con un nuevo censo es fundamental para las aspiraciones albanesas, dado que la próxima cita electoral tendrá lugar de aquí a un año, si, como parece, el Ejecutivo opta por concluir la legislatura.

Los escasos avances logrados por la participación albanesa en el Gobierno son esgrimidos por el sector más radical del PPD, mayoritario en las zonas colindantes con ALBANIA, como argumento para criticar a los partidarios de esta colaboración.

Aunque, por el momento, este sector más extremista no es mayoritario en el seno del partido, tiende a afianzarse, apoyado, precisamente, en la inoperacia gubernamental. Los pronósticos para el Congreso de esta formación, a celebrarse próximamente, apuntan a una dura lucha entre moderados y extremistas.

La actitud de la actual dirección del partido es, como reconocen incluso las formaciones nacionalistas, moderada y encaminada a neutralizar los radicalismos, aunque el estancamiento de sus demandas claves y la presión interna no excluyen la posibilidad de que sus planteamientos se vayan radicalizando.

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2. CONCLUSIONES

Los esfuerzos realizados por albaneses y eslavos macedonios para acercar sus posiciones y contribuir así a la estabilidad interna del país y de su consolidación como Estado han proporcionado algunos resultados positivos, que, sin embargo, no han conseguido hacer olvidar las diferencias que separan a ambas comunidades.

En consecuencia, las raíces del conflicto, en opinión de la mayoría de los políticos de una y otra etnia, siguen vigentes. Estos dirigentes asumen que, con independencia del curso que tomen los acontecimientos a corto plazo, la cuestión albanesa continuará siendo en el futuro fuente de graves problemas, que afectarán incluso a la viabilidad del país.

Los albano-macedonios están dispuestos a hacer valer su peso específico como minoría que representa más de un tercio de la población total de la República, mientras que los eslavos pondrán los máximos obstáculos posibles para evitar todo aquello que pueda conducir a lo que consideran la meta irrenunciable de los primeros: la independencia.

Encontrar una vía intermedia es difícil pero posible y el actual Gobierno de coalición, aunque esté atravesando una grave crisis política, es una prueba de ello. La manera de cómo el Ejecutivo ha superado la "mini crisis" originada por el descubrimiento de una presunta red terrorista albanesa y de cómo ha reaccionado, a su vez, la mayoría de la población son elementos de cauto optimismo, que demuestran que, por el momento, los planteamientos moderados prevalecen sobre los radicales.

En ese mismo sentido, la presencia de tropas de UNPROFOR en MACEDONIA es reconocida por todas las partes como un importante factor de seguridad y estabilidad, aunque su representatividad y sus actividades sean utilizadas por ambas comunidades en su particular beneficio político interno.

Fecha de Redacción: 03.12.93

CONFIDENCIAL

CONSTITUTION

DE

LA REPUBLIQUE

DE MACEDOINE

CONSTITUTION

DE

LA REPUBLIQUE

DE MACEDOINE

Skopje, 1992

Partant de l'héritage historique, culturel, spirituel et étatique du peuple macédonien, de sa lutte séculaire pour la liberté nationale et sociale et pour la création de son état, et tout particulièrement des traditions étato-juridiques de la République de Kruševo et des décisions historiques de l'ASNOM (nb: Conseil antifasciste de la libération nationale de Macédoine) et de la continuité constitutionnelle et juridique de l'état macédonien en tant que république souveraine en Yougoslavie fédérative, de la volonté librement exprimée des citoyens de la République de Macédoine au référendum du 8 septembre 1991, ainsi que du fait historique que la Macédoine est contituée comme état national du peuple macédonien qui assure une égalité complète des droits civiques et une cohabitation durable du peuple macédonien avec des Albanais, Turcs, Valaques, Roms et autres nationalités qui habitent dans la République de Macédoine, et, aux fins de:

– constituer la République de Macédoine comme état souverain et indépendant et comme état civique et démocratique;

– établir et édifier l'état de droit en tant que système fondamental du pouvoir;

– garantir les droits de l'homme, les libertés civiques et l'égalité des droits nationaux;

– assurer la paix et la cohabitation du peuple macédonien avec les nationalités vivant dans la République de Macédoine; et

– assurer la justice sociale, le bien-être économique et le progrès de la vie individuelle et commune,

l'Assemblée de la République de Macédoine promulgue la présente

CONSTITUTION DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MACEDOINE

I. DISPOSITIONS FONDAMENTALES

Article 1

La République de Macédoine est un état souverain, indépendant, démocratique et social.

La souveraineté de la République de Macédoine est indivisible, inaliénable et intransmissible.

Article 2

En République de Macédoine la souveraineté provient des citoyens et leur appartient.

Les citoyens de la République de Macédoine réalisent le pouvoir par des représentants élus démocratiquement, par la voie du référendum et autres formes d'expression directe.

Article 3*

Le territoire de la République de Macédoine est indivisible et inaliénable.

Les frontière existantes de la République de Macédoine sont inviolables.

Elles ne peuvent être modifiées que conformément à la Constitution.

Article 4

Les citoyens de la République de Macédoine sont des ressortissants de la République de Macédoine.

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* Voir Amendement I, page 49.

Le ressortissant de la République de Macédoine ne peut se voir ôter cette qualité, ni être expulsé ou extradé vers un autre état.

La qualité de ressortissant de la République de Macédoine est régie par la Loi.

Article 5

Les symboles de l'état de la République de Macédoine sont: emblème, drapeau et hymne.

Ceux-ci sont établis par la Loi votée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 6

La capitale de la République de Macédoine est Skopje.

Article 7

La langue officielle en République de Macédoine est le macédonien et son alphabet le cyrillique.

Dans les unités de l'autogestion locale où les membres des nationalités sont en majorité, leurs langues et alphabet sont, aux côtés du macédonien et du cyrillique, également en usage officiel de la manière déterminée par la Loi.

Dans les unités de l'autogestion locale où les membres des nationalités sont en nombre considérable, leurs langue et alphabet sont en usage officiel aux côtés du macédonien et du cyrillique, dans les conditions et de la manière déterminées par la Loi.

Article 8

Les valeurs fondamentales du régime constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine sont:

– libertés et droits fondamentaux de l'homme et du citoyen reconnus par le droit international et établis par la Constitution;
– expression libre de l'appartenance nationale;
– état de droit;
– division du pouvoir de l'état en législatif, exécutif et judiciaire;
– pluralisme politique et élections démocratiques libres et directes;
– protection juridique de la propriété;
– liberté du marché et de l'entreprise;
– humanisme, justice sociale et solidarité;
– autogestion locale;
– aménagement et humanisation de l'espace, protection et promotion de l'environnement et de la nature;
– respect des normes généralement reconnues du droit international.

En République de Macédoine est libre tout ce qui n'est pas interdit par la Constitution et la Loi.

II. LIBERTES ET DROITS FONDAMENTAUX DE L'HOMME ET DU CITOYEN

1. Libertés et droits de citoyenneté et politiques

Article 9

Les citoyens de la République de Macédoine sont égaux dans leurs libertés et droits indépendamment de leurs sexe, race, couleur de la peau, origine nationale et sociale, convictions politiques et religieuses, situation sociale et fortune.

Les citoyens sont égaux devant la Constitution et les lois.

Article 10

La vie des hommes est sacrée.

La peine capitale ne peut être prononcée en République de Macédoine en aucun cas.

Article 11

L'intégrité physique et morale des hommes est inviolable.

L'on interdit toute forme de torture, de comportement et punition inhumains ou humiliants.

L'on interdit un travail forcé.

Article 12

La liberté des hommes est inviolable.

Personne ne peut se voir limiter sa liberté excepté par une décision du tribunal et dans les cas et procédure définis par la Loi.

La personne convoquée, arrêtée ou privée de liberté devra immédiatement être informée des causes de ses convocation, arrestation ou privation de liberté et de ses droits définis par la Loi et ne peut être obligée à faire une déclaration. La personne a droit à un défenseur dans la procédure policière et judiciaire.

La personne privée de liberté devra immédiatement et au plus tard dans les 24 heures à compter du moment où elle a été privée de liberté, comparaître devant le tribunal qui se prononcera sans délai sur la légalité de la privation de liberté.

La détention peut durer, par décision du tribunal, au maximum 90 jours à compter du jour de l'arrestation.

La personne détenue peut, dans les conditions définies par la Loi, être remise en liberté afin d'assurer sa défense.

Article 13

La personne accusée d'un délit passible de peine sera considérée comme innocente tant que sa

faute n'aura pas été établie par une décision exécutoire du tribunal.

La personne privée de liberté, détenue ou condamnée illégalement, a droit à réparation des dommages et autres droits définis par la Loi.

Article 14

Personne ne peut être puni pour l'oeuvre qui, avant d'avoir été commise, n'était pas définie par la Loi ou par un autre règlement comme étant passible de peine et pour laquelle la peine n'était pas prévue.

Personne ne peut être jugé à nouveau sur un délit pour lequel il a déjà été jugé et pour lequel un jugement exécutoire a été prononcé.

Article 15

Le droit d'appel est garanti contre les actes juridiques individuels prononcés en première instance par le tribunal, devant une autorité ou un organisme administratifs ou autres institutions chargés des pouvoirs publics.

Article 16

Est garanti la liberté des convictions, conscience, pensée et l'expression publique de la pensée.

Est garanti la liberté du parler, du discours public, de l'information publique et la création libre des organes d'information publique.

Est garanti l'accès libre aux informations, la liberté de recevoir et de communiquer les informations.

Est garanti le droit à la réponse dans les moyens d'information publique.

Est garanti le droit à la rectification dans les moyens de l'information publique.

Est garanti le droit à la protection de la source d'information dans les moyens de l'information publique.

La censure est interdite.

Article 17

Est garanti la liberté et le secret de la correspondance et de toute autre forme de communication.

Seule une décision du tribunal peut donner lieu à une dérogation au principe d'inviolabilité du secret de la correspondance si cette mesure est indispensable à la procédure judiciaire ou est exigé par les intérêts de la défense de la République.

Article 18

Est garanti la sûreté et le secret des informations à caractère personnel.

Est garanti aux citoyens une protection contre l'atteinte à l'intégrité personnelle, qui découle de l'enregistrement de renseignements les concernant par la voie de traitement des données.

Article 19

La liberté de la confession est assurée.

Est garanti une expression libre et publique, de la foi individuelle ou en commun avec autrui.

L'Eglise orthodoxe macédonienne, les autres communautés confessionnelles et groupes religieux sont séparés de l'état et sont égaux devant la Loi.

L'Eglise orthodoxe macédonienne, les autres communautés confessionnelles et groupes religieux sont libres de créer des écoles religieuses et des établissements sociaux et de bienfaisance dans le cadre et la procédure définis par la Loi.

Article 20

La liberté d'association en vue de la réalisation et de la protection de leurs convictions et droits politiques, économiques, sociaux, culturels et autres est garantie aux citoyens.

Les citoyens peuvent librement créer des associations civiles et partis politiques, y accéder et en ressortir.

Les programmes et l'action des associations des citoyens et des partis politiques ne peuvent être dirigés vers la destruction par la force du système constitutionnel de la République et vers l'incitation ou l'appel à l'agression militaire ou vers l'embrasement de la haine ou de l'intolérance nationales, raciales ou religieuses.

Les associations militaires ou para-militaires qui n'appartiennent pas aux forces armées de la République de Macédoine sont interdites.

Article 21

Les citoyens ont le droit de se rassembler dans le calme et d'exprimer leur protestation publique sans annonce préalable et sans autorisation particulière.

L'utilisation de ce droit ne peut être limitée que par des conditions d'état de guerre et d'état d'alerte.

Article 22

Dès l'âge de 18 ans tout citoyen acquiert le droit de vote.

Le droit de vote est égal, général et direct et est réalisé lors d'élections libres, par vote secret.

N'ont pas le droit de vote les citoyens qui ont perdu la capacité juridique.

Article 23

Tout citoyen a le droit de prendre part à l'exercice de fonctions publiques.

Article 24

Tout citoyen a le droit de soumettre des objections aux organes d'état et autres services publics et d'y obtenir une réponse.

Le citoyen ne peut être entaché de responsabilité ni subir des conséquences négatives pour ses positions exposées dans ses objections, sauf s'il y a accompli un délit.

Article 25

Tout citoyen se voit garantir le respect et la protection de l'intimité de sa vie personnelle et familiale, de sa dignité et de sa renommée.

Article 26

L'inviolabilité du foyer est garantie.

Le droit à l'inviolabilité du foyer ne peut être limité que par une décision du tribunal, lorsqu'il s'agit de déceler ou d'empêcher des délits ou crimes ou bien de protéger la santé des gens.

Article 27

Tout citoyen de la République de Macédoine a le droit de circuler librement sur le territoire de la République et de choisir librement le lieu de son domicile.

Tout citoyen a le droit de quitter le territoire de la République et d'y revenir.

L'usage de ces droits peut être limité par la Loi uniquement dans les cas où ceci s'avère nécessaire en vue de la protection de la sécurité de

la République, d'une procédure pénale ou de la protection de la santé des gens.

Article 28

La défense de la République de Macédoine est un droit et un devoir de tout citoyen.

La réalisation de ces droit et devoir des citoyens est réglementée par la Loi.

Article 29

Les étrangers jouissent en République de Macédoine des libertés et des droits garantis par la Constitution, dans les conditions définies par la Loi et les conventions internationales.

La République garantit le droit à l'asile aux étrangers et aux apatrides, poursuivis pour leurs convictions et action démocratiques politiques.

L'extradition d'un étranger ne peut être effectuée que sur la base d'une convention internationale ratifiée et sur la base de la réciprocité. Un étranger ne peut être extradé pour cause d'un délit politique. Les faits de terrorisme ne sont pas considérés comme délits politiques.

2. Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels

Article 30

Le droit à la propriété et le droit à la succession sont garantis.

La propriété crée des droits et des obligations et doit servir pour le bien de l'individu et de la communauté.

Personne ne peut se voir ôter ou limiter sa propriété et les droits qui en découlent, sauf par l'intérêt général et dans le cadre défini par la Loi.

Dans le cas d'aliénation de la propriété ou dans celui de la limitation de la propriété, un dédommagement équitable qui ne peut être inférieur à la valeur du marché est garanti.

Article 31

Un étranger peut accéder à la propriété dans les conditions définies par la Loi.

Article 32

Tout individu a droit au travail, au choix libre de l'emploi, à la protection lors du travail et à la sécurité matérielle durant le chômage temporaire.

Tout individu peut accéder, dans les conditions égales, à tout poste de travail.

Tout employé a droit à une rémunération adéquate.

Tout employé a droit à un congé journalier, hebdomadaire et annuel payé. Les employés ne peuvent renoncer à ces droits.

L'usage des droits des employés et leur situation sont réglementés par la Loi et des accords collectifs.

Article 33

Tout individu est tenu de payer des impôts et autres charges publiques et de participer au règlement des frais publics de la manière définie par la Loi.

Article 34

Les citoyens ont droit à une sécurité sociale et à une assurance sociale définies par la Loi et une convention collective.

Article 35

La République se préoccupe de la protection sociale et de la sécurité sociale des citoyens conformément au principe de la justice sociale.

La République garantit le droit à l'aide aux citoyens handicapés et inaptes au travail.

La République assure une protection particulière aux personnes infirmes et les conditions de leur insertion dans la vie sociale.

Article 36

La République garantit des droits sociaux particuliers aux combattants de la Guerre antifasciste et de toutes les guerres de libération nationale de Macédoine, aux invalides de guerre, aux personnes persécutées et emprisonnées pour leurs idées sur l'entité du peuple macédonien et sa qualité d'état, ainsi qu'aux membres de leurs familles qui sont démunis de moyens d'existence matérielle et sociale.

Ces droits particuliers sont réglementés par la Loi.

Article 37

Les citoyens ont le droit de créer des syndicats afin de réaliser leurs droits économiques et sociaux. Les syndicats peuvent former leur union et faire partie des organismes syndicaux internationaux.

Il est possible de limiter, par la Loi, les conditions de réalisation du droit de s'organiser syndicalement dans les forces armées, la police et les organismes de l'administration.

Article 38

Est garanti le droit de grève.

Il est possible de limiter, par la Loi, les conditions de réalisation du droit de grève dans les forces armées, la police et les organismes de l'administration.

Article 39

Tout citoyen se voit garantir son droit à la protection sanitaire.

Le citoyen a le droit et le devoir de prendre soin de sa santé, de celle des autres et de les promouvoir.

Article 40

La République assure un soin et une protection particuliers à la famille.

Les rapports juridiques dans le mariage, la famille et le concubinage sont réglementés par la Loi.

Les parents ont le droit et le devoir de s'occuper de l'entretien et de l'éducation de leurs enfants. Les enfants sont tenus de s'occuper de leurs parents âgés et affaiblis.

La République assure une protection particulière aux orphelins et aux enfants démunis de soins parentaux.

Article 41

Tout homme a le droit de décider librement de sa propre procréation.

La République mène une politique humaine de population aux fins d'un développement économique et social coordonné.

Article 42

La République protège particulièrement la maternité, les enfants et les peronnes mineures.

Une personne âgée de moins de 15 ans ne peut être embauchée.

Les personnes mineures et les mères ont droit à une protection particulière au travail.

Les personnes mineures ne doivent pas être engagées aux postes qui nuisent à leurs santé et moralité.

Article 43

Tout homme a droit à un environnement sain.

Tout un chacun est tenu de promouvoir et de protéger l'environnement et la nature.

La République assure des conditions de la réalisation du droit des citoyens à un environnement sain.

Article 44

Tout un chacun a droit à l'éducation.

L'éducation est accessible à tout individu dans des conditions égales.

L'éducation primaire est obligatoire et gratuite.

Article 45

Les citoyens ont droit, dans des conditions définies par la Loi, d'organiser un enseignement privé de tous les niveaux à l'exception de l'enseignement primaire.

Article 46

L'autonomie est garantie à l'Université.

Les conditions de la création, du fonctionnement et de la cessation d'activité de l'Université sont définies par la Loi.

Article 47

Est garanti la liberté de la création scientifique, artistique et d'autres genres.

Sont garantis les droits découlant de la création scientifique, artistique ou d'une autre forme de création intellectuelle.

La République suscite, aide et protège le développement de la science, de l'art et de la culture.

La République suscite et aide le développement scientifique et technologique.

La République suscite et aide la culture technique et les sports.

Article 48

Les membres des nationalités ont le droit d'exprimer, de cultiver et de développer leurs identité et particularités nationales.

La République garantit la protection de l'identité ethnique, culturelle, linguistique et religieuse des nationalités.

Les membres des nationalités ont le droit de créer des associations culturelles, artistiques, scientifiques et autres afin d'exprimer, de cultiver et de développer leur identité.

Les membres des nationalités ont droit à l'enseignement en leur langue dans l'éducation primaire et secondaire de la manière définie par la Loi. Dans les écoles où l'enseignement est dispensé dans la langue de la nationalité, le macédonien est également étudié.

Article 49*

La République veille à la situation et aux droits des citoyens des pays voisins d'origine macédonienne et des expatriés macédoniens, aide leur développement culturel et se charge de la promotion des rapports avec eux.

La République veille aux droits culturels, économiques et sociaux des citoyens de la République à l'étranger.

3. Garanties des libertés et droits fondamentaux

Article 50

Tout citoyen peut faire appel à la protection des libertés et droits établis par la Constitution devant les tribunaux et devant le Tribunal Constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine dans la procédure basée sur les principes de priorité et d'urgence.

Est garanti la protection judiciaire de la légalité de chacun des actes de l'administration de l'état et d'autres institutions exerçant les pouvoirs publics.

Le citoyen a droit d'être informé des droits de l'homme et des libertés fondamentales et de contribuer activement, individuellement ou en commun avec d'autres, à leurs promotion et protection.

Article 51

En République de Macédoine les lois doivent être en conformité avec la Constitution, et tous les règlements avec la Constitution et la Loi.

Chacun est tenu de respecter la Constitution et les lois.

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* Voir Amendement II, page 49.

Article 52

Les lois et autres règlements sont publiés avant d'entrer en vigueur.

Les lois et les décrets sont publiés dans „Le Journal Officiel de la République de Macédoine" au plus tard dans un délai de sept jours à compter du jour de leur promulgation.

Les lois entrent en vigueur au plus tôt le huitième jour à compter du jour de leur publication et, exceptionnellement, si l'Assemblée en décide, le jour de la publication.

Les lois et les autres règlements ne peuvent avoir un effet rétroactif, sauf exception, dans les cas où cela est plus favorable pour les citoyens.

Article 53

Le barreau est un service public autonome et indépendant qui assure une aide juridique et exerce des pouvoirs publics en conformité avec la Loi.

Article 54

Les libertés et les droits de l'homme et du citoyen ne peuvent être limités que dans les cas établis par la Constitution.

Les libertés et les droits de l'homme et du citoyen peuvent être limités pendant un état de guerre ou un état d'alerte conformément aux dispositions de la Constitution.

La limitation des libertés et des droits ne peut être discriminatoire par rapport au sexe, à la race, à la couleur de la peau, à la langue, à la religion, aux origines nationales ou sociales, à la situation sociale ou à la fortune.

La limitation des libertés et des droits ne peut concerner le droit à la vie, l'interdiction de la torture, la sanction et les comportements inhumains et

humiliants, la détermination juridique des délits passibles de peine et des peines elles-mêmes, de même que la liberté de la conviction, de la conscience, de la pensée, de l'expression publique de la pensée et de la confession de la foi.

4. Bases des rapports économiques

Article 55

Est garanti la liberté du marché et de l'entreprise.

La République assure un statut juridique égal à tous les actants du marché. La République prend des mesures contre les situations de monopole et le comportement monopolisateur du marché.

La liberté du marché et de l'entreprise ne peut être limitée par la Loi qu'en cas d'atteinte à la Défense, à la conservation de la nature, à l'environnement ou à la santé publique.

Article 56

Toutes les richesses naturelles de la République, la flore et la faune, les biens en usage général, de même que les objets et les édifices d'une importance culturelle et historique particulière, définis par la Loi, sont des biens d'un intérêt général pour la République et bénéficient d'une protection particulière.

La République garantit la protection, la promotion et l'enrichissement du patrimoine historique et artistique du peuple macédonien et des nationalités, de même que des biens qui le constituent sans égard à leur régime juridique.

La manière et les conditions selon lesquelles certains biens d'intérêt général pour la République peuvent être concédés pour utilisation sont définies par Loi.

Article 57

La République suscite le progrés économique et s'occupe du développement régional et de l'espace plus harmonieux, de même que d'un développement plus rapide des régions économiquement insuffisamment développées.

Article 58

La propriété et le travail sont la base de la gestion et de la participation à la décision.

La participation dans la gestion et la décision dans les établissements et services publics est définie par la Loi sur les principes de la spécialité et de la compétence.

Article 59

Est garanti le droit aux investisseurs étrangers de sortir librement leur capital placé et leurs profits.

Les droits acquis sur la base du capital placé ne peuvent être réduits par la Loi ou un autre règlement.

Article 60

La Banque Nationale de la République de Macédoine est une banque d'émission.

La Banque Nationale est autonome et responsable de la stabilité de la monnaie, de la politique monétaire et de la solvabilité générale des paiements dans la République et vers l'étranger.

L'organisation et le travail de la Banque Nationale sont définis par la Loi.

III. ORGANISATION DU POUVOIR D'ETAT

1. L'Assemblée de la République de Macédoine

Article 61

L'Assemblée de la République de Macédoine est un organe représentatif des citoyens et porteur du pouvoir législatif de la République.

L'organisation et le fonctionnement de l'Assemblée sont définis par la Constitution et le Réglement intérieur.

Article 62

L'Assemblée est constituée de 120 à 140 députés.

Les députés sont élus lors d'élections générales, directes et libres, par vote secret.

Le député représente les citoyens et décide au sein de l'Assemblée selon sa conviction.

Le député ne peut être révoqué.

La manière et les conditions d'élection des députés sont définies par la Loi votée avec la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 63

Les députés à l'Assemblée sont élus pour une période de quatre ans. Le mandat des députés est vérifié par l'Assemblée. Le mandat prend effet à partir de la séance constitutive de l'Assemblée. L'Assemblée nouvellement élue se réunit en séance constitutive au plus tard 20 jours aprés les élections. La séance constitutive est convoquée par la Président de l'Assemblée de la législature précédente.

Si la séance constitutive n'est pas fixée dans le délai prévu, les députés se réunissent seuls et constituent l'Assemblée le 21ème jour à compter du jour de la fin des élections.

Les élections pour les députés de l'Assemblée sont tenues dans les 90 derniers jours du mandat de l'ancienne Assemblée des députés ou dans un délai de 60 jours à compter du jour de la dissolution de l'Assemblée.

Le mandat des députés à l'Assemblée ne peut être prorogé qu'en cas de guerre ou d'état d'alerte.

La Loi établit l'inéligibilité et l'incompatibilité de la fonction de député à l'Assemblée avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions.

L'Assemblée est dissoute si la majorité du nombre total des députés se prononcent dans ce sens.

Article 64

Les députés bénéficient de l'immunité parlementaire.

Le député ne peut être interpellé pour une responsabilité délictuelle ou être détenu pour opinion exprimée ou pour vote à l'Assemblée.

Le député ne peut être détenu sans l'accord de l'Assemblée, sauf s'il a été pris dans un flagrant délit pour lequel une peine de prison d'au moins cinq ans est prescrite.

L'Assemblée peut décider de faire jouer l'immunité pour le député même lorsque ce dernier n'y fait pas appel, si cela est nécessaire pour l'exercice de sa fonction.

Durant le mandat, les députés ne sont pas soumis à l'obligation de service dans les forces armées.

Le député a droit à une indemnité définie par la Loi.

Article 65

Le député peut donner sa démission.

Le député donne sa démission personnellement, à la séance de l'Assemblée.

Le mandat cesse lorsque le député est condamné pour délit criminel pour lequel une peine de prison de cinq ans au moins est prescrite.

Le député peut se voir ôter son mandat lorsqu'il est condamné pour un délit criminel ou un autre délit passible de peine qui le rend indigne de la fonction de député, de même qu'en raison d'une absence injustifiée de l'Assemblée au-delà de six mois. La soustraction du mandat est définie par l'Assemblée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 66

L'Assemblée siège en permanence.

L'Assemblée fonctionne en séances.

Les séances de l'Assemblée sont convoquées par le président de l'Assemblée.

L'Assemblée établit un règlement intérieur à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 67

L'Assemblée nomme, parmi les députés, un président et un ou plusieurs vice-présidents, à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

Le président de l'Assemblée représente l'Assemblée, veille à l'application de son Règlement et effectue d'autres travaux définis par la Constitution et par le Règlement intérieur de l'Assemblée.

La fonction de président de l'Assemblée n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques, profession ou fonction au sein d'un parti politique.

Le président de l'Assemblée décrète des élections législatives ou présidentielles.

Article 68

L'Assemblée de la République de Macédoine:

– promulgue et modifie la Constitution;

– vote les lois et donne une interprétation authentique des lois;

– définit les charges publiques;

– vote le budget républicain et le compte financier de celui-ci;
– définit le plan d'occupation des sols de la République;
– ratifie les accords internationaux;
– décide de la guerre et de la paix;
– prend décision sur la modification des frontières de la République;
– prend décision sur l'entrée en association ou en communauté avec d'autres états et sur la sortie;
– proclame un référendum;
– décide des stocks de la République;
– forme des conseils;
– nomme le Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine;
– nomme les juges du Tribunal constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine;
– élit, nomme ou décharge d'autres titulaires de fonctions publiques ou autres fonctions définies par la Constitution et par la Loi;
– exerce un contrôle et une surveillance politiques sur le Gouvernement et sur d'autres titulaires des fonctions publiques qui en répondent devant l'Assemblée;
– proclame l'amnistie et
– accomplit d'autres charges fixées par la Constitution.

L'Assemblée, pour les besoins du travail qui relève de sa compétence, apporte des décisions, déclarations, résolutions, recommandations et conclusions.

Article 69

L'Assemblée peut fonctionner si la majorité du nombre total des députés est présente à la séance. L'Assemblée prend des décisions à la majorité des voix des députés présents et au minimum à un tiers du nombre total des députés, si la Constitution ne prévoit pas une majorite particulière.

Article 70

Les séances de l'Assemblée sont publiques.

L'Assemblée peut décider de travailler à huis clos à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 71

Le droit de proposer le vote d'une loi est accordé à tout député à l'Assemblée, au Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine et à au moins 10.000 électeurs.

L'initiative d'une loi peut être adressée aux organes autorisés par tout citoyen, un groupe de citoyens, des institutions et des associations.

Article 72

Le travail de tout titulaire d'une fonction publique, du Gouvernement et de chacun de ses membres séparément, de même que les questions relevant du travail des organes d'état peuvent faire l'objet d'une interpellation.

L'interpellation doit être présentée par au moins cinq députés.

Tout député peut poser une question parlementaire.

La manière et la procédure de présenter et de discuter sur une interpellation et une question parlementaire sont définies par le Règlement intérieur.

Article 73

L'Assemblée décide de la proclamation d'un référendum sur des questions relevant de sa compétence à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

La question posée par le référendum est adoptée si la majorité des électeurs ont voté favorablement, dans la mesure où plus de la moitié du nombre total d'électeurs se sont prononcés.

L'Assemblée est tenue de proclamer un référendum si la proposition en a été soumise par un minimum de 150.000 électeurs.

La décision apportée par le référendum est impérative.

Article 74

L'Assemblée décide de la modification des frontières de la République à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

La décision de la modification des frontières de la République est adoptée au référendum si la majorité du nombre total d'électeurs a voté pour elle.

Article 75

Les lois sont proclamées par arrêté.

L'arrêté sur la proclamation des lois est signé par le président de la République et le président de l'Assemblée.

Le président de la République peut décider de ne pas signer l'arrêté sur la proclamation d'une loi. L'Assemblée réexamine la loi et si elle la vote à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés, le président de la République est tenu de signer l'arrêté.

Le président est tenu de signer l'arrêté si, conformément à la Constitution, la loi est votée à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 76

L'Assemblée crée des groupes de travail permanents et provisoires.

L'Assemblée peut former des commissions d'enquête dans tous les domaines et pour toute question d'intérêt public.

La proposition de former une commission d'enquête doit être formulée au moins par 20 députés.

L'Assemblée forme une commission d'enquête permanente pour la protection des libertés et des droits du citoyen.

Les rapports des commissions d'enquête sont la base du début de la procédure en vue de déterminer la responsabilité des titulaires de fonctions publiques.

Article 77

L'Assemblée élit le médiateur.

Le médiateur défend les droits constitutionnels et légaux des citoyens lorsque ceux-là sont violés par les organes de l'administration d'état ou par d'autres organes et organismes détenant le pouvoir public.

Le médiateur est nommé pour une période de 8 ans, avec droit à une réélection.

Les conditions d'élection et de révocation, les compétences et le fonctionnement du médiateur sont définies par la Loi.

Article 78

L'Assemblée forme un Conseil des nationalités.

Le Conseil est constitué comme suit: le président de l'Assemblée, deux représentants pour chacune des communautés suivantes: macédonienne, albanaise, turque, valaque, rom, et de deux représentants pour l'ensemble des autres nationalités en Macédoine.

Le président de l'Assemblée est président du Conseil.

L'Assemblée élit les membres du Conseil.

Le Conseil traite des questions relatives aux rapports entre nationalités dans la République et émet des avis et propositions pour leur solution.

L'Assemblée est tenue d'examiner les avis et propositions du Conseil et d'adopter une décision relative à ceux-ci.

2. Président de la République de Macédoine

Article 79

Le président de la République de Macédoine représente la République.

Le président de la République est le commandant suprême des forces armées de Macédoine.

Le président de la République exerce ses droits et devoirs sur la base et dans le cadre de la Constitution et des lois.

Article 80

Le président de la République est élu lors d'élections générales et directes, par vote secret, pour une durée de cinq ans.

Une même personne ne peut être élue président de la République que deux fois.

Le président de la République doit être ressortissant de la République de Macédoine.

Peut être élue président de la République la personne qui le jour des élections est âgée de 40 ans au minimum.

Ne peut être élue président de la République la personne qui jusqu'au jour des élections n'aura pas résidé sur le territoire de la République de Macédoine au moins dix ans dans les 15 dernières années.

Article 81

Un candidat à la présidence de la République est proposé par au moins 10.000 électeurs ou au minimum 30 députés.

Est élu président de la République le candidat qui a acquis la majorité des voix du nombre total d'électeurs.

Si au premier tour aucun des candidats à la présidence n'a acquis la majorité requise des voix, au deuxième tour on vote pour les deux candidats qui, au premier tour, ont acquis le plus de voix.

Le deuxième tour des élections est tenu dans un délai de 14 jours à compter de la fin du premier tour.

Est élu président le candidat qui a obtenu la majorité des voix des électeurs qui ont voté, si plus de la moitié des électeurs ont voté.

Si au deuxième tour du vote également aucun des candidats n'a obtenu la majorité requise des voix, toute la procédure électorale est reprise.

L'orsqu'il y a un seul candidat à la présidence de la République et qu'il n'a pas obtenu, au premier tour du vote, la majorité des voix requise, toute la procédure est renouvelée

Les élections présidentielles sont effectuées durant les 60 derniers jours du mandat du président en exercice. En cas de cessation du mandat du président de la République pour quelque raison que cela soit, les élections pour le nouveau président sont effectuées dans un délai de 40 jours à compter du jour de la cessation du mandat.

Avant d'entreprendre sa fonction, le président de la République fait une déclaration solennelle devant l'Assemblée par laquelle il s'engage à respecter la Constitution et les lois.

Article 82

En cas de mort, de démission, d'empêchement définitif d'exercer la fonction ou de cessation du mandat par la force de la Constitution, la fonction de président de la République est exercée par le président de l'Assemblée jusqu'à l'élection du nouveau président de la République.

La constatation des conditions de cessation de la fonction de président de la République est établie par le Tribunal Constitionnel de la République de Macédoine par devoir de service.

En cas d'empêchement d'exercer sa fonction, le président de la République est remplacé par le président de l'Assemblée.

Lorsque le président de l'Assemblée exerce la fonction de président de la République, il participe au travail de l'Assemblée sans droit de décision.

Article 83

La fonction de président de la République n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques, profession ou fonction au sein d'un parti politique.

Le président de la République bénéficie de l'immunité.

La levée de l'immunité du président de la République est décidée par le Tribunal Constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des juges.

Article 84

Le président de la République de Macédoine:

– charge une personnalité de la formation du Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine;

– nomme et révoque par arrêté les ambassadeurs et les délégués de la République de Macédoine à l'étranger;

– reçoit les lettres de créance et de révocation des représentants diplomatiques étrangers;

– propose deux juges du Tribunal Constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine;

– propose deux membres du Conseil supérieur de la magistrature de la République de Macédoine;

– nomme trois membres du Conseil de la Sûreté de la République de Macédoine;

– propose les membres du Conseil pour les rapports entre nationalités;

– nomme et révoque également d'autres titulaires de fonctions d'état et publiques définies par la Constitution et les lois;

– attribue des décorations et distinctions en conformité avec la Loi;

– accorde la grâce en conformité avec la Loi et

– exerce d'autres fonctions définies par la Constitution.

Article 85

Le président de la République informe l'Assemblée sur les questions de son ressort une fois par an au minimum.

L'Assemblée peut demander au président de la République son avis sur les questions de son ressort.

Article 86

Le président de la République est président du Conseil de la Sûreté de la République de Macédoine.

Le Conseil de la Sûreté de la République est constitué: du président de la République, du président de l'Assemblée, du président du Gouvernement, des ministres dirigeant les organes d'administration d'état dans les domaines de la Sûreté, de la Défense et des Affaires étrangères et de trois membres nommés par le président de la République.

Le Conseil traite des questions relatives à la sûreté et à la défense de la République et fait des propositions à l'Assemblée et au Gouvernement.

Article 87

Le président de la République est tenu responsable de la violation de la Constitution et des lois dans l'exercice de ses droits et tâches.

La procédure tendant à déterminer la responsabilité du président de la République est ouverte par l'Assemblée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés. Le Tribunal Constitutionnel décide de la responsabilité du président à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des juges.

Si le Tribunal Constitutionnel constate la responsabilité du président de la République, la fonction de celui-ci cesse par la force de la Constitution.

3. Gouvernement de la République Macédoine

Article 88

Le Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine est porteur du pouvoir exécutif.

Le Gouvernement exerce ses droits et devoirs sur la base et dans le cadre de la Constitution et des lois.

Article 89

Le Gouvernement est composé de son président et de ministres.

Le président et les ministres ne peuvent être députés à l'Assemblée.

Le président et les ministres bénéficient de l'immunité. C'est le Gouvernement qui décide de leur immunité.

Le président et les ministres ne sont pas soumis à l'obligation de service dans les forces armées.

La fonction de président de Gouvernement et de ministre n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions.

L'organisation et le fonctionnement du Gouvernement sont définis par la Loi.

Article 90

Le président de la République de Macédoine est tenu, dans un délai de dix jours à compter de la constitution de l'Assemblée, de mandater en vue de la constitution du Gouvernement le candidat du parti, ou des partis ayant la majorité à l'Assemblée.

Le mandataire soumet, dans un délai de 20 jours à compter du jour où le mandat lui en a été confié, un programme à l'Assemblée et propose la composition du Gouvernement.

Sur proposition du mandataire et sur la base du programme, l'Assemblée valide le Gouvernement à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 91

Le Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine:

– définit la politique d'application des lois et autres actes de l'Assemblée et répond de leur exécution;

– propose des lois, le budget de la République et d'autres textes promulgués par l'Assemblée;

– propose le plan territorial de la République;

– propose des arrêtés sur les stocks de la République et s'occupe de leur application;

– vote des décrets et autres actes d'exécution des lois;

– définit les principes de l'organisation intérieure et du travail des ministères et autres organes de l'administration, oriente leur travail et y exerce un contrôle;

– donne son avis sur les propositions de lois et autres actes dont les projets sont soumis à l'Assemblée par d'autres sources autorisées.

– décide de la reconnaissance des états et gouvernements;

– établit des relations diplomatiques et consulaires avec d'autres états;

– décide de l'ouverture des représentations diplomatiques-consulaires à l'étranger;

– propose la nomination des ambassadeurs et délégués de la République de Macédoine et nomme les chefs des représentations consulaires;

– propose le procureur public;

– nomme et révoque les titulaires de fonctions publiques et d'autres fonctions définies par la Constitution et les lois et

– effectue les autres travaux définis par la Constitution et les lois.

Article 92

Le Gouvernement et chacun de ses membres répondent de leur travail devant l'Assemblée.

L'Assemblée peut voter la défiance au Gouvernement.

La question de confiance au Gouvernement est posée par 20 députés au moins.

Le vote sur la confiance au Gouvernement est effectué à l'issue de trois jours depuis que la question de confiance a été posée.

La question de confiance au Gouvernement ne peut être renouvelée avant l'expiration de 90 jours depuis le dernier vote sur la confiance excepté si la question de confiance est posée par la majorité du nombre total des députés.

La décision de voter la défiance au Gouvernement est prise à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés. Si la défiance au Gouvernement est votée, celui-ci est tenu de donner sa démission.

Article 93

Le Gouvernement a le droit de poser la question de confiance devant l'Assemblée.

Le Gouvernement a le droit de démissionner.

La démission du président du Gouvernement, son décès ou son empêchement définitif d'exercer sa fonction, entraînent la démission du Gouvernement.

Le mandat du Gouvernement cesse lorsque l'Assemblée est dissoute.

Le Gouvernement qui s'est vu voter la défiance, qui a démissionné ou dont le mandat a cessé en raison de la dissolution de l'Assemblée, reste en fonction jusqu'à l'élection d'un nouveau Gouvernement.

Article 94

Un membre de Gouvernement a le droit de démissionner.

Le président du Gouvernement peut proposer la révocation d'un membre du Gouvernement.

L'Assemblée se prononce sur la proposition de révocation d'un membre du Gouvernement dès la première réunion à venir.

Si le président du Gouvernement propose la révocation de plus d'un tiers des membres du Gouvernement de la première formation, l'Assemblée opère comme pour l'élection d'un nouveau Gouvernement.

Article 95

L'administration d'état est composée des ministères et des autres organes d'administration et organismes définis par la Loi.

Est interdit l'organisation et l'action politiques au sein des organes de l'administration d'état.

L'organisation et le travail des organes de l'administration d'état sont définis par la Loi qui est votée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 96

Les organes de l'administration d'état accomplissent les tâches de leur ressort indépendamment, sur la base et dans le cadre de la Constitution et des lois et répondent de leurs travaux devant le Gouvernement.

Article 97

Les organes de l'administration d'état relevant des domaines de la Défense et de la Police sont dirigés par des civils qui, avant d'être nommés dans leurs fonctions, sont civils depuis au moins trois ans.

4. Magistrats

Article 98

Le pouvoir judiciaire est exercé par les tribunaux.

Les tribunaux sont autonomes et indépendants. Les tribunaux jugent en vertu de la Constitution, des lois et de accords internationaux ratifiés en conformité avec la Constitution.

L'organisation des magistrats est unique.

Des tribunaux extraordinaires sont interdits.

Le genre, la compétence, la création, la cessation, l'organisation des tribunaux ainsi que les procédures qui s'y appliquent sont définis par la Loi, votée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 99

Le juge est élu sans limite de durée du mandat.

Le juge ne peut être déplacé contre sa volonté.

Le juge est révoqué:

– s'il l'exige personnellement;

– s'il perd définitivement la capacité d'exercer sa fonction dûment constatée par le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature;

– s'il remplit les conditions de la retraite d'âge;

– s'il est accusé pour un délit criminel à une peine de prison ferme de six mois au minimum;

– en raison d'une violation de la discipline assez grave et définie par la Loi, qui le rend indigne de l'exercice de la fonction de juge dûment constatée par le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature, et

– en raison d'un exercice incompétent et prévaricateur de la fonction judiciaire, que constate le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature dans le cadre de la procédure définie par la Loi.

Article 100

Les juges bénéficient de l'immunité.

C'est l'Assemblée qui décide de l'immunité des juges.

La fonction de juge n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions et avec l'appartenance à un parti politique.

L'organisation et l'action politiques sont interdites dans la magistrature.

Article 101

La Cour Suprême de la République de Macédoine est le tribunal le plus élevé de la République et assure une unité dans l'application des lois par les tribunaux.

Article 102

Les audiences et la proclamation des sentences sont publiques.

L'audience peut être tenue à huis clos dans les cas prévus par la Loi.

Article 103

Le tribunal juge en conseil.

La Loi définit les cas où le juge statue seul.

Un jury prend part au jugement dans les cas définis par la Loi.

Les jurés ne peuvent être tenus pour responsables, pour l'opinion et dans la décision lors de la proclamation des décisions judiciaires.

Article 104

Le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature est composé de sept membres.

Les membres du Conseil sont élus par l'Assemblée.

Les membres du Conseil sont choisis parmi d'éminents juristes pour une durée de six ans, avec droit d'être réélus une seule fois.

Les membres du Conseil supérieur de la magistrature bénéficient de l'immunité. C'est l'Assemblée qui statue sur leur immunité.

La fonction de membre du Conseil supérieur de la magistrature n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions et avec l'appartenance à un parti politique.

Article 105

Le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature:
– propose, à l'Assemblée, l'élection et la révocation des juges, il statue sur une proposition de révocation de fonction judiciaire dans les cas définis par la Constitution;
– décide de la responsabilité disciplinaire des juges;
– évalue la compétence et la conscience des juges dans l'exercice de leur fonction et
– propose deux juges du Tribunal constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine.

5. Ministère public

Article 106

Le Ministère public est un organe d'état unique et autonome qui poursuit les auteurs d'actes criminels et d'autres actes que la Loi définit comme passibles de peine et effectue d'autres tâches définies par la Loi.

Le Ministère public exerce ses fonctions en vertu et dans le cadre de la Constitution et de la Loi.

Le Procureur public est nommé et révoqué par l'Assemblée pour une durée de six ans.

Article 107

Le Procureur public bénéficie de l'immunité.

C'est l'Assemblée qui statue sur son immunité.

La fonction de procureur public n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions et avec l'appartenance à un parti politique.

IV. TRIBUNAL CONSTITUTIONNEL DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE MACÉDOINE

Article 108

Le Tribunal Constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine est l'organe de la République garant de la constitutionnalité et la légalité.

Article 109

Le Tribunal Constitutionnel est composé de neuf juges.

L'Assemblée élit les juges du Tribunal Constitutionnel à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés. Le mandat des juges dure neuf ans, sans donner droit à la réélection.

Le Tribunal Constitutionnel élit un président dans ses rangs pour une durée de trois ans, sans donner droit à la réélection.

Les juges du Tribunal Constitutionnel sont choisis parmi d'éminents juristes.

Article 110

– Le Tribunal Constitutionnel de la République de Macédoine;

– statue sur la conformité des lois avec la Constitution;

– décide de la conformité d'autres actes et des conventions collectives avec la Constitution et les lois;

– défend les libertés et les droits de l'homme et du citoyen relatifs à la liberté de la conviction, de la conscience, de la pensée et de l'expression publique de la pensée, de l'association et de l'action politiques et l'interdiction de la discrimination des citoyens en fonction de sexe, de race, d'appartenance religieuse, nationale, sociale et politique;

– se prononce sur le conflit des compétences entre les dépositaires des pouvoirs législatif, exécutif et judiciaire;

– se prononce sur la responsabilité du président de la Republique;

– se prononce sur la constitutionalité des programmes et des statuts des partis politiques et des associations de citoyens.

– se prononce également sur d'autres questions définies par la Constitution.

Article 111

La fonction de juge du Tribunal Constitutionnel n'est pas compatible avec l'exercice d'autres fonctions publiques ou professions et avec l'appartenance à un parti politique.

Les juges du Tribunal Constitutionnel bénéficient de l'immunité. C'est le Tribunal Constitutionnel qui statue sur leur immunité.

Les juges du Tribunal Constitutionnel ne sont pas soumis à l'obligation de service dans les forces armées.

Si un juge du Tribunal Constitutionnel donne sa démission, sa fonction cesse. Le juge du Tribunal Constitutionnel est révoqué s'il est condamné pour délit à une peine de prison sans sursis d'au moins six mois ou s'il a définitivement perdu ses capacités d'exercer sa fonction, sur constatation du Tribunal Constitutionnel lui-même.

Article 112

Le Tribunal Constitutionnel suspend ou annule une loi s'il constate qu'elle n'est pas conforme à la Constitution.

Le Tribunal Constitutionnel suspend ou annule tout règlement ou acte général, convention collective, statut ou programme de parti politique ou d'association, s'il constate qu'ils ne sont pas en conformité avec la Constitution ou avec la Loi.

Les décisions du Tribunal Constitutionnel sont définitives et exécutoires.

Article 113

Le fonctionnement et la procédure devant le Tribunal Constitutionnel sont définies par un acte du Tribunal.

V. AUTOGESTION LOCALE

Article 114

Le droit à l'autogestion locale est garanti aux citoyens.

Les communes constituent des unités de l'autogestion locale.

Dans les communes il est possible de créer des formes d'autogestion de lieu.

Les communes sont financées par leurs propres sources de revenus définies par la Loi et par les fonds de la République.

L'autogestion locale fonctionne conformément à la loi promulguée à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 115

Dans les unités de l'autogestion locale les citoyens participent directement et par représentants à la prise des décisions sur les questions d'importance locale, et particulièrement relevant de l'urbanisme, de la voirie, de la culture, des sports, de la protection sociale et de l'enfance, de l'éducation préscolaire, de l'éducation primaire, la protection sanitaire fondamentale et d'autres domaines définis par la Loi.

La commune est autonome dans l'exercice de ses compétences, définies par la Constitution et la Loi et c'est la République qui exerce un contrôle sur la légalité de son travail.

La République peut confier à la commune, par la Loi, l'accomplissement de tâches déterminées.

Article 116

La division territoriale de la République et les circonscriptions des communes sont définies par la Loi.

Article 117

La ville de Skopje est une unité particulière d'autogestion locale, dont l'organisation est définie par la Loi.

Dans la ville de Skopje les citoyens participent directement ou par l'entremise de représentants dans la prise des décisions relatives aux questions d'importance pour la ville de Skopje, et particulièrement relevant de l'urbanisme, de la voirie, de la culture, des sports, de la protection sociale et de l'enfance, de l'éducation préscolaire, de l'éducation primaire, de la protection sanitaire fondamentale et des autres domaines définis par la Loi.

La ville de Skopje est financée par ses propres sources de revenus définies par la Loi et par des fonds de la République.

La ville est autonome dans l'exercice de ses compétences définies par la Constitution et la Loi et c'est la République qui effectue un contrôle sur la légalité de son travail.

La République peut confier à la ville, par la Loi, l'accomplissement de tâches déterminées.

VI. RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

Article 118

Les accords internationaux ratifiés conformément à la Constitution, font partie du régime juridique intérieur et ne peuvent être modifiés par la Loi.

Article 119

Les accords internationaux sont conclus, au nom de la République de Macédoine, par le président de la République de Macédoine.

Les accords internationaux peuvent être conclus également par le Gouvernement de la République de Macédoine dans les limites déterminées par la Loi.

Article 120

La proposition d'association ou de communauté avec d'autres états ou son abondon est faite par le président de la République, le Gouvernement ou par 40 députés au moins.

La décision d'association ou de communauté avec d'autres états ou de son abandon est prise par l'Assemblée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

La décision d'association ou de communauté avec d'autres états ou de son abandon est adoptée si elle est approuvée au cours d'un référendum par la majorité des électeurs.

Article 121

La décision d'adhérer à des organismes internationaux ou de les quitter est prise par l'Assemblée à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés sur la proposition du président de la République, du Gouvernement ou de 40 députés au moins.

VII. DEFENSE DE LA REPUBLIQUE, ETAT DE GUERRE ET ETAT D'ALERTE

Article 122

Les forces armées de la République de Macédoine protègent l'intégrité territoriale et l'indépendance de la République.

La défense de la République est définie par la Loi promulguée à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Article 123

Personne n'a le droit de reconnaître l'occupation totale ou partielle de la République de Macédoine.

Article 124

L'état de guerre est déclaré lorsqu'un danger militaire immédiat d'attaque sur la République devient imminent ou lorsque la République est attaquée ou fait l'objet d'une déclaration de guerre.

L'état de guerre est proclamé par l'Assemblée à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés sur proposition du président de la République, du Gouvernement ou de 30 députés au moins.

Si l'Assemblée ne peut se réunir, la décision de la proclamation de l'état de guerre est prise par le président de la République, qui la soumet pour approbation à l'Assemblée dès que celle-ci est en mesure de se réunir.

Article 125

L'état d'alerte est mis en place lorsque surviennent d'importants fléaux naturels ou des épidémies.

La nécessité de l'état d'alerte sur le territoire de la République de Macédoine ou sur l'une de ses parties est constatée par l'Assemblée sur proposition du président de la République, du Gouvernement ou de 30 députés au minimum.

La décision mettant en place l'état d'alerte est prise à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés et est valide pour une durée de 30 jours au maximum.

Si l'Assemblée ne peut se réunir, la décision sur la mise en place de l'état d'alerte est prise par le président de la République, qui la soumet pour approbation à l'Assemblée dès que celle-ci est en mesure de se réunir.

Article 126

Lors de la mise en place des états de guerre ou d'alerte, le Gouvernement promulgue, conformément à la Constitution, et à la Loi, des décrets ayant force de loi.

L'autorisation du Gouvernement de promulguer des décrets ayant force de loi dure jusqu'à la cessation des états de guerre ou d'alerte, décidée par l'Assemblée.

Article 127

Durant l'état de guerre, si l'Assemblée ne peut se réunir, le président de la République peut nommer ou révoquer des fonctionnaires dont l'élection relève de la compétence de l'Assemblée.

Article 128

Le mandat du président de la République, du Gouvernement, des juges du Tribunal constitutionnel et des membres du Conseil supérieur de la magistrature est prolongé pendant la durée des états de guerre ou d'alerte.

VIII. MODIFICATION DE LA CONSTITUTION

Article 129

La Constitution de la République de Macédoine est modifiée et complétée par des amandements constitutionnels.

Article 130

La proposition de modification de la Constitution de la République de Macédoine peut être présentée par le président de la République, le Gouvernement, 30 députés au moins ou par 150.000 citoyens.

Article 131

La décision de procéder à la modification de la Constitution est prise par l'Assemblée à la majorité de 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

Le projet de modification de la Constitution est défini par l'Assemblée à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés, qui ouvre une discussion publique.

La décision de modification de la Constitution est prise par l'Assemblée à la majorité des 2/3 des voix du nombre total des députés.

La modification de la Constitution est proclamée par l'Assemblée.

IX. DISPOSITIONS TRANSITOIRES ET FINALES

Article 132

La durée prévue à l'alinéa 5 de l'article 80 prend en compte également le temps de résidence dans les autres républiques de la République Socialiste Fédérative de Yougoslavie.

Article 133

Une loi d'application de la Constitution sera promulguée.

La loi constitutionnelle est votée à la majorité des voix du nombre total des députés.

La loi constitutionelle est proclamée par l'Assemblée et entre en vigueur avec la proclamation de la Constitution.

Article 134

La présente Constitution entre en vigueur le jour de sa proclamation par l'Assemblée de la République de Macédoine.

AMENDEMENTS A LA CONSTITUTION DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MACEDOINE

AMENDEMENT I

1. La République de Macédoine n'a pas de prétentions territoriales à l'égard des pays voisins.
2. Les frontières de la République de Macédoine ne peuvent être modifiées que conformément à la Constitution, sur le principe de la bonne volonté et conformément aux normes internationales généralement reconnues.
3. Le point 1 du présent amendement complète l'article 3 alors que le point 2 remplace l'alinéa 3 de l'article 3 de la Constitution de la République de Macédoine.

AMENDEMENT II

1. En cela, la République ne s'immiscera pas dans les droits souverains des autres états ni dans leurs affaires intérieures.
2. Le présent amendement complète l'alinéa 1 de l'article 49 de la Constitution de la République de Macédoine.

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CONSTITUTION

OF

THE REPUBLIC

OF MACEDONIA

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Skopje, 1991

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THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Skopje, 1991

Taking as the points of departure the historical, cultural, spiritual and statehood heritage of the Macedonian people and their struggle over centuries for national and social freedom as well as for the creation of their own state, and particularly the traditions of statehood and legality of the Krushevo Republic and the historic decisions of the Anti-Fascist Assembly of the People's Liberation of Macedonia, together with the constitutional and legal continuity of the Macedonian state as a sovereign republic within Federal Yugoslavia and the freely manifested will of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia in the referendum of September 8th, 1991, as well as the historical fact that Macedonia is established as a national state of the Macedonian people, in which full equality as citizens and permanent co-existence with the Macedonian people is provided for Albanians, Turks, Vlachs, Romanies and other nationalities living in the Republic of Macedonia, and intent on:

- the establishment of the Republic of Macedonia as a sovereign and independent state, as well as a civil and democratic one;

- the establishment and consolidation of the rule of law as a fundamental system of government;

- the guaranteeing of human rights, citizens' freedoms and ethnic equality;

- the provision of peace and a common home for the Macedonian people with the nationalities living in the Republic of Macedonia; and on

- the provision of social justice, economic wellbeing and prosperity in the life of the individual and the community,

the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia adopts

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

The Republic of Macedonia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and social state.

The sovereignty of the Republic of Macedonia is indivisible, inalienable and nontransferable.

Article 2

Sovereignty in the Republic of Macedonia derives from the citizens and belongs to the citizens.

The citizens of the Republic of Macedonia exercise their authority through democratically elected Representatives, through referendum and through other forms of direct expression.

Article 3

The territory of the Republic of Macedonia is indivisible and inviolable.

The existing borders of the Republic of Macedonia are inviolable.

The borders of the Republic of Macedonia may be changed only in accordance with the Constitution.

Article 4

Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia have citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia.

A subject of the Republic of Macedonia may neither be deprived of citizenship, nor expelled or extradited to another state.

Citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia is regulated by law.

Article 5

The state symbols of the Republic of Macedonia are the coat of arms, the flag and the national anthem.

The coat of arms, the flag and the national anthem of the Republic of Macedonia are adopted by law by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Assembly Representatives.

Article 6

The capital of the Republic of Macedonia is Skopje.

Article 7

The Macedonian language, written using its Cyrillic alphabet, is the official language in the Republic of Macedonia.

In the units of local self-government where the majority of the inhabitants belong to a nationality, in addition to the Macedonian language and Cyrillic alphabet, their language and alphabet are also in official use, in a manner determined by law.

In the units of local self-government where there is a considerable number of inhabitants belonging to a nationality, their language and alphabet are also in official use, in addition to the Macedonian language and Cyrillic alphabet, under conditions and in a manner determined by law.

Article 8

The fundamental values of the constitutional order of the Republic of Macedonia are:

- the basic freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen, recognised in international law and set down in the Constitution;
- the free expression of national identity;
- the rule of law;
- the division of state powers into legislative, executive and judicial;
- political pluralism and free, direct and democratic elections;
- the legal protection of property;
- the freedom of the market and enterpreneurship;
- humanism, social justice and solidarity;
- local self-government;
- proper urban and rural planning to promote a congenial human environment, as well as ecological protection and development; and
- respect for the generally accepted norms of international law.

Anything that is not prohibited by the Constitution or by law is permitted in the Republic of Macedonia.

II. BASIC FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND CITIZEN

1. Civil and political freedoms and rights

Article 9

Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia are equal in their freedoms and rights, regardless of sex, race, colour of skin, national and social origin, political and religious beliefs, property and social status.

All citizens are equal before the Constitution and law.

Article 10

The human right to life is irrevocable.

The death penalty shall not be imposed on any grounds whatsoever in the Republic of Macedonia.

Article 11

The human right to physical and moral dignity is irrevocable.

Any form of torture, or inhuman or humiliating conduct or punishment, is prohibited.

Forced labour is prohibited.

Article 12

The human right to freedom is irrevocable.

No person's freedom can be restricted except by a court decision or in cases and procedures determined by law.

Persons summoned, apprehended or detained shall immediately be informed of the reasons for the summons, apprehension or detention and on their rights. They shall not be forced to make a statement. A person has a right to an attorney in police and court procedure.

Persons detained shall be brought before a court as soon as possible, within a maximum period of 24 hours from the moment of detention, and the legality of their detention shall there be decided upon without delay.

Detention may last, by court decision, for a maximum period of 90 days from the day of detention.

Persons detained may, under the conditions determined by law, be released from custody to conduct their defence.

Article 13

A person indicted for an offence shall be considered innocent until his/her guilt is established by a legally valid court verdict.

A person unlawfully detained, apprehended or convicted has a right to legal redress and other rights determined by law.

Article 14

No person may be punished for an offence which had not been declared an offence punishable by law, or by other acts, prior to its being committed, and for which no punishment had been prescribed.

No person may be tried in a court of law for an offence for which he/she has already been tried and for which a legally valid court verdict has already been brought.

Article 15

The right to appeal against individual legal acts issued in a first instance proceedings by a court, administrative body, organisation or other institution carrying out public mandates is guaranteed.

Article 16

The freedom of personal conviction, conscience, thought and public expression of thought is guaranteed.

The freedom of speech, public address, public information and the establishment of institutions for public information is guaranteed.

Free access to information and the freedom of reception and transmission of information are guaranteed.

The right of reply via the mass media is guaranteed.

The right to a correction in the mass media is guaranteed.

The right to protect a source of information in the mass media is guaranteed.

Censorship is prohibited.

Article 17

The freedom and confidentiality of correspondence and other forms of communication is guaranteed.

Only a court decision may authorise non-application of the principle of the inviolability of the confidentiality of correspondence and other forms of

communication, in cases where it is indispensable to a criminal investigation or required in the interests of the defence of the Republic.

Article 18

The security and confidentiality of personal information are guaranteed.

Citizens are guaranteed protection from any violation of their personal integrity deriving from the registration of personal information through data processing.

Article 19

The freedom of religious confession is guaranteed.

The right to express one's faith freely and publicly, individually or with others is guaranteed.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church and other religious communities and groups are separate from the state and equal before the law.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church and other religious communities and groups are free to establish schools and other social and charitable institutions, by way of a procedure regulated by law.

Article 20

Citizens are guaranteed freedom of association to exercise and protect their political, economic, social, cultural and other rights and convictions.

Citizens may freely establish associations of citizens and political parties, join them or resign from them.

The programmes and activities of political parties and other associations of citizens may not be directed at the violent destruction of the constitutional order of the Republic, or at encouragement or incitement to military aggression or ethnic, racial or religious hatred or intolerance.

Military or paramilitary associations which do not belong to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Macedonia are prohibited.

Article 21

Citizens have the right to assemble peacefully and to express public protest without prior announcement or a special licence.

The exercise of this right may be restricted only during a state of emergency or war.

Article 22

Every citizen on reaching 18 years of age acquires the right to vote.

The right to vote is equal, universal and direct, and is exercised at free elections by secret ballot.

Persons deprived of the right to practise their profession by a court verdict do not have the right to vote.

Article 23

Every citizen has the right to take part in the performance of public office.

Article 24

Every citizen has a right to petition state and other public bodies, as well as to receive an answer.

A citizen cannot be called to account or suffer adverse consequences for attitudes expressed in petitions, unless they entail the committing of a criminal offence.

Article 25

Each citizen is guaranteed the respect and protection of the privacy of his/her personal and family life and of his/her dignity and repute.

Article 26

The inviolability of the home is guaranteed.

The right to the inviolability of the home may be restricted only by a court decision in cases of the detection or prevention of criminal offences or the protection of people's health.

Article 27

Every citizen of the Republic of Macedonia has the right of free movement on the territory of the Republic and freely to choose his/her place of residence.

Every citizen has the right to leave the territory of the Republic and to return to the Republic.

The exercise of these rights may be restricted by law only in cases where it is necessary for the protection of the security of the Republic, criminal investigation or protection of people's health.

Article 28

The defence of the Republic of Macedonia is the right and duty of every citizen.

The exercise of this right and duty of citizens is regulated by law.

Article 29

Foreign subjects enjoy freedoms and rights guaranteed by the Constitution in the Republic of Macedonia, under conditions regulated by law and international agreements.

The Republic guarantees the right of asylum to foreign subjects and stateless persons expelled because of democratic political convictions and activities.

Extradition of a foreign subject can be carried out only on the basis of a ratified international agreement and on the principle of reciprocity. A foreign subject cannot be extradited for political criminal offences. Acts of terrorism are not regarded as political criminal offences.

2. Economic, social and cultural rights

Article 30

The right to ownership of property and the right of inheritance are guaranteed.

Ownership of property creates rights and duties and should serve the wellbeing of both the individual and the community.

No person may be deprived of his/her property or of the rights deriving from it, except in cases concerning the public interest determined by law.

If property is expropriated or restricted, rightful compensation not lower than its market value is guaranteed.

Article 31

Foreign subjects in the Republic of Macedonia may acquire the right of ownership of property under conditions determined by law.

Article 32

Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, protection at work and material assistance during temporary unemployment.

Every job is open to all under equal conditions.

Every employee has a right to appropriate remuneration.

Every employee has the right to paid daily, weekly and annual leave. Employees cannot waive this right.

The exercise of the rights of employees and their position are regulated by law and collective agreements.

Article 33

Everyone is obliged to pay tax and other public contributions, as well as to share in the discharge of public expenditure in a manner determined by law.

Article 34

Citizens have a right to social security and social insurance, determined by law and collective agreement.

Article 35

The Republic provides for the social protection and social security of citizens in accordance with the principle of social justice.

The Republic guarantees the right of assistance to citizens who are infirm or unfit for work.

The Republic provides particular protection for invalid persons, as well as conditions for their involvement in the life of the society.

Article 36

The Republic guarantees particular social security rights to veterans of the Anti-Fascist War and of all Macedonian national liberation wars, to war invalids, to those expelled and imprisoned for the ideas of the separate identity of the Macedonian people and of Macedonian statehood, as well as to members of their families without means of material and social subsistence.

The particular rights are regulated by law.

Article 37

In order to exercise their economic and social rights, citizens have the right to establish trade unions. Trade unions can constitute confederations and become members of international trade union organisations.

The law may restrict the conditions for the exercise of the right to trade union organisation in the armed forces, the police and administrative bodies.

Article 38

The right to strike is guaranteed.

The law may restrict the conditions for the exercise of the right to strike in the armed forces, the police and administrative bodies.

Article 39

Every citizen is guaranteed the right to health care.

Citizens have the right and duty to protect and promote their own health and the health of others.

Article 40

The Republic provides particular care and protection for the family.

The legal relations in marriage, the family and cohabitation are regulated by law.

Parents have the right and duty to provide for the nurturing and education of their children. Children are responsible for the care of their old and infirm parents.

The Republic provides particular protection for parentless children and children without parental care.

Article 41

It is a human right freely to decide on the procreation of children.

The Republic conducts a humane population policy in order to provide balanced economic and social development.

Article 42

The Republic particularly protects mothers, children and minors.

A person under 15 years of age cannot be employed.

Minors and mothers have the right to particular protection at work.

Minors may not be employed in work which is detrimental to their health or morality.

Article 43

Everyone has the right to a healthy environment to live in.

Everyone is obliged to promote and protect the environment.

The Republic provides conditions for the exercise of the right of citizens to a healthy environment.

Article 44

Everyone has a right to education.

Education is accessible to everyone under equal conditions.

Primary education is compulsory and free.

Article 45

Citizens have a right to establish private schools at all levels of education, with the exception of primary education, under conditions determined by law.

Article 46

The autonomy of universities is guaranteed.

The conditions of establishment, performance and termination of the activities of a university are regulated by law.

Article 47

The freedom of scholarly, artistic and other forms of creative work is guaranteed.

Rights deriving from scholarly, artistic or other intellectual creative work are guaranteed.

The Republic stimulates, assists and protects the development of scholarship, the arts and culture.

The Republic stimulates and assists scientific and technological development.

The Republic stimulates and assists technical education and sport.

Article 48

Members of nationalities have a right freely to express, foster and develop their identity and national attributes.

The Republic guarantees the protection of the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of the nationalities.

Members of the nationalities have the right to establish institutions for culture and art, as well as scholarly and other associations for the expression, fostering and development of their identity.

Members of the nationalities have the right to instruction in their language in primary and secondary education, as determined by law. In schools where education is carried out in the language of a nationality, the Macedonian language is also studied.

Article 49

The Republic cares for the status and rights of those persons belonging to the Macedonian people in neighbouring countries, as well as Macedonian ex-patriates, assists their cultural development and promotes links with them.

The Republic cares for the cultural, economic and social rights of the citizens of the Republic abroad.

3. Guarantees of basic freedoms and rights

Article 50

Every citizen may invoke the protection of freedoms and rights determined by the Constitution before the regular courts, as well as before the Constitutional Court of Macedonia, through a procedure based upon the principles of priority and urgency.

Judicial protection of the legality of individual acts of state administration, as well as of other institutions carrying out public mandates, is guaranteed.

A citizen has the right to be informed on human rights and basic freedoms as well as actively to contribute, individually or jointly with others, to their promotion and protection.

Article 51

In the Republic of Macedonia laws shall be in accordance with the Constitution and all other regulations in accordance with the Constitution and law.

Everyone is obliged to respect the Constitution and the laws.

Article 52

Laws and other regulations are published before they come into force.

Laws and other regulations are published in ‡The Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia‡ at most seven days after the day of their adoption.

Laws come into force on the eighth day after the day of their publication at the earliest, or on the day of publication in exceptional cases determined by the Assembly.

Laws and other regulations may not have a retroactive effect, except in cases when this is more favourable for the citizens.

Article 53

Attorneyship is an autonomous and independent public service, providing legal assistance and carrying out public mandates in accordance with the law.

Article 54

The freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen can be restricted only in cases determined by the Constitution.

The freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen can be restricted during states of war or emer-

gency, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The restriction of freedoms and rights cannot discriminate on grounds of sex, race, colour of skin, language, religion, national or social origin, property or social status.

The restriction of freedoms and rights cannot be applied to the right to life, the interdiction of torture, inhuman and humiliating conduct and punishment, the legal determination of punishable offences and sentences, as well as to the freedom of personal conviction, conscience, thought and religious confession.

4. Foundations for economic relations

Article 55

The freedom of the market and enterpreneurship is guaranteed.

The Republic ensures an equal legal position to all parties in the market. The Republic takes measures against monopolistic positions and monopolistic conduct on the market.

The freedom of the market and enterpreneurship can be restricted by law only for reasons of the defence of the Republic, protection of the natural and living environment or public health.

Article 56

All the natural resources of the Republic of Macedonia, the flora and fauna, amenities in common use, as well as the objects and buildings of particular cultural and historical value determined by law, are amenities of common interest for the Republic and enjoy particular protection.

The Republic guarantees the protection, promotion and enhancement of the historical and artistic heritage of the Macedonian people and of the nationalities and the treasures of which it is composed, regardless of their legal status. The law regulates the mode and

conditions under which specific items of general interest for the Republic can be ceded for use.

Art 57

The Republic of Macedonia stimulates economic progress and provides for a more balanced spatial and regional development, as well as for the more rapid development of economically underdeveloped regions.

Article 58

Ownership and labour form the basis for management and sharing in decision-making.

Participation in management and decision-making in public institutions and services is regulated by law, on the principles of expertise and competence.

Article 59

Foreign investors are guaranteed the right to the free transfer of invested capital and profits.

The rights obtained on the basis of the capital invested may not be reduced by law or other regulations.

Article 60

The National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia is a currency-issuing bank.

The National Bank is autonomous and responsible for the stability of the currency, monetary policy and for the general liquidity of payments in the Republic and abroad.

The organisation and work of the National Bank are regulated by law.

III. THE ORGANISATION OF STATE AUTHORITY

1. The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia

Article 61

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia is a representative body of the citizens and the legislative power of the Republic is vested in it.

The organisation and functioning of the Assembly are regulated by the Constitution and by the Rules of Procedure.

Article 62

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia is composed of 120 to 140 Representatives.

The Representatives are elected at general, direct and free elections and by secret ballot.

The Representative represents the citizens and makes decisions in the Assembly in accordance with his/her personal convictions.

A Representative's mandate cannot be revoked.

The mode and conditions of election of Representatives are regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 63

The Representatives for the Assembly are elected for a term of four years. The mandate of Representatives is verified by the Assembly. The length of the mandate is reckoned from the constitutive meeting of the Assembly. Each newly-elected Assembly must hold a constitutive meeting 20 days at the latest after the election was held. The constitutive meeting is called by the President of the Assembly of the previous term.

If a constitutive meeting is not called within the time laid down, the Representatives assemble and constitute the Assembly themselves on the twenty-first day after the completion of the elections.

Elections for Representatives to the Assembly are held within the last 90 days of the term of the current Assembly, or within 60 days from the day of dissolution of the Assembly.

The term of office of the Representatives to the Assembly can be extended only during states of war or emergency.

Cases where a citizen cannot be elected a Representative, owing to the incompatibility of this office with other public offices or professions already held, are defined by law. The Assembly is dissolved when more than half of the total number of Representatives vote for dissolution.

Article 64

Representatives enjoy immunity.

A Representative cannot be held to have committed a criminal offence or be detained owing to views he/she has expressed or to the way he/she has voted in the Assembly.

A Representative cannot be detained without the approval of the Assembly unless found committing a criminal offence for which a prison sentence of at least five years is prescribed.

The Assembly can decide to invoke immunity for a Representative without his/her request, should it be necessary for the performance of the Representative's office.

Representatives may not be called up for duties in the Armed Forces during the course of their term of office.

A Representative is entitled to remuneration determined by law.

Article 65

A Representative may resign his/her mandate.

The Representative submits his/her resignation in person at a session of the Assembly.

The mandate of a Representative terminates if he/she is sentenced for a criminal offence for which a prison sentence of at least five years is prescribed.

The Representative can have his/her mandate revoked for committing a criminal offence making him/her unfit to perform the office of a Representative, as well as for absence from the Assembly for longer than 6 months for no justifiable reason. Revocation of the mandate is determined by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of all Representatives.

Article 66

The Assembly is in permanent session.

The Assembly works at meetings.

The meetings of the Assembly are called by the President of the Assembly.

The Assembly adopts the Rules of Procedure by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 67

The Assembly elects a President and one or more Vice-Presidents from the ranks of the Representatives by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The President of the Assembly represents the Assembly, ensures the application of the Rules of Procedure and carries out other responsibilities determined by the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

The office of the President of the Assembly is incompatible with the performance of other public offices, professions or appointment in a political party.

The President of the Assembly issues notice of the election of Representatives and of the President of the Republic.

Article 68

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia
- adopts and changes the Constitution;
- adopts laws and gives the authentic interpretation of laws;
- determines public taxes and fees;
- adopts the budget and the balance of payments of the Republic;
- adopts the spatial plan of the Republic;
- ratifies international agreements;
- decides on war and peace;
- makes decisions concerning any changes in the borders of the Republic;
- makes decisions on association in and disassociation from any form of union or community with other states;
- issues notice of a referendum;
- makes decisions concerning the reserves of the Republic;
- sets up councils;
- elects the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- elects judges to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Macedonia;
- carries out elections and discharges judges;
- selects, appoints and dismisses other holders of public and other offices determined by the Constitution and law;
- carries out political monitoring and supervision of the Government and other holders of public office responsible to the Assembly;
- proclaims amnesties; and
- performs other activities determined by the Constitution.

In carrying out the duties within its sphere of competence, the Assembly adopts decisions, declarations, resolutions, recommendations and conclusions.

Article 69

The Assembly may work if its meeting is attended by a majority of the total number of Representatives. The Assembly makes decisions by a majority vote of the Representatives attending, but no less than one-third of the total number of Representatives, in so far as the Constitution does not provide for a qualified majority.

Article 70

The meetings of the Assembly are open to the public.

The Assembly may decide to work without the presence of the public by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 71

The right to propose adoption of a law is given to every Representative of the Assembly, to the Government of the Republic and to a group of at least 10,000 voters.

The initiative for adopting a law may be given to the authorised instances by any citizen, group of citizens, institutions or associations.

Article 72

An interpellation may be made concerning the work of any public office-holder, the Government and any of its members individually, as well as on issues concerning the performance of state bodies.

Interpellations may be made by a minimum of five Representatives.

All Representatives have the right to ask a Representative's question.

The mode and procedure for submitting and debating on an interpellation and Representative's question are regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

Article 73

The Assembly decides on issuing notice of a referendum concerning specific matters within its sphere of competence by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The decision of the majority of voters in a referendum is adopted on condition that more than half of the total number of voters voted.

The Assembly is obliged to issue notice of a referendum if one is proposed by at least 150,000 voters.

The decision made in a referendum is binding.

Article 74

The Assembly makes decisions on any change in the borders of the Republic by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The decision on any change in the borders of the Republic is adopted by referendum, in so far as it is accepted by the majority of the total number of voters.

Article 75

Laws are declared by promulgation.

The promulgation declaring a law is signed by the President of the Republic and the President of the Assembly.

The President of the Republic may decide not to sign the promulgation declaring a law. The Assembly reconsiders the law and the President of the Republic is then obliged to sign the promulgation in so far as it is adopted by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The President is obliged to sign a promulgation if the law has been adopted by a two-thirds majority vote

of the total number of Representatives in accordance with the Constitution.

Article 76

The Assembly sets up permanent and temporary working bodies.

The Assembly may set up survey commissions for any domain or any matter of public interest.

A proposal for setting up a survey commission may be submitted by a minimum of 20 Representatives.

The Assembly sets up a permanent survey commission for the protection of the freedoms and rights of citizens.

The findings of the survey commissions form the basis for the initiation of proceedings to ascertain the answerability of public office-holders.

Article 77

The Assembly elects the Public Attorney.

The Public Attorney protects the constitutional and legal rights of citizens when violated by bodies of state administration and by other bodies and organisations with public mandates.

The Public Attorney is elected for a term of eight years, with the right to one reelection.

The conditions for election and dismissal, the sphere of competence and the mode of work of the Public Attorney are regulated by law.

Article 78

The Assembly establishes a Council for Inter-Ethnic Relations.

The Council consists of the President of the Assembly and two members each from the ranks of the Macedonians, Albanians, Turks, Vlachs and Romanies, as well as two members from the ranks of other nationalities in Macedonia.

The President of the Assembly is President of the Council.

The Assembly elects the members of the Council.

The Council considers issues of inter-ethnic relations in the Republic and makes appraisals and proposals for their solution.

The Assembly is obliged to take into consideration the appraisals and proposals of the Council and to make decisions regarding them.

2. The President of the Republic of Macedonia

Article 79

The President of the Republic of Macedonia represents the Republic. The President of the Republic is Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Macedonia.

The President of the Republic exercises his/her rights and duties on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and laws.

Article 80

The President of the Republic is elected in general and direct elections, by secret ballot, for a term of five years.

A person may be elected President of the Republic two times at most.

The President of the Republic shall be a citizen of the Republic of Macedonia.

A person may be elected President of the Republic if over the age of at least 40 on the day of election.

A person may not be elected President of the Republic if, on the day of election, he/she has not been a resident of the Republic of Macedonia for at least ten years within the last fifteen years.

Article 81

A candidate for President of the Republic can be nominated by a minimum of 10,000 voters or at least 30 Representatives.

A candidate for President of the Republic is elected if voted by a majority of the total number of voters.

If in the first round of voting no candidate wins the majority required, voting in the second round is restricted to the two candidates who have won most votes in the first round.

The second round takes place within 14 days of the termination of voting in the first round.

A candidate is elected President if he/she wins a majority of the votes of those who voted, provided more than half of the registered voters voted.

If in the second round of voting no candidate wins the required majority of votes, the whole electoral procedure is repeated.

If only one candidate is nominated for the post of President of the Republic and he/she does not obtain the required majority of votes in the first round, the whole electoral procedure is repeated.

The election of the President of the Republic takes place within the last 60 days of the term of the previous President. Should the term of office of the President of the Republic be terminated for any reason, the election of a new President takes place within 40 days from the day of termination.

Before taking up office, the President of the Republic makes a solemn declaration before the Assembly of his/her commitment to respect the Constitution and the laws.

Article 82

In case of death, resignation, permanent inability to perform his/her duties, or in case of termination of the mandate in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the office of the President of the Republic is carried out by the President of the Assembly until the election of the new President.

Decisions on the applicability of the conditions for the cessation of office of the President of the Republic are the official duty of the Constitutional Court.

Should the President of the Republic be temporarily unable to perform his/her duties, the President of the Assembly deputises for him/her.

While the President of the Assembly is performing the office of President of the Republic, he/she takes part in the work of the Assembly without the right to vote.

Article 83

The duty of the President of the Republic is incompatible with the performance of any other public office, profession or appointment in a political party.

The President of the Republic is granted immunity.

The Constitutional Court decides by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of judges on any case for withholding immunity and approving of detention for the President of the Republic.

Article 84

The President of the Republic of Macedonia

- nominates a mandator to constitute the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- appoints and dismisses by decree ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives of the Republic of Macedonia abroad;
- accepts the credentials and letters of recall of foreign diplomatic representatives;
- proposes two judges to sit on the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Macedonia;
- proposes two members of the Republican Judicial Council;
- appoints three members to the Security Council of the Republic of Macedonia;
- proposes the members of the Council for Inter-Ethnic Relations;
- appoints and dismisses other holders of state and public office determined by the Constitution and the law;

- grants decorations and honours in accordance with the law;
- grants pardons in accordance with the law; and
- performs other duties determined by the Constitution.

Article 85

The President of the Republic addresses the Assembly on issues within his/her sphere of competence at least once a year.

The Assembly may request the President of the Republic to state an opinion on issues within his/her sphere of competence.

Article 86

The President of the Republic is President of the Security Council of the Republic of Macedonia.

The Security Council of the Republic is composed of the President of the Republic, the President of the Assembly, the Prime Minister, the Ministers heading the bodies of state administration in the fields of security, defence and foreign affairs and three members appointed by the President of the Republic.

The Council considers issues relating to the security and defence of the Republic and makes policy proposals to the Assembly and the Government.

Article 87

The President is held accountable for any violation of the Constitution in exercising his/her rights and duties.

The procedure for determining the President of the Republic's answerability is initiated by the Assembly with a two-thirds majority vote of all Representatives.

It is the Constitutional Court that decides on the answerability of the President by a two-thirds majority vote of all judges.

If the Constitutional Court considers the President answerable for a violation, his/her mandate is terminated by the force of the Constitution.

3. The Government of the Republic of Macedonia

Article 88

Executive power is vested in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia.

The Government exercises its rights and competence on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and law.

Article 89

The Government is composed of a Prime Minister and Ministers.

The Prime Minister and the Ministers cannot be Representatives in the Assembly.

The Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers and Ministers are granted immunity. The Government decides on their immunity.

The Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers and Ministers cannot be called up for duties in the Armed Forces.

The office of Prime Minister or Minister is incompatible with any other public office or profession.

The organisation and mode of working of the Government are regulated by law.

Article 90

The President of the Republic of Macedonia is obliged, within 10 days of the constitution of the Assembly, to entrust the mandate for constituting the Government to a candidate from the party or parties which has/have a majority in the Assembly.

Within 20 days from the day of being entrusted with the mandate, the mandator submits a programme to the

Assembly and proposes the composition of the Government.

The Government is elected by the Assembly on the proposal of the mandator and on the basis of the programme by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 91

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia

- determines the policy of carrying out the laws and other regulations of the Assembly and is responsible for their execution;
- proposes laws, the budget of the Republic and other regulations adopted by the Assembly;
- proposes a spatial plan of the Republic;
- proposes decisions concerning the reserves of the Republic and sees to their execution;
- adopts bylaws and other acts for the execution of laws;
- lays down principles on the internal organisation and work of the Ministries and other administrative bodies, directing and supervising their work;
- provides appraisals of drafts of laws and other acts submitted to the Assembly by other authorised bodies;
- decides on the recognition of states and governments;
- establishes diplomatic and consular relations with other states;
- makes decisions on opening diplomatic and consular offices abroad;
- proposes the appointment of ambassadors and Representatives of the Republic of Macedonia abroad and appoints chiefs of consular offices;
- proposes the Public Prosecutor;
- appoints and dismisses holders of public and other office determined by the Constitution and laws; and
- performs other duties determined by the Constitution and law.

Article 92

The Government and each of its members are accountable to the Assembly.

The Assembly may take a vote of no-confidence in the Government.

A vote of no-confidence in the Government may be initiated by a minimum of 20 Representatives.

The vote of no-confidence in the Government is taken after three days have elapsed from the day of its proposal.

Another vote of no-confidence in the Government may not be proposed before 90 days have elapsed since the last such vote, unless proposed by a majority of all Representatives.

A vote of no-confidence in the Government is adopted by a majority vote of all the Representatives. If a vote of no-confidence in the Government is passed, the Government is obliged to submit its resignation.

Article 93

The Government itself has the right to raise the question of confidence before the Assembly.

The Government has the right to submit its resignation.

The resignation of the Prime Minister, his/her death or permanent inability to perform his/her duties entail the resignation of the Government.

The Government ceases its term of office when the Assembly is dissolved.

When a vote of no-confidence in the Government has been passed, it has submitted its resignation, or its term of office has ceased owing to the dissolution of the Assembly, the same Government remains on duty until the election of a new Government.

Article 94

A member of the Government has the right to submit his/her resignation.

The Prime Minister may propose the dismissal of a member of the Government.

The Assembly decides on the proposal for the dismissal of a member of the Government at its first meeting following the proposal.

If the Prime Minister dismisses more than one-third of the initial composition of the Government, the Assembly follows the same procedure as for the election of a new Government.

Article 95

The state administration consists of Ministries and other administrative bodies and organisations determined by law.

Political organisation and activities within bodies of state administration are prohibited.

The organisation and work of the bodies of state administration are regulated by a law to be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of all Representatives.

Article 96

The bodies of state administration perform the duties within their sphere of competence autonomously and on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and laws, being accountable for their work to the Government.

Article 97

The bodies of state administration in the fields of defence and the police are to be headed by civilians who have been civilians for at least three years before their election to these offices.

4. The Judiciary

Article 98

Judiciary power is exercised by courts.

Courts are autonomous and independent. Courts judge on the basis of the Constitution and laws and international agreements ratified in accordance with the Constitution.

There is one form of organisation for the judiciary.

Emergency courts are prohibited.

The types of courts, their spheres of competence, their establishment, abrogation, organisation and composition, as well as the procedure they follow are regulated by a law adopted by a majority vote of two-thirds of the total number of Representatives.

Article 99

A judge is elected without restriction of his/her term of office.

A judge cannot be transferred against his/her will.

A judge is discharged

- if he/she so requests;
- if he/she permanently loses the capability of carrying out a judge's office, which is determined by the Republican Judicial Council;
- if he/she fulfils the conditions for retirement;
- if he/she is sentenced for a criminal offence to a prison term of a minimum of six months;
- owing to a serious disciplinary offence defined in law, making him/her unsuitable to perform a judge's office as decided by the Republican Judicial Council; and
- owing to unprofessional and unethical performance of a judge's office, as decided by the Republican Judicial Council in a procedure regulated by law.

Article 100

Judges are granted immunity.

The Assembly decides on the immunity of judges.

The performance of a judge's office is incompatible with other public office, profession or membership in a political party.

Political organisation and activity in the judiciary is prohibited.

Article 101

The Supreme Court of Macedonia is the highest court in the Republic, providing uniformity in the implementation of the laws by the courts.

Article 102

Court hearings and the passing of verdicts are public.

The public can be excluded in cases determined by law.

Article 103

The court tries cases in council.

The law determines cases in which a judge can sit alone.

Jury judges take part in a trial in cases determined by law.

Jury judges cannot be held answerable for their opinions and decisions concerning their verdict.

Article 104

The Republican Judicial Council is composed of seven members.

The Assembly elects the members of the Council.

The members of the Council are elected from the ranks of outstanding members of the legal profession for a term of six years with the right to one reelection.

Members of the Republican Judicial Council are granted immunity. The Assembly decides on their immunity.

The office of a member of the Republican Judicial Council is incompatible with the performance of other

public offices, professions or membership in political parties.

Article 105

The Republican Judicial Council
- proposes to the Assembly the election and discharge of judges and determines proposals for the discharge of a judge's office in cases laid down in the Constitution;
- decides on the disciplinary answerability of judges;
- assesses the competence and ethics of judges in the performance of their office; and
- proposes two judges to sit on the Constitutional Court of Macedonia.

5. The Public Prosecutor's Office

Article 106

The Public Prosecutor's Office is a single and autonomous state body carrying out legal measures against persons who have committed criminal and other offences determined by law; it also performs other duties determined by law.

The Public Prosecutor's Office carries out its duties on the basis of and within the framework of the Constitution and law.

The Public Prosecutor is appointed by the Assembly for a term of six years and is discharged by the Assembly.

Article 107

The Public Prosecutor is granted immunity.

The Assembly decides on his/her immunity.

The office of the Public Prosecutor is incompatible with the performance of any other public office, profession or membership in a political party.

IV. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF MACEDONIA

Article 108

The Constitutional Court of Macedonia is a body of the Republic protecting constitutionality and legality.

Article 109

The Constitutional Court of Macedonia is composed of nine judges.

The Assembly elects the judges to the Constitutional Court by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives. The term of office of the judges is nine years without the right to reelection.

The Constitutional Court elects a President from its own ranks for a term of three years without the right to reelection.

Judges of the Constitutional Court are elected from the ranks of outstanding members of the legal profession.

Article 110

The Constitutional Court of Macedonia

- decides on the conformity of laws with the Constitution;
- decides on the conformity of collective agreements and other regulations with the Constitution and laws;
- protects the freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen relating to the freedom of communication, conscience, thought and public expression of thought, political association and activity as well as to the prohibition of discrimination among citizens on the grounds of sex, race, religion or national, social or political affiliation;
- decides on conflicts of competency among holders of legislative, executive and judicial offices;

- decides on conflicts of competency among Republic bodies and units of local self-government;
- decides on the answerability of the President of the Republic;
- decides on the constitutionality of the programmes and statutes of political parties and associations of citizens; and
- decides on other issues determined by the Constitution.

Article 111

The office of judge of the Constitutional Court is incompatible with the performance of other public office, profession or membership in a political party.

Judges of the Constitutional Court are granted immunity. The Constitutional Court decides on their immunity.

Judges of the Constitutional Court cannot be called up for duties in the Armed Forces.

The office of a judge of the Constitutional Court ceases when the incumbent resigns. A judge of the Constitutional Court shall be discharged from office if sentenced for a criminal offence to unconditional imprisonment of a minimum of six months, or if he/she permanently loses the capability of performing his/her office, as determined by the Constitutional Court.

Article 112

The Constitutional Court shall repeal or invalidate a law if it determines that the law does not conform to the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court shall repeal or invalidate a collective agreement, other regulation or enactment, statute or programme of a political party or association, if it determines that the same does not conform to the Constitution or law.

The decisions of the Constitutional Court are final and executive.

Article 113

The mode of work and the procedure of the Constitutional Court are regulated by an enactment of the Court.

V. LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Article 114

The right of citizens to local self-government is guaranteed.

Municipalities are units of local self-government.

Within municipalities forms of neighbourhood self-government may be established.

Municipalities are financed from their own sources of income determined by law as well as by funds from the Republic.

Local self-government is regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 115

In units of local self-government, citizens directly and through representatives participate in decision-making on issues of local relevance particularly in the fields of urban planning, communal activities, culture, sport, social security and child care, preschool education, primary education, basic health care and other fields determined by law.

The municipality is autonomous in the execution of its constitutionally and legally determined spheres of competence; supervision of the legality of its work is carried out by the Republic.

The carrying out of specified matters can by law be entrusted to the municipality by the Republic.

Article 116

The territorial division of the Republic and the area administered by each municipality are defined by law.

Article 117

The City of Skopje is a particular unit of local self-government the organisation of which is regulated by law.

In the City of Skopje, citizens directly and through representatives participate in decision-making on issues of relevance for the City of Skopje particularly in the field of urban planning, communal activities, culture, sport, social security and child care, preschool education, primary education, basic health care and other fields determined by law.

The City of Skopje is financed from its own sources of income determined by law, as well as by funds from the Republic.

The City is autonomous in the execution of its constitutionally and legally determined spheres of competence; supervision of the legality of its work is carried out by the Republic.

By law, the Republic can entrust the carrying out of specified matters to the City.

VI. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Article 118

The international agreements ratified in accordance with the Constitution are part of the internal legal order and cannot be changed by law.

Article 119

International agreements are concluded in the name of the Republic of Macedonia by the President of the

Republic of Macedonia. International agreements may also be concluded by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, when it is so determined by law.

Article 120

A proposal for association in a union or community with other states or for dissociation from a union or community with other states may be submitted by the President of the Republic, the Government or by at least 40 Representatives.

The proposal for association in or dissociation from a union or community with other states is accepted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The decision of association in or dissociation from a union or community with other states is adopted if it is upheld in a referendum by the majority of the total number of voters in the Republic.

Article 121

A decision of association or dissociation concerning membership in international organisations is adopted by the Assembly by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives of the Assembly and proposed by the President of the Republic, the Government or at least 40 Representatives of the Assembly.

VII. THE DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC AND STATES OF WAR AND EMERGENCY

Article 122

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Macedonia protect the territorial integrity and independence of the Republic.

The defence of the Republic is regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

Article 123

No person is authorised to recognise occupation of the Republic of Macedonia or of part thereof.

Article 124

A state of war exists when direct danger of military attack on the Republic is impending, or when the Republic is attacked, or war is declared on it.

A state of war is declared by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives of the Assembly, on the proposal of the President of the Republic, the Government or at least 30 Representatives.

If the Assembly cannot meet, the decision on the declaration of a state of war is made by the President of the Republic who submits it to the Assembly for confirmation as soon as it can meet.

Article 125

A state of emergency exists when major natural disasters or epidemics take place.

A state of emergency on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia or on part thereof is determined by the Assembly on a proposal by the President of the Republic, the Government or by at least 30 Representatives.

The decision to establish the existence of a state of emergency is made by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives and can remain in force for a maximum of 30 days.

If the Assembly cannot meet, the decision to establish the existence of a state of emergency is made by the President of the Republic, who submits it to the Assembly for confirmation as soon as it can meet.

Article 126

During a state of war or emergency, the Government, in accordance with the Constitution and law, issues decrees with the force of law.

The authorisation of the Government to issue decrees with the force of law lasts until the termination of the state of war or emergency, on which the Assembly decides.

Article 127

During a state of war, if the Assembly cannot meet, the President of the Republic may appoint and discharge the Government, as well as appoint or dismiss officials whose election is within the sphere of competence of the Assembly.

Article 128

The mandate of the judges of the Constitutional Court of Macedonia, as well as members of the Republican Judicial Council is extended for the duration of the state of war or emergency.

VIII. CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION

Article 129

The Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia can be changed or supplemented by constitutional amendments.

Article 130

A proposal to initiate a change in the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia may be made by the President of the Republic, by the Government, by at least 30 Representatives, or by 150,000 citizens.

Article 131

The decision to initiate a change in the Constitution is made by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The draft amendment to the Constitution is confirmed by the Assembly by a majority vote of the total number of Representatives and then submitted to public debate.

The decision to change the Constitution is made by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The change in the Constitution is declared by the Assembly.

IX. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL CLAUSES

Article 132

Time of residence in other republics in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is also included in the time span specified in Article 80, Paragraph 5.

Article 133

A Constitution Act shall be adopted for the implementation of the Constitution.

The Constitution Act is adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of Representatives.

The Constitution Act is declared by the Assembly and comes into force simultaneously with the declaration of the Constitution.

Article 134

This Constitution comes into force on the day it is declared in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia.

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VERFASSUNG

DER

REPUBLIK

MAKEDONIEN

VERFASSUNG

DER

REPUBLIK

MAKEDONIEN

Skopje, 1992

VERFASSUNG

DER

REPUBLIK

MAZEDONIEN

Ausgehend vom geschichtlichen, kulturellen, geistigen und staatlichen Erbe des makedonischen Volkes und seines jahrhundertelangen Kampfes für nationale und soziale Freiheit und für die Erschaffung eines eigenen Staates und besonders von den staatlich - rechtlichen Traditionen der Republik Krusevo und den historischen Be-schlüssen des ASNOM und der verfassungsrechtlichen Kontinuität des makedonischen Staates als eine souveräne Republik im Föderativen Jugoslawien, vom frei geäußerten Willen der Bürger der Republik Makedonien beim Referendum am 8. September 1991, sowie von der geschichtlichen Tatsache, daß Makedonien als ein Nationalstaat des makedonischen Volkes konstituiert ist, in dem eine vollständige bürgerliche Gleichberechtigung und dauerhafte Koexistenz des makedonischen Volkes mit den Albanern, Türken, Walachen, Roma und anderen Minderheiten, die in der Republik Makedonien leben, gesichert ist und mit dem Ziel:

- die Republik Makedonien als einen souveränen und selbständigen und als einen bürgerlichen und demokratischen Staat zu konstituieren;

- das Herrschen des Rechts als ein grundlegendes System der Gewalt herzustellen und aufzubauen;

- die Menschenrechte, die bürgerlichen Freiheiten und die nationale Gleichberechtigung zu garantieren;

- Frieden und Koexsistenz des makedonischen Volkes mit den Nationalitäten, die in Makedonien leben, zu sichern; und

- soziale Gerechtigkeit, wirtschaftlichen Wohlstand und Entwicklung des persönlichen und gemeinsamen Lebens zu sichern, erläßt die Versammlung der Republik Makedonien die

VERFASSUNG
DER
REPUBLIK MAKEDONIEN

I. GRUNDBESTIMMUNGEN

Artikel 1

Die Republik Makedonien ist ein souveräner, selbständiger, demokratischer und sozialer Staat.

Die Souverenität der Republik Makedonien ist unteilbar, unentfremdbar und unübertragbar.

Artikel 2

In der Republik Makedonien geht die Souverenität von den Bürgern hervor und gehört den Bürgern.

Die Bürger der Republik Makedonien üben die Macht durch demokratisch gewählte Abgeordnete aus, durch Referendum und andere Formen unmittelbarer Äußerung.

Artikel 3*

Das Territorium der Republik ist unteilbar und unentfremdbar.

Die bestehende Grenze der Republik Makedonien ist unverletzbar.

Die Grenze der Republik Makedonien kann nur in Übereinstimmung mit der Verfassung geändert werden.

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* Siehe Seite 56, Verfassungszusatz I

Artikel 4

Die Bürger der Republik Makedonien haben die Staatsbürgerschaft der Republik Makedonien.

Dem Staatsbürger der Republik Makedonien kann die Staatsbürgerschaft nicht entzogen werden, noch kann er vertrieben, oder einem anderen Staat übergeben werden.

Die Staatsbürgerschaft der Republik Makedonien wird durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 5

Staatssymbole der Republik Makedonien sind: Wappen, Flagge und Hymne.

Das Wappen, die Flagge und die Hymne der Republik Makedonien werden durch Gesetz festgelegt, welches mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 6

Die Hauptstadt der Republik Makedonien ist Skopje.

Artikel 7

In der Republik Makedonien ist die Amtssprache die makedonische Sprache und ihre kyrillische Schrift.

In den Einheiten der lokalen Selbstverwaltung, in denen als Mehrheit Angehörige der Nationalitäten leben, sind neben der makedonischen Sprache und der kyrillischen Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift der Nationalitäten unter gesetzlich festgelegtem Verfahren im öffentlichen Gebrauch.

In den Einheiten der lokalen Selbstverwaltung, in denen in beträchtlicher Zahl Angehörige der Nationalitäten leben, sind neben der makedonischen Sprache und der kyrillischen Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift der Nationalitäten unter gesetzlich festgelegten Bedingungen und Verfahren im öffentlichen Gebrauch.

Artikel 8

Grundwerte der Verfassungsordnung sind:

- die Grundrechte und Freiheiten des Menschen und Bürgers, die durch das internationale Recht anerkannt und mit der Verfassung festgelegt sind;
- die freie Äußerung der nationalen Angehörigkeit;
- das Herrschen des Rechts;
- die Teilung der Staatsgewalt in Gesetzesgebende, Vollzugs- und Gerichtsgewalt;
- der politische Pluralismus und die freien, unmittelbaren und demokratischen Wahlen;
- der Rechtsschutz des Eigentums:
- die Freiheit des Marktes und des Unternehmertums;
- der Humanismus, die soziale Gerechtigkeit und die Solidarität;
- die lokale Selbstverwaltung;
- die Gestaltung und Humanisierung des Raumes und der Schutz und die Förderung des Lebensraumes und der Natur; und
- die Achtung der allgemein anerkannten Normen des internationalen Rechts.

In der Republik Makedonien ist alles erlaubt, was nicht durch die Verfassung und das Gesetz verboten ist.

II. GRUNDLEGENDE FREIHEITEN UND RECHTE DES MENSCHEN UND BÜRGERS

1. Bürgerliche und politische Freiheiten und Rechte

Artikel 9

Die Bürger der Republik Makedonien sind gleichberechtigt in den Freiheiten und Rechten, unabhängig vom Geschlecht, der Rasse, der Hautfarbe, der nationalen und sozialen Herkunft, der politischen Zugehörigkeit und des Glaubensbekenntnisses, der materiellen oder gesellschaftlichen Lage.

Die Bürger sind vor der Verfassung und vor dem Gesetz gleichberechtigt.

Artikel 10

Das Leben des Menschen ist unantastbar.

In der Republik Makedonien kann auf keiner Grundlage die Todesstrafe verhängt werden.

Artikel 11

Die physische und moralische Integrität des Menschen ist unantastbar.

Es wird jede Art von Folter, unmenschlichem oder erniedrigendem Verhalten und Bestrafen verboten.

Die Zwangsarbeit ist verboten.

Artikel 12

Die Freiheit des Menschen ist unantastbar.

Niemandem kann die Freiheit eingeschränkt werden, außer durch einen Gerichtsbeschluß und in gesetzlich festgelegten Fällen und Verfahren.

Die Person, die berufen, vorgeführt oder der ihre Freiheit entzogen wurde, muß sofort mit den Gründen für ihre Berufung, ihre Verhaftung oder des Entzugs ihrer Freiheit und mit ihren gesetzlich festgelegten Rechten bekanntgemacht werden, und es kann keine Aussage von ihr gefordert werden. Die Person hat das Recht auf einen Verteidiger im Polizei - und Gerichtsverfahren.

Die Person, der die Freiheit entzogen wurde, muß sofort, oder spätestens binnen 24 Stunden nach dem Entzug der Freiheit, vor Gericht geführt werden, welches ohne Vertagung über die Gesetzmäßigkeit des Entzugs der Freiheit entscheiden wird.

Die Untersuchungshaft kann aufgrund des Gerichtsbeschlusses höchstens 90 Tage dauern.

Die inhaftierte Person kann unter gesetzlich bestimmten Bedingungen freigelassen werden, um sich in Freiheit zu verteidigen.

Artikel 13

Die einer Strafhandlung beschuldigte Person wird als unschuldig angesehen, solange ihre Schuld nicht durch ein rechtskräftiges Urteil festgestellt wird.

Einer Person, der ungesetzlich die Freiheit entzogen, die inhaftiert, oder ungesetzlich für eine Strafhandlung verurteilt wurde, steht das Recht auf Schadenersatz und sonstige gesetzlich festgelegte Rechte zu.

Artikel 14

Niemand kann für eine Handlung bestraft werden, die vor ihrer Verübung nicht durch Gesetz oder eine andere Vorschrift als Straftat festgelegt und für die keine Strafe vorgeschrieben war.

Niemand kann für eine Strafhandlung gerichtet werden, für die er schon gerichtet und für die ein rechtskräftiges Gerichtsurteil ausgesprochen wurde.

Artikel 15

Das Recht auf Beschwerde gegen Einzelakten, erlassen in Verfahren ersten Grades vor Gericht, einem Verwaltungsorgan oder einer Organisation oder anderen Institutionen, die öffentliche Befugnisse ausüben, wird garantiert.

Artikel 16

Die Überzeugungs-, Gewissens-, Gedanken- und Meinungsfreiheit, sowie die Freiheit der öffentlichen Meinungsäußerung wird garantiert.

Die Redefreiheit, die Freiheit des öffentlichen Auftretens, des öffentlichen Informierens und die freie Gründung von Institutionen für öffentliches Informieren wird garantiert.

Der freie Zutritt zu Informationen, die Freiheit des Empfangs und der Übertragung von Informationen wird garantiert.

Das Recht auf Antwort in den öffentlichen Informationsmitteln wird garantiert.

Das Recht auf Berichtigung in den öffentlichen Informationsmitteln wird garantiert.

Das Recht auf Schutz der Informationsquelle in den öffentlichen Informationsmitteln wird garantiert.

Die Zensur ist verboten.

Artikel 17

Die Brieffreiheit und das Briefgeheimnis, sowie die Freiheit und das Geheimnis aller anderen Benachrichtigungsmittel wird garantiert.

Nur aufgrund eines Gerichtsbeschlusses kann vom Grundsatz der Unverletzbarkeit des Briefgeheimnisses abgewichen werden, wenn dies zur Durchführung eines Strafverfahrens unumgänglich notwendig ist, oder wenn dies die Interessen der Verteidigung der Republik erfordern.

Artikel 18

Die Sicherheit und Geheimhaltung der persönlichen Angaben werden garantiert.

Den Bürgern wird Schutz vor Verletzung der persönlichen Integrität, die aus dem Registrieren von Informationen über sie und durch Bearbeitung von Angaben hervorgeht, garantiert.

Artikel 19

Die Freiheit des Glaubensbekenntnisses wird garantiert.

Die freie und öffentliche, einzelne oder gemeinschaftliche Äußerung der Religion wird garantiert.

Die Makedonische Orthodoxe Kirche, die anderen Religionsgemeinschaften und religiösen Gruppen sind vom Staat getrennt und vor dem Gesetz gleichgestellt.

Die Makedonische Orthodoxe Kirche, die anderen Religionsgemeinschaften und religiösen Gruppen sind frei in der Gründung von Religionsschulen und anderen Sozial- und Wohlfahrtsämtern in gesetzlich festgelegten Verfahren.

Artikel 20

Den Bürgern wird die Freiheit der Vereinigung zur Verwirklichung und zum Schutz ihrer politischen, wirtschaftlichen, kulturellen und anderen Rechte und Überzeugungen garantiert.

Die Bürgert können frei Bürgervereinigungen und politische Parteien gründen, ihnen beitreten und aus ihnen austreten.

Die Programme und die Tätigkeiten der Bürgervereinigungen und politischen Parteien können nicht auf das gewaltsame Zerrütten der Verfassungsorgnung der Republik und auf das Herforrufen und Aufrufen zu militärischer Agression oder auf die Entfachung des nationalen, Rassen-oder Religionshasses oder der Intoleranz gerichtet werden.

Militärische oder halbmilitärische Vereinigungen, die nicht den Streitkräften der Republik angehören, sind verboten.

Artikel 21

Die Bürger haben das Recht, sich ruhig zu versammeln und öffentlichen Protest ohne vorherige Anmeldung und ohne besondere Erlaubnis zu äußern.

Die Nutzung dieses Rechts kann nur im Falle eines Ausnahme- oder Kriegszustandes eingeschränkt werden.

Artikel 22

Der Bürger erwirbt mit vollendeten 18 Jahren das Wahlrecht.

Das Wahlrecht ist gleichartig, allgemein und unmittelbar und wird auf freien Wahlen mit geheimer Stimmabgabe realisiert.

Artikel 23

Jeder Bürger hat das Recht, an der Ausübung öffentlicher Funktionen telzunehmen.

Artikel 24

Jeder Bürger hat das Recht, Eingaben bei den Staatsorganen und anderen öffentlichen Dienststellen einzureichen und auf diese eine Antwort zu bekommen.

Der Bürger kann nicht zur Verantwortung gezogen werden, noch kann er für die, in den Eingaben vorgebrachten Stellungen schädliche Folgen ertragen, außer wenn er mit diesen eine Straftat begangen hat.

Artikel 25

Jedem Bürger wird Respekt und Schutz der Privatsphäre seines persönlichen und familiären Lebens, seiner Würde und seines Ansehens garantiert.

Artikel 26

Die Unantastbarkeit des Heims wird garantiert.

Das Recht auf Unantastbarkeit des Heims kann nur durch einen Gerichtsbeschluß eingeschränkt werden, wenn es sich um Aufdeckung oder Verhinderung von Straftaten oder um den Gesundheitsschutz der Menschen handelt.

Artikel 27

Jeder Bürger der Republik Makedonien hat das Recht, sich auf dem Territorium der Republik Makedonien zu bewegen und seinen Wohnsitz auszuwählen.

Jeder Bürger hat das Recht, das Territorium der Republik zu verlassen und in die Republik zurückzukommen.

Die Verwirklichung dieser Rechte kann durch Gesetz nur in den Fällen eingeschränkt werden, in denen es zur Sicherheit der Republik, zur Durchführung eines Strafverfahrens, oder zum Schutz der Menschen notwendig ist.

Artikel 28

Die Verteidigung der Republik Makedonien ist Recht und Pflicht jedes Bürgers.

Die Realisierung dieses Rechts und dieser Pflicht wird durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 29

Ausländer genießen in der Republik Makedonien die durch die Verfassung gewährten Freiheiten und Rechte, die durch Gesetz und durch internationale Verträge festgesetzt sind.

Die Republik Makedonien garantiert das Asylrecht Ausländern und staatenlosen Personen, die wegen demokratischer Ansichten und Tätigkeiten verfolgt werden.

Die Auslieferung eines Ausländers kann nur aufgrund eines ratifizierten internationalen Vertrages und aufgrund des Grundsatzes der Reziprozität durchgeführt werden. Ein Ausländer kann nicht wegen einer politischen Straftat ausgeliefert werden. Terrorakten werden nicht als politische Straftaten angesehen.

2. Wirtschaftliche, soziale und kulturelle Rechte

Artikel 30

Das Eigentumsrecht und die Erbfolge werden garantiert.

Das Eigentum erzeugt Rechte und Pflichten und muß dem Wohl des Individuums und der Gemeinschaft dienen.

Niemandem kann das Eigentum und die aus ihm hervorgehenden Rechte entzogen oder eingeschränkt werden, außer wenn es sich um gesetzlich festgelegtes öffentliches Interesse handelt.

Im Falle einer Enteignung oder im Falle einer Einschränkung des Eigentums, wird eine angemessene Entschädigung, die nicht kleiner, als der Marktwert sein kann, garantiert.

Artikel 31

Eine ausländische Person kann in der Republik Makedonien das Eigentumsrecht unter gesetzlich festgelegten Bedingungen erwerben.

Artikel 32

Jeder hat das Recht auf Arbeit, freie Wahl der Beschäftigung, Schutz beim Arbeiten und materielle Sicherstellung während zeitweiliger Arbeitslosigkeit.

Jedem ist unter gleichen Bedingungen jeder Arbeitsplatz zugänglich.

Jeder Beschäftigte hat das Recht auf angemessenen Verdienst.

Jeder Beschäftigte hat das Recht auf bezahlte tägliche und wöchentliche Arbeitspausen, sowie auf bezahlten Erholungsurlaub. Die Beschäftigten können nicht auf diese Rechte verzichten.

Die Verwirklichung der Rechte der Beschäftigten und ihr Status werden durch Gesetz und durch Kollektivverträge geregelt.

Artikel 33

Jeder ist durch gesetzlich festgelegte Verfahren verpflichtet, Steuern und andere öffentliche Abgaben zu zahlen und an der Begleichung der öffentlichen Ausgaben teilzunehmen.

Artikel 34

Die Bürger haben das Recht auf soziale Sicherheit und Sozialversicherung, festgelegt durch Gesetz und Kollektivvertrag.

Artikel 35

Die Republik sorgt für das Recht auf sozialen Schutz und soziale Sicherheit in Übereinstimmung mit dem Grundsatz über soziale Gerechtigkeit.

Die Republik garantiert das Recht auf Hilfe für arbeitsunfähige und erwerbsunfähige Bürger.

Die Republik sichert den invaliden Personen besonderen Schutz und schafft Voraussetzungen für ihre Einbeziehung in das gesellschaftliche Leben.

Artikel 36

Besondere Rechte garantiert die Republik den Kriegsteilnehmern am Antifaschistischen Krieg und den Militärinvaliden aller nationaler Befreiungskriege Makedoniens, den aufgrund ihrer Ideen von der

Eigenständigkeit des makedonischen Volkes und seiner Staatlichkeit verfolgten und inhaftierten Personen sowie ihren Familienmitgliedern, die keine Voraussetzungen für eine materielle und soziale Existenz haben.

Die besonderen Rechte werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 37

Zur Realisierung ihrer wirtschaftlichen und sozialen Rechte, haben die Bürger das Recht, Syndikate zu gründen. Die Syndikate können ihre Verbände gründen und internationalen Organisationen beitreten.

Die Bedingungen für die Realisierung des Rechts auf syndikale Organisierung in den Streitkräften, der Polizei und den Verwaltungsorganen können durch Gesetz beschränkt werden.

Artikel 38

Das Streikrecht wird garantiert.

Die Bedingungen zur Realisierung des Streikrechts in den Streitkräften, der Polizei und den Verwaltungsorganen, können durch Gesetz beschränkt werden.

Artikel 39

Jedem Bürger wird das Recht auf Gesundheitsschutz garantiert.

Der Bürger hat das Recht und die Pflicht, seine Gesundheit und die Gesundheit der anderen zu erhalten und zu fördern.

Artikel 40

Die Republik sichert der Familie besondere Pflege und Schutz.

Die Rechtsbeziehungen in der Ehe, der Familie und in der außerehelichen Gemeinschaft werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

Die Eltern haben das Recht und die Pflicht, für die Versorgung und die Erziehung der Kinder zu sorgen. Die Kinder sind verpflichtet für die alten und entkräfteten Eltern zu sorgen.

Die Republik sichert elternlosen Kindern und Kindern ohne elterliche Fürsorge besonderen Schutz.

Artikel 41

Dem Menschen steht das Recht zu, frei über die Zeugung von Kindern zu entscheiden.

Die Republik führt zwecks gleichmäßiger wirtschaftlicher und sozialer Entwicklung eine humane Populationspolitik.

Artikel 42

Die Republik schützt besonders die Mutterschaft, die Kinder und minderjährige Personen.

Eine Person, die jünger als 25 Jahre ist, kann nicht beschäftigt werden.

Minderjährige Personen und Mütter haben das Recht auf besonderen Arbeitsschutz.

Minderjährige Personen dürfen nicht auf Arbeitsplätzen beschäftigt werden, die schädlich für ihre Gesundheit und Moral sind.

Artikel 43

Jeder Mensch hat das Recht auf gesunden Lebensraum.

Jeder ist verpflichtet, den Lebensraum und die Natur zu schützen und zu fördern.

Die Republik sichert Voraussetzungen für die Verwirklichung des Rechts aus gesunden Lebensraum.

Artikel 44

Jeder hat das Recht auf Bildung.

Die Bildung ist jedem unter gleichen Bedingungen zugänglich.

Die Grundschule ist verbindlich und kostenlos.

Artikel 45

Die Bürger haben das Recht, unter gesetzlich festgelegten Bedingungen private Bildungseinrichtungen in allen Bildungsstufen zu gründen, außer in der Grundschule.

Artikel 46

Der Universität wird die Autonomie garantiert.

Die Bedingungen zur Gründung, Ausübung und Einstellung der Tätigkeit der Universität werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 47

Die Freiheit der wissenschaftlichen, künstlerischen und anderer Arten von Schaffung wird garantiert.

Die Rechte, die aus wissenschaftlicher, künstlerischer und anderer Art von intellektueller Schaffung hervorgehen, werden garantiert. Die Republik stimuliert,

unterstützt und schützt die Entwicklung der Wissenschaft, Kunst und Kultur.

Die Republik stimuliert und unterstützt die wissenschaftliche und die technologische Entwicklung.

Die Republik unterstützt die technische Kultur und den Sport.

Artikel 48

Die Angehörigen der Minderheiten haben das Recht, ihre Identität und die nationalen Besonderheiten frei zu äußern, zu pflegen und zu entwickeln.

Die Republik garantiert den Schutz der ethnischen, kulturellen, sprachlichen und religiösen Identität der Minderheiten.

Die Angehörigen der Minderheiten haben das Recht, Kultur- und Kunstinstitutionen, wissenschaftliche und andere Vereine zu gründen, zur Äußerung, Pflege und Entwicklung ihrer Identität.

Die Angehörigen der Minderheiten haben das Recht auf Unterricht in ihrer Sprache in der Grund- und Mittelschule, auf gesetzlich festgelegte Weise. In den Schulen, in welchen die Ausbildung in der Minderheitensprache erfolgt, wird auch die makedonische Sprache gelernt.

Artikel 49*

Die Republik sorgt für den Status und die Rechte der Angehörigen des makedonischen Volkes in den Nachbarländern und der Auswanderer aus Makedonien, unterstützt ihre kulturelle Entwicklung und fördert die Verbindungen mit ihnen.

Die Republik sorgt für die kulturellen, wirtschaftlichen und sozialen Rechte der Bürger der Republik im Ausland.

* Siehe Seite 56, Verfassungszusatz II

3. Garantien der grundlegenden Freiheiten und Rechte

Artikel 50

Jeder Bürger kann sich auf den Schutz der verfassungsmäßig festgelegten Freiheiten und Rechte berufen, vor den Gerichten und vor dem Verfassungsgericht der Republik Makedonien, im Verfahren, das auf den Grundsätzen der Priorität und Dringlichkeit beruht.

Der Gerichtsschutz der Gesetzlichkeit der Einzelnen Akte der Staatsverwaltung und der anderen Institutionen, die öffentliche Befugnisse ausüben, wird garantiert.

Der Bürger hat das Recht, mit den Menschenrechten und den grundlegenden Freiheiten bekanntgemacht zu werden und aktiv, einzeln oder gemeinsam mit anderen zu ihrer Förderung und ihrem Schutz beizutragen.

Artikel 51

In der Republik Makedonien müssen alle Gesetze mit der Verfassung und alle anderen Vorschriften mit der Verfassung und mit dem Gesetz übereinstimmen.

Jeder ist verpflichtet, die Verfasuung und die Gesetze zu achten.

Artikel 52

Die Gesetze und anderen Vorschriften werden verlautbart, bevor sie in Kraft treten.

Die Gesetze und anderen Vorschriften werden spätestens in einer Frist von 7 Tagen vom Tag der Verabschiedung im "Amtsblatt der Republik Makedonien" verlautbart.

Die Gesetze treten frühestens am achten Tag nach ihrer Verlautbarung in Kraft und in Ausnahmefällen, die von der Versammlung festgesetzt werden, am Tage ihrer Verlautbarung.

Die Gesetze und anderen Vorschriften können nicht rückwirkend in Kraft treten, außer in Ausnahmefällen, wenn dies günstiger für die Bürger ist.

Artikel 53

Die Rechtsanwaltschaft ist ein selbständiger und unabhängiger öffentlicher Dienst, der Rechtshilfe sichert und in Übereinstimmung mit dem Gesetz öffentliche Befugnisse ausübt.

Artikel 54

Die Freiheiten und Rechte des Menschen und Bürgers können nur in verfassungsmäßig festgelegten Fällen eingeschränkt werden.

Die Freiheiten und Rechte des Menschen und Bürgers können nur wärend eines Kriegs- oder Ausnahmezustandes, gemäß den Bestimmungen der Verfassung, eingeschränkt werden.

Die Einschränkung der Freiheiten und Rechte kann nicht diskriminatorisch aufgrund des Geschlechts, der Rasse, der Hautfarbe, der Sprache, der Religion, der nationalen und sozialen Abstammung, des Vermögens oder der gesellschaftlichen Stellung erfolgen.

Die Einschränkung der Freiheiten und Rechte kann sich nicht auf das Recht auf Leben, das Volterverbot, den unmenschlichen und entwürdigenden Umgang und der Bestrafung, der rechtlichen Bestimmtheit der

Strafhandlungen und Strafen, sowie auf die Überzeugungs-, Gewissens- und Gedankenfreiheit, die Freiheit der öffentlichen Meinungsäußerung und des Religionsbekenntnisses beziehen.

4. Grundlagen der wirtschaftlichen Beziehungen

Artikel 55

Die Markt- und Unternehmungsfreiheit wird garantiert.

Die Republik sichert die gleichmäßige Rechtslage aller Subjekte auf dem Markt. Die Republik ergreift Maßnahmen gegen die Monopolstellung und das Monopolverhalten auf dem Markt.

Die Markt- und Unternehmungsfreiheit kann nur wegen der Verteidigung der Republik, der Erhaltung des Natur- und Lebensraumes oder der Gesundheit der Bürger durch Gesetz eingeschränkt werden.

Artikel 56

Alle Naturschätze der Republik, die Pflanzen- und Tierwelt, die Güter im allgemeinen Gebrauch, sowie die Gegenstände und Objekte von besonderer kultureller und geschichtlicher Bedeutung, sind durch Gesetz bestimmte Güter von allgemeinem Interesse für die Republik und stehen unter besonderem Schutz.

Die Republik gewährt Schutz, Förderung und Bereicherung des Geschichts- und Kunstreichtums des makedonischen Volkes und der Minderheiten, sowie der Güter, die unabhängig von ihrer Rechtsordnung, ein Teil dessen sind.

Die Verfahren und Bedingungen, unter welchen bestimmte Güter von allgemeinem Interesse der Republik zur Nutzung überlassen werden können, werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 57

Die Republik stimuliert den ökonomischen Fortschritt und sorgt für eine gleichmäßige räumliche und regionale Entwicklung sowie für eine schnellere Entwicklung der wirtschaftlich ungenügend entwickelten Gebiete.

Artikel 58

Das Eigentum und die Arbeit sind Grundlage für die Leitung und die Teilnahme an Entscheidungen.

Die Teilnahme an der Leitung und an Entscheidungen in öffentlichen Ämtern und Diensten werden durch Gesetz und aufgrund der Prinzipien der Fachkenntnisse und Kompetenz geregelt.

Artikel 59

Den ausländischen Kapitalanlegern wird das Recht auf freie Kapitalausfuhr des angelegten Kapitals und Ertrags garantiert.

Die aufgrund des angelegten Kapitals erworbenen Rechte können nicht durch Gesetz oder eine andere Vorschrift vermindert werden.

Artikel 60

Die Nationalbank der Republik Makedonien ist eine Emissionsbank.

Die Nationalbank ist selbständig und für die Stabilität der Währung, die monetare Politik und für die allgemeine Zahlungliquidität in der Republik und im Ausland verantwortlich.

Die Organisation und die Arbeit der Nationalbank werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

III. ORGANISATION DER STAATSGEWALT

1. Die Versammlung der Republik Makedonien

Artikel 61

Die Versammlung der Republik Makedonien ist ein vertretendes Organ der Bürger und Träger der gesetzesgebenden Gewalt der Republik Makedonien.

Die Organisation und Funktion der Versammlung werden durch die Verfassung und die Geschäftsordnung geregelt.

Artikel 62

Die Versammlung setzt sich aus 120 bis 140 Abgeordneten zusammen.

Die Abgeordneten werden auf allgemeinen, unmittelbaren und freien Wahlen mit geheimer Stimmabgabe gewählt.

Der Abgeordnete vertritt die Bürger und entscheidet in der Versammlung nach eigener Überzeugung.

Der Abgeordnete kann nicht abberufen werden.

Das Verfahren und die Bedingungen für die Wahl der Abgeordneten werden durch das Gesetz reguliert, das mit einer Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 63

Die Abgeordneten der Versammlung werden für die Dauer von vier Jahren gewählt. Das Mandat der Abgeordneten verifiziert die Versammlung. Das Mandat beginnt mit der konstitutiven Sitzung der Versammlung. Die neugewählte Versammlung tritt spätestens 20 Tage nach den abgehaltenen Wahlen in einer konstitutiven Sitzung zusammen. Die konstitutive Sitzung beruft der Vorsitzende der Versammlung der vorherigen Parlamentszusammensetzung ein.

Falls keine konstitutive Sitzung in der vorgesehen Frist anberaumt wird, kommen die Abgeordneten selber zusammen und konstituieren die Versammlung am einundzwanzigsten Tag nach Beendigung der Wahlen.

Die Wahlen für Abgeordnete in der Versammlung werden in den letzten 90 Tagen des Mandats der alten Zusammensetzung der Versammlung oder in einer Frist von 60 Tagen vom Tag der Auflösung der Versammlung abgehalten.

Das Mandat der Abgeordneten in der Versammlung kann nur im Falle eines Ausnahme- oder Kriegszustandes verlängert werden.

Durch Gesetz wird die Unvereinbarkeit und die Unwählbarkeit der Funktion Abgeordneter in der Versammlung mit der Ausübung von anderen öffentlichen Funktionen und Berufen festgelegt.

Die Versammlung wird aufgelöst, wenn sich die Mehrheit aller Abgeordneten dafür erklärt.

Artikel 64

Die Abgeordneten genießen Immunität.

Der Abgeordnete kann für die geäußerte Meinung oder Stimmabgabe in der Versammlung nicht zur Strafverantwortung gezogen oder in Haft gesetzt werden.

Der Abgeordnete kann nicht ohne Genehmigung der Versammlung in Haft gesetzt werden, außer wenn er bei der Verübung einer Straftat überrascht wurde, für die eine Haftstrafe in der Dauer von mindestens fünf Jahren vorgesehen ist.

Die Versammlung kann entscheiden, daß die Immunität in bezug auf den Abgeordneten anzuwenden ist, auch wenn er selber sich nicht auf sie berufen hat, wenn das für die Ausübung der Funktion Abgeordneter erforderlich ist.

Während der Mandatsdauer unterliegen die Abgeordneten nicht dem Wehrdienst in den Streitkräften.

Der Abgeordnete hat das Recht auf gesetzlich festgelegte Vergütung.

Artikel 65

Der Abgeordnete kann einen Rücktritt einreichen.

Der Abgeordnete reicht den Rücktritt persönlich auf einer Sitzung der Versammlung ein.

Das Mandat des Abgeordneten erlischt, wenn er für eine Straftat verurteilt ist, für die eine Strafe in der Dauer von mindestens fünf Jahre vorgeschrieben ist.

Dem Abgeordneten kann das Mandat entzogen werden, wenn er für eine Straftat verurteilt ist oder für eine andere Tat, die ihn unwürdig für die Ausübung der Funktion Abgeordneter macht, wie auch für unberechtigte Abwesenheit in der Versammlung von mehr als sechs Monaten. Die Entziehung des Mandats bestimmt die Versammlung mit Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten.

Artikel 66

Die Versammlung ist in ständiger Tagung.

Die Versammlung arbeitet in Sitzungen.

Die Sitzungen der Versammlung beruft der Vorsitzende der Versammlung ein.

Die Versammlung gibt sich eine Geschäftsordnung mit Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten.

Artikel 67

Die Versammlung wählt aus den Reihen der Abgeordneten einen Vorsitzenden und einen oder mehrere Stellvertretende des Vorsitzenden mit Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten.

Der Vorsitzende der Versammlung vertritt die Versammlung, sorgt für die Anwendung der Geschäftsordnung der Versammlung und übt andere, mit der Verfassung und mit der Geschäftsordnung der Versammlung festgesetzte Arbeiten aus.

Die Funktion Vositzender der Versammlung ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung einer anderen öffentlichen Funktion in einer politischen Partei.

Der Vorsitzende der Versammlung schreibt Wahlen für Abgeordnete und die Wahl des Präsidenten der Republik aus.

Artikel 68

Die Versammlung der Republik Makedonien:

- verabschiedet und ändert die Verfassung;
- erläßt Gesetze und erteilt authentische Gesetzesauslegungen;
- legt die öffentlichen Abgaben fest;
- verabschiedet den Republikshaushaltsplan und die Schlußrechnung des Haushaltplans;

- verabschiedet einen Raumplan der Republik;
- ratifiziert internationale Verträge;
- entscheidet über Krieg und Frieden;
- verabschiedet den Beschluß über die Änderung der Grenzen;
- verabschiedet den Beschluß zum Beitreten in oder Austreten aus einem Bund oder einer Gemeinschaft mit anderen Staaten;
- schreibt das Referendum aus;
- entscheidet über die Reserven der Republik;
- gründet Räte;
- wählt die Regierung der Republik Makedonien;
- wählt und enthebt Richter des Verfassungsgerichtes der Republik Makedonien;
- führt Wahlen, Ernennungen und Amtsenthebungen anderer Träger öffentlicher verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßig festgelegter Funktionen durch;
- übt politische Überwachung und Aufsicht über die Regierung und über die anderen Träger öffentlicher Funktionen, die der Versammlung verantwortlich sind, aus;
- erteilt Begnadigungen; und
- führt andere durch die Verfassung festgelegte Tätigkeiten aus.

Die Versammlung verabschiedet zur Ausübung der Angelegenheiten aus ihrem Zuständigkeitsbereich auch Entscheidungen, Deklarationen, Resolutionen, Empfehlungen und Beschlüsse.

Artikel 69

Die Versammlung kann tagen, wenn der Sitzung die Mehrheit der Gesamtzahl der Abgeordneten beiwohnt. Die Versammlung entscheidet mit Stimmenmehrheit der anwesenden Abgeordneten und mindestens mit einem Drittel der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten, insofern die Verfassung nicht eine besondere Mehrheit vorsieht.

Artikel 70

Die Sitzungen der Versammlung sind öffentlich.

Die Versammlung kann mit Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten beschließen, ohne die Anwesenheit der Öffentlichkeit zu tagen.

Artikel 71

Das Recht Verabschiedugen eines Gesetzes zu beantragen, steht jedem Abgeordneten in der Versammlung, der Regierugng der Republik Makedonien und mindestens 10.000 Wählern zu.

Die Initiative zur Verabschiedung von Gesetzen kann von jedem Bürger, einer Bürgergruppe, von Institutionen und Vereinigungen an die bevollmächtigten Antragsteller ausgehen.

Artikel 72

Eine Interpellation kann gestellt werden in bezug auf die Arbeit jedes Trägers einer öffentlichen Funktion, der Regierung und jedes ihrer Mitglieder einzeln, sowie in bezug auf Fragen der Arbeit der Staatsorgane.

Eine Interpellation können mindestens fünf Abgeordnete einreichen.

Die Art und das Verfahren der Einreichung und der Debatte in bezug auf eine Interpellation und eine Abgeordnetenfrage werden durch die Geschäftsordnung geregelt.

Artikel 73

Die Versammlung entscheidet über die Ausschreibung eines Referendums zu einzelnen Fragen aus ihrem Zuständigkeitsbereich mit einer Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten.

Die Entscheidung des Referendums ist angenommen, wenn für sie die Mehrheit aller an der Wahl teilnehmenden Wähler gestimmt hat, falls mehr als die Hälfte der Gesamtzahl aller Wähler zur Wahl gegangen ist.

Die Versammlung ist verpflichtet ein Referendum auszuschreiben, wenn mindestens 150.000 Wähler einen Vorschlag einreichen.

Die mit dem Referendum verabschiedete Entscheidung ist verpflichtend.

Artikel 74

Die Versammlung verabschiedet die Entscheidung über eine Änderung der Grenze der Republik mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten.

Die Entscheidung über eine Änderung der Grenze der Republik ist mit dem Referendum angenommen, falls für sie die Mehrheit aller Wähler gestimmt hat.

Artikel 75

Die Gesetze werden durch Erlaß verkündet.

Den Erlaß zur Verkündung der Gesetze unterschreiben der Präsident der Republik und der Vorsitzende der Versammlung.

Der Präsident der Republik kann entscheiden, den Erlaß zur Verkündung des Gesetzes nicht zu unterschreiben. Die Versammlung erwägt das Gesetz wiederum und falls es mit der Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten angenommen wird, ist der Präsident der Republik verpflichtet, den Erlaß zu unterschreiben.

Der Präsident der Republik ist verpflichtet, den Erlaß zu unterschreiben, insofern das Gesetz verfassungsgamäß mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 76

Die Versammlung bildet ständige und zeitweilige Arbeitskörper.

Die Versammlung kann Enquêtekommissionen für alle Bereiche und jede Frage von öffentlichem Interesse bilden.

Einen Vorschlag zur Gründung einer Enquêtekommission können mindestens 20 Abgeordnete einreichen.

Die Versammlung gründet eine ständige Enquêtekommission zum Schutz der Rechte und Freiheiten des Bürgers.

Die Ergebnisse der Enquêtekommissionnen sind Grundlage für die Einleitung eines Verfahrens zur Feststellung der Verantwortlichkeit der Träger öffentlicher Funktionen.

Artikel 77

Die Versammlung wählt einen Volksanwalt.

Der Volksanwalt schützt die verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßigen Rechte der Bürger, wenn sie von den Organen der Staatsverwaltung und von anderen Organen und Organisationen, die öffentliche Befugnisse haben, verletzt werden.

Der Volksanwalt wird für die Dauer von acht Jahren gewählt, mit dem Recht auf eine Wiederwahl.

Die Bedingungen für die Wahl und die Amtsenthebung, der Zuständigkeitsbereich und die Arbeitsweise des Volksanwaltes werden durch das Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 78

Die Versammlung gründet einen Rat für zwischennationale Beziehungen.

Der Rat setzt sich aus dem Vorsitzenden der Versammlung und je zwei Mitgliedern der Makedonier, Albaner, Türken, Walachen, Roma und zwei Mitgliedern der anderen Minderheiten in Makedonien zusammen.

Der Vorsitzende der Versammlung ist Vorsitzender des Rates.

Die Versammlung wählt die Mitglieder des Rates.

Der Rat erörtert die Fragen der zwischennationalen Beziehungen in der Republik und bietet Auffassungen und Vorschläge für ihre Lösung.

Die Versammlung ist verpflichtet, die Auffassungen und Vorschläge des Rates zu erörtern und eine Entscheidung über sie zu treffen.

2. Der Präsident der Republik

Artikel 79

Der Präsident der Republik Makedonien vertritt die Republik.

Der Präsident der Republik ist oberster Befehlshaber der Streitkräfte Makedoniens.

Der Präsident der Republik übt seine Rechte und Pflichten aufgrund und im Rahmen der Verfassung und der Gesetze aus.

Artikel 80

Der Präsident der Republik wird auf allgemeinen und unmittelbaren Wahlen gewählt, mit geheimer Abstimmung, für die Dauer von fünf Jahren.

Zum Präsidenten der Republik kann dieselbe Person höchstens zwei Mal gewählt werden.

Der Präsident der Republik muß Staatsbürger der Republik Makedonien sein.

Zum Präsidenten der Republik kann eine Person gewählt werden, die am Tag der Wahlen mindestens 40 Jahre alt ist.

Zum Präsidenten der Republik kann nicht eine Person gewählt werden, die am Tag der Wahlen in den letzten 15 Jahren mindestens zehn Jahre kein Bürger der Republik Makedonien war.

Artikel 81

Einen Kandidaten zum Präsidenten der Republik können mindestens 10.000 Wäler oder mindestens 30 Abgeordnete vorschlagen.

Zum Präsidenten der Republik ist der Kandidat gewählt worden, der die Stimmenmehrheit der Gesamtzahl aller Wähler bekommen hat.

Wenn im ersten Wahlgang keiner der Kandidaten für das Präsidentenamt die benötigte Stimmenmehrheit bekommen hat, wählt man im zweiten Wahlgang für die zwei Kandidaten, die im ersten Wahlgang die meisten Stimmen bekommen haben.

Der Zweite Wahlgang wird in einer Frist von 14 Tagen nach Beendigung des ersten Wahlgangs abgehalten.

Zum Präsidenten ist der Kandidat gewählt worden, der die Stimmenmehrheit der Wähler, die gestimmt haben, bekommen hat, falls mehr als die Hälfte der Wähler gewählt haben.

Falls auch im zweiten Wahlgang keiner der Kandidaten die benötigte Stimmenmehrheit bekommen hat, wird der ganze Wahlvorgang wiederholt.

Wenn zum Präsidenten der Republik ein Kandidat vorgeschlagen ist, und er hat im ersten Wahlgang nicht die benötigte Stimmenmehrheit bekommen, wird der ganze Wahlvorgang wiederholt.

Die Wahl des Präsidenten der Republik wird in den letzten 60 Tagen des Mandats des vorherigen Präsidenten durchgeführt. Im Falle einer Stillegung des Mandats des Präsidenten aus welchen Gründen auch immer, wird die Wahl eines neuen Präsidenten in einer Frist von 40 Tagen vom Tag der Stillegung des Mandats an durchgeführt.

Vor der Übernahme des Amtes gibt der Präsident der Republik eine feierliche Erklärung vor der Versammlung ab, mit welcher er sich zur Achtung der Verfassung und der Gesetze verpflichtet.

Artikel 82

Im Falle des Todes, des Rücktritts, der dauernden Verhinderung oder einer verfassungskräftigen Stillegung des Mandats, übt die Funktion Präsident der Republik bis zur Wahl eines neuen Präsidenten der Republik der Vorsitzende der Versammlung aus.

Das Eintreten der Bedingungen für einen Stillstand der Funktion Präsident der Republik legt das Verfassungsgericht der Republik Makedonien amtspflichtig fest.

Im Falle der Verhinderung der Funktionsausübung vertritt der Vorsitzende der Versammlung den Präsidenten der Republik.

Wenn der Vorsitzende der Versammlung die Funktion Präsident der Republik ausübt, nimmt er an der Arbeit der Versammlung ohne Recht auf Entscheidung teil.

Artikel 83

Das Amt des Präsidenten der Republik ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung einer anderen öffentlichen Funktion, eines Berufs oder einer Funktion in einer politischen Partei.

Der Präsident der Republik genießt Immunität.

Über die Entziehung der Immunität des Präsidenten der Republik entscheidet das Verfassungsgericht der Republik Makedonien mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen von der Gesamtzahl der Richter.

Artikel 84

Der Präsident der Republik:

- bestimmt den Beauftragten für die Zusammenstellung der Regierung der Republik Makedonien;
- ernennt durch Erlaß Botschafter und Gesandte der Republik Makedonien im Ausland und beruft sie ab;
- nimmt Beglaubigungs- und Abberufungsschreiben der ausländischen diplomatischen Vertreter an;
- schlägt zwei Richter des Verfassungsgerichts der Republik Makedonien vor;
- schlägt zwei Mitglieder des Gerichtsrates der Republik vor;
- ernennt drei Mitglieder des Sicherheitsrates der Republik Makedonien;
- schlägt die Mitglieder des Rates für zwischennationale Beziehungen vor;
- ernennt und beruft andere Träger von verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Staatsfunktionen und öffentlichen Ämtern;
- erteilt Auszeichnungen und Anerkennungen in Übereinstimmung mit dem Gesetz;

- gewährt Begnadigungen in Übereinstimmung mit dem Gesetz; und
- übt andere verfassungsmäßig festgelegte Funktionen aus.

Artikel 85

Der Präsident der Republik benachrichtigt mindestens einmal im Jahr die Versammlung über die Fragen aus seinem Zuständigkeitsbereich.

Die Versammlung kann vom Präsidenten der Republik Meinungen über Fragen aus seinem Zuständigkeitsbereich fordern.

Artikel 86

Der Präsident der Republik ist Vorsitzender des Sicherheitsrates der Republik Makedonien.

Den Sicherheitsrat der Republik bilden: der Präsident der Republik, der Vorsitzende der Versammlung, der Regierungspräsident, die Minister, die die Organe der Staatsverwaltung im Bereich der Staatssicherheit, der Abwehr und den Außenangelegenheiten leiten und drei Mitglieder, die der Präsident der Republik ernennt.

Der Rat erörtert Fragen, die mit der Sicherheit und Abwehr der Republik verbunden sind, und unterbreitet der Versammlung und der Regierung Vorschläge.

Artikel 87

Der Präsident der Republik ist bei der Ausübung seiner Rechte und Pflichten für Verstöße gegen die Verfassung und die Gesetze verantwortlich.

Das Verfahren zur Feststellung der Verantwortlichkeit des Präsidenten der Republik leitet die Versammlung mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten ein. Über die Verantwortlichkeit des Präsidenten entscheidet das Verfassungsgericht mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen von der Gesamtzahl der Richter.

Wenn das Verfassungsgericht die Verantwortlichkeit des Präsidenten feststellt, erlischt seine Finktion verfassungskräftig.

3. Die Regierung der Republik Makedonien

Artikel 88

Die Regierung der Republik Makedonien ist Träger der Vollzugsgewalt.

Die Regierung übt ihre Rechte und Pflichten aufgrund und im Rahmen der Verfassung und der Gesetze aus.

Artikel 89

Die Regierung setzt sich aus einem Präsidenten und Ministern zusammen.

Der Regierungspräsident und die Minister können nicht Abgeordnete in der Versammlung sein.

Der Regierungspräsident und die Minister genießen Immunität. Über ihre Immunität entscheidet die Regierung.

Der Regierungspräsident und die Minister unterliegen nicht der Wehrpflicht in den Streitkräften.

Die Funktionen Regierungspräsident und Minister sind unvereinbar mit der Ausübung anderer öffentlicher Funktionen oder Berufe.

Die Organisation und die Arbeitsweise der Regierung werden durch Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 90

Der Präsident der Republik Makedonien ist verpflichtet, in einer Frist von zehn Tagen nach Konstituierung der Versammlung das Mandat zur Zusammenstellung der Regierung einem Kandidaten der Partei zu geben, beziehungsweise den Parteien, die eine Mehrheit in der Versammlung haben.

Der Bevollmächtigte reicht in einer Frist von 20 Tagen, vom Tag der Anvertrauung des Mandats an gerechnet, bei der Versammlung ein Programm ein und schlägt die Zusammenstellung der Regierung vor.

Die Regierung wird aufgrund des Vorschlags des Bevollmächtigten und des Programms von der Versammlung mit Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten gewählt.

Artikel 91

Die Regierung der Republik Makedonien:

- legt die Politik des Vollzugs der Gesetze und anderer Vorschriften der Versammlung fest und ist für ihren Vollzug verantwortlich;
- schlägt Gesetze, einen Republikshaushaltsplan und andere allgemeine Akten vor, die die Versammlung verabschiedet;
- schlägt einen Raumplan der Republik vor;
- schlägt Beschlüsse über die Reserven der Republik vor und sorgt für ihren Vollzug;
- erlässt Verordnungen und andere Vorschriften zum Vollzug der Gesetze;

- setzt Grundlagen der inneren Organisation und der Tätigkeit der Ministerien und der anderen Verwaltungsorgane fest und beaufsichtigt ihre Tätigkeit;
- unterbreitet Meinungen über die Gesetzesvorschläge und die anderen allgemeinen Akten, die andere bevollmächtigte Antragsteller bei der Versammlung einreichen;
- entscheidet über die Anerkennung von Staaten und Regierungen;
- stellt diplomatische und konsuläre Beziehungen mit anderen Staaten her;
- erlässt Beschlüsse zur Errichtung diplomatischer und konsulärer Vertretungen im Ausland;
- schlägt Ernennungen von Botschaftern und Gesandte der Republik Makedonien im Ausland vor und ernennt Leiter von konsulären Vertretungen;
- schlägt einen öffentlichen Ankläger vor;
- ernennt und beruft Träger von öffentlichen und anderen verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Funktionen ab; und
- übt andere durch die Verfassung und die Gesetze festgelgte Angelegenheiten aus.

Artikel 92

Die Regierung und jedes ihrer Mitglieder sind für ihre Arbeit vor der Versammlung verantwortlich.

Die Versammlung kann der Regierung das Mißtrauen aussprechen.

Eine Vertrauensfrage die Regierung betreffend können mindestens 20 Abgeordnete stellen.

Die Abstimmung über die Vertrauensfrage die Regierung betreffend wird nach Ablauf von drei Tagen nach Stellen der Vertrauensfrage vorgenommen.

Eine wiederholte Vertrauensfrage die Regierung betreffend kann nicht vor Ablauf von 90 Tagen nach der letzten Abstimmung über eine Vertrauensfrage gestellt werden, außer wenn die Vertrauensfrage von der Mehrheit aller Abgeordneten gestellt wird.

Die Entscheidung über die Vertrauensfrage die Regierung betreffend wird mit Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet. Wenn der Regierung das Mißtrauen ausgesprochen wurde, ist die Regierung verpflichtet, den Rücktritt einzureichen.

Artikel 93

Die Regierung hat das Recht, die Vertrauensfrage vor der Versammlung zu stellen.

Die Regierung hat das Recht, einen Rücktritt einzureichen.

Der Rücktritt des Regierungspräsidenten, sein Tod oder die dauernde Verhinderung seine Funktion auszuüben, ziehen den Rücktritt der Regierung nach.

Das Mandat der Regierung erlischt, wenn die Versammlung aufgelöst wird.

Die Regierung, der man das Mißtrauen ausgesprochen hat, die den Rücktritt eingereicht hat oder deren Mandat wegen Auflösung der Versammlung erloschen ist, bleibt bis zur Wahl einer neuen Regierung im Dienst.

Artikel 94

Das Regierungsmitglied hat das Recht, einen Rücktritt einzureichen.

Der Regierungspräsident kann die Abberufung eines Regierungsmitglieds vorschlagen.

Über den Vorschlag zur Abberufung eines Regierungsmitglieds entscheidet die Versammlung in der ersten darauffolgenden Sitzung.

Falls der Regierungspräsident eine Abberufung von mehr als einem Drittel der Regierungsmitglieder der ursprünglichen Zusammensetzung vorschlägt, entscheidet die Versammlung wie über die Wahl einer neuen Regierung.

Artikel 95

Die Staatsverwaltung ist aus gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Ministerien und Verwaltungsorganen zusammengesetzt.

Das politische Organisieren und die politische Tätigkeit in den Staatsverwaltungsorganen sind verboten.

Die Organisation und die Tätigkeit der Staatsverwaltungsorgane werden durch Gesetz geregelt, das mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 96

Die Staatsverwaltungsorgane üben die Tätigkeiten aus ihrem Zuständigkeitsbereich aufgrund und im Rahmen der Verfassung und der Gesetze aus und sind der Regierung verantwortlich.

Artikel 97

Die Staatsverwaltungorgane im Bereich der Abwehr und der Polizei werden von zivilen Personen geleitet, die unmittelbar vor der Auswahl dieser Funktionen, mindestens drei Jahre zivile Personen waren.

Artikel 98

Die Gerichtsgewalt üben die Gerichte aus.

Die Gerichte sind selbständig und unabhähig. Die Gerichte richten aufgrund der Verfassung und der Gesetze und der verfassungsmäßig ratifizierten internationalen Verträge.

Die Organisation des Gerichtswesens ist einheitlich.

Außerordentliche Gerichte sind verboten.

Die Gerichtsarten, die Zuständigkeit, die Gründung, die Aufhebung, die Organisation, sowie das Verfahren vor ihnen, werden durch das Gesetz geregelt, das mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 99

Der Richter wird ohne Einschräkung seines Mandats gewählt.

Der Richter wird abberufen:

- wenn er eslbst darum ersucht;
- wenn er die Fähigkeit zur Ausübung der Richterfunktion für ständig verliert, was durch den Gerichtsrat der Republik bestimmt wird;
- wenn er die Bedingungen für die Alterspension erfüllt;
- wenn er für eine Strafhandlung zu einer bedingungslosen Gefägnisstrafe von mindestens sechs Monaten verurteilt worden ist;
- wegen schwerer Disziplinverletzung, vorgeschrieben durch Gesetz, die ihn für die Ausübung der Richterfunktion unwürdig macht, was der Gerichtsrat der Republik bestimmt; und

- wegen unsachgemäßer und gewissenloser Ausübung der Richterfunkton, was in ein gesetzesmäßig festgelegtes Verfahren vom Gerichtsrat der Republik bestimmt wird.

Artikel 100

Die Richter genießen Immunität.

Über die Immunität der Richter entscheidet die Versammlung.

Die Richterfunktion ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung einer anderen öffentlichen Funktion, eines Berufes oder Mitgliedschaft in einer politischen Partei.

Das politische Organisieren und die politische Betätigung im Gerichtswesen sind verboten.

Artikel 101

Das Oberste Gericht der Republik Makedonien ist das höchste Gericht in der Republik und es sichert die Einheit in der Anwendung der Gesetze von Seiten der Gerichte.

Artikel 102

Die Verhandlung und die Urteilsverkündung vor den Gerichten sind öffentlich.

Die Öffentlichkeit kann nur in gesetzlich festgelegten Fällen ausgeschlossen werden.

Artikel 103

Das Gericht entscheidet im Rat.

Es wird durch das Gesetz festgelegt, wann ein Einzelrichter entscheidet.

An der Gerichtsverhandlung sind auch Geschworene beteiligt, wenn es gesetzesmäßig festgelegt ist.

Die Geschworenen können nicht wegen ihrer anläßlich der Urteilserbringung vorgebrachten Auffassung zur Verantwortung gezogen werden.

Artikel 104

Der Gerichtsrat der Republik setzt sich aus sieben Mitgliedern zusammen.

Die Versammlung wählt die Mitglieder des Rates.

Die Mitglieder des Rates werden aus den Reihen hervorragender Juristen für die Dauer von 6 Jahren gewählt, mit dem Recht auf eine Wiederwahl.

Die Mitglieder des Gerichtsrates der Republik genießen Immunität. Über ihre Immunität entscheidet die Versammlung.

Die Funktion Mitglied des Gerichtsrates der Republik ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung von öffentlichen Funktionen, Berufen oder einer Mitgliedschaft in politischen Parteien.

Artikel 105

Der Gerichtsrat der Republik:

- schlägt der Versammlung die Wahl und die Abberufung der Richter vor und bestimmt den Vorschlag zur Abberufung der Richterfunktion in den verfassungsmäßig festgelegten Fällen;
- entscheidet über die disziplinarische Verantwortlichkeit der Richter;
- beurteilt die Befähigung und die Gewissenhaftigkeit der Richter in der Ausübung ihrer Funktion; und
- schlägt zwei Richter des Verfassungsgerichts der Republik Makedonien vor.

5. Die öffentliche Anklägerschaft

Artikel 106

Die öffentliche Anklägerschaft ist ein einheitliches und selbständiges Staatsorgan, das Täter von Straftandlungen und sonstigen gesetzesmäßig festgelegten strafbaren Handlungen verfolgt und andere, durch Gesetz bestimmte Tätigkeiten ausübt.

Die öffentliche Anklägerschaft übt ihre Funktionen aufgrund und im Rahmen der Verfassung und des Gesetzes aus.

Der öffentliche Ankläger wird von der Versammlung ernannt und abberufen für die Dauer von sechs Jahren.

Artikel 107

Der öffentliche Ankläger genießt Immunität.

Über seine Immunität entscheidet die Versammlung.

Die Funktion öffentlicher Ankläger ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung einer anderen Funktion, eines Berufes oder Mitgliedschaft in einer politischen Partei.

IV. VERFASSUNGSGERICHT DER REPUBLIK MAKEDONIEN

Artikel 108

Das Verfassungsgericht der Republik Makedonien ist ein Organ der Republik, das die Verfassungs- und die Gesetzmäßigkeit schützt.

Artikel 109

Das Verfassungsgericht setzt sich aus neun Richtern zusammen.

Die Versammlung wählt die Richter des Verfassungsgerichts mit einer Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten. Das Mandat der Richter dauert neun Jahre, ohne Recht auf Wiederwahl.

Das Verfassungsgericht wählt einen Präsidenten aus seinen Reihen für die Dauer von drei Jahren ohne Recht auf Wiederwahl.

Die Richter des Verfassungsgerichts werden aus den Reihen hervorragender Juristen gewählt.

Artikel 110

Das Verfassungsgericht der Republik Makedonien:

- entscheidet über die Übereinstimmung der Gesetze mit der Verfassung;
- entscheidet über die Übereinstimmung der Kollektivverträge und anderen Vorschriften mit der Verfassung und den Gesetzen;
- schützt die Freiheiten und Rechte des Menschen und Bürgers, die sich auf die Überzeugungs- und die Meinungsfreiheit und auf die Freiheit der öffentlichen Meinungsäußerung, der politischen Vereinigung und Tätigkeit und auf das Verbot der Diskriminierung der Bürger aufgrund des Geschlechts, der Rasse, der religiösen, sozialen und politischen Angehörigkeit beziehen;
- entscheidet über Streitsachen in bezug auf die Zuständigkeit zwischen den Trägern der gesetzesgebenden, Vollzugs- und Gerichtsgewalt;
- entscheidet über Streitsachen in bezug auf die Zuständigkeit zwischen den Organen der Republik und den Einheiten der lokalen Selbstverwaltung;
- entscheidet über die Verantwortlichkeit des Präsidenten der Republik;

- entscheidet über die Verfassungsmäßigkeit der Programme und Statute der politischen Partien und Vereinigungen von Bürgern; und
- entscheidet über andere, durch die Verfassung festgelegte Fragen.

Artikel 111

Die Funktion Richter des Verfassungsgerichts ist unvereinbar mit der Ausübung einer anderen öffentlichen Funktion, eines Berufes oder der Mitgliedschaft in einer politischen Partei.

Die Richter des Verfassungsgerichts genießen Immunität. Über ihre Immunität entscheidet das Verfassungsgericht.

Die Richter des Verfassungsgerichts unterliegen nicht der Wehrpflicht in den Streitkräften.

Die Funktion erlischt für einen Richter im Verfassungsgericht, wenn er einen Rücktritt einreicht. Der Richter des Verfassungsgerichts wird des Dienstes enthoben, wenn er für eine Straftat zu bedingungsloser Gefängnisstrafe von mindestens sechs Monaten verurteilt wird oder wenn er die Fähigkeit zur Ausübung seiner Funktion verliert, was durch das Verfassungsgericht festgestellt wird.

Artikel 112

Das Verfassungsgericht hebt ein Gesetz auf oder erklärt es für ungültig, wenn es feststellt, daß es nicht in Übereinstimmung mit der Verfassung ist.

Das Verfassungsgericht hebt einen Kollektivvertrag, eine andere Vorschrift oder eine andere allgemeine Akte, ein Statut, ein Programm einer politischen

Partei oder Vereinigung von Bürgern auf oder erklärt sie für ungültig, wenn es feststellt, daß sie nicht in Übereinstimmung mit der Verfassung oder einem Gesetz stehen. Die Beschlüsse des Verfassungsgerichts sind endgültig und vollstreckbar.

Artikel 113

Die Arbeitsweise und das Verfahren vor dem Verfassungsgericht werden mit einem Akt des Gerichts geregelt.

V. LOKALE SELBSTVERWALTUNG

Artikel 114

Den Bügern garantiert man das Recht auf lokale Selbstverwaltung.

Einheiten der lokalen Selbstverwaltung sind die Gemeinden.

In den Gemeinden können Formen von Ortsgemeinschaften gegründet werden.

Die Gemeinden werden durch eigene, durch Gesetz bestimmte Einnahmequellen und mit Mitteln der Republik finanziert.

Die lokale Selbstverwaltung wird durch Gesetz geregelt, das mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Artikel 115

In den Einheiten der lokalen Selbstverwaltung nehmen die Bürger unmittelbar und über Vertreter an Entscheidungen zu Fragen von lokaler Bedeutung

teil, besonders in den Bereichen des Urbanismus, der kommunalen Tätigkeiten, der Kultur, des Sports, des Sozial- und Kinderschutzes, der Vorschulerziehung, der Grundschulbildung, des grundlegenden Gesundheitsschutzes und in den anderen gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Bereichen.

Die Gemeinde ist in der Ausübung der verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Zuständigkeiten selbständig und die Überwachung der Gesetzlichkeit ihrer Tätigkeiten übt die Republik aus.

Die Republik kann durch Gesetz die Ausübung bestimmter Tätigkeiten der Gemeinde anvertrauen.

Artikel 116

Die Territoriale Teilung der Republik und die Gebiete der Gemeinden werden durch das Gesetz geregelt.

Artikel 117

Die Stadt Skopje ist eine besondere Einheit der lokalen Selbstverwaltung, deren Organisation durch das Gesetz geregelt wird.

In der Stadt Skopje nehmen die Bürger unmittelbar und über Vertreter an Entscheidungen zu Fragen von besonderer Bedeutung für die Stadt Skopje teil, besonders in den Bereichen des Urbanismus, der kommunalen Tätigkeiten, der Kultur, des Sports, des Sozial- und Kinderschutzes, der Vorschulerziehung, der Grundschulbildung, des grundlegenden Gesundheitsschutzes und in anderen gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Bereichen.

Die Stadt Skopje wird von gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Einnahmequellen und von Mitteln der Republik finanziert.

Die Stadt Skopje ist in der Ausübung der verfassungs- und gesetzesmäßig festgelegten Zuständigkeit selbständig und die Überwachung der Gesetzlichkeit ihrer Tätigkeiten übt die Republik aus.

Die Republik kann durch Gesetz die Ausübung bestimmter Tätigkeiten der Stadt anvertrauen.

VI. INTERNATIONALE BEZIEHUNGEN

Artikel 118

Die internationalen Verträge, die verfassungsmäßig ratifiziert worden sind, sind ein Teil der inneren Rechtsordnung und können nicht durch Gesetz geändert werden.

Artikel 119

Die internationalen Verträge schließt im Namen der Republik Makedonien der Präsident der Republik ab.

Internationale Verträge kann auch die Regierung der Republik Makedonien abschließen, wenn es durch Gesetz festgelegt ist.

Artikel 120

Einen Vorschlag zum Eintritt in einen Bund oder eine Gemeinschaft mit anderen Staaten, oder zum Austritt aus einem Bund oder einer Gemeinschaft mit anderen Staaten, können der Präsident der Republik, die Regierung oder mindestens 40 Abgeordnete einreichen.

Der Beschluß zum Ein- oder Austritt in, beziehungsweise aus einem Bund oder einer Gemeinschaft mit anderen Staaten verabschiedet die Versammlung mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten.

Der Beschluß zum Eintritt oder Austritt aus einem Bund oder einer Gemeinschaft mit anderen Staaten ist im Referendum angenommen, wenn für ihn die Mehrheit der Wähler gestimmt hat.

Artikel 121

Den Beschluß zum Eintritt in eine Mitgliedschaft oder einen Austritt aus einer Mitgliedschaft internationaler Organisationen erlässt die Versammlung mit einer Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten, auf Vorschlag des Präsidenten der Republik, der Regierung oder von mindestens 40 Abgeordneten.

VII. DIE VERTEIDIGUNG DER REPUBLIK. KRIEGS - UND AUSNAHMEZUSTAND

Artikel 122

Die Streitkräfte der Republik Makedonien schützen die territoriale Integrität und die Unabhängigkeit der Republik.

Die Verteidigung der Republik wird durch Gesetz geregelt, das mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten verabschiedet wird.

Niemandem steht das Recht zu, eine Okkupation der Republik Makedonien oder eines Teiles von ihr anzuerkennen.

Artikel 124

Ein Kriegszustand tritt auf, wenn eine unmittelbare Kriegsgefahr eines Angriffs auf die Republik bevorsteht, oder wenn die Republik angegriffen worden, oder ihr der Krieg erklärt worden ist.

Einen Kriegszustand verhängt die Versammlung mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten, auf Vorschlag des Präsidenten der Republik, der Regierung, oder von mindestens 30 Abgeordneten.

Wenn die Versammlung nicht tagen kann, fasst der Präsident der Republik den Beschluß zur Verhängung des Kriegszustandes und reicht diesen der Versammlung zur Bestätigung ein, sobald sie in der Lage ist, zu tagen.

Artikel 125

Ein Ausnahmezustand wird verhängt, wenn große Naturkatastrophen oder Epidemien eintreten.

Das Bestehen des Ausnahmezustands auf dem Territorium der Republik Makedonien oder einem ihrer Teile legt die Versammlung auf Vorschlag des Präsidenten der Republik, der Regierung oder von mindestens mindestens 30 Abgeordneten fest.

Der Beschluß, mit dem das Bestehen des Ausnahmezustandes festgelegt wird, wird mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abegeordnteten gefasst und hat eine Gültigkeit von höchstens 30 Tagen.

Wenn die Versammlung nicht tagen kann, erlässt der Präsident der Republik einen Beschluß über das Bestehen eines Ausnahmezustands und reicht diesen der Versammlung zur Bestätigung ein, wenn diese imstande ist, zusammenzukommen

Artikel 126

Beim Bestehen eines Kriegs- oder Ausnahmezustandes erlässt die Regierung, in Übereinstimmung mit der Verfassung und dem Gesetz, Verordnungen mit Gesetzeskraft.

Die Bevollmächtigung der Regierung, Verordnungen mit Gesetzeskraft zu erlassen, dauert bis zur Beendigung des Kriegs - oder Ausnahmezustandes, über die die Versammlung entscheidet.

Artikel 127

Während eines Kriegszustandes, kann der Präsident der Republik die Regierung ernennen und abberufen und Funktionäre, deren Wahl in den Zuständigkeitsbereich der Versammlung fällt, ernennen und abberufen, falls die Versammlung nicht zusammenkommen kann.

Artikel 128

Das Mandat des Präsidenten der Republik, der Regierung, der Richter des Verfassungsgerichts und der Mitglieder des Gerichtsrates der Republik wird während der Dauer des Kriegs- oder Ausnahmezustandes verlängert.

VIII ÄNDERUNG DER VERFASSUNG

Artikel 129

Die Verfassung der Republik Makedonien wird durch Verfassungszusätze geändert.

Artikel 130

Einen Vorschlag über die Einleitung der Verfas-

sungsänderung der Republik Makedonien können der Präsident der Republik, die Regierung, mindestens 30 Abgeordnete oder 150.000 Bürger einreichen.

Artikel 131

Den Beschluß über die Einleitung der Verfassungsänderung verabschiedet die Versammlung mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten.

Den Entwurf über die Verfassungsänderung legt die Versammlung mit einer Stimmenmehrheit aller Abgeordneten vor und stellt ihn zur öffentlichen Diskussion.

Den Beschluß zur Verfassungsänderung verabschiedet die Verfassung mit einer Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten.

Die Änderung der Verfassung verlautbart die Versammlung.

IX. ÜBERGANGS - UND SCHLUßBESTIMMUNGEN

Artikel 132

Zu der in Artikel 80, Absatz 5 vorgesehenen Zeit wird auch die Zeit gerechnet, in der der Wohnsitz in anderen Republiken in der Sozialistischen Föderativen Republik Jugoslawien war.

Artikel 133

Zur Durchführung der Verfassung wird ein Verfassungsgesetz erlassen.

Das Verfassungsgesetz wird mit Zweidrittelmehrheit der Stimmen aller Abgeordneten erlassen.

Das Verfassungsgesetz verlautbart die Versammlung und tritt gleichzeitig mit der Verlautbarung der Verfassung in Kraft.

Artikel 134

Diese Verfassung tritt am Tage der Verlautbarung von der Versammlung der Republik Makedonien in Kraft.

VERFASSUNGSZUSÄTZE

Verfassungszusatz I

1. Die Republik Makedonien hat keine Gebietsansprüche gegenüber den Nachbarstaaten.

2. Die Grenze der Republik Makedonien kann nur in Übereinstimmung mit der Verfassung, aufgrund des Prinzips der Freiwilligkeit und in Übereinstimmung mit den allgemein anerkannten internationalen Normen geändert werden.

3. Durch die Z. 1 dieses Verfassungszusatzes wird der Artikel 3 ergänzt und durch die Z. 2 wird der Absatz 3 des Artikels 3 der Verfassung der Republik Makedonien ersetzt.

Verfassungszusatz II

1. Die Republik wird sich dabei nicht in die souveränen Rechte anderer Staaten und in ihren inneren Angelegenheiten einmischen.

2. Durch diesen Verfassungszusatz wird der Absatz 1 des Artikels 49 der Verfassung der Republik Makedonien ergänzt.

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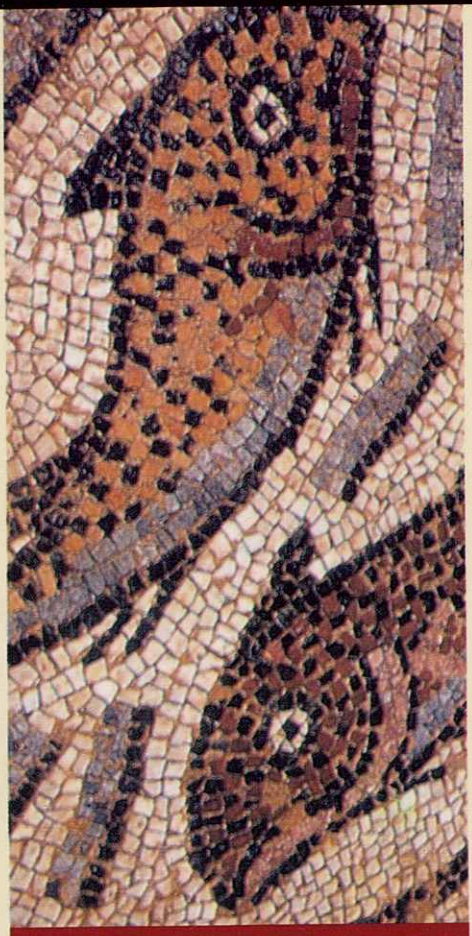
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This is the REPUBLIC of MACEDONIA

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Facts 1 to 101

1 The Republic of Macedonia is situated in the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula and covers an area of 25,713 square kilometres.

2 According to the 1991 population census, the total figure for the registered total and estimated population in the Republic of Macedonia was 2,033,964.

3 More than half of the Republic's inhabitants (58.1%) live in urban areas, most of them in the capital, Skopje (c. 450,000), followed by Bitola (85,000), Kumanovo (70,000), Prilep (70,000), Tetovo (51,000), Titov Veles (47,000), Ohrid (43,000), Štip (42,000), etc. There are 1,753 populated settlements.

4 In terms of ethnic composition, 1,328,187 inhabitants of the Republic of Macedonia are Macedonians (65.3%), 441,987 (21.7%) Albanians and 77,080 (3.8%) Turks. There are also 52,103 (2.5%) Romanies living in Macedonia as well as 42,775 (2.17%) Serbs, 7,764 (0.3%) Vlachs and some other ethnic groups.

5 Of the total number of Macedonia's inhabitants, 1,355,816 (66.66%) are Orthodox Christians, 611,326 (30.06%) belong to the Moslem faith, 10,067 (0.49%) are Roman Catholics, while there are 56,756 (2.79%) inhabitants having other religions.

6 Macedonia is administratively divided into 34 municipalities. Nine of them have 20,000 to 40,000 inhabitants, 7 have a

population up to 20,000, while only 5 municipalities have more than 100,000 inhabitants. In the municipal councils there are 1,510 council members, chosen in the first free multiparty elections in 1990.

7 The first multiparty Parliament of Macedonia was elected in 1990. It is unicameral and consists of 120 members (Representatives). Of the 17 parties taking part in the elections, 11 secured Representative's mandates. The largest number of seats in Parliament was gained by the VMRO — Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity (VMRO-DPMNE) (38), followed by the Social Democratic Union — Party for Democratic Transformation (SDSM) (31), the Party for Democratic Prosperity (PDP) (22), the Reformist Forces of Macedonia — Liberal Party (17), the Socialist Party (5), the Party of Yugoslavs in Macedonia (2), the Popular Democratic Party (1), the Party for the Total Emancipation of Romanies (PCER) (1), and 3 independent candidates also won seats.

8 The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, elected at democratic multiparty elections on January 25, 1991, passed a unanimous Declaration of the Sovereignty of the Republic of Macedonia.

9 On September 8, 1991, the majority of the population of the Republic of Macedonia taking part in a referendum (95% of those voting) opted for a sovereign and independent Macedonia. On September 17, 1991, the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a Declaration on the Acceptance of the Referendum Results.

10 On November 17, 1991, the Assembly adopted the new Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia as an independent and sovereign state. The constitution guarantees the rule of law, a democratic political system and individual rights.

11 On April 8, 1993, the Republic of Macedonia was unanimously and with acclamation admitted to membership of the United Nations Organization as its one hundred and eighty-first member.

12 There is an average number of 79.1 inhabitants per square kilometre living in Macedonia. The most densely populated area is its north-western part (including Skopje), whereas south-east Macedonia is the most sparsely populated region.

13 About 35,000 children are born each year in Macedonia, while some 15,000 of its inhabitants die. The annual rate of population increase is 9.83.

14 Women live longer in Macedonia. Their average life is 74 years, while that of men is 70.

15 According to gender composition, males are slightly more numerous: there are 1,027,852 males and 1,006,112 females.

16 Almost half the population is under 30 years of age (958,974). There are 165,716 inhabitants of Macedonia over 65 (8.1% of the population).

17 There are over 505,000 households in Macedonia. More than a third of them (174,918) consist of four members. There are also 24,972 families with 8 members or more.

18 About 15,000 marriages take place each year, and there are slightly more than 500 divorces per year.

19 The number of those employed is about 450,000, of whom about 170,000 are women. There are more than 170,000 unemployed. Almost three-quarters of the unemployed are seeking employment for the first time.

20 The largest number of those employed work in industry and mining — about 100,000. Agriculture employs about 35,000, building 42,000, trade 47,000, education, culture and the media about 35,000, the health services about 34,000, etc.

21 Macedonia has 34 mountain peaks exceeding 2,000 metres. The highest is that of Mount Golem Korab which is 2,753 metres above sea level. Titov Vrv in the Šar Mountains is

2,748 metres high, while the peak of Turčin in the same range reaches 2,702 metres.

22 The Republic of Macedonia has 53 natural or artificial lakes. The largest is Lake Ohrid, which, lying at an altitude of 693 metres, occupies an area of 349 square kilometres, 118.9 of which belong to Albania. Lake Ohrid has a maximum depth of 286 metres. Lake Prespa covers 274 square kilometres (49.4 of which belong to Albania and 47.8 to Greece) and is 54 metres deep.

23 The Vardar, 301 kilometres in length, is the longest river in Macedonia. Its largest tributaries are the rivers Bregalnica (225 km), Crna Reka (207 km), Treska (138 km) and Pčinja (135 km).

24 Macedonia has four national parks (Galičica, Mavrovo, Pelister and Jasen) comprising a total area of about 110,000 hectares.

25 The town of Ohrid and Lake Ohrid have been placed under the protection of UNESCO as an outstanding environment.

26 The town of Kruševo is the highest in Macedonia (1,350 metres), while Gevgelija is the lowest, at an altitude of only 45 metres.

27 The social product of the Republic of Macedonia in 1991 amounted to 2,324,460,000 US dollars, while the per capita social product was 1,140 dollars.

28 The contribution of industry to the structure of the social product of the country is 40.5%, that of trade 24.7%, agriculture 15.2%, building 7.4%, transportation 5.8%, etc.

29 The production of environmentally healthy food is an important developing potential in Macedonia. In 1992, 299,522 tons of wheat, 130,260 tons of maize and 42,698 tons of rice were produced as well as 29,867 tons of tobacco, 60,330 tons of sugar beet and 37,756 tons of sunflower. Macedonian small-

holdings produce about 14,000 of beans, 140,000 tons of tomatoes, 115,000 tons of peppers and 3,000 tons of cucumbers, as well as about 90,000 tons of apples and 265,000 tons of grapes annually.

30 Macedonian wineries produce more than 135 million litres of wine and over 150 million litres of natural brandy, while the breweries produce about 850 million litres of beer.

31 The total exports of the Republic of Macedonia amount to 1,100 million US dollars, while its imports reach about 1,275 million dollars. More than 55% of the exports are highly-processed products, while the same type of products accounts for 47% of imports. The export of unprocessed products is 8%, and their imports 28%.

32 About 700,000 tourists spend more than 2.5 million nights annually visiting the Macedonian lakes, mountains, spas and other tourist resorts.

33 Hotel and catering facilities in Macedonia offer more than 80,000 beds, while the camp sites can receive over 20,000 guests.

34 International air traffic in the Republic of Macedonia operates through the two international airports of Skopje and Ohrid. The average daily number of departure and arrival flights is 23. In 1992, about 425,000 passengers travelled to destinations throughout the world.

35 The railway network of Macedonia comprises 922 kilometres of tracks, of which 231 km are electrified.

36 More than 2.6 million passengers use the services of Macedonian railways each year, and over 5 million tons of goods are transported by their means.

37 There are some 10,000 kilometres of roads, 4,876 km of which are asphalt; 944 km are main routes. A modern motorway, 176 km in length, extends from Macedonia's northern to its southern border.

38 The road system carries over 35 million passengers and about 7 million tons of goods.

39 The population of Macedonia spends 44.18% of its outgoings on food, 14.71% on housing, 11.45% on clothes and shoes, 8.16% on transportation and PTT services, etc.

40 The total number of flats and houses in the Republic of Macedonia is 586,231. The number of households is smaller and amounts to 505,852.

41 There is a total of 249,654 private registered vehicles. There are also more than 2,500 buses and about 2,000 freight vehicles.

42 Macedonia has over 340,000 telephone subscribers, or 161 subscribers per 1,000 inhabitants.

43 More than 35 million letters, about 300,000 packages and 600,000 telegrams are sent each year through the postal network.

44 The annual production of electric energy in the country exceeds 6,000 GWh.

45 Macedonia has 368,065 radio and 345,465 television subscribers. There is one radio to 6 inhabitants on average and one television set to 7 inhabitants.

46 There are over 50 radio and television stations operating in Macedonia. Radio programmes are broadcast via 120 transmitters with a total power of 1,743 kW. Television programmes are broadcast via 10 main transmitter centres. The number of private radio and television stations increases virtually every day.

47 In addition to Macedonian, radio and television stations in Macedonia broadcast special programmes in Albanian, Turkish, Greek, Bulgarian, Romany and Vlach. Skopje Television was the first in the world to broadcast programmes in Albanian. The radio and television programmes broadcast in Romany in

the Republic of Macedonia are the only broadcasts in this language in the world.

48 A total of 112 newspapers and 74 periodicals are published in Macedonia. The total number of printed copies is about 28 million. There are two daily newspapers in Macedonian, as well as newspapers in Albanian and Turkish which are published three times a week.

49 Twelve enterprises are engaged in book publishing, most of which are stationed in Skopje. About 600 titles are published each year and more than 2 million books are printed. Publishing in the languages of the nationalities is well-developed.

50 There are 22 museums and galleries in Macedonia with an annual number of more than 400,000 visitors.

51 There are 33 cultural clubs overall in the municipal centres, where more than 6,500 performances and events are held, attended by more than a million visitors.

52 Three enterprises are involved in the production of films, of which 'Vardar-film' is the oldest and the best known. One feature film and some ten short documentaries or animated cartoons are produced on average each year.

53 The documentary film entitled 'Dae' directed by Stole Popov was nominated in 1980 for the most prestigious film accolade in the world, the Academy Award.

54 Films are shown in 51 cinemas with a total of 20,000 seats. There are more than 20,000 projections each year with over 3 million viewers.

55 Ten professional theatre companies are active in Macedonia, presenting more than 1,000 performances each year. The number of theatre seats is 4,282, while the total number of theatre-goers is about 400,000 annually. There is one theatre company per 200,000 inhabitants and there is one theatre seat per 476 inhabitants.

56 There is a Theatre of the Nationalities in Skopje, consisting of Albanian and Turkish Drama companies. There are also Romany theatre companies.

57 The most successful theatre companies are the Drama Theatre and the Macedonian National Theatre, both in Skopje, the National Theatre, Bitola, and the 'Pralipe' Romany Theatre. These companies have been winners of a large number of the highest awards in the former Yugoslavia and also of many international prizes and acknowledgments. The Theatre of the Nationalities with its Albanian and Turkish Drama companies has also participated in many national and international theatre festivals and has received high acknowledgments.

58 The founder of the modern Macedonian theatre is Vojdan Černodrinski ('Macedonian Blood Wedding', 1901). Goran Stefanovski is the author whose plays have been most frequently performed. There have been 70 productions of his plays in Macedonian, Serbo-Croatian, Slovene, English, French, Russian, German, Albanian, Turkish, Hungarian, Polish, Slovak, Romanian and Greek.

59 There is an Opera and a Ballet company active within the framework of the Macedonian National Theatre, Skopje.

60 The first opera by a Macedonian composer, 'Goce', by Kiril Makedonski, was performed on May 24, 1954. The first known opera performance in Macedonia was staged in Štip in 1925.

61 The first Macedonian ballet was 'A Macedonian Story' by the composer Gligor Smokvarski, performed in 1953.

62 Macedonia has a Philharmonic and five other professional orchestras which hold about a hundred concerts each year, attended by an audience of more than 50,000.

63 There are 99 amateur cultural, artistic and educational associations. Of these, 21 carry out their programmes in Albanian, Turkish or Romany. They have more than 10,000 members

presenting about 10,000 performances, concerts, evenings of light music and folk music, exhibitions and other events.

64 Macedonia has a rich artistic life. Some 260 exhibitions of works by Macedonian artists and 65 exhibitions of guests from foreign countries are organized each year. The works of the Macedonian painters Nikola Martinoski, Lazar Ličenoski, Petar Mazev, Dimitar Kondovski, Petar Hadži Boškov, Vangel Naumovski, Vasko Taškovski and Gligor Čemerski have been exhibited in the best known art centres of the world.

65 There are 127 public libraries in Macedonia whose total number of accessions is 2,742,000. There are in addition 133 scientific, scholarly and specialist, as well as 699 school libraries. The largest and the best known is the Clement of Ohrid National and University Library, Skopje.

66 Of particular educational significance for many adults are the 22 further education institutes in which thousands of seminars, courses, schools and public lectures are organized throughout the year.

67 Primary education in the Republic of Macedonia is carried out in 1,053 primary schools with a total of 10,166 classes, with 266,813 pupils. The instruction is carried out in Albanian in 279 primary schools with 2,694 classes and 72,121 pupils (about 27% of the total number of pupils). There are about 5,500 pupils whose instruction is carried out in Turkish in 55 schools and 218 classes, and 15 schools and 79 classes with over 1,200 pupils operate in Serbo-Croatian. Instruction in primary education is carried out by about 13,000 teachers.

68 There are 70,696 pupils in the 90 secondary schools, where instruction is carried out by 4,227 teachers. In five secondary schools the instruction is carried out in Albanian, and in two, in Turkish. The instruction in some schools is carried out in two languages.

69 Macedonia has two universities — the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, and the University of Bitola —

with about 27,000 students. They consist of 29 faculties and 1,218 teachers, about 800 of whom have doctorates.

70 About 19.3% of the students complete their studies within the envisaged period. More than 110,000 students have received degrees or certificates since 1948 from the faculties and colleges in Macedonia.

71 There are two religious secondary schools (one Orthodox and one Moslem) active in Macedonia with 242 pupils and an Orthodox Theological Faculty with 151 students.

72 From 1957 to 1991, 934 people received Ph.Ds. from the Macedonian universities, and 1,675 were granted master's degrees in the period 1964-1991.

73 The Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, was founded in 1946, and the University of Bitola in 1979.

74 In addition to the universities, scholarly, scientific and research activities are carried out in 16 independent scientific and research institutions with 184 scholars and specialists.

75 The highest scholarly institution in the Republic of Macedonia is the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, established in 1967. It has 31 regular and 10 associate members, as well as 37 extraordinary members.

76 There is one shop to an average of 168 inhabitants. There is a total of 11,984 shops with more than 1 million square metres of shopping area.

77 There are 17 general hospitals, 20 clinics and institutes and 15 specialized hospitals with over 11,000 hospital beds. Macedonian hospitals and medical institutions employ a total of 6,840 doctors and stomatologists, i.e. there is one medical practitioner per 454 inhabitants and one stomatologist per 1,819 inhabitants on average.

78 The best known summer tourist and resort centres in Macedonia are Ohrid, Prespa and Dojran. In winter, the ski

centres of Popova Šapka, Mavrovo, Pelister, Kruševo and Ponikva attract the greatest number of visitors. Among the better known spas are those of Bansko (Strumica), Debar, Negorci (Gevgelija) and Kežovica (Štip).

79 There are about 900,000 hectares of land under forest, or about 35% of the total area of the Republic of Macedonia.

80 Arable agricultural land extends over some 670,000 hectares, or 27% of the total area of the Republic, and there is about a similar area of land under pastures. Some 70% of the arable land is in the private sector.

81 The livestock in the Republic of Macedonia consists of about 2.5 million sheep, 300,000 head of cattle, 170,000 pigs and 65,000 horses. There are also more than 5 million domestic fowl and other poultry. There are about 80,000 beehives.

82 There are a number of hunting grounds and reserves in Macedonia. In 1991, 19 deer, 13 chamois, 33 bears, 16,511 hares, 875 boars, 19,623 partridges and 4,046 pheasants were shot there. Macedonia has about 30,000 hunters.

83 In the course of one year, each Macedonian eats or drinks an average of 119 kg of bread, 89 kg vegetables, 50 kg fresh fruit, 31 kg fresh or processed meat, 3.5 kg fish, 61 l milk, 9 kg cheese, 120 eggs, 15 kg sugar, 1.6 kg coffee, 5.7 l wine, 13 l beer and 4.5 l spirits.

84 Of the total number of those employed in Macedonia, 15% have university or further educational qualifications, 26% have completed secondary education, 30% have highly skilled or skilled worker's certificates.

85 The leading areas of industry in Macedonia are in metallurgy and metal-processing, and also in the chemical, textile and timber industries.

86 The chief producer of electric energy is the 'Bitola' Mining and Power Combine, whose three thermoelectric power

stations produce about 4,300 GWh of electricity per year, or about 80% of the total production.

87 About 1,650 tons of fish are caught annually in Macedonian lakes and rivers. The best known and the most sought after is the Ohrid trout.

88 About 196,000 people receive pensions, most of which are old age pensions (104,000), followed by family pensions (51,000), disability pensions (41,000), etc. On average there is one pensioner to 2.5 employed.

89 Macedonia's cultural heritage is exceptionally rich, as is testified to by the large number of old churches and monasteries and their icons and frescoes. The oldest and the most renowned are the churches of St. Sophia and the Holy Virgin of Perivleptos in Ohrid, the church of the Holy Saviour in Skopje, the church of St. George in Kurbinovo, and also the monasteries of St. Pantelejmon at Nerezi near Skopje, of St. John of Bigor and that of St. George in Staro Nagoričane. Oriental cultural and historical heritage on the territory of Macedonia is also significant: its best known examples are the Kuršumli An caravanserai, the Daut Pasha Baths, the Mustapha Pasha Mosque in Skopje and the Painted Mosque in Tetovo.

90 There are extremely valuable archaeological sites from the classical period at Stobi, near Titov Veles, Heraclea in Bitola, Scupi near Skopje and at Bargala near Štip.

91 Several international cultural events and festivals are held each year in Macedonia. The best known are the Ohrid Summer festival of music and drama, in which renowned musicians from around the world take part, and the Struga Poetry Evenings which every year gather some 200 poets from about 50 countries. Ohrid is also the place where the Balkan Festival of Folk Song and Dance is held, and Titov Veles organizes traditional meetings of writers from the Balkan countries in honour of the founder of modern Macedonian literature, Kočo Racin. Skopje is host to the World Cartoon Gallery, the May Opera Evenings and the Open Youth Theatre festival.

92 In 1905, the brothers Milton and Janaki Manaki shot the first filmed material in the Balkans in their native town of Bitola and thus laid the foundations of 'the seventh art' in this region.

93 Macedonia is renowned for its folklore which has been carefully nurtured by many professional and amateur ensembles. The 'Tanec' folk dance and song ensemble has been the ambassador of Macedonian folklore to all the continents of the world.

94 The bagpiper Pece Atanasovski was the winner at the World Festival in Sicily in 1968, in a competition of 1,800 bagpipers from around the world. Atanasovski has also won first prizes in 16 other international festivals (Llangollen, Dijon, Nancy, Oslo, Leyden, Bracciano), and has lectured on original Macedonian folklore in about 90 universities around the world.

95 Sports activities are carried out in more than 1,300 clubs with about 60,000 active members. The most popular sport is football with 525 clubs, followed in popularity by basketball, handball, volleyball, wrestling, swimming and karate. The development of sports is the concern of sports associations and of the Macedonian Olympic Committee.

96 The Macedonian sport which has won the greatest number of prizes is wrestling. The wrestler Šaban Trstena was the winner of the gold medal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and of the silver medal in Seoul 1988. His colleague Šaban Sejdiu was the bronze medallist at the Moscow and Los Angeles Olympics. Several Macedonian boxers have been European champions, and the 'Balkanec' Wrestling Club from Štip was the Club Vice-Champion of Europe.

97 Six other Macedonian sportsmen (Ace Rusevski, boxing; Redžep Redžepovski, boxing; Stojna Vangelovska, basketball; Blagoja Georgievski, basketball; Blagoe Vidinik, football, and Branimir Jovanovski, shooting) have won medals in the Olympic Games.

98 The 'Vardar' Skopje football team were one-time champions of the former federal football league and winners of the

former Yugoslav Cup and have competed in the Balkan Cup, the Central European Cup, the UEFA Cup and the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

99 The volleyball players of 'Vardar' Skopje have competed in the European Champions' Cup.

100 Macedonia acquired its first chess Grand Master in 1992, Nikola Mitkov. A year later, the title of Grand Master was also granted to Vlatko Bogdanovski.

101 Macedonia has been host to and successful organizer of several international sports championships: in 1972, the Chess Olympiad was held in Skopje and in 1974 the World Wild Water Kayak and Canoe Championship. Skopje was also the organizer of one of the 1969 World Ice Hockey Championship rounds, and host to one of the rounds of the World Basketball Championship in 1970. Three World Championship swimming marathons have been held at Lake Ohrid.

Brief Historical Survey

Macedonia is a historical and geographical area whose name originates from the classical period. The name of Macedonia was permanently established at the time of Alexander the Great (of Macedon) and his Empire. After the collapse of his empire, its territory fell first under Roman and later under Byzantine rule. In the course of several centuries, the ancient Macedonians mingled with many other ethnic groups such as the Roman colonists. They came under Hellenistic and then Roman cultural influences and accepted Christianity very early on.

The long process of Slav colonization which ended in the early 7th century created an entirely new situation: Macedonia received a new population and became a Slav territory. In the beginning, the Macedonian Slavs were organized independently in tribal units of their own (*sclavinias*). Later, they fell under alternating periods of rule by the Byzantine and Bulgarian Empires. However, their aristocracy stayed on. At the end of the 10th and at the beginning of the 11th centuries (969-1018), a vast empire of the Macedonian Slavs emerged, the Empire of Tsar Samuil, with its capital in Ohrid. This Empire was destroyed by the fierce assaults of the Byzantine army.

The Christianization of the Slavs began with Ss. Cyril and Methodius, and was completed with the work of St. Clement and St. Naum of Ohrid at the end of the 9th and the beginning of the 10th centuries. They devised a new script (the Cyrillic alphabet), translated Greek religious texts and laid the foundations of Old Church Slavonic literature. Present-day Macedonians base their cultural history on the period of St. Clement of Ohrid.

Following the relatively brief expansion of the mediaeval Serbian state, the Turkish invasion from the East began at the end of the 14th century, followed by Ottoman colonization and a long process, albeit only partial, of Islamization and a final destruction of the Slav aristocracy, or more precisely of its ruling class. A long period of dual domination began: political, under the Sultans, and spiritual, under the Oecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, whose prelates were Greek by nationality.

In the 19th century, important migrations occurred: the towns acquired a Macedonian (Slav) character. The only exception was Salonica, which remained a predominantly Jewish and Turkish centre. The process of national emancipation and revival began in the early decades of the same century; the major task was to replace Greek with the Slavic language in religious services and in schools, to open new schools with instruction in the Macedonian language and to create a national intelligentsia. The first secondary school was established in 1868. The national revival movement continued in the following decades, and in 1903 Krste P. Misirkov raised the status of Macedonian to the level of a standard literary language.

Following the period of the Eastern Crisis, when Macedonia remained under Ottoman rule according to the decisions of the Congress of Berlin (1878), the focus of the national struggle was transferred to the political level, the principle demand being the autonomy of Macedonia, as a first step towards full state independence. Armed struggle and insurrections of the Macedonians against Ottoman domination began.

On August 2, 1903, the Macedonian revolutionaries organized the Macedonians in a major insurrection (the Ilinden Uprising). The insurrectionists controlled an area of 10,000 square kilometres in West Macedonia. The Kruševo Republic, which involved a system of representative insurrectionist rule, was established in the liberated town of Kruševo. The uprising was crushed after three months, and both sides were dissatisfied with the palliative European reforms. The new intervention by Europe stimulated the activities of the movement known as the 'Young Turks', which organized a revolt in 1908.

In 1912-1913, the three Balkan states — Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece — waged the Balkan Wars: the First Balkan War was against the Turks, and the Second against each other. The out-

come of the wars was that Macedonia was occupied and divided, and the Macedonians once again fell under foreign domination. During the wars significant ethnic migrations occurred in South Macedonia, to the disadvantage of the Macedonians and in favour of the Greeks. The summer of 1913 marked the beginning of a long process of de-Slavicization in the Greek part of Macedonia. For the Macedonians in Yugoslavia (Serbia), Bulgaria and Greece, the period between 1918 and 1941 was a time of national oppression, assimilation and colonial exploitation. It also meant a period of new conflicts, suffering and sacrifice.

In 1913, in accordance with the Convention between Greece and Bulgaria, a 'voluntary' exchange of population between the two countries was carried out, while within the Treaty of Lausanne (1923) an agreement was signed between Greece and Turkey for an exchange of Moslem and Christian populations. About 650,000 Greeks from Asia Minor, Caucasus, Thrace and other regions were settled in Aegean Macedonia in place of the expelled Macedonians and Turks. This brought about a change in the demographic structure: it was indeed an ethnic cleansing of the territory which Greece had acquired in the Balkan and First World Wars.

During the Second World War, Macedonian patriots took part in the anti-Hitler coalition and won their state in the form of the republic of Macedonia, one of the constituent republics of federal Yugoslavia. At the First Session of the Anti-Fascist Assembly of the People's Liberation of Macedonia (on August 2, 1944), the Macedonian Republic was proclaimed, which later became part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by a special act. After this, a period of economic and cultural development ensued.

On September 8, 1991, Macedonia held a referendum on its sovereignty and independence, in which 75 per cent of the registered electorate voted, and of whom 95 per cent voted in favour of a sovereign and independent Macedonia. On November 17, 1991, a new Constitution was adopted which proclaimed the Republic of Macedonia a sovereign and independent state.

On April 8, 1993, Macedonia became the one hundred and eighty-first member of the United Nations Organization.

Land and People

The Republic of Macedonia is situated in the heart of the Balkan Peninsula, at one of the oldest crossroads of the main routes which have connected the three continents of Europe, Asia and Africa for millennia. It covers an area of 25,713 square kilometres and, according to the 1991 census, has a population of 2,033,964.

Macedonia is a small country. A modern motorway runs from its northern border with FR Yugoslavia to its southern border with Greece, and the 176 kilometres can be covered in two and a half hours by car. It takes somewhat longer to cover the route from Macedonia's border with Albania to the west to its eastern border with Bulgaria.

The flight from Skopje airport in the north to Ohrid airport in the south-west takes about 25 minutes. This journey is an excellent opportunity to catch a glimpse of the highest peaks of the Macedonian mountains which give its character to the country's landscape. Macedonia combines areas of uplands and plains, and has many high mountains. Of the 34 mountain peaks over 2,000 metres, the highest is Golem Korab at 2,753 m. Between the lower mountains, covered with a rich vegetation consisting mostly of deciduous and evergreen forests and spacious pastures, there are fertile plains, the largest of which are Pelagonija, Ovče Pole and Polog.

The Vardar, the longest river in Macedonia, runs for 301 kilometres in its course to the Greek border, dividing the Republic into eastern and western parts. This river is the main artery along which pass the two traffic routes — the railway line and

the main motorway — which, connecting with similar lines along the Morava valley in FR Yugoslavia, constitute the shortest natural transit corridor through the Balkan Peninsula from Central Europe to the Aegean Sea and the Middle East. Other important rivers are the Bregalnica, Crna Reka, Treska, Pčinja and Radika. The natural beauty of the River Radika, in the west, is outstanding.

Various climatic zones exist in the Republic of Macedonia. Its eastern part and the lower course of the River Vardar come under the influence of the Mediterranean climate and have warm summers, an abundance of sunny days and a mild winter. Macedonia's western and northern areas have a temperate-continental climate with more marked seasonal extremes.

Macedonia has 53 natural or artificial lakes. Lake Ohrid (349 square kilometres), Lake Prespa (274 sq km) and Lake Dojran (48 sq km) are the three large tectonic lakes. In the mountain lakes in the Šar Mountains and on Mount Pelister, with their crystal clear waters, there survive a large number of rare and unique species of flora and fauna.

The natural beauties are accompanied by an inexhaustible archaeological treasury, and for this reason Macedonia has often been called 'a magical country for archaeology', with a number of fully excavated ancient towns — Stobi, Heraclea, Scupi, Bargala and Lychnidos. It also has late Roman, early Christian and mediaeval fortresses and walls which have survived the centuries. There are in addition hundreds of mediaeval churches and monasteries built in the period from the 9th to the end of the 17th century, with tens of thousands of excellently preserved frescoes, the work of both renowned and anonymous mediaeval fresco-painters who are rightly counted among the most talented artists of their time. The Macedonian collection of mediaeval icons is one of the four best known in the world, together with the collection on Mount Athos, the collection on Mount Sinai and the Russian collection. The oriental cultural and historical structures built on the territory of Macedonia from the 15th to the 17th centuries are also of exceptional value.

The old town and village architecture, its forms and functional designs as well as the exceptionally rational use of space and excellent interior communication, has attracted the attention of the most famous architects of the modern world. The rich

museums, museum collections, galleries and memorial museums offer a cross-section of culture and art. They house various kinds of objects created by the dexterous hands of a large number of craftsmen whose traditions have been handed down from generation to generation until the present time. Much that is connected with the spiritual culture of the people has also been preserved.

Thus it is quite clear and understandable why so many people from various parts of the world who have once visited Macedonia continue to maintain links with it and its people, discovering new kinds of beauty and new significance with each new encounter.

Every ten years a census of the population and material goods is carried out in Macedonia. In 1953, when the first census was made, Macedonia had a total of 1,304,514 inhabitants, 65.98% of whom were ethnic Macedonians, 12.42% Albanians, 15.63% Turks, 1.57% Romanies, 0.66% Vlachs, 2.69% Serbs and 1.01% others. The results of the most recent population census and estimates of 1991 (the citizens of Albanian nationality did not take part in the census), state that 65.3% of the population are Macedonians, 21.7% Albanians, 3.8% Turks, 2.5% Romanies, 2.17% Serbs, 0.3% Vlachs and 4.2% others. Such a composition of the population gives a special colour to life in Macedonia, and because of this there is a constant concern for the promotion of inter-ethnic relations and the enrichment of joint life. The Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia guarantees the members of the nationalities all rights in accordance with existing international standards.

The Republic of Macedonia has about 960,000 young people under 30 years of age. There are also about 165,000 people over 65.

Just as anywhere in the world, people in Macedonia move from one region of the country to another, mostly from villages to towns, but also from one town to another. Skopje, the capital, has experienced the strongest pressure from migration; before the disastrous earthquake of 1963 it had about 200,000 inhabitants and now has 450,000. About 58% of the population today live in towns. Apart from Skopje, the larger towns in Macedonia have between 20,000 and 100,000 inhabitants. There are also fifteen towns with populations of less than 20,000.

The difficult living conditions in Macedonia have created a long tradition of working abroad. Many people from these regions have left and are still leaving Macedonia as migrant workers, going to the United States, Canada and Australia and, most recently, to some West European countries. It has been estimated that there are today more than 700,000 Macedonians living and working outside Macedonia. Among those who have decided to try their luck in West European countries there are also a large number of ethnic Albanians.

State and Government

Fundamental Values of the System

"The Republic of Macedonia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and social state." This sentence, being the initial sentence of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia, adopted on November 17, 1991, accurately defines the character of the state, from which its system of government derives.

The fundamental values of the constitutional order of the Republic of Macedonia are the following: the basic freedoms and rights of the individual and the citizen, recognized in international law; the free expression of national identity; the rule of law; the division of the state powers into legislative, executive and judicial; political pluralism and free, direct and democratic elections; the legal protection of property; the freedom of the market and entrepreneurship; humanism, social justice and solidarity; local self-government; proper urban and rural planning to promote a congenial human environment, and respect for the generally accepted standards of international law. Anything that is not prohibited by the Constitution or by law is permitted in the Republic of Macedonia.

The Constitution protects the inviolability of ownership of property and the right of inheritance, with the explicit provision that "no person may be deprived of his/her property or the rights deriving from it" (Article 30). The freedom of the market is constitutionally guaranteed (Articles 8 and 55). Foreign citizens may also acquire the right to ownership of property in the Republic of Macedonia under conditions stipulated by law.

"Foreign investors are guaranteed the right to the free transfer of invested capital and profits" (Article 59).

The Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia guarantees the freedoms and rights of the individual and the citizen: "Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia are equal in their freedoms and rights, regardless of sex, race, colour of skin, national and social origin, political and religious beliefs, property and social status" (Article 9). Human freedom is inviolable. Citizens are guaranteed freedom of association to exercise and protect their political, economic, social, cultural and other rights and convictions. Citizens may freely establish associations of citizens and political parties, join them or resign from them. Citizens have the right to assemble peacefully and to express public protest without prior announcement or a special licence.

Every citizen on reaching 18 years of age acquires the right to vote. The right to vote is equal, universal and direct, and is exercised at free elections by secret ballot. The freedom of scholarly, artistic and other forms of creative work is guaranteed.

The Macedonian language, written using its Cyrillic alphabet, is the official language in the Republic of Macedonia. In the units of local self-government where the majority or a considerable number of the inhabitants belong to a nationality, in addition to the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, their language and alphabet are also in official use, in a manner stipulated by law.

The capital of the Republic of Macedonia is Skopje.

Organization of State Authority

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia is a representative body of the citizens and the legislative power of the Republic. The Assembly consists of 120 Representatives. Representatives are elected for a term of four years at general, direct and free elections by secret ballot. A Representative's mandate cannot be revoked.

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia adopts and changes the Constitution of the state. It also adopts laws and gives authentic interpretations of laws, determines public taxes and fees, adopts the budget of the Republic, ratifies international

agreements and carries out political monitoring and supervision of the Government and other holders of public office responsible to the Assembly.

The first multiparty elections of Representatives to the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia were held between November 11 and December 23, 1990. Seventeen political parties and 43 independent candidates took part. From the total number of 1,157 candidates, 120 Representatives were elected to the Republic's Assembly. The first multiparty Assembly of Macedonia was officially constituted on January 8, 1991. The Assembly works in sessions which are open to the public.

The President of the Republic is elected at general and direct elections, by secret ballot, for a term of five years. A person may be elected President of the Republic twice at most. The President of the Republic must be a citizen of the Republic of Macedonia and be over the age of 40 on the day of election. A Presidential candidate can be nominated by a minimum of 10,000 voters or at least 30 Representatives, and can be elected President if he/she wins the majority of votes of the total number of voters.

The President of the Republic nominates a mandator to constitute the Government. He appoints ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives of the Republic of Macedonia abroad. The President of the Republic is Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Macedonia and President of the Security Council of the Republic.

Executive power is vested in the **Government of the Republic of Macedonia**. The Government is elected upon the proposal of the mandator who, proposing the composition of the Government, also proposes a programme of its work. The Government is elected by the Republic's Assembly.

The Government determines the policy of carrying out the laws and other regulations of the Assembly and is responsible for their execution. It proposes laws, the Republic's budget and other general acts adopted by the Assembly, and also adopts bylaws and other acts for the execution of laws. In accordance with the Constitution, the Government decides on the recognition of states and governments, as well as on the establishment of diplomatic and consular relations with other states.

Political organization and activity within the bodies of the state administration is prohibited. There is also a provision that the bodies of state administration in the areas of defence and the police must be headed by civilians.

In addition to the specific Ministries and Ministers without Portfolio, there are a number of independent agencies and institutions performing special functions.

Judiciary power is exercised by courts. They are autonomous and independent. A judge is elected without restriction of his/her term of office and cannot be transferred against his/her will.

The Supreme Court of Macedonia is the highest court in the Republic. It ensures uniformity in the implementation of the laws by the courts.

Emergency courts are constitutionally prohibited in the Republic of Macedonia.

Constitutionality and legality in the Republic of Macedonia is protected by the Constitutional Court. Its judges, consisting of outstanding members of the legal profession and with a term of office of nine years (without the right to reelection), are elected by the Republic's Assembly.

The citizens of Macedonia are guaranteed the right of **local self-government**. Local self-government is exercised through the municipalities, which are financed from their own sources as well as by funds from the Republic. In the units of local self-government, citizens participate in decision-making on issues of local relevance directly and through representatives, particularly in the fields of urban planning, communal activities, culture, sport, social security and child care, preschool education, primary education and basic health care.

Budget and Finance

On April 26, 1992, Macedonia became monetarily independent: in place of the Yugoslav *dinar* which was in circulation up to that point the Macedonian national currency, the *denar*, was introduced.

A tax system similar to those existing in developed countries with market economies is in process of adoption in the

Republic of Macedonia. It is of particular importance to restrict expansion in the public sector, and also to achieve a higher degree of efficiency and simplicity in fiscal measures. A policy has been adopted that the macroeconomic framework of public spending should not exceed 35% of the social product.

Requirements for the country's defence will amount to a maximum of 3% of the national income.

Attempts are being made to achieve balanced financing by budget spending, that is, to prevent monetary financing of the state and to lower the fiscal pressure on inflation.

Foreign Policy

The Republic of Macedonia has attained its independence by peaceful and legitimate means: through a referendum and with a new Constitution. This fact also determines its international position and foreign policy.

As a peace-loving Balkan and European country and a member of the United Nations, Macedonia bases its foreign policy on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The priorities of Macedonian foreign policy are the following: the strengthening of international peace and security, the development of economic cooperation and the protection of human rights as preconditions for a more secure and more just world for all.

Macedonia is developing its relations with all the states of the world in accordance with the postulates of the Charter of the United Nations. It is also governed by the principles of sovereign equality, non-use of force, non-interference in internal matters and respect for integrity and independence.

Understandably, Macedonia pays special attention to cooperation in the region. An essential characteristic of its foreign policy has been the building of good-neighbourly relations and an atmosphere of complete mutual respect, confidence and comprehensive bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

As a European state, Macedonia has in the focus of its interest the process of European integration, with an unambiguously set objective — with the course of time to win its place in the Community of the European peoples.

Macedonia also sees a broad field for international activity in cooperation with developing countries of the third world and non-aligned countries.

The political parties have also made a significant contribution to the strengthening of international cooperation. Branches of a number of European and world non-governmental organizations and movements are also active in Macedonia and have become a factor which has gained respect in the international standing and activity of the Republic.

An object of special interest in Macedonian foreign policy is the situation of the Macedonian ethnic minority in neighbouring countries, as well as the large number of expatriates in the United States of America, Canada, Australia and the European countries. Macedonia sees in them a bridge for closer ties and a further strengthening of cooperation, and bases its policy on the highest world standards by the rights it guarantees to the nationalities living in Macedonia.

Macedonia's foreign policy is the responsibility of the President of the Republic, the Government and its Ministry for Foreign Relations, as well as the Assembly and its bodies. International agreements are signed in the name of the Republic of Macedonia by the President of the Republic, or, in some cases, by the Government.

Macedonia's foreign policy is inextricably linked to public opinion in the country, whose major characteristic has been the effort to attain peace and friendship between peoples and states.

Natural Treasures

Land and Forests

Macedonia does not have excessive resources, although there is no shortage of them, either.

Only 27% of the country's total territory is arable land. Pastures occupy an approximately similar area.

Various kinds of cereals are raised on the major part of the arable land: wheat, barley, maize and rice. Macedonia is a significant producer of high-quality tobacco. It also grows and exports market-garden produce. About 10% of the arable land consists of orchards and vineyards.

Forests cover about 35% of Macedonia's territory, but only 30% of the total forest area belongs to high forests which are used for industrial purposes.

Ores and Minerals

Macedonia is among those countries which are relatively rich in ores and minerals. The mineral wealth of the country consists chiefly of the following ores: lead-zinc, copper, iron, chromium, nickel, antimony, manganese and gold. The ores are processed in smelteries and metal-processing plants which are mainly oriented towards exports. Some of the major mines are the Zletovo, Sasa and Toranica lead and zinc mines, the Bučim copper mine and the Tajmište iron mine, while their ores are processed in the Skopje Steel Works, the 'Zletovo' Lead and

Zinc Smeltery in Titov Veles and in the 'Feni-Mak' Iron and Nickel Smeltery in Kavadarci.

There are also relatively large reserves of nonmetals with a high percentage of purity, which include marble and decorative stones, clay, gypsum, quartz sand, cement marl and fire-resistant minerals.

Water and Energy Resources

Macedonia has 53 natural or artificial lakes, and several rivers run through it. Over 20% of the arable land is irrigated, and yet the water energy potential of the country is not sufficiently used. The problem of supplying drinking water for the population has largely been resolved, as well as the problem of water supplies for industry. At present only a quarter of Macedonia's water energy potential is used. The construction of new water power projects with the participation of foreign capital is planned.

The reserves of lignite have made possible the construction of four thermoelectric power stations which produce most of Macedonia's electric energy.

Recently, geothermal water and solar energy have been increasingly and more efficiently used.

Fields of Employment

Agriculture and Livestock Breeding

The natural advantages which Macedonia has (fertile soil and a favourable climate) have facilitated the development of agriculture. The total agricultural area is about 1,320,000 hectares, of which 667,000 hectares are arable land. Since the Second World War, viticulture has undergone extensive development: its areas have increased by 211%, while areas under orchards are 60% larger.

Macedonia is a well-known producer of tobacco, rice, grapes, fruit and vegetables.

About 70% of the land and 90% of livestock are in the private sector.

The largest Macedonian granaries are the Pelagonija and Ovče Pole plains. The average wheat produce is now 3,000 kilograms per hectare, which is three times greater than the 1951 produce, which was only 980 kilograms per hectare. Produce parameters in the other types of cereals are similar. This is a result of the modernization of production and the application of the most up-to-date agricultural and technological methods. In 1954, for example, there were only 362 tractors in Macedonia, while their number today is about 45,000. Water improvement systems have been built for the irrigation of about 140,000 hectares of land, which is about 22% of the total arable land in the country.

Significant progress has also been made in the production of vegetables. Macedonia has been using its comparative

advantages more and more efficiently. Less than 20 years ago, in 1975, there were only 48 hectares of land under glass or plastic sheeting, whereas that area today is 265 hectares. Early tomatoes are grown on about half of the area. The production of cucumbers, peppers and some other vegetables has been rising.

In any Macedonian family, known for hospitality and cordiality, the host will offer you a first-class domestic wine or brandy at the dining table. Every year, about 300,000 tons of grapes are gathered from Macedonian vineyards. These are processed in 13 wine cellars with a capacity of 220,000 tons of wine. The Tikveš vineyard region is the largest and the best known in Macedonia. Excellent apples and other kinds of fruit are produced in the Prespa and Polog regions.

Livestock breeding has existed here from the earliest of times. Cattle of the *buša* breed and some species of sheep (*pramenka* and *balkanska koza*), dating from as early as the time of Roman domination, are still bred in Macedonia — of course under the fundamentally changed conditions of modern farming. The livestock includes nearly 300,000 head of cattle, 2,500,000 sheep, 150,000 goats, 65,000 horses and 170,000 pigs. There are more than 5,000,000 poultry and about 80,000 beehives. They produce each year about 180 million litres of milk, 38,000 tons of meat, 2,500 tons of wool, some 140 million eggs and about 800 tons of honey.

Macedonian lakes are rich in fish. Some 2,000 tons of fish are caught there each year, and the best among them is the renowned Ohrid trout.

The Government has demonstrated its concern for the development and promotion of agriculture by providing subsidies for innovations in production. In all the municipalities of the country there are active centres for the promotion of individual agriculture. In the area of agriculture, there are about 2,000 specialists with university or college qualifications and about the same number of agricultural technicians. About 120 doctors of agricultural sciences are involved in scientific, scholarly, research, educational and production activities in this field.

Electricity Production and Distribution

At the end of the Second World War, Macedonia had only one power plant — the 'Matka' hydroelectric power station near Skopje. A large number of populated areas had no electricity. They were far away from the privileges of civilization in the mid-20th century.

The situation today has been fundamentally changed. With tremendous energy and effort, many new sources of electric power have been constructed: the 'Mavrovo' hydroelectric power station system, as well as the hydroelectric power stations of Globočica, Špilje, Tikveš and Zrnovka. Three blocks of thermoelectric power stations have been constructed near Bitola, and one in Oslomej, in the vicinity of Kičevo, as well as the Negotino thermoelectric power station.

The present capacity of electric energy sources in Macedonia is 1,430 MW, which largely satisfies the requirements of the country. The transmission and distribution network is fairly well developed.

There is a refinery for the processing of 2.5 million tons of crude oil, as well as mines for the production of 7.5 million tons of coal. Work has been under way on the construction of a gas pipeline which will make it possible to include the use of natural gas in the energy system of the country. Preparations for the construction of new electric energy facilities are in their final stage, which will make better use of Macedonia's water potential. In those places where it is possible, thermal water and solar energy are increasingly used.

Industry

Following the Second World War, the Republic of Macedonia was an undeveloped agrarian region with an undeveloped economy dominated by agricultural and handicraft production. Since then, a fundamental transformation in the economy's structure has been carried out. The share of industry in the creation of the social product grew from 15% in 1947 to 52% in 1989.

The processing industry, which uses products from the Macedonian area as its raw material base, has undergone extensive development. Macedonia has a number of modern factories for cigarette production, vegetable and fruit canneries, spirits and soft drinks plants, and furniture and ceramics factories.

The numerous textile facilities in Macedonia have been working intensively. In literally every Macedonian municipality there is a textile plant or clothing factory. Most of these are import-dependent, but their production is predominantly export-oriented.

The basic and raw materials industry in the fields of ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy has also experienced a significant development. Several huge facilities have been built: the Skopje Steel Works, which produces raw steel, tinplate and zinc-coated sheeting; a factory for ferrochromium and ferrosilicon in Jegunovce near Tetovo; a lead and zinc smeltery in Titov Veles; a vehicle battery factory in Probištip, the 'Bučim' copper mine and flotation near Radoviš; the 'Feni-Mak' nickel smeltery in Kavadarci, etc.

The outline of Macedonian industry is completed with the metal-processing facilities, machinery production and the electrical industry. Of the facilities in this field we shall mention the factories for machine tools, metal and aluminium profiles, seamed tubing, buses and spare parts for cars, polyester, plastics and detergents, paper, medicines and cosmetics, refrigerators and electrical appliances, transformers and light-bulbs.

The number of industrial units for nonmetal processing is also large; there are factories for the production of cement, china, thermal insulation materials, marble, gypsum products and glass. The timber and leather industries are also well developed.

Macedonia's economy has been undergoing tremendous changes: from operating with socially-owned means of production to operating with assets in mixed or entirely private ownership, from a planned economy to a market-oriented economy, and from a political system under the domination of one political party to a competitive political system of the Western type. A process of transformation of the production structure has begun. In today's industrial production, the complexes for the production of basic metals and equipment, the chemical industry and

energy production and distribution are becoming increasingly significant. Yet despite all this, it would still be accurate to say that most of the Macedonian industrial production remains concentrated around basic and raw materials.

Traffic and Communications

The total length of the road network in Macedonia is about 10,000 kilometres, of which 950 km are main roads, 2,800 km regional, and 6,250 local. They carry some 250,000 private registered vehicles, 2,500 buses and 2,000 freight vehicles. Construction work on most of the modern motorway running through Macedonia from its northern border with FR Yugoslavia to that in the south with Greece has been completed. There is a large number of active freight companies in Macedonia, most of which enjoy a high international reputation, as their vehicles have been travelling along the roads of Europe and Asia.

The railway network consists of 700 kilometres of railway line, to which some 100 kilometres of industrial track should be added. Some 2.6 million passengers and over 5 million tons of goods are transported by the Macedonian railways. The tracks are suitable for speeds from 60 to 100 kilometres per hour. The 229 km section of the main European railway line which runs through the Republic of Macedonia from Tabanovce to Gevgelija is electrified. Plans are under way to connect Macedonia by rail with Albania to the west and Bulgaria to the east, which would thus link the Adriatic and the Black Sea.

Air traffic operates through the international airports in Skopje and Ohrid, which can receive and service the most modern aircraft. The advantages of this, the swiftest link to Europe and the world, have been enjoyed by more than 400,000 passengers annually, using the services of the five airline companies which currently operate in Macedonia.

The postal system consists of 225 units distributed throughout the country. There are about 350,000 telephone subscribers' installations and 1,100 telex installations. There are 161 subscribers per 1,000 inhabitants. Macedonia is connected by automatic telephone and telex links with Europe and the world. Some of these are satellite links.

The most widespread communications are via radio and television, which, as anywhere in the world, have become increasingly important and influential. The largest among these media is the state-owned radio and television network which broadcasts 120 hours of programmes daily through its three television and five radio channels. Each municipality has its own local radio station, and some also have television studios. At present there are over 50 radio and television stations operating in Macedonia. The number of private radio and television stations increases virtually every day.

In addition to Macedonian, the Macedonian Radio and Television network also broadcasts programmes in Albanian, Turkish, Greek, Bulgarian, Romany and Vlach. In 1967, Skopje Television was the first in the world to broadcast television programmes in Albanian. A considerable number of the 370,000 television subscribers have the opportunity to follow some of the satellite services of the world's leading television networks.

A total of 112 newspapers are published in Macedonia. Two of these are dailies and there are ten weeklies. The total annual number of printed copies is about 30 million. Although the Macedonian newspaper market is limited and does not offer opportunities for large editions, the number of private newspapers and magazines is constantly rising. In Macedonia there are newspapers in Albanian and Turkish published three times a week, and there are also periodical newspapers in Romany and Vlach.

The computer network of the country is linked to the most important databanks in the world.

Foreign Trade

The position of Macedonia as an open country is also reflected in the open character and export orientation of its economy. In the field of agriculture, Macedonia exports tobacco, wine, grapes, lamb and other products. Macedonia also exports products from the chemical and metal-processing industry as well as textile and leather products. The complete list of all the products which are exported is quite extensive. The largest quantity (57%) of exported goods are highly-processed pro-

ducts. Medium-processed products comprise 39% of the total exports, while only 8% are unprocessed goods. Almost half of Macedonian exports are to the countries of the European Community.

Exports and the growth of export competitiveness is considered to be of exceptional, even decisive, significance in Macedonia and one of the key factors for the development and modernization of the Macedonian economy, as well as for its stable balance of payments. Annual exports from Macedonia amount to 1.5 billion US dollars.

The Macedonian market is open for the import of various kinds of goods. Of these, 47% are highly-processed products, 25% are medium-processed and 28% unprocessed products. The quantity of imports is approximately the same as that of exports, with a tendency towards a surplus in future foreign trade operations.

A special impetus to foreign trade has recently been provided by the large number of private export-import firms.

Science and Technology

In spite of its relative youth, science in Macedonia has achieved significant results and has become an important development factor.

Scholarly, scientific and research activities are carried out through a widespread network of scholarly and research institutions. The highest and the leading institution of this kind is the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The scholarly, scientific and research potential of Macedonia is otherwise concentrated in the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje. In addition, there are 16 autonomous science and research institutions with more than 200 research staff. In 1991 alone, 24 basic and 134 applied scientific research projects were completed. In order to assist development and rationalization, some companies also pay a great deal of attention to scientific research and technological innovation. There are 19 scientific research institutions located here. The number of technological innovations which contribute to making the production process more rational and efficient is high. Such innovations and patents

are particularly stimulated. Some of them have been internationally recognized.

Several Macedonian scholarly, scientific and research institutions and individuals have achieved broad international acclaim. The Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology enjoys a very high reputation in the world, and this is also true of the Institute of the Macedonian Language, the scholars in the Department of Macedonian at the Faculty of Philology, and the Macedonian Language, Literature and Culture Seminar, which has been held for over 25 years in Ohrid. The activity of the lectorates in Macedonian in 11 universities throughout the world is organized through this Seminar. Several clinics of the Skopje Faculty of Medicine (Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology, Nephrology) and some departments of the Faculty of Agriculture and the Faculty of the Natural Sciences have also achieved outstanding results on a world level.

Keeping abreast of current world developments in knowledge and achievements and their application is, of course, a constituent part of progress in this field. In conditions of financial crisis, Macedonian scholarly and scientific institutions and companies have made tremendous efforts to keep pace with contemporary trends in the world. The main ingredients of a faster technological development lie in the market orientation of the economy. This is the basis upon which the system of acquiring new knowledge, as an indispensable element of development, will be built.

Culture

It has often been said that achievements in the field of culture and artistic activity are the most notable elements for the affirmation of Macedonian society in the world. Their roots extend deep into the past, as demonstrated by the ingenious works of the fresco-painters, icon-painters and woodcarvers from the mediaeval period. Their development has been immense in all spheres and is thus a convincing confirmation of the creative potential of Macedonia.

The cultural map of Macedonia is exceptionally rich and varied. Many international festivals and events are held here, which make the cultural heartbeat even stronger and its bloodstream ever more plentiful. Excellent results have been achieved in all the spheres of creative life and have been very favourably received throughout the world.

Cultural life is mainly concentrated in the capital, Skopje, but also in some of the major towns throughout the country, such as Ohrid, Struga, Bitola, Titov Veles and Štip. In all the municipal centres there are cultural associations and groups which are the focuses of cultural life.

Literature

In Macedonia, the cradle of Slavonic literacy, the written word has a centuries-old tradition, upon which rests the modern literature written in the Macedonian language.

After the outstanding achievements of the brothers Dimitrija and Konstantin Miladinov, Grigor Prličev, Rajko Žinzifov and other proponents of the Macedonian Revival towards the middle of the last century, the beginning of the 20th century in Macedonian literature was marked by Vojdan Černodrinski, Nikola Kirov-Majski and Atanas Razdolov. The poet Kosta Racin — whose poetry collection *White Dawns* was published in 1939 — is considered to be the father of modern Macedonian literature. The poets Kole Nedelkovski, Mite Bogoevski, Nikola Jonkov Vapcarov and Anton Popov also belong to Racin's generation. At the same time as they were publishing their poems, the plays of Vasil Iljoski, Risto Krle and Anton Panov were being produced on stage.

The first postwar generation of Macedonian poets, prose writers and playwrights included Aco Šopov, Blaže Koneski, Slavko Janevski, Vlado Maleski and Kole Čašule. In 1947 this generation of authors established the Writers' Association of Macedonia. At the time it numbered 7, and now has about 300 members. The membership of the Writers' Association of Macedonia also includes Macedonian authors from the diaspora, as well as authors who write in Albanian and Turkish.

A new generation of Macedonian writers emerged in the early 1950s, which included Gane Todorovski, Mateja Matevski, Dimitar Solev and Ante Popovski. They were followed by a larger group of talented authors, including, among others, Živko Čingo, Petre M. Andreevski, Radovan Pavlovski, Bogomil Ǵuzel, Jovan Koteski, Vlada Uroševiḱ, Petar T. Boškovski and Mihail Rendžov. Some of the representatives of the fourth generation, which appeared in the 1970s, are Atanas Vangelov, Todor Čalovski, Risto Jačev, Petre Bakevski, Eftim Kletnikov, Dimitar Baševski, Sande Stojčevski, Katica Ḱulavkova and Vele Smilevski. With the appearance of Goran Stefanovski, and later of Jordan Plevneš and a group of younger playwrights, Macedonian drama has recently experienced an outstanding development.

Literary theory and history, as well as literary criticism, have been the preoccupation of many authors, including Dimitar Mitrev, Georgi Stardelov, Milan Ǵurčinov, Aleksandar Spasov, Slobodan Mickoviḱ, Miodrag Drugovac and Danilo Kocevski.

Many poets and writers of prose also write theoretical and critical essays.

In the last fifty years, a number of authors who write in Albanian and Turkish have won exceptional acclaim. They include Šukri Ramo, Nedžati Zekerija, Ilhami Emin and Nusret Dišo of the Turkish nationality, as well as Murteza Peza, Murat Isaku, Abdulazis Islami, Fejzi Bojku, Adem Gajtani, Luan Starova, Rejsul Šabani and Kim Mehmeti of the Albanian nationality living in Macedonia.

A number of literary journals are published in Macedonia. Some of the best known among them are *Razgledi* and *Sovremenost* (Skopje), *Stremež* (Prilep), *Razvitok* (Bitola), *Dalgi* (Ohrid) and *Delo* (Štip), as well as the journals *Jehona*, published in Albanian, and *Sesler*, in Turkish.

The Macedonian publishers 'Kultura', 'Makedonska kniga', 'Misla', 'Detska radost', 'Naša kniga', 'Krste Misirkov' and also the new private publishers 'Matica Makedonska', 'Tabernakul', 'Ǵurǵa' and 'Feniks', issue about 1,000 titles each year.

The works of Macedonian writers have been translated into many languages. Anthologies of Macedonian poetry and prose have been published in Yugoslavia, Italy, France, the United States, Russia, Hungary, Poland, Britain, China, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine, Greece, Malaysia, Japan and many other countries.

Several literary festivals and events are held in Macedonia. The best known are the Struga Poetry Evenings, which take place late in August each year in Struga, the native town of the Macedonian poets and educators Dimitrija and Konstantin Miladinov, on the shores of Lake Ohrid. This event is well-known everywhere and is one of the most significant poetry festivals in the world. Poets from all meridians have taken part. The Golden Wreath prize of the Struga Poetry Evenings has been awarded to some of the most famous poets of the world such as Pablo Neruda, Wystan Hugh Auden, Eugenio Montale, Fazil Hüsnü Daglarca, Léopold Sédar Senghor, Eugène Guillevic, Artur Lundkvist, Rafael Alberti, Miroslav Krleža, Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Blaže Koneski, Nichita Stanescu, Sacchidanand Hiranand Vatsyayan 'Agyey', Andrey Voznesensky, Iannis Ritsos, Allen Ginsberg, Tadeusz Różevicz, Desanka Maksi-

mović, Justo Jorge Padrón, Thomas Shapcott, Joseph Brodsky, Ferenc Juhász and Genady Aigy.

Titov Veles is the centre of the Racin Meetings, in which a large number of Balkan authors take part, and Tetovo is host to the International Meeting of Literary Translators.

Music

All kinds of music are popular in Macedonia. The treasury of the Macedonian musical heritage is extremely rich. Contemporary musical works are also rich and varied, and on a very high level.

The sixty members of the Composers' Association of Macedonia continue along the road travelled by such founders of modern Macedonian classical music as Trajko Prokopiev, Todor Skalovski, Stefan Gajdov, Petre Bogdanov-Kočko and Živko Firfov. They include Kiril Makedonski, Gligor Smokvarski, Vlastimir Nikolovski, Toma Prošev, Risto Avramovski and Dimitrija Bužarovski.

The Macedonian Philharmonic is the leading orchestra. It developed from the first Macedonian symphony orchestra, established on November 24, 1944. Its repertoire includes works by the most acclaimed composers from throughout the world, whose performance requires exceptional ability. Many world-famous conductors and soloists have been guest artists at the concerts of the Macedonian Philharmonic Orchestra. In Macedonia there are also several active chamber orchestras and choirs. The best-known among them are the Macedonian Radio and Television Chamber Orchestra and Choir, and the Mirče Acev Student Choir, Skopje. In addition to these, the Youth Choir and the Mandolin Orchestra from the Youth Cultural Centre, Skopje, have won several international awards and acknowledgments.

Several festivals of music and musical events are held in Macedonia. The Ohrid Summer, which takes place each year from July 12 to August 20, is the most widely acclaimed international music festival. Artists of the highest world standing have taken part, such as Svyatoslav Richter, André Navarra, David Oistrakh, Leonid Kogan, Aldo Ciccolini, Vsevold

Tretyakov and Henry Watts, as well as the Moscow Choir, the Roman Virtuosi, the Prague Madrigalists, and many others.

The May Opera Evenings, a festival of opera in which a large number of renowned soloists from the opera houses of the Balkans and Europe take part, are held each year in Skopje.

A traditional Festival of Macedonian Choirs is held in Tetovo, while Struga is host to the Struga Musical Autumn. Also the Days of Macedonian Music, where the most recent works of Macedonian composers are presented, are held each year in Skopje and other places.

Speaking of music, Macedonian folk music is a realm of its own. Macedonia is widely known for its extremely rich folklore.

Each year Ohrid is host to the Balkan Festival of Folk Song and Dance, presenting only authentic songs and dances. A Festival of Old Town Songs is held in Ohrid, and in Bitola there is an annual festival entitled the Ilinden Days of Folk Song and Dance. There are also several folk festivals of the nationalities living in Macedonia.

Macedonia has numerous ensembles of high quality which cherish folk songs and dances. The best known among them is the 'Tanec' Folk Song and Dance Ensemble, which has borne the epithet of ambassador of Macedonian folklore for more than forty years. This ensemble and the cultural and artistic groups 'Orce Nikolov', 'Mirče Acev', 'Kočo Racin', 'Goce Delčev' and many others have given countless performances all over the globe. The cultural and artistic societies of the nationalities 'Emin Duraku', 'Ibe Palikuka' and 'Yeni Yol' have also been highly successful.

There are also several festivals of new songs written in the spirit of traditional folklore. The oldest and the best known is the 'Folk-Fest' held in Valandovo, and more recently also the 'Cvetnici' festival in Skopje. There are several children's song festivals, such as 'Zlatno slavejče' in Skopje, 'Kalinka' in Gevgelija and 'Sido' in Bitola.

In the field of popular music, which has an extremely wide audience in Macedonia, the contribution of the 'Mak-Fest' festival in Štip has been significant. Each year an International Jazz Festival is held in Skopje with the participation of some of the most celebrated names in the world of jazz.

The most popular pop-group in Macedonia is 'Leb i sol'.

Theatre

Theatre life is very rich, and Macedonian plays and performances are widely appreciated. They have also received high acknowledgments beyond the country's borders.

The main proponents of theatrical activity are the professional theatre companies, of which there are ten: the Macedonian National Theatre, Skopje (Drama, Opera and Ballet companies), the Drama Theatre and the Theatre of the Nationalities (Albanian and Turkish Drama companies), both in Skopje, while other professional theatre companies are based in Bitola, Prilep, Titov Veles, Strumica, Štip and Kumanovo. More than 400,000 theatre-goers attend their performances each year.

In addition to works from world classical and modern drama, the Macedonian theatres include in their repertoire many works by Macedonian playwrights such as those of Vojdan Černodrinski, Vasil Iljoski, Risto Krle, Kole Čašule, Tome Arsovski, Goran Stefanovski and Jordan Plevneš. Their texts have been staged and produced by a pleiad of exceptional directors, actors, set and costume designers. Some of the best known theatre directors are Slobodan Unkovski, Ljubiša Georgievski, Vladimir Milčin, Branko Stavrev and Kole Angelovski. Apart from working in theatres in Macedonia, they have directed performances in Yugoslavia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Hercegovina, the United States, Belgium, Russia, Poland, Slovakia, Bulgaria and elsewhere. The large group of excellent actors includes the veterans Todor Nikolovski, Petre Prličko, Ilija Džuvalekovski, Meri Boškova, Ilija Milčin, Todorka Kondova-Zafirovska, Krum Stojanov and Milica Stojanova, as well as their younger colleagues Duško Kostovski, Meto Jovanovski, Nenad Stojanovski, Kiril Ristoski, Snežana Stameska, Bajruš Mijaku, Bedija Begovska, Salaetin Bilal and many others. A large number of them have won the highest awards and acknowledgments in Macedonia and the former Yugoslavia.

Not only professional but also some amateur theatre companies from Macedonia have given guest performances in a large number of countries throughout the world including Italy, France, Russia, Venezuela, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Albania, Germany, Norway and Greece.

Sarajevo (Tales from a City), a play by Goran Stefanovski, directed by Slobodan Unkovski, was performed at the celebration which proclaimed the Belgian city of Antwerp the cultural metropolis of Europe for 1993.

The numerous amateur and experimental theatre companies in Macedonia hold a traditional festival in Kočani. The 'Pralipe' Romany Theatre, under the direction of Rahim Burhan, is undoubtedly the most successful non-professional company in the country, participating in many international festivals and winning a large number of awards.

A Faculty of Dramatic Arts has been active for more than 25 years in Skopje, producing actors, directors, dramaturgs and other highly trained professionals in the field of theatre and film.

For over thirty years Prilep has been host to the Festival of Professional Theatres which bears the name of the founder of the modern Macedonian theatre, Vojdan Černodrinski. Skopje is the centre of the international festival entitled Open Youth Theatre.

The opera and ballet are a constituent part of theatre life in Macedonia. There is an opera and a ballet company, established in 1948 and operating within the Macedonian National Theatre.

The Opera of the Macedonian National Theatre has in its repertoire works by classical composers such as are to be found in most opera houses in the world, including Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Rossini and Tchaikovsky. Works by Macedonian composers have also been performed, including those of Prokopiev, Makedonski and Avramovski. The Opera's soloists are highly esteemed guests in the opera houses of neighbouring and many other countries. This is confirmed by the numerous guest tours and performances by Ana Lipša-Tofoviќ, Milka Eftimova, Blagoja Nikolovski, Simeon Gugulovski, Anastasija Nizamova-Muhiќ, Nikola Gagov and Boris Trajanov on the stages of Belgrade, Sofia, Ljubljana, Ankara, Nuremberg and many other places. Macedonian conductors — Vančo Čavdarski, Angel Šurev, Aleksandar Lekovski, Tomislav Šopov and Pero Petrovski, among others — also enjoy a very high international reputation and have often occupied the conductor's podium in some of the most celebrated opera houses and concert halls throughout the world. An event which offers particular pleasure to the numerous

opera lovers in Macedonia is the May Opera Evenings which are held each year in Skopje.

The first ballet première in the Macedonian National Theatre (*Walpurgisnacht* by Charles Gounod, choreography by Ǵorǵi Makedonski) was performed in July 1949. Since then, the Ballet has been constantly on the rise. Natka Penušliska, Olga Milosavleva, Ekrem Husein, Toni Batalakov, Marin Crvenov, Zoica Purovska, Zoran Velevski, Jagoda Slaneva and many other soloists have performed on the Skopje ballet stage some of the best-known works from the world of ballet, as well as works by Macedonian composers, such as those of Smokvarski, Makedonski and Brańgolica. The soloists of the Macedonian National Theatre Ballet have also performed abroad and have won a number of international awards.

Many of the vocalists and instrumentalists of the Opera and also of the other symphony and chamber orchestras were educated in the Musical Academy in Skopje. The Ballet's dancers were trained in the Ballet Secondary School in Skopje and studied and specialized abroad. There are music schools operating in most Macedonian towns, such as those in Štip, Bitola, Tetovo, Prilep and Kumanovo.

Visual Art

It is only natural that a country whose churches and monasteries house some of the most outstanding works of the mediaeval masters of fresco- and icon-painting has gifted painters, graphic artists and sculptors.

The work of the founders of modern Macedonian visual art (such as Lazar Ličenoski, Nikola Martinoski and Dimitar Pandilov in painting, and Dimo Todorovski in sculpture) has been successfully continued by Borka Lazeski, Dimitar Kondovski, Petar Mazev, Vasko Taškovski, Vangel Naumovski, Gligor Čemerski and many other painters, the graphic artists Risto Kalčevski, Simon Šemov, Dimitar Malidanov and Dimče Nikolov, as well as the sculptors Petar Hadži Boškov, Boro Mitrikeski and Tome Serafimovski.

Most of them have had one-man and group exhibitions in cities such as Paris, New York, London, Rome, Stockholm and Dresden.

Each year Macedonia welcomes artists from all parts of the world. Some of them take part in the International Painters' Colony in Strumica and Star Dojran, and others participate in the International Sculptors' Colony in Prilep, the Ceramics Colony in Resen, or in the Graphic Artists' Colony in Gevgelija.

Skopje is host to a unique annual event, the World Cartoon Gallery, where about 10,000 artists from all over the world have taken part during its 25 years of existence.

The Museum of Contemporary Art and the Daut Pasha Baths in Skopje are the most outstanding galleries. They house rich collections of paintings, drawings, graphics and sculptures by Macedonian and world artists. Skopje also has other museums and galleries, some of which are private. There are also galleries in the other towns in Macedonia. All of them are open to participants from abroad and thus contribute to the direct contact of the extensive Macedonian art public with the highest values in national and international visual art.

Most of the new generations of Macedonian artists have received their education in the Skopje Art Academy.

Artists have their own organization, the Association of Artists of Macedonia, which numbers about 300 members.

Film

The first filmed scenes in Macedonia, and in the Balkans overall, were shot in Bitola by the brothers Milton and Janaki Manaki in the now distant year of 1905.

The 'Vardar-Film' enterprise, established in late 1947, has been the leader in film production in Macedonia. From time to time, various associations have appeared in the role of film producers. More recently, there have also been some private producers.

On the basis of a Vlado Maleski screenplay, the first Macedonian feature film, entitled 'Frosina', was made in 1952, and a few years later the first colour and cinemascope film, 'Miss Stone', was produced. Dimitrie Osmanli was the first Macedo-

nian director to direct a feature film, 'Peaceful Summer', in 1961. Since then, depending on the financial possibilities which have mostly been limited, on average one to two feature films have been made in Macedonia every year, as well as about fifteen documentaries and ten animated cartoons. Feature films have been directed by Trajče Popov, Branko Gapo, Kiril Cenevski, Aleksandar Ǵurčinov, Stole Popov and Stevo Crvenkovski, among others. Some of them have received wider international acknowledgment. Stole Popov's long documentary film entitled 'Dae', for example, was nominated in 1980 for the Academy Award. The feature film 'Happy New 1949' and 'Tattooing', which were shown at several international film festivals, have also been near-nominations for the world's highest film accolade. 'Happy New 1949' won the first prize at the International Film Festival in Pôrto Alegre, Brazil. Kiril Cenevski's film 'Black Seed' was also shown at several international festivals, where its director and actors received awards.

'Miss Stone' is the best-selling feature film abroad: it was bought by 17 countries in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

As the Macedonian film industry developed, so too its creative artists developed: directors, screenplay writers, cameramen and actors. The director Branko Gapo has made the greatest number of feature films — 6. The masters of film photography Ljube Petkovski, Kiro Bilbilovski, Branko Mihajlovski and Mišo Samoilovski have most often stood behind the camera in making both feature films and documentaries. The Macedonian actors most frequently engaged in films have been Darko Dameski, Aco Jovanovski, Petre Prličko, Kole Angelovski and Dančo Čevreski.

Macedonian documentary production has been highly successful for decades, gaining recognition at international festivals in Belgrade, Oberhausen, Krakow, Leipzig and Trento, among others.

The Macedonian School of Animated Cartoons, led by Darko Markoviḱ and Petar Gligorov, has been extremely successful. The latter is the author of the first Macedonian animated cartoon entitled 'Embryo M'. Markoviḱ's film entitled 'Kaša' (Gruel) won the Silver Rose at the Montreux Festival, and he

also won the Gold Medal at the Bergamo Festival for his film 'Leader'.

Macedonian feature films, documentaries and animated cartoons have been shown at many international films festivals such as those in Cannes, Oberhausen, San Sebastian, Montreal, Cairo, Moscow, Karlovy Vary, Venice, Edinburgh, Berlin, New Delhi, Bergamo, Leipzig, Barcelona and Grenoble.

Lifestyle

Standard of Living

Of the 2,033,964 inhabitants of Macedonia, about 450,000 are employed and about 196,000 receive pensions.

An average four-member family earns about 10,000 denars per month. Most families earn less than this amount, but there is a section of the population which earns considerably more. Hence the contrasts in the lifestyles and quality of life. Some of the population with a smaller income maintain their social stability by extra work in their spare time. Thus, in addition to their basic needs, they also manage to satisfy the other requirements resulting from the modern way of life.

Some of the population live in conditions below the lowest acceptable social standard. About 35,000 people in Macedonia receive social security payments.

The problem of unemployment has been particularly pressing. The number of unemployed is more than 170,000. This problem is alleviated through the establishment of special funds for the unemployed, particularly for those who have been left without work following the privatization of social capital.

The social 'anaemia' has compelled some people to join the large number of Macedonian migrant workers in developed European and overseas countries.

The citizens spend most of their family budget on clothing and food, as well as on satisfying other domestic needs. Education is free, and the citizens contribute only small amounts to health care costs. There is less and less money for other needs

such as travel or the purchase and maintenance of a car. Thus it is not surprising that cars 10 or 15 years old — or even more — are being driven on the roads.

The citizens of Macedonia are thrifty people. Most of their bank savings are in foreign hard currency. The number of those paying for life insurance is not very high.

Macedonia is undergoing major changes which are also reflected in the way of life and in the population's standard of living. Improvements in this area are expected once private capital initiatives gain in force.

Food and Home Items

Food is not cheap in Macedonia and its share in the home budget is rather high. Macedonian citizens eat four times more bread than meat, and twice as much bread as fresh fruit. Vegetables, which are grown here in large quantities, form a considerable part of the diet.

Traditionally, the population buys most of its foods from the markets and small private shops, general stores which also sell fruit and vegetables. More recently, various associations and movements advocating health food have increased their influence on the dietary habits of the population.

Most households have electric cookers, refrigerators, washing machines, dish-washers and other household appliances. The same is true of radios and television sets, hi-fi equipment and video recorders. The average citizen of Macedonia must spend 4 to 5 months' income to buy a colour television set.

A large part of the population lives in flats or individual houses with electricity, central heating, hot and cold water, bathrooms and toilets. A considerable number of the flats for citizens with smaller incomes have been built from what is known as solidarity funds. The majority of flats and houses are privately owned.

A considerable number of rural settlements are urbanized, linked to towns by asphalt roads, and the households have the same appliances as those in the towns.

Many citizens have built weekend cottages and villas in the Macedonian tourist resorts, as well as in the vicinity of the larger towns.

Even though Macedonia has more dwellings than families, quite a lot of people do not have their own permanent housing and live as tenants.

Health Care

Some fifty years ago, the average life expectancy in Macedonia was 50 years. Today the average life expectancy is 72. The infant mortality rate has been constantly decreasing and is now 2.76%.

The citizens of Macedonia contribute part of their income to health and medical care. This has made it possible for the health service, which is provided through a widespread network of medical institutions, to be free and accessible to every citizen.

The progress and tremendous results achieved in the field of health care can best be seen if we remember the past of this country. Only fifty years ago, Macedonia was a region with widespread epidemics of many contagious diseases. Each year, more than 300,000 people suffered from malaria alone. Today this disease has been completely eradicated. In 1939, Macedonia had only 9 hospitals with a total of 868 beds. As many as 154 of 1,000 newly-born died. At the end of the Second World War, Macedonia had only 123 medical doctors and stomatologists.

Now there are 17 general hospitals as well as 20 clinics and 15 specialized hospitals with a total of over 11,000 beds. In addition, there are 432 general medical units, 279 specialist medical units, 120 industrial medical units, about 400 dental units, 122 units for women's health care, 235 units for the health care of preschool and school children, etc. The health care network employs 6,840 doctors and stomatologists.

Top medical care is provided by the clinics of the Skopje Faculty of Medicine, some of which have earned an extremely high international reputation and receive patients from abroad. The number of private medical and dental surgeries is increasing every day.

Education

Immediately after the Second World War, Macedonia had only 180 people with university degrees. Most of those who had attended school had completed only four grades of elementary education. Those who had completed secondary education were considered learned. There were only 22 elementary schools.

Today the situation has radically changed. Special attention is paid to education in all its aspects.

Eight-year elementary education is compulsory. There is a widespread network of 1,053 elementary schools with about 270,000 pupils. In 279 schools the instruction is carried out in Albanian, and the number of pupils there is about 72,000 (27% of the total number of pupils in elementary education). There are also 55 schools with 218 classes where the instruction is carried out in Turkish, as well as 79 classes in 15 schools where instruction is in Serbo-Croatian.

Secondary education, consisting of a network of 90 schools, involves 70,000 pupils. Some of these receive their instruction in Albanian.

The 29 faculties of the two universities, in Skopje and Bitola, have 27,000 students.

Teaching at all levels of education is constantly being developed and modernized. The advantages of audio-visual methods are increasingly used. Technical and technological innovations are becoming an inseparable part of instruction. The use of television sets, video recorders and computers in the educational process is no longer a rarity.

Education in Macedonia has undergone several reforms. Currently it is in the process of a radical reform which will unburden it of ideological connotations and will make it simpler and more compatible with education in Europe and the world. The first private schools are already functioning.

Almost half of the pupils who complete their secondary education enroll at university. In the academic year 1991/92 there were 9,000 students in the first year of the various faculties.

From 1948 up to now, more than 110,000 students have gained qualifications from the faculties and colleges in Macedonia. Nearly 1,000 doctoral theses have been defended in the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University since 1957, and the number of master's degrees granted in the same period has been almost 2,000.

Some citizens of Macedonia have had the advantage of studying or specializing abroad.

Education is free and its costs are covered by the state. The state also makes grants which subsidize the cost of meals and accommodation for pupils and students.

There is a well-developed system of education for adults where they may complete their education and acquire special qualifications. Various institutions also organize a large number of courses, ranging from information science and computer operation to the study of foreign languages. Special educational courses have also been organized in the fields of management and business.

Social Welfare

Social welfare covers the population regardless of age, from preschool children to the old and weak. There are 650 organizations for preschool education and guidance, which cover about 40,000 children.

In almost all the municipal centres in Macedonia there are boarding houses catering for the accommodation of secondary school pupils. There are 35 such houses and they serve about 5,000 pupils. The six student hostels accommodate over 5,000 university students. The state spends significant amounts of money on the maintenance of pupils' and students' standard of living by covering the cost of meals and accommodation in boarding houses, hostels and restaurants. However, there is an insufficient number of places in these institutions for all the pupils and students. Some of them live as tenants with private landlords during their education. Pupils' and students' standard of living is also assisted through scholarships and loans. These benefits are reserved for the best and most talented pupils and students.

There are also many specialized hotel and catering facilities where pupils may spend their vacations.

Macedonia has a large number of pensioners: nearly 200,000. They have contributed to the pension fund throughout their working life and are now gaining the benefit. Traditions and customs here are such that only a small number of pensioners decide to live in homes for the elderly. There are five such homes accommodating about 700 retired people.

Pensioners also have their own rest homes in some of the tourist resorts.

Special care is taken of the education, training and employment of people with disabilities. There are 12 workshops and 19 enterprises for the employment of the disabled, which employ about 2,500 people.

All the municipalities have centres for social welfare through which all the activities in this field are coordinated.

Working People and Trades Unions

There are a large number of workers who spend their holidays in some of the more than 300 company hotels and holiday homes, built in all the tourist centres of Macedonia. They have mostly been built from workers' funds, and employees spend their holidays there at discount rates. The workers gain these and some other rights and benefits through trade union organizations.

The trade union movement has a long and rich tradition in Macedonia. Prior to the Second World War, the trades unions organized a number of strikes and other activities for the protection of workers' rights.

For a long time, under the conditions of what was known as socialist self-management and political monism, the role of the trades unions was marginalized and was reduced to providing cheaper food and to the organization of various excursions and travels. There was only a single trade union and it was under the control of the League of Communists. All workers were automatically its members.

The 1991 Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia sets out that, for the purpose of exercising their economic and social rights, citizens have the right to establish trades unions. The trades unions can form confederations and become members of international trade union organizations. The Constitution also guarantees the right to strike. As a rule, strike committees are supported by a trade union organization.

There are two large trade union organizations at the national level in Macedonia: the Independent Trade Union and the Association of Trade Unions. They are equal partners, with the Government and the Council of Employers, in the preparation of collective agreements which regulate the majority of the workers' economic and social rights. The trades unions have their own organizations in all the municipalities and branches in the larger companies.

Supporting and defending workers' rights and interests, trade unions have often appeared in the role of strike organizers.

Women in Macedonia

The twentieth century has brought total social and economic emancipation and equality for women in Macedonia. The type of the household wife shut in her house has irreversibly become part of history. Today women receive university degrees and perform highly responsible jobs in all spheres of social, political and economic life. They are managers and executives, university teachers and ministers, engineers, medical doctors, judges and economists.

About 40% of the total number of employed are women. They work in factories (mostly in the textile industry), in the administration, in educational institutions (more than half the teachers are women), in health care, in the judiciary, etc. Women are also engaged in private businesses. Many of them are outstanding scholars, scientists, writers and artists.

Working mothers are legally guaranteed special benefits and allowances.

There are five women sitting on the benches of the first Macedonian multiparty Parliament, and two women are Government Ministers. There are also women in the leaderships of the political parties.

During the National Liberation War, the Women's Anti-Fascist Front was very active. The present day Women's Organization has different objectives and programmes, in accordance with the spirit of the new age. It has organizational units throughout the country. The wave of the feminist movement which has gathered strength in the last decade in the world is making its presence felt more and more in Macedonia, too.

However, the position of the woman in Macedonia should not be idealized. The social infrastructure is not sufficiently developed, and hence, in addition to her regular professional obligations, she must also perform many of the tasks connected with her family's household and the raising of children. Special attention is being paid to the emancipation of women of Albanian nationality. Although the situation in this respect has clearly improved, there is still much to be done in the future.

The Young

Having in mind the fact that almost half the population is under 30 years of age, it would not be an exaggeration to say that Macedonia is a country of the young. The young are present in all spheres of economic, political, educational, cultural and sports life, where they can also express their special interests. Away from their jobs and school desks, you can find them involved in recreation on a sports field or in a swimming pool. In the evening they fill the numerous small cafés and large discotheques where they enjoy the newest musical sounds and hits in the world. They are also the most numerous members of the audience at theatres, cinemas and concerts.

There are a large number of organizations which provide opportunities for young people to express their abilities and talents. Those with an interest in the arts gather in youth literary, musical, film and artistic societies. There are also organizations through which they can develop and express their interest in the technical and natural sciences. There are associations of young researchers, and, more recently, associations of young environmentalists whose activity has been developing rapidly. Some specialized organizations and agencies take care of the recreation and summer holidays of the young. Because of their large numbers, these young people give a special colour and charm to the summer and winter tourist resorts. Some of them are also members of the Scout Organization and the junior section of the Red Cross.

In some schools, the young are organized in school cooperatives and are engaged in the production and exchange of various

goods. With the help of students' and youth cooperatives, or individually, many young people spend part of their spare time working in cafés, restaurants, car-wash services and elsewhere. Thus they provide additional money for their personal budgets.

In some schools, the pupils issue their own newspapers. There are two weeklies for the young published in Macedonia: *Studentski zbor* and *Mlad borec*. Young people also organize several radio stations as well as special programmes for the young on television.

Young people from Macedonia are members of most of the international organizations, through which they achieve good contact with the world.

The activities of the young are coordinated by the Youth Council of Macedonia, which is a member of the European and the World Youth Association. There is also a special organization of Macedonian students.

Yet the young people in Macedonia have many difficulties and problems. Their greatest concern is the lack of opportunities for employment. Almost three-quarters of those unemployed are young people.



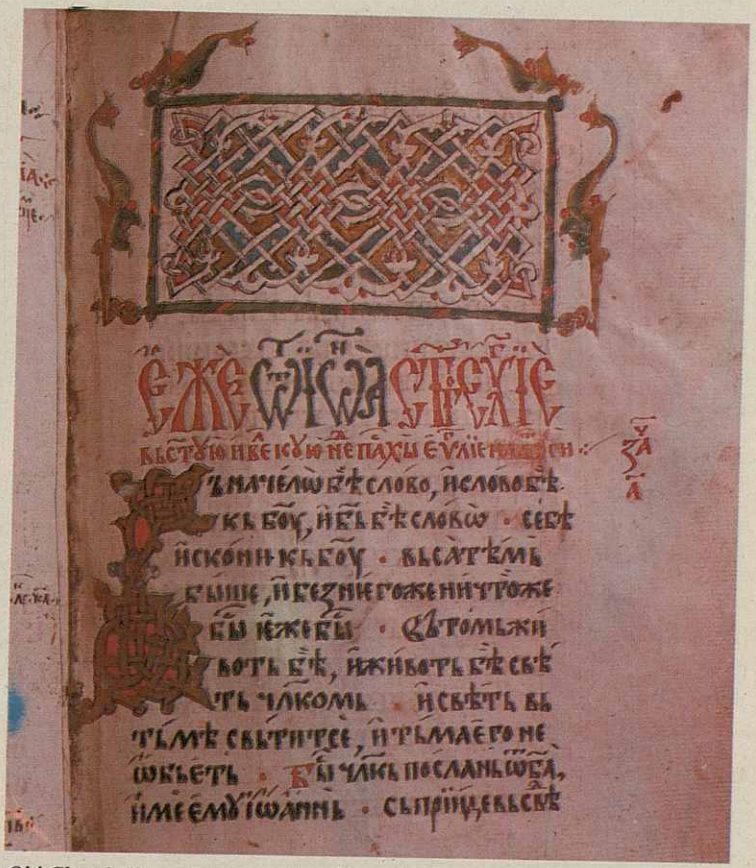
Ohrid, Old Architecture (Photo: B. Drnkov)



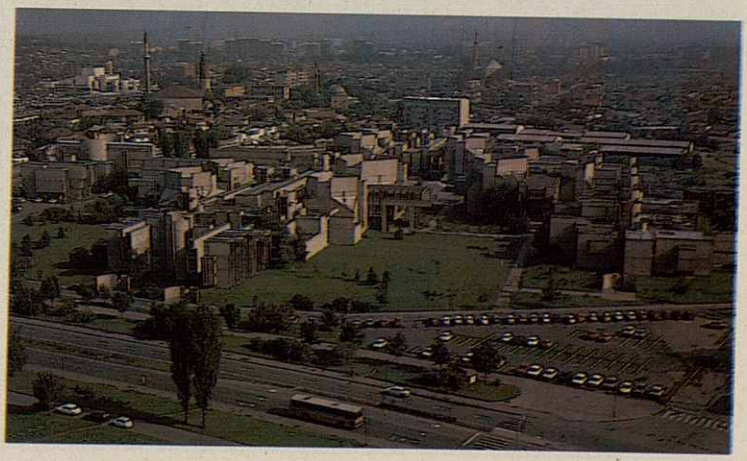
Mosaic, Heraclea (Photo: B. Drnkov)



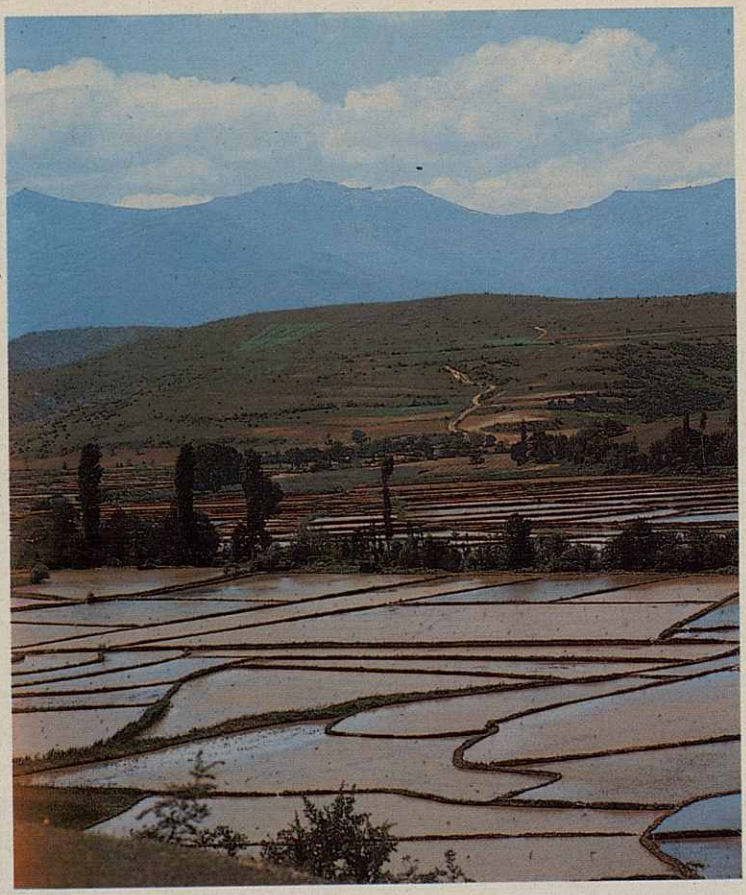
The Ancient Town of Stobi (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Old Church Slavonic Manuscript (Photo: B. Drnkov)



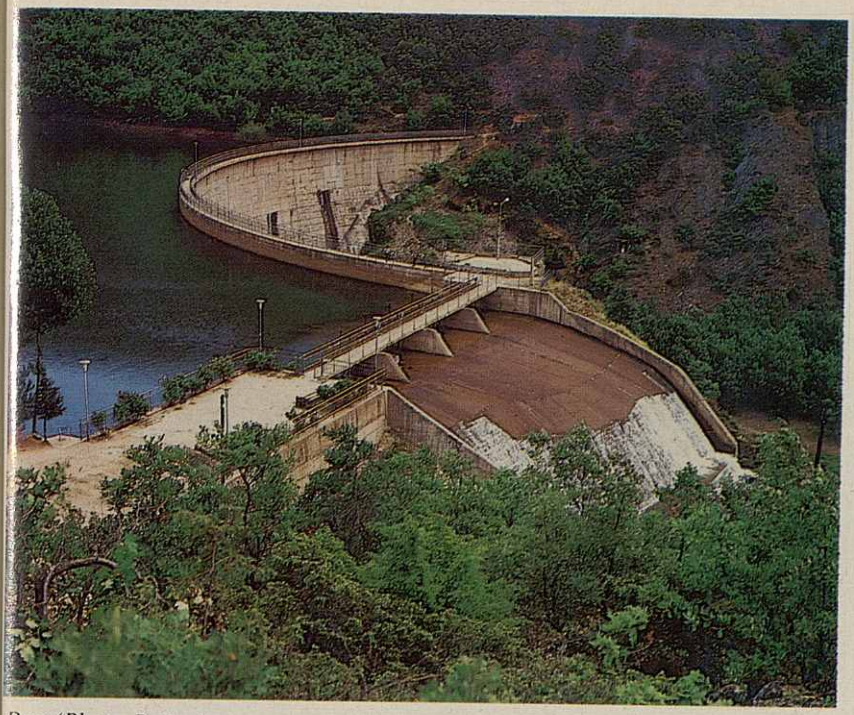
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University Complex, Skopje (Photo: B. Drnkov)



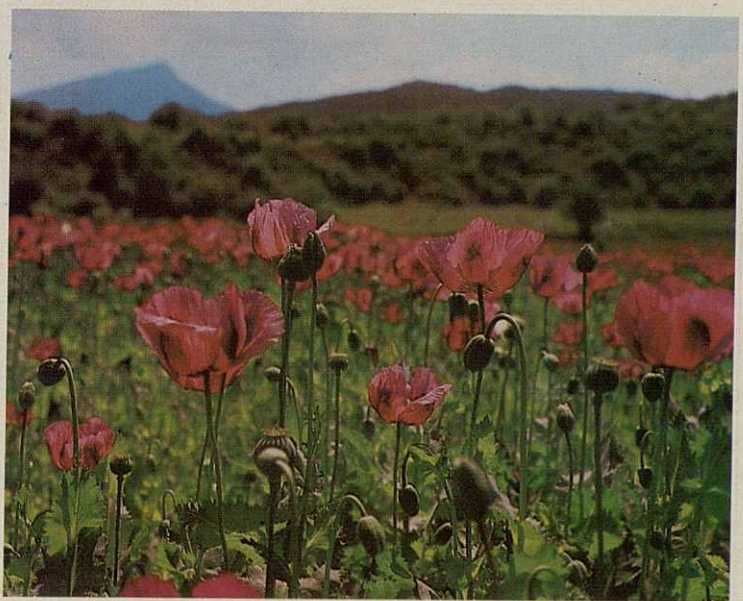
Rice Fields (Photo: R. Ḱamilov)



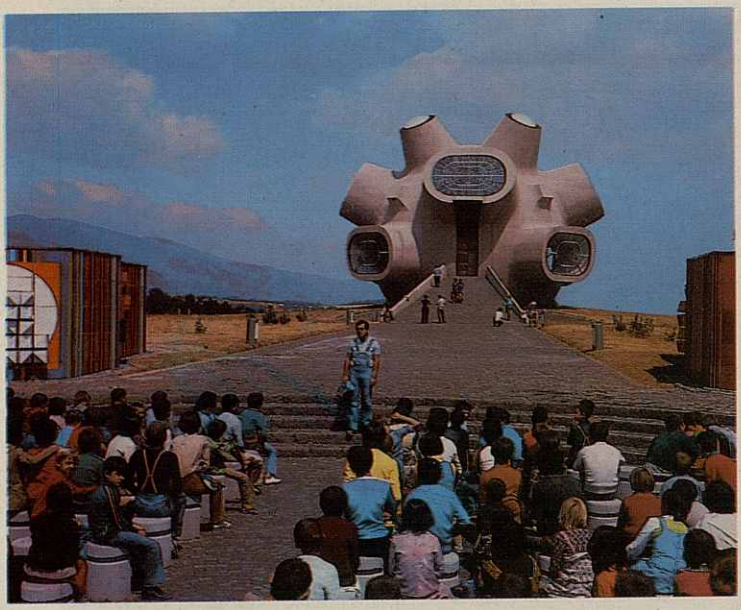
REK Bitola (Photo: A. Bušeski)



Dam (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Poppies (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Kruševo, 'Macedonium' (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Entertainment for the Young (Photo: A. Bušeski)



N. Martinoski, 'Woman', Oil on Canvas (Photo: B. Drnkov)



School Class (Photo: B. Drnkov)



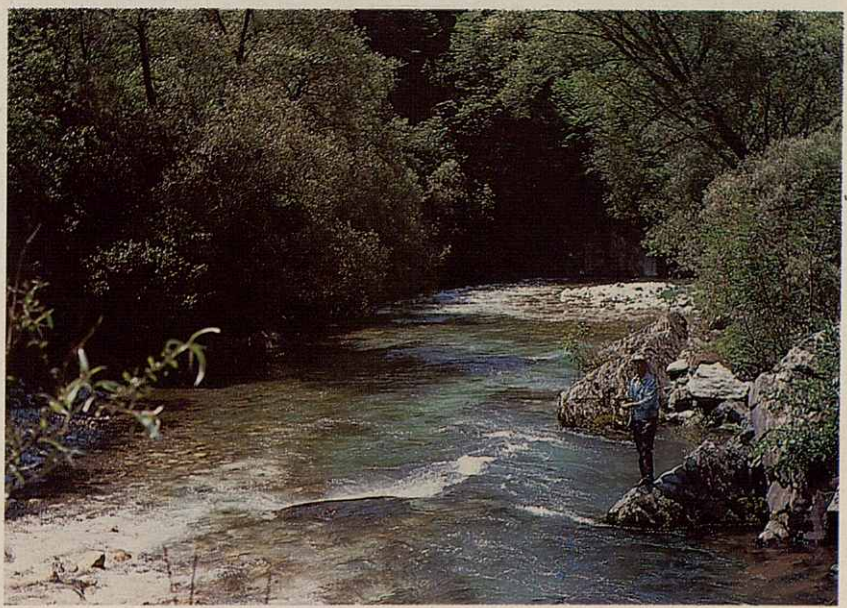
Skopje by Night (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Children at Play (Photo: B. Drnkov)



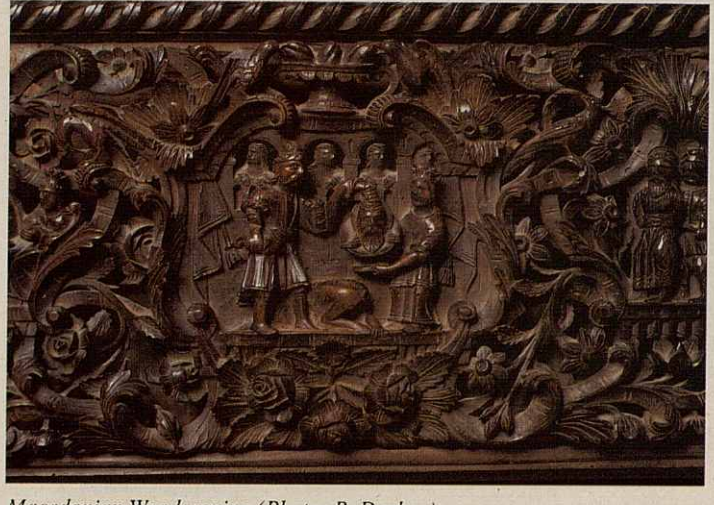
Ohrid Landscape (Photo: A. Bušeski)



The River Radika (Photo: B. Drnkov)



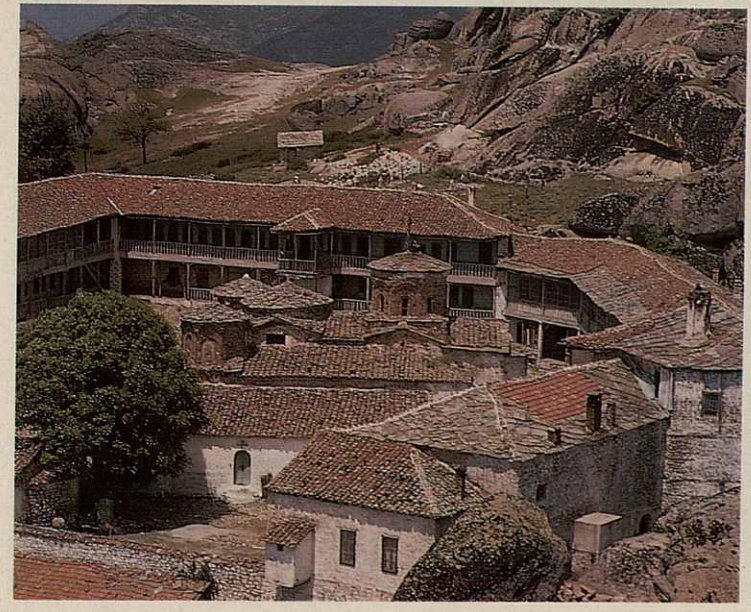
Icon of the Holy Virgin (Photo: B. Drnkov)



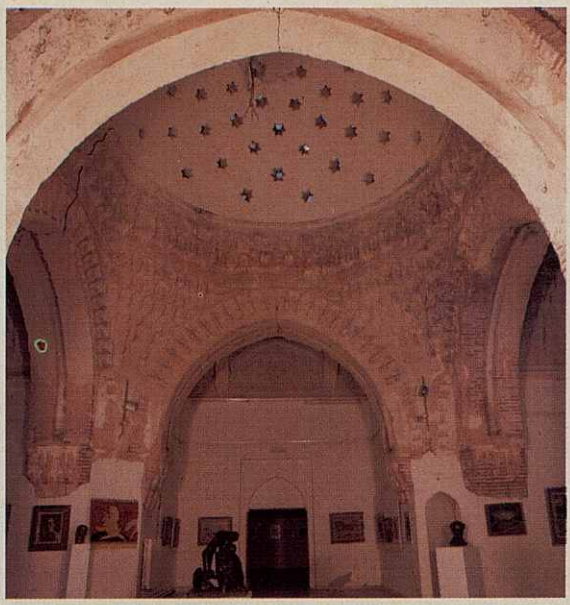
Macedonian Woodcarving (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Frescoes from the Church of St. Clement, Ohrid (Photo: B. Drnkov)



The Monastery of Treskavec, Prilep Region (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Daut Pasha Baths Art Gallery, Skopje (Photo: B. Drnkov)



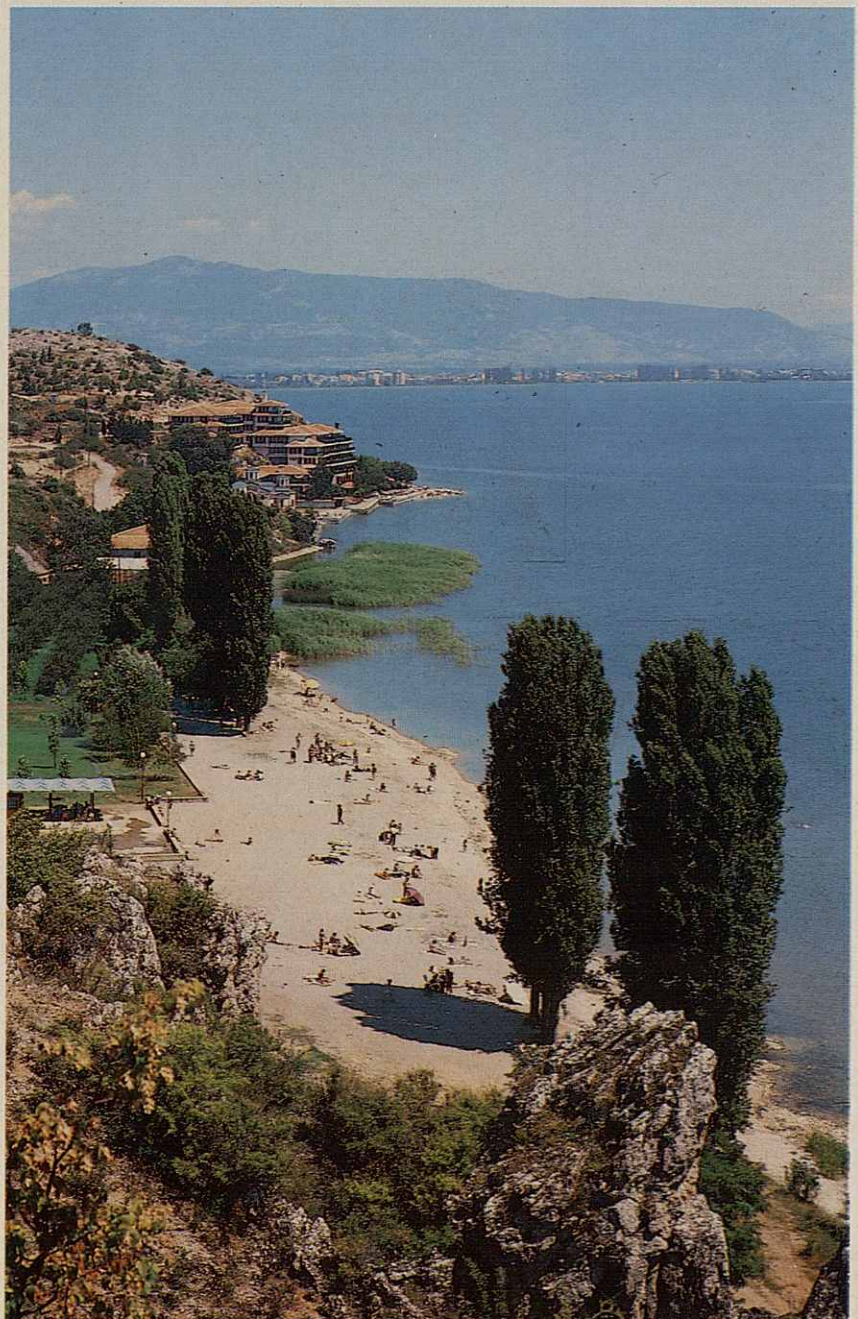
Detail from the Painted Mosque, Tetovo (Photo: B. Drnkov)



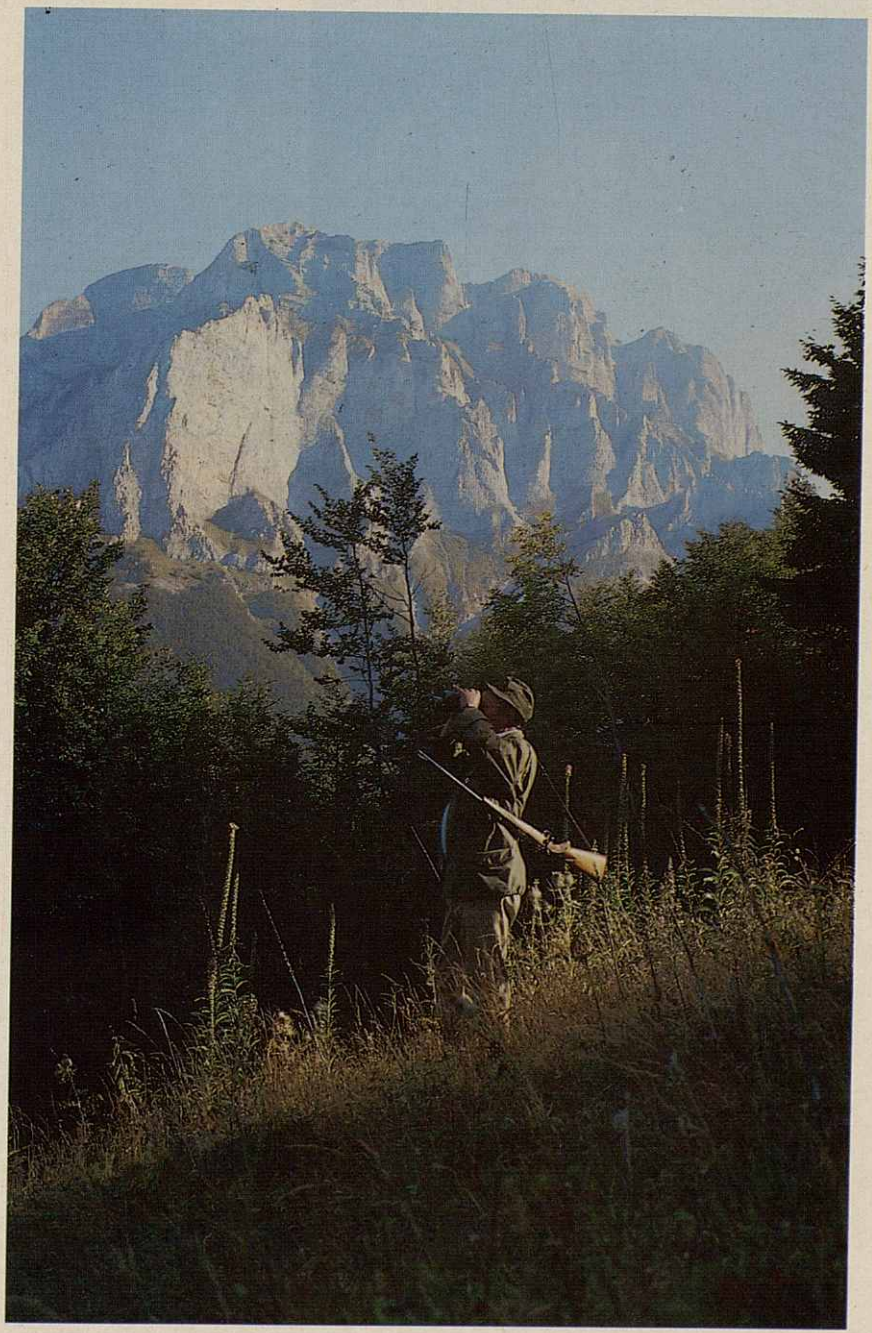
Sports and Recreation, Hang Gliding (Photo: B. Drnkov)



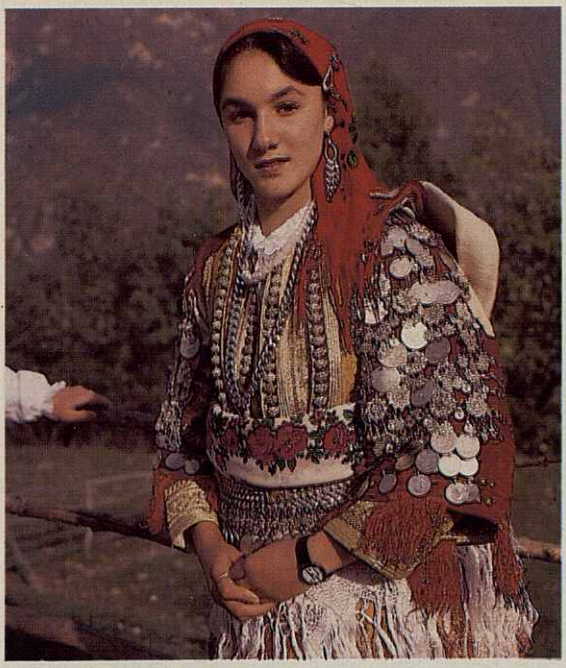
Skiers (Photo: A. Buševski)



The Biser Hotel, Struga (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Hunter (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Macedonian Folk Costume (Photo: B. Drnkov)



Pottery (Photo: B. Drnkov)

Political Parties

When appropriate conditions were created, following the 45-year rule of the Communists, a large number of parties with different platforms emerged on the pluralist political scene in Macedonia.

The versatile and varied character of political ideas and orientations was at once confirmed in the first free democratic and multiparty elections. These were held in the period November 11 to December 23, 1990. Seventeen political parties and one independent social organization put forward candidates for these elections. Together with the 43 independent candidates, there was a total of 1,157 candidates from whom 120 Representatives to the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia were elected. The greatest number of seats in the Macedonian Parliament, 38, were gained by the VMRO — Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity. The SKM — Party for Democratic Transformation (now the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia) won 31 seats. The Party for Democratic Prosperity took 17 seats. This party, in a coalition with the Popular Democratic Party, won an additional 5 seats in Parliament. The Association of Reformist Forces (now the Reformist Forces — Liberal Party of Macedonia) won 11 seats and an additional 6 in a coalition with the Youth Democratic Progressive Party, etc. The first Macedonian multiparty Parliament thus consisted of Representatives from eleven political parties as well as three independent candidates.

Since these parliamentary elections, the number of political parties has been constantly increasing. Now there are 53 regis-

tered political parties and many citizens' associations. The list of political parties includes the following: the Social Democratic Party of Macedonia, the League for Democracy, the Democratic Alliance — Agricultural Party of Macedonia, the MAAK — Movement for Pan-Macedonian Action, the National Party of Macedonia, the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia, the Party of Yugoslavs in the Republic of Macedonia, the VMRO — Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity, the Popular Democratic Party, the Party for Democratic Macedonian Workers' Unity, the Party for Democratic Prosperity in Macedonia, the Workers' Party, the Youth Democratic Progressive Party of Macedonia, the Party for the Total Emancipation of Romanies in Macedonia, the Socialist Party of Macedonia, the Political Party of the Unemployed of Macedonia, the Demo-Christian Party of Macedonia, the Reformist Forces of Macedonia — Liberal Party, the Workers' Agricultural Party of Macedonia, the Balkan Federation — Balkans without Frontiers, the Party for Human Rights of Macedonia, the VMRO — Democratic Party, the Party of Prosperity (Marxists), the Party of the United Macedonians, the Party for Immediate Action, the Macedonian Democratic Party, the Civil-Liberal Party of Macedonia, the Republican Party of Macedonia, the League of Serbs and Montenegrins in Macedonia, the League of Egyptians, the Liberal Party of Macedonia (Party for Economic Action), the Democratic League of Turks in Macedonia, the Macedonian National Front, the Democratic Party, and some others.

The Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia guarantees the right to the free establishment of political parties and citizens' associations.

Sports and Recreation

Macedonia is a small country with a great sporting heart. This has been the motto of its sportsmen, sports personnel and sports lovers, and justifiably so. Sports have a broad basis and are fairly widespread in Macedonia. More than 60,000 people participate actively in sports.

The most popular sport is football: there are 524 football clubs. The best and the most successful football club is 'Vardar' from Skopje. Its football team were one-time champions of the former Yugoslav federal league and once won the Yugoslav Football Cup. 'Vardar' has competed in the European Football Champions' Cup, in the UEFA Cup, in the European Cup-Winners' Cup, in the Central European Cup and in the Balkan Cup. Some of its players (Pančev, Saveski, Najdovski and Dojčinovski) have acquired high international reputations.

Basketball is another popular sport, where the best team has been 'Rabotnički' from Skopje. Other popular sports are handball, volleyball, karate and swimming, and some other 'smaller-scale' sports, as they are called.

The most successful Macedonian sport is free-style wrestling. The wrestler Šaban Trstena was a gold medallist at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and also won the silver medal at Seoul in 1988. His colleague Šaban Sejdiu was the winner of bronze medals at the Moscow and Los Angeles Olympics. The 'Balkanec' Wrestling Club from Štip was a vice-champion of Europe. Six other Macedonian sportsmen (Ace Rusevski, boxing; Redžep Redžepovski, boxing; Stojna Vangelovska, basketball; Blagoja Georgievski, basketball; Blagoe Vidinik, football,

and Branimir Jovanovski, shooting) have won medals in the Olympic Games.

More recently, swimming has been gaining in popularity as a sport. Macedonian swimmers have achieved good results in conditions of strong international competition.

Karate competitors from Macedonia have also achieved respectable results in the European arena.

The Macedonian Alpinist Expedition lead by Dime Ilievski climbed the 'roof of the world', conquering Mount Everest.

In 1992, Nikola Mitkov became the first Macedonian Grand Master in chess. A year later this title was also granted to Vlatko Bogdanovski.

Macedonia has been the organizer of several major international sports championships: in 1972, the Chess Olympiad was held in Skopje, and two years later the World Wild Water Kayak and Canoe Championship. Three World Championship swimming marathons have been held at Lake Ohrid.

Sport is not the preoccupation of full-time sportsmen and women alone. In sports and recreational centres throughout Macedonia you will find many people who spend part of their spare time in recreation. They play basketball, tennis and five-a-side football. Hunting and fishing are also very popular. So too are mountain climbing and jogging. In winter, the ski slopes are as full as beehives. Macedonian lakes are likewise crowded with swimmers in the summer months. At weekends, the mountain tracks and slopes in the vicinity of larger towns and also those near the tourist centres are full of trippers.

Even though the economic power of most of the population has weakened recently, still it must be said that a large number of people enjoy spending their weekends in Macedonian tourist resorts or travelling abroad.

Religion

Here the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia is clear, and states the following: "The freedom of religious confession is guaranteed. The right to express one's faith freely and publicly, individually or with others, is guaranteed."

In accordance with this basis, there are more than forty active religious communities in Macedonia which build relations of mutual respect and tolerance.

Two-thirds of the population of Macedonia are Orthodox Christians, 30% are Moslems, 0.5% Roman Catholics and 2.8% are of other religious affiliations.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church has played an important role in the long struggle of the Macedonian people for the preservation of its national identity, as well as in its education and culture. Its roots are ancient. The Archbishopric of Ohrid was the first autocephalous Slav Church. It was established by St. Clement and St. Naum, outstanding students of the brothers Ss. Cyril and Methodius. In 893 A.D., Clement of Ohrid became the first Slav archbishop.

Today the Macedonian Orthodox Church continues the traditions of St. Clement's Archbishopric of Ohrid. It is headed by the Archbishop of Ohrid and Macedonia and a Holy Synod of Bishops consisting of six bishops. The number of church eparchies in Macedonia is the same.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church has played an extremely important role in uniting and organizing Macedonian expatriates in Australia, the United States and Canada, and recently also in West European countries. The Australian Eparchy and the

Canado-American Eparchy comprise 44 churches and 2 monasteries. The activity of the Macedonian Orthodox Church in foreign countries is of exceptional educational and cultural assistance and of irreplaceable importance for the unity of Macedonians, their better mutual understanding and the preservation of their national traditions and constant concern about their national identity. Together with the Association of Expatriates, the Macedonian Orthodox Church plays a decisive role in the maintenance of constant links between the expatriates and their homeland.

The activities of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, like those of all religious communities in Macedonia, are financed from its own sources. From the funds it has raised among its believers, the Macedonian Orthodox Church has built a large number of churches throughout the world, including the Cathedral of St. Clement of Ohrid in Skopje.

Macedonia has about 1,200 churches and 425 mosques. There is a Roman Catholic church in Skopje, and the other religious communities have their own places of worship in the capital and in other towns.

The Orthodox and the Islamic religious communities each have a secondary religious school in Skopje. There is an Orthodox Theological Faculty, also in Skopje.

The believers from all confessions solemnly celebrate their religious holidays, and the most important of these are non-working days.

Major Towns

Skopje

The first impression of the visitor to Skopje, the capital of the Republic of Macedonia, is invariably the same: it is a new and modern city. This is true, but it is also true that Skopje is a very old city, too. The town is mentioned, under the name of Scupi, in the Roman period. Chroniclers have noted two important events in the history of Skopje occurring in 518 A.D.: the town was attacked by barbarian tribes and was struck by a disastrous earthquake. After this earthquake, another town was erected a few kilometres away from the old location. Later, the town on the banks of the River Vardar acquired its Slav name of Skopje. The city of Skopje experienced a rapid development after the Second World War. This trend was halted in 1963, when most of the city was devastated by another catastrophic earthquake. Thanks to world solidarity, the city was quickly renewed and reconstructed. Today Skopje is a beautiful modern city with half a million inhabitants.

Skopje is the political, economic and cultural centre of Macedonia. All the state institutions have their seats here. It is also the major centre of the metal-processing, chemical, timber, textile, leather and printing industries. Industrial development has been accompanied by an intensive development of internal and external trade and banking, as well as activities in the fields of culture and sport. The city is constantly spreading in all directions and has a number of new developments such as those at Karpoš I, II, III and IV, Vlae, Ǵorče Petrov, Kapištec, Topaan-

sko Pole, Jane Sandanski and Novo Lisiče. The city has a modern road system and the city public transport is provided by buses. Skopje is divided into five municipalities: Centar, Kisela Voda, Karpoš, Čair and Gazi Baba.

You can reach Skopje by train, car or air. The first train to arrive in Skopje was from Salonica in the distant year of 1873.

Skopje plays a central role in the cultural and educational life of Macedonia. Here is the seat of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts and here are the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, the National and University Library, the major theatre companies (the Macedonian National Theatre, the Drama Theatre and the Theatre of the Nationalities), the Archives of Macedonia, the Skopje Historical Archives, the clinics of the Faculty of Medicine, the largest publishing houses and the seats of art associations and unions. Also to be found in Skopje are the Museum of Macedonia (Archaeological, Historical and Ethnological), the Museum of the City of Skopje, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Natural History Museum and the Old Town Museum. The Art Gallery (Daut Pasha Baths), the Gallery of the Cultural and Information Centre and the 'Osten' Gallery are also located here.

The city and its vicinity have plenty of valuable cultural and historical monuments which attract the attention of every visitor. First to be mentioned here is the Nerezi Monastery with its Church of St. Pantelejmon from the 12th century. The frescoes that you can see here are among the highest achievements of Byzantine art. The Monastery of St. Nikita (14th century), Marko's Monastery (14th century) and the Monastery of St. Andrew (14th century) are situated in the vicinity of Skopje.

Skopje Old Town is the most attractive section of the city. It comprises about 1,000 shops, grills, restaurants, and pastry shops. The Old Town is also the location of the Church of the Holy Saviour with its unique iconostasis executed in masterful woodcarving (18-19th centuries). The yard of this church houses the sarcophagus with the body of the ideologist of the Macedonian national liberation movement, Goce Delčev (1872-1903). Also to be found in the Old Town are the Kuršumli An (16th century) and the Suli An (15th century) caravanserais, and the Daut Pasha Baths (15th century) with its two large and eleven small domes, now housing the Art Gallery. Other buildings

which may be found here are the Hjunčar Mosque (15th century), the Clock Tower (16th century), the Isak-Bey Mosque (15th century) and the Mustapha Pasha Mosque (15th century). The old Skopje fortress, called Kale (10-12th centuries), is situated directly above the Old Town.

The City Shopping Centre and the 'Mavrovka' complex are the largest retail facilities in Skopje.

Bitola

The second largest town in Macedonia, Bitola, is also called the town of the consuls. At one time during Ottoman rule Bitola was a diplomatic centre with 12 consulates.

Its traditional architecture is fascinating.

Bitola is an old town, situated in the southern part of the Pelagonija Plain. Some two kilometres from the town centre is the site of the classical town of Heraclea. The town got its present name at the time of the Macedonian Tsar Samuil.

Bitola is an important industrial, agricultural, commercial, educational and cultural centre. The 'Bitola' Mining and Energy Combine is to be found here, whose thermoelectric power stations provide about 80% of the electric energy in Macedonia. The 'Pelagonija' Agricultural and Industrial Combine is the largest in Macedonia, and the Pelagonija Plain is the major Macedonian granary. Bitola also has industrial facilities for the production of household appliances, food, textiles and leather. The town is traditionally a strong trading centre.

Bitola is the seat of the second university in Macedonia. One of the oldest and best theatre companies in the country is to be found in this town, and there are also a newspaper and a publishing company, local radio and television, an art gallery and a large cultural association.

Lying in its vicinity is the magnificent Mount Pelister, a national park with exquisite flora and fauna, and also a well-known ski resort.

Prilep

Prilep is also situated in the Pelagonija Plain, but in its northern part. Characteristic features of this town are the old fortress — Marko's Citadel — and the widespread production of tobacco. Prilep is the largest and most famous centre for the production of high-quality tobacco and cigarettes.

The town also has metal-processing, electronic, timber, textile, food and marble industries.

There is an Institute of Old Slavonic Culture in Prilep. Each year an International Art Colony is held here, as is also the Festival of Professional Theatres of Macedonia. A literary journal and a town newspaper are regularly published in this town, and there are several radio and television stations, some of them private.

Prilep was one of the two towns where on October 11, 1941, the struggle of the Macedonian people against the fascist occupiers began.

The Old Town's architecture is extremely attractive. Prilep has a spacious and beautiful park, where the Tomb of the Unconquered is located, a memorial in honour of the victims of fascism.

Several old monasteries are found in the town's immediate vicinity, including the Monastery of the Holy Archangel Michael (whose church has some 12th and 14th centuries frescoes), the Monastery of Treskavec (built in the 13th century, with frescoes surviving from the 14th and 15th centuries) and the Monastery of Zrze (14th century).

Prilep has a printing works where the bank-notes of the Macedonian currency, the denar, are printed.

Kruševo

Kruševo is a small but picturesque town. It resembles a magic painting by an old master. Situated at an altitude of 1,350 metres, Kruševo is the highest town in the Balkans. The chance guest will not be wrong if he styles Kruševo a museum of old architecture. The town is full of old and more recent houses built

in the style of old Macedonian architecture. There are virtually no apartment blocks.

Each year on Ilinden (St. Elijah's day) the town wears a festive look: on the balconies and at the windows of all the houses shaggy handwoven blankets (*yambolias*) in all kinds of colours are exhibited. Kruševo proudly preserves the memory of the renowned Ilinden Uprising of the Macedonian people on August 2, St. Elijah's Day, 1903. In this town, the Ilinden insurrectionists established the Kruševo Republic which only ten days later was suppressed in blood.

The 'Macedonium' monument to the Ilinden Uprising is to be found in Kruševo. There are also a Museum of the Ilinden Uprising, a Gallery of 19th century icons, and a memorial gallery to the master of modern Macedonian painting, Nikola Martinoski, who was born in this town.

A few kilometres away from the town is the historical site of Mečkin Kamen, where the Ilinden insurrectionists fought the decisive battle against the Ottoman army.

Kruševo is a well known ski centre and a climatic health resort.

Ohrid

This is undoubtedly the most beautiful and most attractive Macedonian town, a pearl of old architecture and a treasury of valuable cultural and historical monuments. It is a town which is always in the focus of interest of every visitor to Macedonia.

The beauties of Ohrid and its lake have complemented each other for centuries. The town is a cultural and educational centre. Here, St. Clement of Ohrid laid the foundations of the first Slav university, where 3,500 students were educated. It was in this town, too, that Clement of Ohrid established the Archbishopric of Ohrid. In the 10th and 11th centuries, Ohrid became the capital of the Macedonian Tsar Samuil. The walls of his fortress, 16 metres high, still survive, and now concerts, operas and plays are given within them each summer. Situated under Samuil's fortress are the remains of an old classical theatre from the 2nd-1st centuries B.C. There also is the Polyconhous Basilica with its valuable mosaics dating from the second half of the 5th

century A.D. The Monastery of St. Clement, one of the oldest Slav monasteries, is located in the old part of the town. Its church houses the tomb of St. Clement of Ohrid. In addition to the beautiful frescoes in the church, a rich collection of old Ohrid icons is to be found here. The Church of St. John of Kaneo was erected in the 13th century on a cliff overhanging Lake Ohrid. In the old town centre, also near the lake, is the famous Cathedral of St. Sophia, containing some magnificent frescoes from the 10th century. Today St. Sophia is the venue for the Ohrid Summer Festival concerts and its courtyard is used for theatrical performances in the same festival. The churches of the Holy Virgin of Perivleptos (13th century) and of St. Nicholas 'Bolnički' (14th century) are also situated in this part of the town. The Robev House, an exquisite example of old Macedonian architecture, houses the Museum of the Town of Ohrid. The Monastery of St. Naum (9th century) is situated at the southern end of the lake, in a striking natural environment.

Especially during the summer, Ohrid is the centre for several cultural events. The most widely acclaimed is the international Ohrid Summer Festival of music and drama, in which a large number of famous artists from all over the world participate each year from July 12 to August 20. The Balkan Folklore Festival and the Festival of Macedonian Old Town Songs are also held here. Ohrid has been host to the participants of the Macedonian Language, Literature and Culture Seminar for more than 25 years.

The town has highly profitable and environmentally pure industries. It is also the chief tourist centre of Macedonia, with first-class hotels, camp-sites, company hotels and holiday homes, as well as a large number of ancillary tourist, hotel and catering facilities.

The town of Ohrid and Lake Ohrid have been placed under the protection of UNESCO as an outstanding environment.

Struga

Struga is the capital of poetry and one of the cradles of the Macedonian spiritual revival in the 19th century, and it is the birthplace of the outstanding poets and educators, the brothers

Dimitrija and Konstantin Miladinov. Each year since 1962 in the second half of August the Struga Poetry Evenings, which are held in their honour, have gathered poets from all the continents. The Struga poetry festival is one of the oldest, largest and most renowned of its kind in the world. It includes a spectacular poetic event entitled 'Bridges', where poets read their work from the bridge under which the River Crni Drim flows out of Lake Ohrid before an audience of some ten thousand people. The recipients of the Golden Wreath, the highest accolade of the Struga Poetry Evenings, include some of the greatest poets of the world.

Struga is an important tourist resort on the shores of Lake Ohrid. There are several cultural monuments in Struga and its vicinity. The largest number of guests visit the Monastery of Kališta, lying on the very shores of the lake, a few kilometres away from the centre of the town.

Titov Veles

Situated on the main route linking Central Europe with the Aegean, Veles grew in the last century into an important centre of trade.

Now the town is predominantly industrial. There is a smeltery for lead and zinc, a porcelain factory and a silk factory, as well as leather and metal industries. Agriculture, viticulture and market-gardening are fairly well-developed.

Titov Veles is a town with a rich cultural tradition. In honour of the founder of modern Macedonian literature, Kočo Racin, the Racin Meetings, in which writers from all the Balkan countries take part, are held here.

Some twenty kilometres south of Titov Veles, near the motorway running to Gevgelija, is the most famous archaeological site in Macedonia, the classical town of Stobi. This town, dating from 197 B.C., was the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia Salutaris. Excavations at Stobi began as early as 1924 and it is still an object of great attraction to archaeologists. The surviving mosaics and other archaeological structures are of exceptional value.

Štip

Štip is a significant cultural, educational and economic centre in east Macedonia. It is a town of the textile and fashion industries.

An old fortress is situated on the hill of Isar in the town centre. Several churches dating from the 14th century are located along its foothills.

The old Turkish covered market (*Bezisten*) in the centre of the town houses the Art Gallery. In the Church of the Holy Virgin in Novo Selo there is a permanent exhibition of icons. In the yard of this church there is a school where at the end of the 19th century Goce Delčev, the ideologist of the Macedonian national liberation movement, was a teacher.

A few kilometres from the town is the classical site of Bargala.

The first known opera performance in Macedonia was held in Štip in 1925. A festival of popular music entitled 'Mak-Fest' is now held there each year.

In the immediate vicinity of the town is the Kežovica spa with its medicinal mineral springs.

Kumanovo

Kumanovo is an economic, trading and cultural centre in the northern part of Macedonia.

The town's prosperity rests upon the metal-processing, tobacco, footwear and textile industries, as well as agriculture.

The Church of St. George at the Monastery of Staro Nagoričane is the best known cultural and historical monument. The Church was built in the 11th century and was reconstructed in the 14th. During its reconstruction, the fresco-painters Mihailo and Evtihij painted its walls with frescoes of exceptional artistic value.

The town has an outstanding revolutionary tradition. Together with Prilep, it was in Kumanovo that the anti-fascist insurrection of the Macedonian people and its struggle for national and social liberation began on October 11, 1941.

The Kumanovo Spa medicinal springs are situated in the immediate vicinity of the town.

Tetovo

Tetovo is a town lying at the foothills of the Šar Mountains, where ethnic Macedonians, Albanians, Turks and Romanies live together side by side.

The town has a well-developed textile and clothing industry and a massive plant for the production of chromium and ferro-silicon. The comparative advantages of the Polog valley have been well used for the development of agriculture, especially market-gardening and fruit growing.

More recently, Tetovo has become a centre of private businesses and trade. Countless small shops have been opened where one can buy almost everything, 'from a needle to a locomotive'.

Some of the mosques in the town are old and date back to the 17th century. The best known among them is the Painted Mosque. In the vicinity of the town there is the Arabati Baba Teќe museum complex.

The Monastery of Lešok with the churches of St. Athanasius and of the Holy Virgin, from the 14th century, is situated near Tetovo. In honour of the educator Kiril Pejčinoviќ, this monastery hosts an International Meeting of Literary Translators. Tetovo is also host to the Festival of Macedonian Choirs.

The well-known ski resort of Popova Šapka lies above Tetovo in the Šar Mountains. It is linked to the town by an asphalt road and a cable railway.

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ALBANIA


REPUBLIC of MACEDONIA
YUGOSLAVIA
BULGARIA
ALBANIA
GREECE
SKOPJE
KUMANOVO
TETOVO
GOSTIVAR
KRIVA PALANKA
KRATOVO
KOČANI
ŠTIP
VELES
PRILEP
BITOLA
OHRID
RESEN
STRUGA
KIČEVO
DEBAR
KRUŠEVO
DEMIR HISAR
GEVGELIJA
VALANDOVO
STRUMICA
RADOVIŠ
BEROVO
PEHČEVO
KAVADARCI
NEGOTINO
GRADSKO
SVETI NIKOLE
KONČE
Sv. Bogorodica
Sv. Stefan
OSOGOVSKI PLANINI
ŠAR PLANINA
KARADŽICA
KITKA
GOLEŠNICA
JAKUPICA
SUVA GORA
KORAB
DAUTICA
BABUNA
KONEČKA PLANINA
PLAČKOVICA
MALEŠEVSKI PL.
OGRAŽDEN
BELASICA
KOŽUF
NIDŽE
SELEČKA PLANINA
PLAČENSKA PLANINA
KARAORMAN
JABLANICA
GALIČICA
OVČEPOLE
CRNA GORA
SKOPSKA
KUMANOVSKA KOTLINA
TIKVEŠKA KOTLINA
KOČANSKA KOTLINA
NEGORSKA BANJA
DEBARSKA BANJA
KONSKO-KRAVARSKA BANJA
OHRIDSKO JEZERO
PRESPANSKO JEZERO
Vardar reka
Crna reka
Treska
Lepenec
Bregalnica
Kriva reka
Pčinja
Lipkovska reka
Lipkovsko jezero
Matka
Tikveško jezero
Dojransko jezero
Strumica reka
Vodoca
Ovče pole
Ograždensko jezero
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Ohridsko jezero
Debarsko jezero
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Radika
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Sateska
Radika





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