



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

A PROMISE is A PROMISE!

FIRST
100
DAYS

GOVERNMENT OF THE CITIZENS ●





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PREFACE

Distinguished media representatives, respected citizens of the Republic of Macedonia!

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia, which started operations on June 1 this year, today summarizes the results of its work in front of you - the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia.

These are results that have been achieved after an extremely complex and crisis situation in our country. The citizens came out as winners from that situation. We have entered a new phase in which we create an entirely new political environment dominated by transparency, responsibility, accountability and reasonable policies of interest to all citizens.

A promise is a promise! We have restored the freedom in the country, we are returning our lives.

Together we have defined that we are fighting for a free and better life for us all, in a society for all.

We have opened many new processes. Many of them were unimaginable for our political practice. For example: We declassified the covert Agreements made by the government, ministries, agencies, directorates. **The covert became public!**

We have unleashed a lot of locked, forgotten, and important activities and working bodies. For example: We secured the presence personally of the Directors of the Security Services in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia.

In these 100 days there, we were led by FIVE principles, FIVE commitments and important determinants: To **RETURN the MONEY TO the CITIZENS**, to provide **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR A BETTER LIFE**, to give them a friendly person, to make the **INSTITUTIONS function IN CIVIL SERVICE**, so that in all our decisions the citizens will recognize the **OPEN AND REFORM GOVERNMENT**, and to promote our country **MACEDONIA AS A FRIEND OF THE NEIGHBORS**, which is steadfast walking the path to NATO and the European Union.

The promise became a reality. The given word turned into a concrete benefit for the citizens. This Government is a Government of the citizens and their interests. We recognized those interests, and create the best solutions for them. Furthermore: SOLUTIONS ARE BECOMING REALITY, THROUGH POLICY MEASURES FOR CITIZENS WHO ARE INSPIRATION FOR NEW ACTIVITIES!

Distinguished representatives of the media, dear citizens, the action for RETURNING the MONEY TO CITIZENS began 100 days ago!

This Government, at the very beginning of its work, faced the great challenge of rebalancing the Budget, in the creation of which it did not take part.

Our task was to locate the anticipated unproductive, irrational, unnecessary costs and to find the basis for the money provided for non-expenditures, thus divert them to the needs of citizens and companies.

We have no intention of financing the luxuries of the state apparatus. This Government has no intention of closing money in unproductive costs, such as advertising propaganda and the luxury of senior state officials with uncontrolled spending for representations and pointless business trips. **Enough of that!**

This Government intends and firmly resolves to behave economically with the money of the citizens.

Only by cutting the Prime Minister's budget we provided 420 million MKdenars. Together with the other funds exempted from this approach, we are implementing programmes that will be realized by returning the money to the citizens with services, privileges and concrete actions.



- We provided additional 1,245 million MKD to the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund to ensure smooth payment of pensions and the costs for the second pension pillar, and another 200 million MKD for the payment of ALL GUARANTEED social transfers of citizens.

With the amendments and supplements to the Budget for 2017 we provided funds for:

- Subsidizing the minimum salary, in order to make it amount at 12 thousand MKdenars. This measure covers about 70 thousand of our fellow employees;
- We have solved the problem of the bankruptcy workers who so far have not been covered by the existing legal solutions, including about 3000 people and their families;
- We have provided 60 million denars for support of the tourist facilities in the Republic of Macedonia and for annual leave for the least paid workers.
- With 9 million Euros, or approximately 500 million MKdenars, we support active policies and measures for new employments and realization of the project "Guarantee for Young People", because we want them to stay in Macedonia; We provided 135 million for support for small and medium enterprises and for supporting domestic greenfield investments.

Economic working has allowed us to keep another promise - we have commenced a process of abolishing the broadcasting fee.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me point out another important series of decisions:

This Government directly met the farmers requests, with a series of new measures from the government's programme. In the first 100 days. A package of 10 million euros, reaching the fruit growers, grapes growers, livestock farmers and farmers.

That means supporting domestic food production.

The measure for financial support of 10,000 euros non-refundable funds for a young farmer is of particular importance.

These solutions unequivocally illustrate that we always find creative programmes and measures to bring the money back to the citizens.

One such measure is the return of the cheap electricity tariff.

We were convinced that such an opportunity exists. With a new, economy approach to the operation of ELEM and MEPSO, their savings will be transferred as a benefit to the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, such as the cheap tariff for electricity.

Dear citizens of the Republic of Macedonia!

All of these government decisions that I have so far reminded of, made in only 100 days, are decisions that are realistically viable and implemented on the basis of realistic parameters and policies for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR A BETTER LIFE.

The supplementary budget is based on realistic projections and development principles.

We promised that in the first 100 days of the mandate we will announce the total amount of all the accumulated liabilities of the state to the business. We return the debt.

We inherited a huge, unreasonably created public debt. With a realistic approach and with a thorough analysis of outbound solutions, we managed to reduce it with disbursements and borrowings at much lower interest rate. We are creating fiscal and financial policies that will ensure **the development to reduce the debt.**

Development will reduce the debt. We create conditions for this! The conditions applicable to foreign companies will now apply to domestic companies. With the domestic companies we create a new, successful, economic story for Macedonia.

Let me just mention some of the measures that we provide for the conditions for developing business initiatives:

- We strengthen the financial and staffing capacities of the Agency for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship, Coordination and Implementation of the Development Policies for Small and Medium Enterprises.
- The Macedonian Bank for Development Promotion is recapitalized in order to increase the credit support and its ability to implement the guarantee scheme.
- We have taken measures to prevent unfair competition and strengthen the true control of products.

We have received full support for the changes in the penalty policy. We insist the basis of this policy should be prevention, not punitive repression.

We create a climate for legal security in which owners and employers will be protected from pressures and fears.

The Government's policies on energy, transport and infrastructure received full support at the Trieste Summit. One of the outcomes of Trieste is the Agreement on Establishment of Transport Community in the Western Balkans, a project that opens exceptional benefits for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BETTER LIFE.

We create good stories. The Summit in Trieste is a well-learned story: Regional and neighborly policy always yields results. For example, the Memorandum of Cooperation for Railway Connection with the Republic of Bulgaria, as a concrete result of the Agreement for Cooperation, Friendship and Good Neighborhood with Bulgaria, provided a grant of 70 million Euro for construction of the railway line to the Republic of Bulgaria as part of Corridor 8.

Respected citizens of the Republic of Macedonia,

Past and future successful policies of this Government are result of the determination to put the INSTITUTIONS IN THE SERVICE OF CITIZENS. To ensure that the institutions are turned into a service for better life of the citizens. In the interest of the citizens, above all!

First and foremost, allow me to point out the fact that now the media have the opportunity to communicate to the public the activities and decisions of our work with immediate information, thanks to the regular weekly briefing with the journalists and editors. Directly, from the source of the information, with the possibility to immediately get answers to all their questions. We give the correct answer to each question as soon as possible. We are available, open and accountable.

In certain ministries, such as the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, "Open Day with the Citizens" was introduced every Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

The Government has shortened, simplified and made cheaper the procedures for more services for the citizens, especially the social services, registry offices and administrative services.

We heard the messages of the citizens and the business community, and, starting from September 1, started to apply the Decision for new working hours and double-shifts in the public administration, as well as in the kindergartens.

We abolished the external examination in schools. Fundamental changes in the educational programmes have commenced.

We have increased the minimum number of days for consultation of the Single National Electronic Registry of Regulations, from 10 to 20 days. By doing this, we have doubled the time given to citizens and the business community to participate in the public debate as a contribution to the improvement of the proposed laws and regulations in the phase of adoption.

We prolonged/extended the deadline for legalization of illegally constructed buildings.



In order to fully express the principle INSTITUTIONS IN CIVIL SERVICE to all citizens, we started the preparation of the National Strategy for Cooperation with the Diaspora, aimed at bringing the Diaspora closer to the Republic of Macedonia and developing cooperation in several areas.

Dear citizens of the Republic of Macedonia,

We promised that this Government will be an **OPEN and REFORM** one. In front of you all, on July 5, we presented Plan 3-6-9.

Today, just after two months, on September 5, we announce:

- The Government has given concrete support to the State Election Commission for strengthening of their capacities before holding the local elections. It resolved the status of part of the staff and provided space for permanent use by the Commission.
- We have made all the necessary preparations for supporting a fair and democratic election process, with clear guidelines that provide guidance for every government official and state institutions employee on what must be avoided during the pre-election period and what will be the consequences of not following the Electoral Code.
- The Government has committed to provide obligatory and detailed explanation of all legal proposals and offer a possibility for raising parliamentary questions on a weekly basis. The Government is at the disposal of the Assembly for establishing effective, regular and routine monitoring of the intelligence services.
- We have harmonized and adopted the text of the Law on Languages, which also closes the last open issue of the Ohrid Framework Agreement.
- We improved the concept of cooperation between the Government and civil society organizations.
- Now everyone has an insight into the work of the Government. Before each session, we publish the Agenda, and after each session, we publish a Report/Minutes of the essential decisions made by the Government.
- The defining of the final version of the Draft Law on Audio and Audiovisual Media Services for Media Reform is in a procedure.
- We stopped the Government ads that were designated by domestic and international factors as a source of pressure and control over the media, and we will announce all the costs up to date for these ads.
- An overview of all cases of intimidation, pressures and hate speech against journalists has been drawn up, aimed at encouraging free journalism and avoid repeating such practices in the future. For journalists working on investigative journalism, the Government made the information from the Central Register and the Cadastre available and free.
- We also declassified the information related to business trips, representation and granting state aid to foreign companies. There is no harm if the public has greater insight as to how the Government spends the money and protects the interests of the citizens.
- All necessary working groups have been established for preparation of the most important legal solutions, along with the Council for implementation of judicial reforms, and this week the preparation of the Strategy for Judicial Reform will be completed.
- The Government provided support for strengthening the capacities of the Ombudsman,
- The system for combating terrorism and activities for reforming the security and intelligence structures are being improved in accordance with international standards and recommendations.

Plan 3-6-9 brings us back to the fast track in the European integration processes to promote the Republic of Macedonia as a FRIEND OF ITS NEIGHBORS, A COUNTRY WHICH WALKS STEADFAST ON THE PATH TO NATO AND THE EUROPEAN UNION!

In these 100 days, no day passed without a meeting with our friends from the international community. All our partners and friends gave us unreserved support. Everyone recognized our determination and objective: Macedonia to be accepted, to be seen as a **FRIEND** on the **PATH TO NATO AND THE EUROPEAN UNION!**

The Republic of Macedonia has become a desirable partner, a partner with which is worth, should, and can be considered reliable when facing the challenges of the international, regional or inter-neighborly politics.

The signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Good Neighborliness and Cooperation between Macedonia and Bulgaria showed that where there is political will and idea of progress, the issues will be resolved.

This Treaty is an inspiration and a model for cooperation for the region and beyond. This is the case, because this Government has decided to lead policy of solutions, not problems.

This attitude is based on the reaffirmation of the relations with the Republic of Greece. Only the positive approach in resolving open issues between states, with mutual respect and understanding, is the future of the region.

At the Western Balkans Summit in Trieste, within the framework of the Berlin Process, with the support of the European Union, we proactively participated in an initiative that will change the image, history, and the economy and standard of citizens in the countries of the region. From a place that produces crises, to a region of secure stability. The recognition we received there from Angela Merkel, Boris Johnson and by Emanuel Macron is unequivocal.

With the military exercise on Krivolak, we have placed the relations with the United States of America to a new level of quality in the global security plan. The meeting with US Vice President Pence in Podgorica was a new affirmation for our NATO aspiration.

The support for the firm commitment of the reform government of the Republic of Macedonia and the return of the country on the path of European integration has unreservedly arrived from the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kingdom of Norway, through a joint Declaration on partnership and cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Macedonia. The Republic of Finland has unselfishly offered its assistance for the education reform, again due to the Government's reform profile.

Yesterday we returned from Israel with a new wind in the sails. The reform course of our Government opens serious perspectives for cooperation with this country.

This visit was yet another contribution to our determination the Republic of Macedonia to be seen as **FRIEND and PARTNER, on THE PATH TO NATO AND THE EUROPEAN UNION!**

Respected citizens of the Republic of Macedonia,

The Government has prepared all the necessary conditions for fair and democratic local elections. We are entering the finalization of yet another expression of the citizens' free will - the local elections. It is a new stage in which this Government proves that it restores the confidence in the institutions, that it restores the life. We create a society equal for everyone, for all citizens of this country. We create conditions for young people to stay and work here, in our beautiful country Macedonia.

We recognized the awakened hope among the citizens. We are determined to restore the dignity of people. This is a Government of the citizens and a Government for the citizens.

This is a Government of its word. This Government is reformed and open, leading a core policy.

A promise is a promise!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The word is a word - 100 Days of Government of the citizens is a Report of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, which started its work on 1 June this year, summarizing the results of its work in the first 100 days to You - the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia. The word is a word - 100 days Days of Government of the citizens has been developed with a serious contribution of the Ministries, and I would hereby like to thank them for their support in the development of this document.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(Vice-President of the Government of Republic of Macedonia and minister for defence Radmila Sekerinska)

The defense ministry has restored the focus on the key defense reforms and NATO membership. Re-started the blocked process for drafting the Strategic Defense Review which is a key document for reforming the Army and NATO membership. The budget rebalance provided additional funds for salaries for the employees in the MOD and ARM that were missing, made a decision to indemnify the employees of the MOD and ARM after floods in Skopje, to engage the ARM in extinguishing fires in Macedonia, as well as a decision to open the doors of the military camp in Ohrid for the citizens. The Ministry of Defense also made declassification of all documents for business trips in the country and abroad, as well as for the expenses for representation. A breakthrough in the presentation of the new policy of cooperation and good neighborliness was made, official meetings were held with the defense ministers of Slovenia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, as well as with defense ministers of NATO member states and partner countries, at the meeting of the North Atlantic Council of NATO in Brussels. Over 10 events and over 40 meetings were held with the families of the dead defenders, ARM members who participated in peacekeeping missions, representatives of state institutions from the country and abroad, interstate institutions and embassies. The "Dragoon Guardian 17" exercise on Krivolak was carried out, which sent the message of partnership and cooperation between the Macedonian and US military forces.

Reforms

- Decision to restart the blocked process for drafting a Strategic Defense Review - a key document for defense reform and NATO membership;
- **Declassification of all documents for official trips in the country and abroad and the cost of representation (3-6-9);**
- Provision of funds for salaries with the budget rebalance;
- Decision to open the doors to the military camp in Ohrid for the citizens, following a series of earthquakes in this region;
- Decision to indemnify the employees of the MOD and the ARM after the floods in Skopje;
- Decision of the Administrative Group for Engagement of the ARM in extinguishing the fires on the territory of Macedonia; and
- Changes in the procedure for admission of students/cadets to the Military Academy with increased transparency.

Eleven events

- Participation of Minister Shekerinska on the Visiting Day at the "Saber Guardian 17" exercise in Romania;
- The exercise "Dragoon Guardian 17" was realized at Krivolak;
- Minister Shekerinska's participation at the meeting of the North Atlantic Council of NATO in Brussels;
- Official visit to Albania;
- Participation of Minister Sekerinska at the meeting of the Adriatic Charter member countries in Montenegro;
- Celebration of the Day of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Sending a new rotation officer to the North command in the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan;



- Official visit to Slovenia;
- Sending members of the ARM to the exercise “Saber Guardian 17”;
- An oath of volunteer soldiers in Veles; and
- Opening the international security project “Summer Campus”.

Over 40 meetings with

- NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg;
- NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, Tacan Ildem;
- President of Slovenia, Borut Pahor;
- Minister of Defense of Albania Mimi Kodhyeli;
- Minister of Defense of Bulgaria, Krasimir Karakachanov;
- Minister of Defense of Slovenia Andreja Katic;
- Minister of Defense of Romania Adrian Tutuianu;
- President of the European Council, Donald Tusk;
- High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union and Vice President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini;
- Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Han;
- Head of the NATO Liaison Office in Skopje, Gorazd Bartol;
- Chief of General Staff of the ARM, Lieutenant General Lieutenant Colonel Metodija Velichkovski;
- Chief of Defence Staff of the Austrian Armed Forces, General Othmar Commenda;
- The first people of the defense unions;
- Families of the dead defenders;
- Members of the ARM who participated in peacekeeping missions;
- Representatives of the Economic Chamber of Macedonia;
- UK Senior Adviser providing advisory support for the strategic documents development, Stephen Glover; and
- Ambassadors of 22 countries accredited in the Republic of Macedonia.

MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

(Vice-President of the Government of Republic of Macedonia and minister for internal affairs Oliver Spasovski)

The Ministry of the Internal Affairs started implementing the Special Plan for increasing traffic safety on the territory of the capital, through enhanced and intense traffic controls, with a special focus on younger categories of drivers, as well as motorcycle riders. Also, a base station was opened at the PU Rostushe for photographing for personal documents. The Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Hungary - Police Law Enforcement School - Szeged for co-operation in the field of joint training, as well as a Working Arrangement with CEPOL, prepared the legal acts for operationalizing the National Coordination Center for Combating Organized Crime, launched a reform of the Department for Combating Corruption in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and defined a model and legal framework for an external independent mechanism for monitoring the work of the police in cooperation and with the Council of Europe and the Ombudsman. The Ministry prepared the Draft Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection in accordance with the recommendations of the EC expert. Through its representatives, more than 40 meetings were held with the trade union of professional soldiers, representatives of state institutions from abroad, interstate institutions and ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Macedonia, organized the UEFA Super Cup and took part in five events, including the visit of the European Union Agency for Training Law Enforcement - CEPOL in Budapest in order to sign the Working Arrangement between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia and CEPOL.

Reforms

- Signed Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Macedonia - Training Center and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Hungary - Police Law Enforcement School - Szeged for co-operation in the field of joint training;
- Signed Working Arrangement between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia and CEPOL;
- An open base for photographing for personal documents placed in the RU Rostushe;
- Implementation of the Special Plan for increasing traffic safety in the area of the capital, through intensified and intense traffic controls, with a special focus on younger categories of drivers, as well as motorcycle riders;
- 15 new vans were purchased for the Rapid Deployment Unit;
- **Defined model and legal framework for an external independent mechanism for monitoring the work of the police in cooperation with the Council of Europe and the Ombudsman (3-6-9);**
- **Prepared legal acts for the operationalization of the National Coordination Center for Combating Organized Crime (3-6-9);**
- **A Decision was made by the Government to establish and appoint members of the National Committee for Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism (3-6-9);**
- **A government Decision was adopted to appoint a National Coordinator for Preventing Violent Extremism and Countering Terrorism and its Deputies (3-6-9);**
- **Reform of the Department for Combat against Corruption started in the Ministry of Interior (3-6-9);**
- **Established negotiating team and started negotiations on the Status Agreement with the European Agency for Border and Coast Guard (3-6-9); and**
- **Initiated technical meetings with the EC aimed at harmonizing the national system with the relevant EU requirements and the Schengen rules (3-6-9).**



Laws

- **Draft Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection prepared according to the recommendations of the EC expert (3-6-9).**

Six events

- Participatation in the organization of the final competition of the UEFA Super Cup through undertaking measures and activities for maintaining a stable security, public order and peace, as well as guaranteeing the safety of the participants in the competition, UEFA representatives and fans;
- Visit to the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training - CEPOL in Budapest with the objective of signing a Working Arrangement between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia and CEPOL;
- Visit to SIA Skopje;
- Participation in the conference "Public-Private Partnership in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings" in Moscow, Russian Federation, organized by OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation; and
- Participation and address of the MARRI Ministerial Forum in Belgrade.

Over 40 meetings with

- Independent trade union of professional soldiers;
- Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Sandor Pinter, for signing a Police Cooperation Agreement that was submitted to Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Bosnia and Herzegovina Security Minister Dragan Mektić, as part of the delegation headed by Prime Minister Zoran Zaev, discussed the possibility of signing an agreement between the Republic of Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina for citizens' travelling with ID cards;
- UNDP Delegation, led by Louisa Vinton, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative;
- General Director of Security of the Republic of Turkey, Selami Altınok;
- The members of the working group established within the Council of Europe Project "Strengthening the Respect of Human Rights During Police Actions", in which members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Macedonia, the Ombudsman, the Judge of the Supreme Court, representatives of the expert and scientific public, as well as the civil sector, for the establishment of an external mechanism for controlling the work of the employees in the Ministry of Internal Affairs by police powers and the prison police;
- Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova, OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings;
- Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Petya Nestorova;
- National Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of Montenegro, Zoran Ulama; and
- Over 30 meetings with ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Macedonia.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

- Bujar Osmani

The Secretariat for European Affairs, along with the numerous activities, reactivated the Working Committee for European Integration (ECEI) after a couple of years, and held 36 meetings there. The Government adopted the revision of the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis Communautaire of the European Union 2017, the most comprehensive planning document that directs the process of European integration of Macedonia. It held 4 debates and one thematic consultation, and participated in 3 visits. Deputy Prime Minister in charge of European affairs held over 53 meetings with representatives of domestic and foreign state institutions, representatives of interstate institutions and civil society organizations, as well as ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Macedonia.

Reforms

- After a couple of years of rest, the European Integration Working Committee (ERC) was reactivated, and 36 meetings were held;
- Training on filling in Applications for the Western Balkan Investment Framework;
- A revision of the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis Communautaire of the European Union 2017, the most comprehensive planning document that directs the process of European integration of Macedonia;
- An Open Call for project proposals with the assistance of the Kingdom of Norway in several areas;
- An Open Call for co-financing of infrastructure projects “Western Balkans Investment Framework” (WBIF) for 2017 for the sectors: energy, transport, environment and social policy by the end of November 2017;
- Grant for technical assistance for rehabilitation of penitentiary institutions;
- Signed financial Agreement for IPARD 2014-2020;
- Revised Operational Programme for Transport IPA 2;
- 14 Agreements signed with a total amount of around 4 million Euros within the Instrument for Supporting the EU integration process;
- Initiated proposals for enhanced sectoral coordination, utilization of IPA and MASTER PLAN with project support;
- Finalized annual programming for IPA 2017;
- Launching of the programming process for IPA 2018 and 2019;
- An authorization from the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to NIPAC for signing a Financing Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the European Commission for financing in relation to the Multi-Annual Operational Programme Regional Development for Community Assistance for the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance under the component “Regional Development”;
- An authorization from the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to NIPAC for signing a Financial Agreement for the Action Programme for Cross-Border Cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Albania for 2015-2017, for the allocation for 2017 - IPA 2017/038-164;
- An Agreement was signed to complement the strategic project for the construction of a joint building Belanovce Stancic within the framework of the Programme for cross-border cooperation with Kosovo;



- Translated 867 copyright pages from English into Macedonian and 106 authors pages from Macedonian into English.

Seven events

- Debate held "IPA: EXPAND & STATE - Improving the absorption of IPA funds" with 300 representatives of civil society organizations;
- Debate "Implementation of the Measures from Plan 3-6-9 in the Part of the Elections";
- Debate held with the representatives of the civil sector for the implementation of Plan 3-6-9;
- Presentation of Plan 3-6-9 held in front of the EU Ambassador Samuel Žbogar and the ambassadors of the EU Member States;
- Thematic consultations held with representatives of the civil society organizations "EU integration should unite us all" together with the President of the Government Zoran Zaev;
- Participation in a commemoration on the occasion of the death of former Prime Minister of Kosovo, Bajram Rexhepi; and
- A visit, together with the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ljupco Nikolovski, to a successful project realized with IPA funds, Component 5 IPARD 2007-2013, Project for Modernization and Equipping of the Phytosanitary Laboratory at the Institute of Agriculture.

Over 53 meetings with

- Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikos Kotzias for promoting the co-operation between the two countries that opened up with the new political impulse in the neighbourly relations brought by the new government;
- 2 meetings with Michael Roth, Minister of State for Europe at the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria in charge of EU funds and economic policy, Tomislav Donchev;
- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia, in charge of European affairs, Matti Maasikas;
- Director General of the Directorate-General for Enlargement and Neighborhood Policy Christian Danielsson, together with Justice Minister Bilen Saljiji and Minister of Information Society and Administration Damjan Manchevski;
- EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, in a delegation of the Republic of Macedonia led by Prime Minister Zaev;
- 2 meetings with Commissioner for Enlargement, Johannes Hahn;
- European Council President Donald Tusk;
- NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, in a delegation of the Republic of Macedonia led by Prime Minister Zaev;
- Nicola Bertolini, Head of Cooperation in the Delegation of the European Union in Skopje (DEU) on the situation regarding the realization of the projects and the absorption of IPA funds;
- Continental Europe Director at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Florence Mangin;
- President of the Republic of Macedonia, Gjorge Ivanov, at which was presented Plan 3-6-9;
- Minister of Internal Affairs, Oliver Spasovski;
- Minister of Justice, Bilen Saljiji, on the occasion of the accession of the Republic of Macedonia to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), a process that started in 2008 when formally as a country we have been asked for membership in the Agency;
- Minister of Information Society and Administration Damjan Mancevski;
- Representatives of the State Election Commission;
- Representatives from the competent institutions from the Republic of Macedonia and the competent EC DGs for coordination after the thirteenth meeting of the Subcommittee on Trade, Industry, Customs and Taxation;

- Representatives of institutions that have the jurisdiction to implement the measures for the judiciary provided for in Plan 3-6-9, together with the Ministry of Justice;
- The President of the Commission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Information of Public Character, Gjorgji Slamkov, devoted to the implementation of the measures from Plan 3-6-9, which are under the jurisdiction of the Commission;
- The Ombudsman, Ixhet Memeti;
- Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Observation Mission for the latest parliamentary elections, Tana De Zulueta;
- Alexander Kalweit, Head of International Cooperation at the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation;
- Lars Hänsel, Head of Department Europe at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation;
- Andreas Gies, *Director-General for Development Cooperation Worldwide* at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development;
- Christoph Beier, Vice President of the GIZ Management Board (German Agency for International Development);
- UNICEF Representative in the Republic of Macedonia, Benjamin Perks;
- UNDP Resident Coordinator and UN Resident Representative, Louisa Vinton;
- Working breakfast with ambassadors and their representatives, the countries of the Western Balkans - the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Kosovo, the Republic of Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia;
- Swiss Ambassador, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden, Mats Staffansson;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Wouter Plomp;
- Ambassador of Hungary, *László István Dux*;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Italy, Carlo Romeo;
- OSCE Ambassador Nina Suomalainen;
- Ambassador of Slovakia, Martin Bezak;
- Ambassador of the United Kingdom, Charles Edmund Garrett;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, Ramón Abaroa Carranza;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, Jacek Stephan Multanowski;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Greece, Dimitrios Yannakakis;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, Danijela *Barišić*;
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey;
- The Ambassador of the European Union to Macedonia, Samuel **Ž**bogar;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Austria, Renate Kobler;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, Fatos Reka;
- Ambassadors of the EU Member States, led by the President of the Government, Mr. Zaev;
- 2 meetings with the Ambassador of the French Republic, Christian Timonier;
- The regular meeting cycle, in accordance with the established monitoring mechanism for monitoring the obligations of the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) with the EC;
- The Stabilization and Association Council (Council for SA) between the Republic of Macedonia and the EU, as highest form of institutional cooperation between the two sides, has meetings on an annual basis at the level of foreign ministers; and
- The 14th meeting of the Stabilization and Association Committee between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union (CSA) was held on 29 June 2017 in Brussels.



DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

- Dr. Kocho Andjusev

Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Dr. Kocho Angjushev, together with his team, prepared an initiative for returning the cheap tariff for electricity and started developing a new model for supporting investors for stronger economic growth through equal treatment of domestic and foreign investors. It started with the preparation of three legal solutions: for changing the deadline for applying for registration of real estate rights and for registering the data from the collection books in the Real Estate Cadastre, the Draft Law on Energy and the Draft Rulebook amending and supplementing the Rulebook for export, import and transit of waste.

Reforms

- Initiative for returning the cheap tariff for electricity;
- **Decision of the Government to declassify contracts for granting state aid to foreign investors (3-6-9);**
- Detailed analysis of the effects of the implementation of the current policies for attracting foreign investments;
- Decision of the Government to establish a coordinative body for cooperation of foreign investors with domestic companies;
- Process of developing a new model to support investors for stronger economic growth through equal treatment of domestic and foreign investors;
- Preparation of a government subsidy project for the construction of a 20MW photo-voltage power plant; and
- Reviewing the options for energy independence, which would restore the lost energy security and stability of the Republic of Macedonia.

Laws

- Preparation of the Draft Rulebook amending and supplementing the Rulebook on Export, Import and Transit of Waste;
- Preparation of a Draft-Modification of the Law on Changing the Deadline for Applying for Registration of Real Estate Rights and for Registering the Data from the Incubation Books in the Real Estate Cadastre; and
- Preparation of a Draft Law on Energy that will be harmonized with the Third Energy Package, undertaken as an obligation by the Energy Community.

Meetings

- All active foreign investors and all potential investors.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN CHARGE OF IMPLEMENTING THE FRAMEWORK A GREEMENT AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS

- Hazbi Lika

Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the implementation of the Framework Agreement and Political Systems, Hazbi Lika, drafted a Law on the Use of Languages, which was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and sent to parliamentary procedure. He had over 12 meetings and participated on the 16th anniversary of the signing of the Ohrid Framework Agreement.

Laws

- **Draft law on the Use of Languages (3-6-9).**

One event

- 16th anniversary of the signing of the Ohrid Framework Agreement.

Over 12 meetings with

- The Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, Fatos Reka;
- OSCE Mission Head Nina Suomalainen;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of France, Christian Timonier;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Austria, Renate Kobler;
- UK Ambassador Charles Garrett;
- Ambassador of the European Union, Samuel Žbogar;
- Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, Danijela Barišić;
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey; and
- Deputy Ambassador of Italy, Fabio Cristiani.



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(minister Nikola Dimitrov)

Intensive diplomatic activities have been undertaken to strengthen the country's shattered position on the international scene by which Macedonia has come out of isolation. The Minister of Foreign Affairs had 113 meetings both in the country and abroad with foreign ministers, ambassadors, other foreign representatives and representatives of the civil sector, with whom he renewed the friendships with the countries in the world, and dialogue with the EU by which clear and unconditional recommendation is expected for the start of accession negotiations, as noted by the head of European diplomacy Mogherini and Commissioner Hahn. Also, after a two-year break, the 13th meeting of the Stabilization and Association Council between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union was held, while NATO sees the Republic of Macedonia as an "important partner" in the realization of their mission. A Treaty of good neighborly relations with the Republic of Bulgaria was signed, while the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Nikos Kotzias, emphasized that he was "very pleased with the positive results of the joint measures for good neighborly relations". In the direction of transparency and openness of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, all documents related to the official trips of MFA employees have again become public information. Protocol with the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on the joint border crossing Belanovce-Stancic was signed, as well as statements for cooperation with the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kingdom of Norway. MFA organized the conference "Republic of Macedonia towards Full NATO Membership", and representatives of the Ministry attended more than sixteen events, including the "Brdo Brioni" Process Meeting, the Global Forum in Warsaw, the NATO Summit in Podgorica and the Western Balkans Summit in Trieste.

Reforms

- By Decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, **the documents related to the official trips of the employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs again became public information (3-6-9).**

Established collaborations

- Protocol signed between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on the joint border crossing Belanovce - Stancic;
- Declaration for Cooperation signed between the Kingdom of Sweden and the Republic of Macedonia; and
- Joint Statement on partnership and cooperation between the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Macedonia.

Seventeen events

- Conference "Republic of Macedonia towards Full NATO Membership" organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the Brdo Brioni Process meeting;
- Participation of the Director of Consular Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Zvonimir Popovic, at the fifth meeting of the Standing Joint Border Commission between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Greece;
- Dimitrov's participation in the traditional Dubrovnik Forum titled "Adriatic-Mediterranean Cooperation and Security in Southeast Europe";
- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the countries participating in the South-East European Cooperation Process;

- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the Global Forum in Warsaw in co-organization of the Atlantic Council and the Polish Institute for International Relations;
- Participation of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs at the informal meeting of the foreign ministers of the OSCE participating States;
- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the Western Balkans Summit in Trieste;
- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the thirteenth meeting of the Stabilization and Association Council between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union;
- Participation of Minister Dimitrov at the NATO Summit in Podgorica, as part of the delegation of the President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Zaev;
- Sixth meeting on confidence building measures between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Greece;
- Second meeting of the Joint Steering Committee on the Development Cooperation Framework with the UN, entitled "Partnership for Sustainable Development: UN Strategy for 2016-2020";
- Address by Minister Dimitrov before the Foreign Policy Committee of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Address by Minister Dimitrov to representatives of the EU institutions, EU member states, think tanks dealing with European policies and academics in Brussels;
- Visiting a group of 20 students at the Mandel School of Leadership, guests at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and
- Visiting students from the Trieste School of Management from Trieste, Italy.

Over 80 meetings with

- Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Milan Jazbec;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, Daniela Barišić;
- Executive Board of the Trade Union of the Macedonian Diplomatic Service;
- French Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, Christian Timonier;
- Ambassador of the European Union, Samuel Žbogar;
- Ambassador of the Slovak Republic, Martin Bezák;
- US Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, Jess Bailey;
- Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria, Boyko Borisov;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey, Tülin Erkal Kara;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Wouter Plomp;
- Ambassador of the Italian Republic to the Republic of Macedonia, Carlo Romeo;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Republic of Macedonia, Arne Sannes Bjørnstad;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Bert Koenders;
- Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nikos Kotzias;
- President of the Hellenic Republic, Prokopis Pavlopoulos;
- New Democracy High Representative to the Hellenic Republic, George Koumoutsakos;
- Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Macedonia, Oleg Shcherbak;
- Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje, Nina Suomalainen;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu;
- Australian Ambassador, Julia Feeney;



- Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Yin Lixian;
- Head of the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission for Early Parliamentary Elections in Macedonia, Tana de Zulueta;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to the Republic of Macedonia, Renate Kobler;
- Ambassador of the United Kingdom, Charles Garrett;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway, Børghe Brende;
- President of the Republic of Serbia, Aleksandar Vučić;
- Senior European Union expert, Reinhard Priebe;
- Ambassador of Montenegro, Predrag Mitrović;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, Jacek Multanowski;
- Director for the Western Balkans at the Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations of the European Commission, Genoveva Ruiz Calavera;
- Ambassador of Japan, Keiko Haneda;
- Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lepa Babić;
- Ambassador of Hungary, László István Dux;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, Fatos Reka;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, Ramón Abaroa;
- Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Hoyt Brian Yee;
- UN Special Envoy on the name issue between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Greece, Matthew Nimetz;
- Head of the NATO Liaison Office in Skopje, Captain (N) Gorazd Bartol;
- Continental Europe Director for the French MFA, Florence Mangin;
- Representatives from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
- UNICEF Representative in Macedonia, Benjamin Perks;
- UN Resident Coordinator in Macedonia, Louisa Vinton;
- Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hossein Karimi;
- Ambassador of Greece, Dimitris Yannakakis;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia, Dušanka Divjak - Tomić;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Witold Waszczykowski;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria, Sebastian Kurz;
- German Minister of State, Michael Roth;
- Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop;
- Ambassador of the Netherlands, Wouter Plomp;
- COREPER Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives of Member States in Brussels;
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium, Didier Ryders;

- Ambassador of Finland, Pertti Ikonen;
- Ambassador of Canada, Philip Pinnington;
- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia in charge of European affairs, Matti Maasikas;
- Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, Tachan Ildem;
- Ambassador of Israel, Dan Orian;
- Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania, Ditmir Bushati;
- Western Balkans Director for Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Fiona McElwain;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden, Mats Staffansson;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Faig Bagirov;
- Representatives of the Open Regional Fund for Southeast Europe, the National Democratic Institute-Macedonia and the Institute for European Policy;
- President and CEO of Eurotinque, Andreja Stojkovski and Ljupco Petkovski;
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ekaterina Zaharieva;
- State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Al Muraikhi;
- Delegation from the United Arab Emirates;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark, Anders Samuelsen;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Finland, Timo Sauni;
- Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Thomas Norbert Gerberich;
- Representative of the World Health Organization, Dr. Jihan Tavilla;
- The Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Manal Yehya El Shinawi;
- Hans van Ballen, Member of the European Parliament and President of the Liberal and Democrats for Europe Alliance;
- Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dacic;
- President of the European Council, Donald Tusk;
- High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union and Vice President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini;
- Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Han;
- NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg;
- State Secretary for European Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Germany, Michael Roth; and
- German ambassador, Christine D. Althausen.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(minister Dragan Tevdovski)

Through the budget rebalance, the non-productive costs, such as advertisements, the costs for Skopje 2014 Project, business trips, representation, cars, etc. were reduced, and more money for health, social protection and active measures for employment were foreseen. In addition, funds are provided for measures to support citizens and domestic companies, such as raising the minimum wage, solving the problem of the redundant workers, **abolishing the broadcasting fee (3-6-9)**, supporting domestic small and medium enterprises and farmers, and resting/vacations for workers with low salaries. In order to transparently inform the citizens, the Ministry of Finance published the Citizens' Budget, as well as the analysis of income inequality, which was prepared for the first time since the independence of Macedonia. Apart from introducing new and publishing regular reports, the Ministry has promoted the content and format of the existing ones. Amendments to four laws have been prepared, namely the Law on accounting for the budgets and budget users, the implementation of the Budget for 2017, for issuing bonds of the Republic of Macedonia for denationalization, as well as changes aimed at improving the budget process and increasing transparency. The best and fastest reflection of the determination of the Ministry of Finance and the Government for regular servicing of obligations and discharge to the economy is the VAT refund. Since the beginning of the mandate, VAT refunds have been indiscriminate and regularly paid off from the Treasury, which injects liquidity in the companies. Additionally, the Ministry of Finance actively managed the public debt and worked on reducing the frequency of demand for government securities, and several agreements with municipalities in Macedonia were concluded. Representatives of the Ministry participated in three events and held over 12 meetings with relevant institutions.

Reforms

- Funds have been provided for subsidizing the minimum salary, in order to increase it to 12,000 denars as of 12 September;
- For active policies and measures to support employment in the private sector, supplementary appropriation is additionally allocated of 112 million MK denars and they will amount to 667 million MKdenars;
- Support to small and medium enterprises and support for domestic greenfield investments of around 135 million MKdenars by the end of the year;
- Support to domestic tourism through subsidizing low-income workers in the amount of 60 million MKdenars;
- Solving the material security of the unemployed due to the privatization of enterprises with dominant state ownership, i.e. insolvency workers from these enterprises, which have not been covered by the existing legal solutions;
- Subsidizing the Macedonian Radio Television by abolishing the broadcasting fee and releasing the citizens from this public fee;
- Support for IPA projects in the amount of 500 million MKdenars for budget participation and withdrawal of donations in order to ensure intensification of EU-supported activities in the pre-accession period, as well as greater utilization of European funds;
- Publication of the Citizens' Budget in order to present the key information on the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia in an understandable way for the non-expert public;
- Publication of an analysis of income inequality for the first time in the history of the Republic of Macedonia;

- The Ministry of Finance started publishing data on revenue collection and execution of the expenditures of the General Budget of the Republic of Macedonia on a quarterly basis;
- Improving the content and changing the format of the Report on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia for the first six months of 2017;
- Introduction of a new statistical bulletin;
- Improvement of the contents of the Quarterly Economic Report of the Ministry of Finance;
- Improving the content of the monthly Report on Short-term economic Movements of the Ministry of Finance;
- Prepared draft Report to the international organization Open Budget Index;
- Amendments to the time series for the public debt structure starting in 2008;
- Publication of a detailed table for realized auctions of government securities;
- The Government reviewed the Annual Public Debt Management Report for 2016;
- Announcement of unpaid liabilities of state institutions, with cut off date on 31.05.2017;
- Publication of the execution of the LSG budgets by quarters;
- Preparation of an application solution in order for the unpaid obligations to be systematically recorded;
- Preparation of the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia for 2018 and Medium-Term Fiscal Strategy 2018-2020;
- Decree on the institutional framework of the system for combating irregularities and fraud;
- Reduced frequency of demand for domestic securities, from 3-4 times during the month to 2 times a month; and
- Announcement of the calendar for auctions for K3 and K4 of government securities.

Laws

- Draft Amendment of the Law on Accounting for budgets and budget users;
- The Assembly adopted the amendments and supplements to the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia for 2017 and supplementing the Law on Execution of the Budget for 2017;
- Draft Law on Amending the Law on Issuing Bonds of the Republic of Macedonia for Denationalization; and
- Amendments to the legislation aimed at improving the budget process and increasing transparency.

Projects

- Realization of projects arising from the Law on Subsidized Housing Loans;
- Agreements for construction of kindergarten in the Municipality of Sopiste; and
- Agreements for construction of local streets and improvement of the water supply in the Municipality of Cheshinovo-Oblesevo were concluded.

Payment

- Payment of the loan to Deutsche Bank from 2012 in the amount of 77.3 million euros.



Three events

- Participation in a conference of the International Monetary Fund;
- Initial meeting on the preparation of the Economic Reform Programme for 2018, where representatives from the NGO sector, universities, representatives from international financial institutions and embassies in the Republic of Macedonia were invited and participated; and
- Consultative meeting between ministers from the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and university professors.

Over 12 meetings with

- Delegation of the European Commission;
- Ambassadors of Great Britain, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United States and Israel;
- International financial institutions and bilateral creditors (World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Council of Europe Development Bank, KfW); and
- UN Representative and UNDP Coordinator in Macedonia, Louisa Vinton.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

(minister Arben Taravari)

The Ministry of Health has introduced a new “Welcome Baby” service through which parents can get a birth certificate in only two days, made a Decision for reducing the price of meningococcal vaccine for people going for a pilgrimage to 1000 MK denars, and asked all public healthcare institutions to declare what are their needs in terms of equipment/apparatus and personnel, as well as for more efficient use of budget funds. The referrals for scheduling the examination and the duration of the examination in public health institutions were modified. There is an ongoing preparation of an application for easier access to the database of possible organizers, and there are also activities on finding a new solution for overcoming the problem with the issuance of electronic health cards. In addition, a multiannual National Strategy is being prepared in cooperation with the World Health Organization (2020-2030), as well as the first National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis by 2030. A Decision was made to create Registers for malignant diseases and other diseases, and preparations for ratification of the “Istanbul Convention” are under way. Three events were successfully organized for the successful closing of the organ transplant project, for the complete cleaning of the Clinical Center and for the installation of new trilingual orientation boards in the Mother Teresa Clinical Center.

Reforms

- Introducing the “Welcome Baby” service through which parents will be able to obtain a birth certificate in only 2 days;
- Prolonged duration of patient examination in public health institutions;
- Activities for disposing of tertiary health;
- Development of an application for easier access to the database of possible organizers;
- Modification of referrals for scheduling an appointment (introduction of an urgent and referral without a term)
- Activities for finding a new solution for overcoming the problem of issuing electronic health cards;
- Established working group to address the long-standing problem of non-payment of trainees;
- Complete laboratory tests in the third shift in the Children’s Hospital Kozle;
- Increased cost control in all public healthcare institutions;
- Possibilities for employment of the best students from the Faculty of Medicine are considered immediately after the completion of the studies;
- Modification of the “Performance Payments” project is under way (the penalties are abolished);
- Successfully resolved the problem with a gynecologist in Suto Orizari;
- An open telephone line via Viber and WhatsApp - # HiTarvari;
- Preparation of a multi-annual National Strategy in the field of health in cooperation with the World Health Organization (2020-2030)
- Realization of Facebook’s “Your Doctor” and “My Vision” campaigns;
- Formation of working groups for better coordination and communication with civil society associations in the field of health;
- Provided budget for the operation of support services for people with HIV, drug users, sex workers and other marginalized communities;
- Preparation of the first National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis by 2030;



- Activities for exemption of vulnerable groups from fee participation;
- Preparations for the ratification of the “Istanbul Convention”;
- Presentation of the mid-term revision of the Strategy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and the Action Plan for Implementation 2017-2020;
- Decision on preparation of Registers for malignant diseases and other diseases;
- Abolished the previously adopted Decision for increasing the prices of medicines;
- Reduced the cost of meningococcus vaccination for people going for a pilgrimage to 1000 MK denars; and
- Decision to provide medical staff and professional support for the needs of a day center for autism in cooperation with MLSP.

Laws

- Amendments to the Law on Health Care;
- Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices; and
- Draft Law on Amending the Law on Medical Studies and Continuing Professional Development of Doctors of Medicine.

Three events

- Successful finalization of the Project for Organ Transplantation, awarded gratitudes and certificates to the organ donors’ families;
- Action to clean the Clinical Center; and
- Setting up new trilingual orientation boards in the Mother Teresa Clinical Center.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

(minister Bilen Saliji)

The Republic of Macedonia officially became a member of the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency. The preparation of the Strategy for Judicial Reforms is in the final stage, and activities are under way to establish working groups that will work on the Draft Law on Pointers, the Law on Witness Protection and the Law on Protection of Privacy. The Draft Law on the Use of Languages is in parliamentary procedure for adoption, and amendments are being prepared for the Law on Establishing the Facts, the Law on Notary and the Law on Enforcement. Representatives of the Ministry of Justice held over 15 meetings with ambassadors and representatives of relevant institutions and attended seven events.

Reforms

- **Establishment of Working Group that will work on the Draft Law on Pointers is in preparatory phase is in preparatory phase (3-6-9);**
- **Establishment of Working Group in charge of the work of the Witness Protection Law is in progress (3-6-9);**
- **Establishment of a Working Group working on the amendments and supplements to the Law on Protection of Privacy is in progress (3-6-9);**
- **Working Group was established for preparing Draft Law on Amending the Law on the Judicial Council of the Republic of Macedonia and the Law on Courts (3-6-9);**
- **Judicial Reform Council has been established (3-6-9); and**
- **Preparation of the Strategy for Judicial Reforms (3-6-9) is at the final stage.**

Laws

- **Draft Law on the use of languages -in a parliamentary procedure for adoption (3-6-9);**
- **Preparation of Draft Law on the abolition of the Law on Establishing Facts (3-6-9);**
- **Preparation of Draft Law on Amending the Law on Judicial Council of the Republic of Macedonia (3-6-9);**
- **Draft-Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Notary is under preparation; and**
- **Draft Law on Amending the Law on Enforcement is under preparation.**

Seven events

- **Joint address to the media and meeting of the Minister Saljiji with Deputy Prime Minister in charge of European Affairs Bujar Osmani, on the occasion of the accession of the Republic of Macedonia to the Agency for Fundamental Rights of the European Union;**
- **Participation at the 14th meeting of the Stabilization and Association Committee between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union (CSA) in Brussels;**
- **Coordination meeting on the Judicial Reform Strategy;**
- **Working meeting with the representatives of the Working Group for drafting the Strategy for Judicial Sector Reform (3-6-9);**
- **Participation of the Minister at the Summer School for Masters and Doctoral students of law and political science in Ohrid; and**
- **Two meetings of the members of the Judicial Reform Council (3-6-9).**



Over 15 meetings with

- US Ambassador Jess Bailey;
- Representatives of the Notary Chamber of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Head of the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Macedonia, Ambassador Nina Suomalainen;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, Fatos Reka;
- Ambassador of France, Christian Thimonius;
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Willem Wouter Plomp;
- Senior European Union expert Reinhard Priebe;
- Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, HE Dr. Christine D. Althausen;
- President of the Association of Judges of the Republic of Macedonia, Dr. Xhemali Saiti;
- UK Ambassador Charles Garrett;
- President of the Trade Union of Workers from the Administration, Judicial Bodies and Citizens' Associations of the Republic of Macedonia, Pece Grujovski;
- Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, Danijela Barišić;
- Prosecutor Ray Woods, legal adviser to the US Embassy in Skopje;
- Representative of UNICEF in the Republic of Macedonia, Benjamin Perks; and
- Ambassador of Italy, Carlo Romeo.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

(minister Goran Sugareski)

The Ministry of Transport and Communications reduced the prices of the Cadastre services up to 50% and signed contracts for establishment of a transport community, as well as for construction of an express road from Gradsko to Drenovo for which 35.4 million Euro was provided from the EU. Also, funds have been provided for construction of the railway line to the Republic of Bulgaria as part of Corridor 8, the railway Bitola - Kremenica, the road section from Prilep to Raec, as well as funds for improving the water supply in the Municipalities of Gevgelija, Gostivar and Kavadarci. The Ministry of Transport and Communications has launched three new low budget airlines of Wizz Air, and the Doha-Skopje airline of Qatar Airways.

Reforms

- The revised Sector Operational Programme for Transport 2014-2020 has been adopted; and
- Reduction of the prices of Cadastre services up to 50% and restoration of some of the authorizations of the surveying firms.

Draft law

- Adopted Draft Law on Amending the Law on Treatment of Illegally Constructed Buildings.

Two events

- Promotion of three new low budget airlines of Wizz Air;
- Promotion of the Doha-Skopje airlines of Qatar Airways.

Established collaborations

- Memorandum of Cooperation was signed for railway connection with the Republic of Bulgaria;
- Agreement was signed at the Trieste Summit for establishing Transport Community; and
- Bilateral Agreement was signed for construction of an expressway from Gradsko to Drenovo, which provided a 35.4 million Euro grant from the EU.

Other

- Grant of 70 million Euro has been provided from VBIF for construction of the railroad to the Republic of Bulgaria as part of Corridor 8;
- Funds have been provided for construction of the Bitola-Kremenica railroad and a procedure for selecting a contractor is underway;
- Grant of 9.5 million Euro has been provided for improving the water supply in the Municipalities of Gostivar, Kavadarci and Gevgelija, 4.5 million Euro out of which is a grant from SECO - Switzerland and 5 million Euro are grant from KfW; and
- Funds have been provided for financing the road section from Prilep to Raec.



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY

(minister Kreshnik Bekteshi)

The Ministry of Economy has restored the cheap tariff for electricity, introduced a new measure of 60 million denars for subsidizing domestic tourism and low-income citizens, and started disbursement of holiday vouchers for low-income workers and disbursement for unifying the windows of the Old Skopje Bazaar. The Ministry of Economy prepared Draft Law on Energy, along with amendments of 4 other laws, proposing abolition of the customs rate for tanned leather, list of goods for the second half of 2017, changes in the categorization of catering facilities and amendment to the Law on vehicles. Representatives of the Ministry of Economy held more than 10 meetings with representatives of the business sector, associations and embassies, participated in 5 events, and on the occasion of the Miners Day, 28 August 2017 awarded plaquettes to 18 most successful miners and gratitudes to six associations and institutions for special contribution in the area of mining in Macedonia.

Reforms

- The low price of electricity was restored, with all relevant stakeholders including EVN and the European Energy Community being consulted;
- A new government measure of 60 million MK denars was introduced for subsidizing domestic tourism and low-income citizens;
- Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Ministries of Economy of Macedonia and Bulgaria (Minister Kreshnik Bekteshi and the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria, Temenuzhka Petkova);
- Amendments to Protocol 2 to the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Turkey;
- Launching of the National Tourism Strategy 2018-2021 in accordance with the Tourism Development Programme for 2017;
- A project has been launched with the support of the European Delegation for Industrial Policy Audit and the Development of a Revised Industrial Policy;
- Disbursement for replacement of the old PVC windows in households for 2017 has started, for which additional 10 million MKdenars have been obtained with the budget rebalance;
- Disbursement for promotion of consumer protection with further harmonization of legislation and effective implementation of the law in the area of consumer protection within the Consumer Protection Programme 2017-2018 has started;
- Disbursement of holiday vouchers for vacation of low-income workers started under the Programme for amending the Tourism Development Programme for 2017 (after the budget revision), adopted on August 13, 2017
- Disbursement for unification of the windows of the Old Bazaar started, 12 out of 60 shops undergoing this process are already unified;
- The process of subventions disbursement for Public Call for projects in the field of tourism started; and
- Draw of winners for solar collectors under the Programme for Reimbursement of part of the costs for purchased and installed solar collector systems has started.

Laws

- Prepared Draft Law on Energy;
- Prepared Draft Amendment to the Law on Trade, for abolishing the customs rate for tanned leather;
- Prepared Draft Amendments to the Law on Services for the List of Goods for the Second Half of 2017, for which the “First Come-First Served” distribution principle will be used;
- Process for amending the Law on Catering Activity in the part of categorization of catering facilities has started; and
- Initial steps were made for preparation of a Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Vehicles - the possibility and justification for introducing subsidies when purchasing a vehicle on an electric drive or returning part of the funds for persons that will purchase electric driven vehicle are being reviewed.

Over six events

- Presence of the ceremony marking the World Accreditation Day, organized by the Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Attending the certification ceremony for companies that implemented the HALAL standard in the period from January to June 2017, an event organized under the auspices of the Agency for Implementation of the HALAL Standard in Macedonia;
- Awarding plaquettes to 18 most successful miners and gratitude to six associations and institutions for a special contribution to mining in Macedonia, on the occasion of the Miners Day, August 28, 2017;
- Press on the occasion of the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the two ministries, between Minister Kreshnik Bekteshi and the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria, Temenuzhka Petkova;
- Presentation of the new governmental measure of 60 million denars for subsidizing domestic tourism and low-income citizens; and
- Visit to Israel - part of the government delegation, participation to and addressing a business forum in Jerusalem.

Over ten meetings with

- Delegation of the Economic Chamber of North-West Macedonia led by President Nebi Hoxha;
- A delegation of entrepreneurs from Lebanon led by Mr. Samer Soufan, President of the Council of Businessmen from Lebanon and representatives of nine major Lebanese companies;
- Delegation from the European Energy Community led by Director Janez Kopac;
- President of the Association of Craftsmen “Esnaf” Bejtula Morina and the presidency of this association that operates in the Old Bazaar in Skopje;
- UK Ambassador Charles Garrett;
- US Ambassador to Macedonia, Jess Bailey;
- Ambassador of Albania to the Republic of Macedonia, Fatos Reka;
- Ambassador of Kosovo to the Republic of Macedonia, Ilber Hisa;
- Hungarian Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, László István Dux; and



- The Ambassador of the Republic of France to the Republic of Macedonia HE Christian Thimonier.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER ECONOMY

(minister Ljupcho Nikolovski)

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, with the budget rebalance, received an increased budget of two million euros. For the second time after 2009, airplane recording was carried out on the entire territory of the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the European regulations and recommendations for the functioning of the Land Parcel Identification System.

The Ministry paid-off a debt of 207,000 Euro for consulting services and unpaid membership fees in international organizations, and disbursed the damages from last year's floods, subsidies to farmers cultivating a variety of crops, livestock farmers, fishermen, tobacco growers, as well as processing facilities and rural infrastructure development. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy started a procedure for finding a legal solution for the so-called Cheap Green Oil and made the first steps to supplement the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development with the objective of unimpeded realization of financial support in the area of agriculture. Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy have held over 25 meetings with citizens, chambers of commerce, all stakeholders in the agricultural sector, as well as with representatives of embassies and international institutions, and participated in 8 events and visited several agricultural regions, especially those facing production problems in the past period or were affected by weather disasters.

Reforms

- Ministry's budget increased for two million euros;
- Decision was taken by the Government to amend the Programme for Direct Financial Support in Agriculture and the Rural Development Programme;
- 5 new guidelines adopted for more efficient and controlled spending of the Ministry's money;
- Memorandum of Cooperation signed with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the objective of regional cooperation;
- For the second time after 2009, airborne recording on the entire territory of the Republic of Macedonia was carried out in accordance with the European regulations and recommendations for the functioning of the Land Parcel Identification System (SISP);
- Agreement signed on the Project for Rezonization (Agro-Ecological Zoning) of agricultural production according to the soil-climatic conditions of the regions in the Republic of Macedonia with technical support of FAO in the amount of 355,000 dollars for a period of two years;
- State Phytosanitary Laboratory (DFL) was equipped with liquid chromatograph with triple quadrupole mass detector;
- Emergency disaster damage assessment commissions were established for the weather damages/disaster of June 2017, in order for the farmers to receive the reimbursement money as soon as possible;
- Measures introduced for reimbursement of damages to agricultural land caused by freezing and damaging floods that occurred in 2017: Assistance for losses from natural disasters and adverse climatic events that occurred in 2017, additional assistance from natural disaster losses and adverse events;
- The debt of 207,000 Euro for consulting services for the project "Irrigation Programme South-

Vardar Valley” - second phase was paid-off, thus unblocking the project;

- 110 million MK denars or nearly 1.8 million Euro were disbursed for subsidies for farmers and processing facilities;
- 354.7 million MK denars subsidies were disbursed to farmers for maintenance of agricultural land with field and horticultural crops, vineyards and fruit crops, produced certified seed and planting material, slaughtered pigs, broilers and amortized layers in slaughterhouses, horticultural crops sold in processing facilities and for rural infrastructure;
- Approximately 330 million denars were paid for subsidies for livestock, agriculture, fishery, tobacco and a young farmer;
- 82 million MK denars were disburse for subsidies for fruit and vineyards and damages from last year’s (6.08.2016) floods in the Municipality of Gazi Baba;
- About 50m Euro were disbursed in subsidies for agriculture;
- Unpaid membership fees were paid in international organizations at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Wine Organization, the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization and the Standing Working Group on Regional Rural Development in South-East Europe (SWG);
- Disbursement of subsidies un-blocked, € 25 million disbursed to tobacco farmers;
- Completed the application for financial support of non-refundable 10,000 Euros to young farmers for starting an agricultural activity, for which 662 people applied;
- Invitation was received for partnership at the 56th International Agricultural and Food Fair “AGRA” in 2018, a fair held annually in Gornja Radgona, Slovenia;
- Two Public Announcements for renting state-owned agricultural land have been announced for up to 3 hectares and over 3 hectares;
- The problem with defective pumping stations in several irrigation systems (Paljurci, Tikvešija) has been solved, which enabled uninterrupted irrigation of the agricultural areas in these regions;
- Decision on additional financial support for watermelon producers;
- Decision on additional financial support for peach producers; and
- Extending the application deadline for the First Call for IPARD 2.

Laws

- Procedure started for finding a legal solution for the so-called cheap green oil; and
- Decision was adopted for supplementing the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development with the objective of unimpeded realization of financial support in the area of agriculture.

Eight events

- Visits to agricultural regions, especially those facing problems with the production in the past period, as well as regions affected by the weather disasters (visiting and meeting with citizens in Tetovo region, visiting and meeting with farmers in Rosoman, visiting and meeting with farmers in the Strumica region where there was a problem with the purchase of watermelons, field meetings with producers of pork, visit and meetings with farmers in the Skopje region that was hit by the storm, visit to the Konsko dam, visit to the Paljurci Dam, where there was a problem with lack of irrigation water, visit to burned areas);
- Official visit to Israel;
- Official visit to BiH;



- Participation at the Food and Agriculture Fair AGRA 2017 in Slovenia;
- Participation in a round table for organic production;
- Participation in a debate on the production and processing of pork;
- Participation in a FAO project for Co-operation; and
- Participation in a FAO project for Consolidation of Agricultural Land.

Over 25 meetings with

- Citizens - marketers and farmers in Struga;
- All stakeholders in the agricultural sector (wheat producers, milling and bakery industry, grape producers, wineries, pork producers, meat industry companies, beekeepers associations, fruit and vegetable processors, UPOZ union, independent trade union police);
- All chambers of commerce (Economic Chamber of Macedonia, Northwest Chamber of Macedonia, Chambers of Commerce);
- Ambassadors in the Republic of Macedonia to the United States, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Turkey, Slovenia, Israel, the EU Delegation;
- Ministers from Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo on Croatia's Rules for Importing Fresh Fruit and Vegetables; and
- Representatives of international institutions USAID, World Bank, German Bank KfW.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION SOCIETY AND ADMINISTRATION

(minister Damjan Manchevski)

By a Government decision, flexible working hours were introduced for all employees in the state administration bodies, and the deadline for consultation of the Single National Electronic Registry of Regulations was extended from 10 to 20 days. An Open Call for comments on the Draft Strategy for Public Administration Reform 2017-2022 and the Draft Action Plan has been announced, as well as a Call for all interested parties to submit proposals for the preparation of a Draft Law Amending the Law on Audio and Audiovisual Media Services. Representatives of the Ministry attended twelve events and held more than 22 meetings with representatives of relevant institutions.

Reforms

- Introduction of flexible working hours for all employees in the state administration bodies;
- **Extension of the deadline for consultation of the Single National Electronic Registry of Regulations from 10 to 20 days (3-6-9);**
- **Open Call for comments on the Draft PAR Strategy and Action Plan (3-6-9);**
- **Call to CSOs for participation in the thematic subgroups for the PAR Strategy Draft 2017-2022 and the Draft Action Plan (3-6-9);**
- **Call for all interested parties to submit proposals for the preparation of a Draft Law amending the Law on Audio and Audiovisual Media Services (3-6-9);** and
- Verification of the legality of the recruitment process has been conducted as of the day of announcing the early parliamentary elections until the election day of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia.

Law

- Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Administrative Officers.

Twelve events

- Meeting of the 14th Stabilization and Association Committee in Brussels;
- **Consultative working meeting with all stakeholders in public administration reform (3-6-9);**
- The United Nations Public Services Forum in The Hague;
- First training within the framework of cooperation with the Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus" aimed at improving the knowledge of inspectors in specific areas;
- Training on regulatory impact assessment conducted with the support of a Norwegian expert;
- Press conference dedicated to the economic measures for the development of the IT sector;
- **Public discussion on "Reforms in the media sector" (3-6-9);**
- Presence at the promotion of the new InPlayer investment;
- Awarding vouchers to the top five students in collaboration with Huawei;
- Press on the new employments in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;



- Press on the number of employees in the public sector;
- Promotional event for the project “Modernization of Inspection Services”;
- **Promotional event “Assistance for Public Administration Reform and Strengthening the MISA Capacities” (3-6-9);** and
- Participation in the Bled Strategic Forum, Bled, R. Slovenia.

Over 22 meetings with

- Representatives of the Trade Union of Administration, Judiciary Bodies and Citizens’ Associations (UPOC);
- Representatives of the Association of Journalists of Macedonia;
- Stabilization and Association Committee in Brussels;
- President of the ICT Chamber of Commerce of the Association of Economic Chambers, Sasha Ogenovski;
- President of the Trade Union of Workers in Catering, Tourism, Housing and Communal Services, Crafts and Protective Societies of Macedonia, Darko Dimovski;
- Representatives of the Economic Chamber of Information and Communication Technologies;
- Ambassadors of several countries accredited in the Republic of Macedonia: the United States, France, the Republic of Slovenia, the Republic of Croatia, the State of Israel, the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- Representatives of AJM and representatives of MMA;
- Marco Mantovanelli, World Bank Country Director for Macedonia and Kosovo;
- OSCE Ambassador Nina Suomalinen;
- N.E. Louisa Vinton, United Nations Resident Coordinator (UN) for Macedonia and permanent representative of the UN Development Programme in Macedonia;
- Euro-ambassador Samuel Žbogar;
- General Director of the National Agency for Information Society of Albania, Linda Karcana; and
- Albania’s Minister of Innovation and Public Administration, Milena Harito.

Established collaborations

- Signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with IDEAS DePo Executive Director Aleksandar Shahov for realization of activities in the field of inspection work.
- Cooperation with Huawei to reward the top five students from the ICT faculties.

MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL POLICY

(minister Mila Carovska)

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy made a series of reforms aimed at raising the level of social security of the citizens and to promote the transparency and functionality of the Ministry - introduced "Open Day with the Citizens", introduced double-shift work of public institutions for children/kindergartens from 07:00 to 14:30 and from 2:00 pm to 9:30 pm, as well as each first Saturday of the month from 08:00 to 16:00, carried out over 300 inspection surveillances during the heat wave, made payment of more rights from social and child protection and started with a routine monthly payments for social welfare, money allowance for assistance and care from another person and subsidies for electricity, started with the provision of free service for rest and recreation of over 2000 children from social risk families and children beneficiaries of special children allowance from families in social risk and children beneficiaries of a special allowance; it also changed the Rulebook on Determining the Citizens' Income, whereby, in order to receive social financial assistance, the money that the citizens received through a quick transfer will no longer be calculated as income in their family, because these funds are often not from family members who have legal obligation to support them. In addition, the Ministry prepared the Draft Law on Minimum Salary and submitted it to the Parliament, the Draft Law on Material Security of Unemployed Persons Due to Privatization of State-Owned Enterprises, which was adopted by the Government, proposed amendments to the Law on Social Protection, which for the first time introduces the basis for the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to adopt a special Programme for providing personal assistance, and started with the preparation of a Draft Law on Social Entrepreneurship. The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy held over 50 meetings with citizens, representatives of state institutions from the country and abroad, trade unions, civil society organizations and embassies, participated in over 19 events, including visits, conferences, debates, public hearings, presentations, sessions, and carried out an inspection supervisions of buildings in Skopje, Vrapciste and Kumanovo which are being converted into kindergartens.

Reforms

- "Open Day with Citizens" introduced;
- Since June 1, the Minister and members of her Cabinet met 380 citizens (on the Open Day for Citizens and on-going);
- From 29 June to 1 July 2017, during the heat wave, the duty teams of the State Labor Inspectorate conducted 97 inspection supervisions in the field of occupational safety and health on the whole territory of the Republic of Macedonia;
- 207 inspection supervisions of employers to comply with the recommendations for heat wave;
- Extraordinary supervision carried out over the implementation of the Law on Child Protection in relation to the exercise of the right to parental allowance for a child in the Karpos Center for Social Work;
- Extraordinary inspection supervision and insight carried out into the building at str. 173 no.8 in Skopje, on the basis of information of existence/operation of an illegal institution named "Bleta", taking care of pre-school age children and providing them with education of religious character;
- Payment of several rights in the area of social and child care: civilian disability, mobility and blindness, permanent financial assistance, one-time financial assistance, financial assistance to persons who up to age 18 have had the status of children without parents and parental care, accommodation in a foster family, financial assistance for studying, financial assistance for caregiver, social



housing, health care, child allowance, one-time financial assistance for a newborn child, parental allowance for a third child, parental allowance for a fourth child, single parental allowance, current and special allowances;

- Regular monthly payments of social financial assistance, monetary compensation for assistance and care by another person and subsidies for electricity;
- Reconstruction of an object at the primary school “11 October” intended for Center for Children with Cerebral Palsy started;
- Changing the Rulebook on Determining the Citizens’ Income aimed at obtaining social financial assistance, the money that the citizens received through a quick transfer will no longer be calculated as income in their family, because these funds are often not from family members who have legal obligation to support them;
- Free service for rest and recreation of over 2000 children from social risk families and children beneficiaries of special children allowance from families at social risk and children beneficiaries of special allowance;
- Implementation of the project “Supporting the Employment of Young People” started, as part of the active employment measures that are being implemented aimed at upgrading the skills of registered young people - active job seekers in the field of information technology, and by which 220 unemployed persons aged up to 29 years will receive training for Java programmers and software testers, professions demanded on both the domestic and foreign market;
- Established a specialized team that is in operation 24/7, for dealing with emergency cases from vulnerable categories of users of rights and services within the jurisdiction of the PI Inter-municipal Center for Social Work of the City of Skopje;
- Adopted projects for improvement of the social security and living standards of pensioners, including compulsory issuance of internships and salaries review, with confirmed data in the Registry, for all workers, three years before the fulfillment of the conditions for retirement;
- Signed Agreements for support of civic associations in the area of social protection, a result of the public calls that were published on the website of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and the MRTV on 18 and 21 July 2017. The total fund for project support is 2.400.000,00 MKdenars;
- Open Call for use of free courses for the interested persons - beneficiaries of social financial assistance, permanent financial assistance, special allowance, child allowance, caregivers/guardians of orphans and parental care, as well as persons who up to age 18 have had the status of children without parents and parental care;
- Trainings for the professionals employed in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the institution and experts from the Centers for Social Work, CSOs, academic workers on the topic “Personal Planning” were conducted, aimed at supporting the initiated deinstitutionalization process of the Public Institution Demir Kapija within the frames of the project “Technical Assistance to Support the Deinstitutionalization Process in the Social Sector” financially supported by the European Union;
- A completely new playground with requisites accessible to children with disabilities was established in cooperation with the “Mobility” National Union of Persons with Physical Disability and with the support of the Municipality of Resen;
- Double-shift work of public institutions for children/kindergartens was introduced from 07:00 to 14:30 and from 2:00 pm to 9:30 pm, as well as each first Saturday of the month from 08:00 to 16:00;
- Announcements for recruitment of professional staff in the social work centers throughout the country;
- Preparation for ratification of the “Istanbul Convention” started;
- The first draft version of the new Strategy for Integration of Refugees and Foreigners was drafted and a Draft National Action Plan for a period of 10 years (from 2017 to 2027) was drafted and given for public review; and
- A project document for reconstruction of the kindergarten “8 April” in the Municipality of Shuto Orizari was signed within the framework of the United Nations Development Programme, and financially supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway.

Laws

- Draft Law on Minimum Salary, submitted to the Assembly
- The Draft Law on Material Security of Unemployed Persons was adopted due to the privatization of enterprises with dominant state ownership by the Government, which will include unemployed persons whose employment was terminated in enterprises with dominant state ownership after January 1, 1995 up to December 31, 2016;
- Proposed changes in the Law on Social Protection, which for the first time introduces the basis for the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to adopt a special Programme for providing personal assistance; and
- Preparation of the Draft Law on Social Entrepreneurship started.

Over 19 events

- Visit to the Center for Social Work in Kavadarci, one of the 30 centers on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, which serve more than two hundred thousand citizens in social risk;
- The 35th Constituent Session of the Economic and Social Council, at which the Report on the Assessment of the State of the Social and Economic Councils in the Western Balkans, the Draft Law on Amending the Law on Labor Relations, and the Draft Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health 2020 were reviewed;
- Session of the Economic and Social Council for the revised Operational Plan for Active Programmes and Measures for Employment and Services in the Labor Market for 2017;
- Regional Conference on Economic and Social Councils in the Western Balkans (Deputy Aziri);
- Visiting children from vulnerable categories who have their summer holiday in "Majski Cvet (May Flower)" children holiday resort - Struga;
- Participation in a public debate on the topic: "New Roadmap for Civil Society Development";
- Participation in the closing conference of the project "Promotion of Social Inclusion Services", which is funded through the EU Human Resources Development Programme;
- Participation at the 106th International Labor Conference in Geneva;
- Participation in the promotion of research on the utilization of social benefits and factors limiting the access of the Roma community "Cash benefits to Children from Families at Social Risk";
- Participation in a conference on the "Global Compact on Migration and the Global Refugee Agreement";
- Presentation of the "Draft Strategy for Safety and Health at Work 2020", organized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Skopje office and the Security Council of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Addressing an event from the project "Local Integration of Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Minority Groups" funded under the National Programme 2011 in the Transition Assistance and Institutional Building Component - IPA Component;
- Participation in the Constituent Meeting of the Council for Monitoring the Conditions in the Pension System;
- Participation in the final press conference for the IPA project "Local Partnerships for Social Inclusion" implemented by the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) in partnership with the Center for Civic Initiative in Prilep from Slovenia;
- Participation in an event held at the JUDE "11 Oktomvri" - Chair, within the framework of the EU-funded project "Promoting Alternative Childcare Services";
- Participation in the Youth Guarantee Debate as one of the priority measures of the Government;
- Executive insight into the building at str. Orce Nikolov in Skopje, where the new daily center for



people with Down's syndrome will be located, in the building where the first kindergarten in the municipality of Vrapciste starts its work in September, as well as the building of the former Pioneer House in Kumanovo, which is currently being reconstructed and converted to a kindergarten.

Over 50 meetings with

- A huge number of citizens within the frames of the First "Open day with the citizens";
- Miners from Makedonska Kamenica;
- Representatives of the Ministry of Health and the Clinical Center in Skopje;
- Mayor of Arachinovo (Deputy Minister Aziri);
- The Mayor of the Municipality of Lipkovo, Bashkim Amidi (Deputy Minister Aziri);
- Minister of Health, PhD. Arben Taravari, Minister without portfolio, Mr. Samka Ibraimovski, President of the Association of Gynecologists of the Republic of Macedonia, Dr. Dushko Filipovski and representatives of NGOs;
- Representatives of SONK for the two-seater operation of public institutions for children / kindergartens;
- Representatives of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Macedonia;
- Members of the Independent Trade Union of Journalists and Media Workers;
- Unions in connection with increasing the minimum wage;
- Employers, workers and representatives of civic associations from Stip, together with the Prime Minister;
- Representatives of the Civil Coalition for enabling donations of food surplus "Ajde Makedonija", "Macedonian Platform against Poverty", "Retweet Meal and True Deeds of Kindness", representative of the Food and Veterinary Agency and the Director of the National Democratic Institute Chris Henshaw, together with the Minister of Finance Dragan Tevdovski and the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy Ljupco Nikolovski;
- Representatives of 10 associations of citizens working in the field of promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Representatives and collaborators of the Roma Multicultural Affirmation Organization (Roma SOS);
- Representatives of the civil initiative "5 to 12";
- Representatives of the project "Smart Start"
- Representatives of UNICEF for Macedonia (Deputy Minister Aziri);
- Representatives of the National Network Against Violence against Women and the Platform for Gender Equality;
- Representatives of UN Agencies led by UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Republic of Macedonia, Louisa Vinton;
- The Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Macedonia, Ambassador Samuel Zbogar;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of France to the Republic of Macedonia, Christian Timonius;
- The Ambassador of Switzerland to the Republic of Macedonia, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey;
- Joint Steering Committee meeting as part of the development cooperation with the UN; and
- Working Group for defining the Action Plan for Urgent Measures to Improve the Conditions in the Special Institution Demir Kapija.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

(minister Renata Deskoska)

The Ministry of Education and Science abolished external testing in primary and secondary education and postponed the introduction of the Cambridge Programme in secondary schools for the better preparation and performance of the programme. Revision of all textbooks at all levels of education through expert-level debates is currently undertaken, along with the establishment of committees within MES and a poll system/questionnaire for obtaining the teachers and lecturers opinions on the textbooks and curriculum. With the budget rebalance, additional 45 million denars were provided for student and student standards, and Strategy for Education Development 2017-2021, supported by the IPA Programme, is also being developed. The Ministry launched a wide consultative process within all the reform processes that are under the department competence, whereas all stakeholders were consulted and involved. Additionally, a number of meetings were held with representatives of international institutions working in the field of education.

Reforms

- Current revision of all textbooks at all levels of education;
- In the second phase of the audit process, a consultative process will be launched for the appropriateness of the selection of primary and secondary education reading books;
- Exemption of teachers from the administrative and technical burden - the MoES prepares amendments to the secondary legislation aimed at reducing the administrative procedures for teachers, which represent an additional burden and affects the quality of teaching;
- "EVN class" or project "20-20-20" within which a new special curriculum was prepared by the Mihajlo Pupin Vocational School teams with experts from EVN and MES - a project through which 20 students will be employed in 2020 in EVN, earning 20 thousand MKD per month;
- "Strengthening the Lifelong Learning through Modernization of VET and Adult Education Systems" - new curriculum for vocational courses and practicals for the first year for the 2017/2018 school year, prepared by the British Council project;
- Realization of vocational training in penitentiary institutions in cooperation with the Office for Execution of Sanctions and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - trainings are being conducted to enable faster re-socialization of convicted persons and their easier inclusion in the labor market after their release and improvement of the social inclusion of the most vulnerable groups in society;
- 35 new curricula and three-year vocational education programmes for the first year have been adopted which are modularly designed;
- 13 new curricula and two-year vocational training programmes have been adopted that are modularly designed;
- New curricula and programmes have been adopted that are modularly designed for vocational education for the first year for qualifications of construction technician, electrical technician for computer technology and automation, and for a hotel and tourist technician, developed by the Center for Education and Training within the project for skills development and innovation support (SKILS Project);
- Granted consent for the formation of classes with fewer students at the request of a large number of municipalities in accordance with the Laws on Primary and Secondary Education;
- Two rulebooks that regulate certain issues in the field of education of children with special needs have been changed through a process of consultation with citizens' associations dealing with issues of inclusive education;



- Proposed amendments to the Decree on block-grants for transportation of students in secondary education with special educational needs;
- Establishment of a working group for the promotion of the rights and opportunities for students with special educational needs is in phase of preparation;
- Established working group with civil society organizations working on the Draft-Amendment to the Law on Secondary Education in order to reform the system of student participation;
- Rebalance of the budget, which anticipates new 35 million denars for a student standard and 10 million denars for student scholarships and tuition fees; and
- Preparation of the Strategy for Education Development 2017-2021, supported by the IPA Programme.

Events

- "Factory of Knowledge" organized by First Private University - FON;
- Awarding diplomas and prizes to the top 10 students of FINKI;
- A visit to the municipality of Tetovo and a meeting with the teachers and the parents of the students who have classes in Macedonian language at the SS "Cyril Pejcinovic";
- Visit to the primary school "Braka Miladinovci" and the secondary school "Pero Nakov" in Kumanovo on the occasion of the beginning of the new school year; and
- Promotion of 120 textbooks printed on Braille in the State School for Children and Youth with Damaged Vision "Dimitar Vlahov" in Skopje

Laws

- Law on Amending to the Law on Primary Education, Law on Amending the Law on Secondary Education and the Law on Amending the Law on Teachers in Primary and Secondary Schools, in order to abolish external testing;
- Preparation of a Draft Law on Higher Education Law, through inclusive working groups involving all stakeholders;
- Drafting a Draft Amendment to the Law on Secondary Education in order to reform the system of student participation through the establishment of a working group with representatives from relevant civil society organizations; and
- Establishment of a working group for amending the Law on Primary and Law on Secondary Education is in progress.

Meetings with

- The Director of the World Bank Group for Macedonia, Marco Mantovanelli;
- Civic Initiative "5 to 12" - inclusion of the initiative that represents the interests of persons with disabilities in the working groups for amending the Laws on primary and secondary education, the Law on textbooks and the Education Strategy 2017-2021, fulfilling the commitments for inclusive education;
- Representatives from "St. Cyril and Methodius" University - Skopje, "State University of Tetovo", "American College" University - Skopje, "Goce Delcev" University - Stip, "St. Kliment Ohridski" University - Bitola, South East European University, First Private University - FON Skopje, "Student Plenum", "Professors' Plenum", "NAKS", "SONK" and "MESO" within the working group for determining the need for amending the Law on Higher Education;

- EVN Director General, Peter Stefan, discussing the needs of the project “20-20-20” or “EVN Class” at the secondary electrotechnical school “Mihajlo Pupin”;
- The Minister of Science of Montenegro, Sanja Damjanovic, where support was given to the initiative International Institute for Sustainable Technologies in the Balkans with the mission “Science for Peace”, which aims to promote the cooperation between science, technology and industry in the Balkans, thus be a platform for educating talented, young people and engineers on the basis of the transfer of knowledge and technologies from European centers and laboratories;
- The new UNICEF Representative in Macedonia, Mr. Benjamin Perks, in order to continue and strengthen the cooperation with UNICEF;
- The delegation of the German economy in Macedonia, comprised of the Head of Delegation in Macedonia, Mr. Patrick Martens and the coordinator of the Dual Vocational Education Project, Mr. Tobias Bole, where the needs of the reforms in secondary vocational education were discussed;
- USAID Director, Mr. David Ateberry;
- “Helsinki Committee for Human Rights”, “MOF”, “SEGA”, “FOSM”, “Megjashi”, “MCEC”, “Step by Step” and other NGOs that cover topics in the field of education as part of their work; and
- A large number of ambassadors from several countries in order to promote cooperation between higher education institutions, improving mobility among researchers and students, deepening and enriching bilateral co-operation.

Established collaborations

- Memorandum of Cooperation signed with NYCS - National Youth Council of Macedonia;
- Signed Protocol from the Fifth session of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the People’s Republic of China, which approved 13 joint Macedonian-Chinese scientific-research projects.

Other

- Approved consent for employment in primary and secondary schools under a *fixed-term* employment contract based on new funding for the school year 2017/2018, according to the requests of the municipalities and the City of Skopje, on the grounds of establishing new schools, new classes, increased number first grade pupils, request of parents for extended stay and full-time instruction;
- Approved new employments of highly educated staff at universities
- Withdrawal from the use of the textbook on the teaching subject Society for IV grade for nine-year primary education;
- Withdrawal from the use of the textbook on the subject Civic Education for the VIII grade for nine-year primary education;
- Education Evaluation Project - UNICEF, MoES supported the analysis of the system for evaluation and assessment of education in the Republic of Macedonia;
- Issued Decisions for introduction of new curricula and approval for enrollment of students in higher education institutions to new study programmes or study programmes that were put on hold.



MINISTRY OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

(minister Suhejl Fazliu)

The Ministry of Local Self-Government started the realization of the project “Consolidation of the Local Self-Government System” in cooperation with UNDP and financial support of 2.3 million Euro from the European Union in order to improve local public services and ensure equal access to all citizens. Consultative processes have been initiated to stimulate local development and reduce regional differences, to improve the system of municipal financing and to allocate capital and block-donations in a transparent, fair and objective way, and to find the most appropriate way to revive the local self-government and putting into function of the untapped potential for improving services and encouraging local development. An analysis has been prepared for determining the activities of a wider significance and interest for which funds can be allocated for encouraging inter-municipal cooperation in the period 2018-2020, and consultations have been made with the line ministries for encouraging and supporting the inter-municipal cooperation. The first public call for projects for cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Kosovo in the total amount of 2 million 40 thousand Euro was announced by the European Union for the projects for the two countries, and the reconstructed local road to Lipkovo Lake was put into operation in a length of 1 720 meters. Representatives of the Ministry participated in four events and held eight meetings with representatives of relevant institutions and ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Macedonia.

Reforms

- A consultation process has been launched to stimulate local development and reduce regional differences by reviewing the volume of funds and mechanisms for their allocation;
- Implementation of the project: Consolidation of the Local Self-Government System, in cooperation with UNDP and financial support of 2.3 million Euro from the European Union;
- The process of consultation with all stakeholders (ministries of finance, education, labor and social policy, culture, as well as ZELS) has started to improve the system of financing of municipalities and allocation of capital and block donations in a transparent, fair and objective way;
- A process of consultation with representatives of urban and local communities, municipalities and expert public has been initiated to find the most appropriate way for reviving local self-government and putting in place the unused potential for improving the services, as well as for encouraging local development;
- Scanning of the capacities of the municipalities and preparation of an appropriate model of the municipal service center for fast, high-quality and cheap provision of administrative services;
- An analysis has been prepared for the determination of activities of a wider significance and interest for which it will be possible to allocate funds for encouraging inter-municipal cooperation in the period 2018-2020 (protection of the environment, social protection and child care, local economic development, communal activities, fire protection);
- Consultations have been made with line ministries and agreed actions for cooperation in encouraging and supporting inter-municipal cooperation, in order to provide more efficient, cost-effective and quality services;
- First Public Call for cross-border cooperation projects between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Kosovo was announced in a total value of 2 million 40 thousand Euro from the European Union for the projects for the two countries. The co-financing in the amount of 15% of the used funds is provided by the Ministry of Local Self-Government. The funds are intended for projects in two ar-

eas: competitiveness and development of small and medium enterprises, in the amount of 1 million Euro and the second million for projects for encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage. Potential beneficiaries are the municipalities, the Centers for Development of the Planning Regions, non-governmental organizations, universities, schools, business associations and other non-profit entities from the Polog, the Skopje and the Northeast planning region; and

- The reconstructed local road to Lipkovo Lake, in the length of 1720 meters, was put into operation, financed through a project of the Municipality of Lipkovo within the framework of the Cross-Border Programme between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria.

Four events

- Participation in the Conference with the Head of the EU Delegation and UNDP Resident Representative - promoted project for consolidating the system of local self-government, improving municipal services and ensuring equal access for all citizens;
- Forum on the topic "Local Self-government-Unused Potential for Strengthening the Local Communities" was held, with which the Ministry of Local Self-Government opened the debate on the status of local self-government in the system of local self-government in the Republic of Macedonia;
- Participation in the Forum for improving the services for people with disabilities; and
- Visit to the Southeast and Northeast planning region.

Over eight meetings with

- The management of the Independent Trade Union of Firefighters of Macedonia (NSPM) in order to solve the problems related to the manner of financing their service, the tendency of decreasing the number of firefighters in the country, the need for legal changes of the Law on Firefighting, as well as the weak and obsolete technical equipment of the members of territorial firefighting units;
- The heads of the Centers for Development of the Planning Regions aimed at solving the problems with the financing of the Centers' functioning, as well as the implementation of the ongoing projects;
- A delegation from the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development of Armenia;
- UNDP Resident Representative, Louisa Vinton;
- Director of the US Peace Corps, Mark Hanafin;
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey;
- The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Samuel Žbogar;
- Swiss Ambassador, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Italy, Carlo Romeo; and
- Ambassador of the Republic of France, Christian Timonie.



MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(minister Robert Alagjovski)

The Ministry of Culture has established two Working Groups for the preparation of the Draft National Strategy for Development of Culture for the period 2018-2022 and for preparation of Analysis for the Realization and the Consequences of the s.c. "Project Skopje 2014". Implementation of the approved programmes of the national institutions and projects of other users of budget funds from all fields and cultural activities has started, as well as the manifestation "New cultural wave" in 2017, for which about 6 million denars have been allocated so far for 56 applications. Process of determining the Ministry's situation and debt for the period 1/6 2017 has been initiated; An intervention has been carried out for remediation of damages and further endangerment after the heavy rains and the hail in Skopje in June 2017, along with dislocating and protecting the priceless works/pieces of the Gallery of Icons. Several Draft Laws on amending laws have been drafted, including the Law on the Use of the Macedonian Language, the Law on Culture, the Law on Film Activity, the Law on Cultural Heritage Protection and the Law on Copyright and Related Rights. Representatives of the Ministry of Culture opened and participated in more than ten events, and held over 20 meetings with ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Macedonia.

Reforms

- Established Working Group for preparation of Draft National Strategy for Culture Development for the period 2018-2022, comprised of: Zlatko Teodosievski, Art Critic and Advisor - Curator (coordinator of the working group); Iskra Gesoska, a cultural worker from "Yadro" - Association of the independent Cultural Scene; Dr. Valentina Poceska, Advisor - Conservator, Mr. Valmira Istrefi, Urban Studies; Xhevdet Jashari, MA, Actor and Lecturer at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts at Tetovo University; Magdalena Dikovska, Cabinet Officer for Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Culture; and Goce Bozhurski, Advisor in the Department of Visual Arts, Architecture and Design at the Ministry of Culture;
- Established Working Group for preparation of Analysis for the realization and consequences of the s.c. "Project Skopje 2014", comprised of: Prof. Miroslav Grchev, PhD, Full-time Professor at the Faculty of Architecture at UKIM (Coordinator), Nikola Naumoski, MSc, Political Scientist and Communicologist, Martin Panovski, Engineer - Architect, Assoc. Prof. Donka Bardžieva - Trajkovska, PhD, Art Historian and Conservator, and Zlatko Teodosievski, Art Critic and Advisor-Curator;
- Implementation of the approved programmes of national institutions and projects of other budget funds beneficiaries in all cultural areas and activities - 27 projects in the area of drama; 136 musical concerts and ballet performances, 10 art projects and 25 folklore manifestations and concerts and manifestations.
- In order to provide demetropolisation, deconcentration of the culture from the capital, and its dispersing in the local environments, thus enrich, promote, intensify, dynamise and promote the cultural offer, the Ministry of Culture through the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia and support from other potential partners, sponsors and donors, started the realization of the manifestation "New Cultural Wave" in 2017, and so far allocated about 6 million denars for 56 applications;
- Process of signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministries of Culture of the People's Republic of China and the CEE countries started; Support obtained for the idea of establishing Center for Cultural Cooperation between the countries of Southeastern Europe and PRC in the framework of the "15 + 1" Initiative in Skopje;
- Signed a Cultural Cooperation Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as with the Republic of Bulgaria;
- Process of determining the Ministry's situation and debt for the period 1/6 2017 has been initiated, whereas the Government of the Republic of Macedonia made a decision that it is urgent that the

State Audit Office include in its work Programme an audit of the Ministry of Culture, in accordance with the legal competences, especially since the audit of the financial performance of the Ministry of Culture has not been carried out since 2011;

- An intervention for remediation of damages and further endangerment after torrential rains and the hail that hit Skopje in June 2017 in Chifte Amam, Daut Pashin Amam, Museum of Macedonia;
- Displacement and protection of the priceless works/pieces from the Gallery of Icons; and
- An audit procedure has been initiated, and defining of all activities in the church St. Gorgi in Kurbinovo and Treskavec monastery complex.

Laws

- Draft-law Amending the Law on the use of the Macedonian language, which is already in the parliamentary procedure, in order to protect and promote the Macedonian language in the public communication, despite the neglect and negligence of the Macedonian language from several aspects;
- Draft Law on Amending the Law on Culture, which is already in parliamentary procedure aimed at restoring the principle of equality of all artists and professionals in the field of culture who have obtained state awards in the field of culture, thus creating equal conditions in the exercise of the rights of creation;
- Draft Law on Termination of the Validity of the Law on National Artist of the Republic of Macedonia, which is already in parliamentary procedure, aimed at preventing further unequal treatment between artists and other employees in the culture receiving incomes smaller than the average salary in the Republic of Macedonia in relation to national artists who are still actively working and providing means of subsistence;
- Draft Law on Amending the Law on Culture in the part of the national pensions, which is in the parliamentary procedure, in order to reduce the financial obligations on the basis of payment of benefits to pensioners - recipients of state awards for culture;
- Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Culture, which is in the preparatory phase;
- Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Film Activity, which is in the preparatory phase;
- Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Protection of Cultural Heritage, which is in the preparatory phase; and
- Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Copyright and Related Rights, which is in the preparatory phase.

Over ten events

- Presence of many cultural events, manifestations, festivals, celebrations of significant dates demonstrating efforts to respect cultural diversity, equality and access to culture for all citizens, including participation in the celebration of the International Day of the Egyptians and the celebration of the Day of the Holocaust on the Roma. For the first time in the history of cultural events in the country, Minister of Culture opened the Pride Weekend in Skopje.
- First public hearing with all stakeholders was organized, thus starting the process of reviewing the legislation and practice and improving the solutions in the area of copyright and related rights and their collective management;



- Participation in public discussion “Rock and Roll as a New Soundtrack of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia”, organized by the initiative for Informal Rock Musicians’ Association, June 1, 2017;
- Participation in public discussion “Investing in Culture/Art or Opportunities for Demasking”, FRA (Akto Festival) supported by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation;
- Participation in public discussion “How to Reach Quality Audience” in Bitola, organized by MKC Bitola;
- Participation in public hearing on the situation in copyright and related rights with particular reference to collective management; and
- Participation in public discussion “What Should Be Done with Skopje 2014?”, Organized by “Freedom Square” with the support of the “Heinrich Böll” Foundation.

Over 20 meetings with

- Ambassadors in Macedonia aimed at identifying concrete models and opportunities for bilateral and multilateral cultural cooperation.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING

(minister Sadula Duraki)

Minister of Environment and Physical Planning Sadula Duraki undertook activities for ratification of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, following the Draft Law on Ratification adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia. With the Mayor of the Municipality of Kumanovo Zoran Damjanovski, who is also President of the Northeast Planning Region, the Minister signed the Memorandum for implementation of the Framework Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Commission of the European Communities on the procedures for implementing the financial assistance from the Union. By signing this document, a formal contractual basis was established for the successful implementation of five projects planned under the Multi-Annual Operational Programme for Environment and Climate Action for IPA II (2014-2020). A Commission for resolving the problems with the landfill in Struga was established, and intensive activities for establishment of regional integrated waste management system for the South-west planning region have been initiated. The Sixth National Report on the Convention on Biological Diversity, supported by GEF/UNEP, was prepared, and the Annual Report on Environmental Quality in the Republic of Macedonia was published in accordance with the Law on Environment. More than 17 contracts were signed directly related to environmental projects; ministry representatives participated in more than eight events and held more than ten meetings.

Reforms

- Establishment of a Commission for resolving the problems with the landfill in Struga;
- Intensive activities for establishment of a regional integrated waste management system for the South-west planning region;
- Preparation of the Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, supported by the GEF / UNEP;
- Announced Annual Report on Environmental Quality in the Republic of Macedonia, in accordance with the Law on Environment;
- Announcement of public procurement for the construction of the second phase of the collector system for the Municipality of Kocani;
- Commencement of the construction of the treatment plant in Kocani;
- Announcement of a Public Call by the Municipality of Struga for an operator who will take care of the landfill in Struga and will properly manage it until its complete closure in accordance with the legal regulations;
- An ongoing process for obtaining approval for signing a Bilateral Agreement on Financial Assistance for the Project for Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment in Delchevo;
- Announcement of public procurements for the construction of a sewage network in the village Otlja, Municipality of Kumanovo;
- Announcement of a public procurement for the construction of a sewage network in the village. Veleshta, Municipality of Struga;
- Announcement of public procurement for the construction of a sewage network in the Municipality of Arachinovo; and
- Announcement of public procurement for the construction of a supply pipeline in the village Niskustak, Municipality of Lipkovo.



- Laws
- Ratification of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, following the Draft Law on Ratification adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Adopted Rulebook on Amending the Rulebook on Import, Export and Transit of Waste; and
- Adopted Rulebook on the Method of Determining and Maintaining Mountain Paths.

Over nine events

- Promotion of the new memorial landmark set at the historic path of Pano-Pelister, dedicated to the First World War;
- Laying the cornerstone of a wastewater treatment plant near the village of Mojanci;
- Solemn ceremony marking the start of the project for arranging the riverbed of Lipkovska Reka in Kumanovo;
- Promotion of the new nature conservation project, worth 4.3 million Euros funded by the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme;
- Visit of Minister Duraki, Minister Sapuric and Minister Merko to the illegal landfill in the Municipality of Struga, and consideration of possible solutions for remediation of the problems caused by the landfill;
- A workshop was held to define set of policies and instruments for the future development of sustainable investment management projects in the sector, needed for complying with EU Directives;
- Presence of the Minister Duraki at the working meeting of the Economic Chamber of North-West Macedonia (ECNWM) with the President of the Government, Zoran Zaev and representatives of the economic sectors in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the businessmen who discussed the reform economic policies, , as well as the problems that the business community in this region faces; and
- Participation of Deputy Minister of Environment Jani Makraduli at the informal meeting of environmental ministers in the Estonian presidency in Tallinn, Estonia.

Meetings with

- Ambassador of France to the Republic of Macedonia Christian Timonie;
- The Ambassador of Albania to the Republic of Macedonia, Fatos Reka;
- EU Ambassador to Macedonia, Samuel Zbogar;
- The Ambassador of Switzerland to the Republic of Macedonia, Sybille Suter Tejada;
- The Ambassador of Austria to the Republic of Macedonia, HE Renate Kobler;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to the Republic of Macedonia, HE Milan Jazbec;
- The Ambassador of Finland to the Republic of Macedonia, HE Perti Ikonen;
- UNDP Resident Representative in Macedonia, Louisa Vinton;
- The representative of the European Bank for Development for Macedonia (EBRD), Anca Joana Ionescu; and
- Patrick Martens, CEO of the Delegation of the German Chamber of Commerce in Macedonia, aimed at reviewing the possibilities for cooperation in the field of waste management.

Established collaborations

- Memorandum for Implementation of the Framework Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Commission of the European Communities on the procedures for implementing the financial assistance from the Union;
- 14 agreements signed with municipalities in the Republic of Macedonia for allocating funds for financing and realization of programmes, projects and other activities in the field of environment;
- Initiation of the regulation of the Lipkovska River basin in order to reduce the risk of floods, in cooperation with the Municipality of Kumanovo, UNDP and the Embassy of Japan;
- Contract for closing of non-standard and illegal landfills in the East and Northeast planning region and procurement of equipment for collection and transport of municipal waste through the IPA Programme; and
- Purchase of a mobile monitoring station, different type of analyzers and vehicle for maintaining the monitoring system as well as replacement of the dilapidated air quality monitoring equipment in Tetovo, Kumanovo and Bitola.



MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF COMMUNICATIONS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

- Robert Popovski

The Minister without Portfolio in charge of Communications, Accountability and Transparency Robert Popovski established a professional Communications Sector to enable greater transparency and openness of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia. Additionally, the Communications Sector regularly prepares, monitors and reports on the public activities of Prime Minister Zaev. A decision was made to stop government ads, and it started with regular publication of the Agendas and Minutes from the Government Sessions, as well as holding weekly press briefings with journalists and editors.

Reforms

- Establishing a professional Communications Sector for greater transparency and openness of the Government;
- **Regular publication of the Agendas and Minutes of the Government Sessions on the Government website (3-6-9); and**
- **Decision to stop government ads of commercial broadcasters and print media, billboards, internet portals (excluding social media) and transferring communication with citizens through the national/public broadcasting service (3-6-9).**

Events

- Minister Popovski's participation in the public debate on the reforms in the media space together with the Minister Manchevski;
- Organization of the official signing of the cooperation agreement between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria, accompanied by the highest state and military honors;
- Organization of ceremonies on the occasion of the Day of the Republic - 2 August and joint reception of the President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Zaev and the President of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, Boyko Borisov;
- **Regular weekly briefings with journalists and editors (3-6-9); and**
- Regular preparation, monitoring and reporting on the public activities of Prime Minister Zaev such as the visit of the Prime Minister to Brussels, the Summit of Heads of State in Trieste, the Meeting of the Adriatic Charter in Podgorica, visit to the textile factories in Stip, the informal meeting of the prime ministers of the region in Albania, signing of Bilateral Agreements in B&H, congratulating the Kurban Bayram holiday in Arachinovo, economic talks with shopkeepers and youth in Veles and economic visit to Israel.

Over eight meetings with

- Representatives of the Association of Journalists of Macedonia and the Independent Union of Journalists and Media, together with the Prime Minister Zoran Zaev, aimed at creating conditions for objective and professional work of the media;
- European expert Peter Van Hoyte and representatives of the Association of Journalists of Macedonia, together with Prime Minister Zoran Zaev, aimed at emphasizing the Government's determination to media reforms as an important step for European integration;
- Ambassador of the European Union, Samuel Zbogar, discussing about the necessary media reforms;
- The European Union's top expert, Reinhard Priebe, on the topic of the Government's efforts to create a democratic ambience for independent and dignified work of the journalists and the media;
- The Ambassador of the Netherlands, Wouter Plomp;
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey; and
- Deputy United Kingdom Ambassador to Macedonia, Paul Edwards.



MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF THE DIASPORA

- Edmond Ademi

In order to bring the Diaspora closer to the Republic of Macedonia and to develop cooperation in political, economic, cultural and educational-scientific terms, the Minister without Portfolio in charge of Diaspora Edmond Ademi presented the information on the preparation of the first National Strategy for Cooperation with the Diaspora since the Independence of Macedonia was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia. Minister Ademi took part in two events on the topic of migration and diaspora, and held over 15 meetings with relevant ministers, ambassadors, institutions and organizations.

Reforms

- The information on the preparation of National Strategy for Cooperation with the Diaspora was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia.

Two events

- Participation at the promotion of the publication “From Diaspora to Diversities” at the invitation of the Minister of Culture Robert Alagjovovski; and
- Participation at the Thematic Forum “Challenges, Perspectives and Potentials of Migration” organized by CIVICA Mobilitas.

Over 15 meetings with

- Director General of the International Organization for Migration, William Lacey Swing, who reviewed the possibility for the Republic of Macedonia to host a Diaspora Ministerial Summit in 2018;
- Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, together with Prime Minister Zoran Zaev and the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Minister of Human Rights and Refugees Samiha Borovac, as part of a government delegation led by the President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Zaev, accompanied by Oliver Spasovski, Minister of the Interior, Ljupco Nikolovski, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, Kreshnik Bekteshi, Minister of Economy, Robert Alagjovovski, Minister of Culture, on the first official working visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- President of the Economic Chamber of North-West Macedonia Nebi Hoxha and the member of the American-Israeli Chamber of Commerce Mamut Skenderi;
- President of the Association of Macedonians in the UK, Bona Petrovska;
- Head of the Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Sonja Bozinovska-Petrushenska;
- Representatives of the Forum for Democratic Macedonia, Emilija Todorova and Maja Panova;
- Representatives of the Association of refugee children from the Aegean part of Macedonia;
- Representatives of the Union of the Albanian Diaspora for Macedonia;
- UMD delegation - United Macedonian Diaspora led by President Metod Kolovski;
- Ambassador of Poland to the Republic of Macedonia, Jacek Multanowski;

- The Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to the Republic of Macedonia, Fatos Reka;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, Milan Jazbec and the Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, Danijela Barisic;
- Deputy Ambassador of Great Britain to the Republic of Macedonia, Paul Edwards;
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Greece, Dimitrios Janakakis; and
- US Ambassador Jess Bailey.



MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

- Adnan Qahil

The Minister without Portfolio in charge of foreign investments Adnan Qahil realized more than 56 meetings with potential foreign investors interested in the investment climate in the Republic of Macedonia, existing investors for the potential of possible increase of the existing investments and representatives of existing companies in the investment process. In addition, the Minister held over 11 meetings with relevant ambassadors, ministers and representatives of relevant institutions.

Two events

- Presentation of the situation of foreign investors in the Economic Chamber of Macedonia-Turkey; and
- Participation of Minister Qahil in a panel discussion on the “Investment Opportunities in the Balkans” organized by the Independent Association of Industrialists and Businessmen – MUSIAD.

Over 11 meetings with

- H.E. Tülin Erkal Kara, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the Republic of Macedonia;
- H.E. Predrag Mitrovic, Ambassador of the Republic of Montenegro;
- Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey;
- Ljupco Nikolovski, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Bünyamin Kutlu, Head of the Turkish Trade Representative Office;
- H.E. Hossein Karimi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran;
- Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey; and
- representatives from the Agency for Real Estate Cadastre, the Agency for Foreign Investments, the Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones and the Bureau of Metrology.

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF IMPROVING THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE FOR DOMESTIC ENTERPRISES

- Zoran Sapuric

Minister without portfolio in charge of improving the investment climate for domestic enterprises – Zoran Sapuric undertook measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide lower carbon growth and development, waste management, as well as to award construction land in Strumica for construction of industrial plants. Submitted Draft Amendments to the Law on Consumer Protection and the Law on Mineral Resources, which were accepted by the Government, and submitted Draft Amendments and Amendments to the Law on Communal Taxes. He had several meetings with representatives of chambers, companies’ managements and ambassadors, and made several visits to the Struga Landfill and TIDZ.

Laws

- Draft Amendments to the Law on Consumer Protection adopted by the Government;
- Draft Amendments to the Law on Mineral Resources accepted by the Government; and
- Draft Amendments to the Law on Communal Taxes submitted to the Government.

Reforms

- Together with Minister Sadula Duraku undertook measures and activities for short-term solutions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and ensuring lower carbon growth and development, and in the medium term – changes in waste management regulations, plan-regional approach to waste management;
- Together with the Minister Duraku, took active participation in the ratification of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, informing the public about the importance of this agreement, which is an obligation in line with the commitments undertaken by the EU; and
- Commencement of talks with the acting mayor of Strumica for the construction of a treatment plant in accordance with the EU regulations and standards, as well as the need for awarding construction land to the municipality of 20,000 m² in the industrial zone North, where industrial plants will be built aimed at improving the economy in both the municipality and wider in the region.

Over 27 meetings with

- The Chamber of Certified Architects and Engineers, discussing their problems related to the complete construction process, the construction industry as an important part of the domestic economy and regulations in this area, especially the uncertainty arising from too frequent amendments to laws and the need to clarify the regulations on the Eurocodes and standardization in accordance with the EU regulation;
- The Commission for Economic Affairs of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and the Director of the Secretariat of the Energy Community Janez Kopac, on which the principles for electricity liberalization in accordance with the EU standards and regulations were explained to the MPs and they were informed about the extension of the electricity cheap tariff according to the Government’s programme;



- The Association of Chambers of Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of Macedonia aimed at improving the business climate in the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the Government's commitments;
- The management of 25 companies in order to get familiar with the problems they face in working and promoting the measures and activities of the Government in order to improve the business climate; and
- Several meetings aimed at accelerating the processes of full-fledged membership of the Republic of Macedonia in the EU and NATO, with EU Ambassador Samuel Zbogar, MEP Hans van Balen, Dutch Ambassador Vauter Plopp and Montenegrin Ambassador Predrag Mitrovic.

3 events

- More visits to the Struga Landfill, together with Minister Sadula Duraku and Minister Ramiz Merko;
- Visit to the TIDZ together with the Minister Zorica Apostoloska, Minister Ramiz Merko and other existing foreign investors in order to explain the determination of the Government for respecting the obligations undertaken with the already concluded agreements between them and the state, in accordance with the regulation of International Commercial Law; and
- Participation in the Third Call for the Project "Foreign Experts for Domestic Companies" aimed at improving the conditions for the operation of the domestic enterprises and the business climate in the country, as well as the animation of the domestic companies for taking part in it.

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION OF THE ROMA IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

- Samka Ibraimovski

The minister without portfolio in charge of the implementation of the Strategy for improvement of the situation of the Roma in the Republic of Macedonia, Samka Ibraimovski successfully realized activities that resolved the problem with a gynecologist in the Municipality of Shuto Orizari. Over ten meetings were held with representatives from line ministries in charge of implementation of the Strategy for Roma, the Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Macedonia, as well as citizens in Kocani, Stip and Gostivar, where the daily problems that they meet at local level were discussed. A Cooperation Agreement was signed with MIT University - Skopje, and four public events were organized.

Reforms

- Finding resolution for the problem with a gynecologist in the Municipality of Shuto Orizari.

Four events

- Celebration of the Day of the Genocide against Roma in Second World War in the Memorial Center of the Holocaust of the Jews of Macedonia;
- Preparatory activities for marking the Day of the Roma alphabet in November;
- Cleaning of the landfill along the regional road Bitola - Resen; and
- Open discussion on "Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Categories of Citizens through Education" organized by Minister Ibraimovski and MIT University-Skopje.

Over ten meetings with

- Representatives of line ministries in charge of the implementation of the Roma Strategy;
- Representatives of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy to address the problem with a gynecologist in the Municipality of Shuto Orizari;
- Minister of Culture, Robert Alagjovovski, to initiate a process for opening a Roma Cultural Center in Skopje;
- Minister of Education and Science Renata Desoskska and Ljatif Demir, founder of the Department and professor of Romani Language at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, in order to review the proposal for opening a Romani Language Department at the Pedagogical Faculty in Skopje;
- EVN Managing Board Chairman Stefan Petar, discussing the possibility of joining electricity in settlements with Roma population;
- Representatives of the Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Macedonia, where an Evaluation of the current implementation of the Roma Decade 2005-2015, as well as the Strategy for Roma, was initiated; and
- Citizens in Kocani, Gostivar and Stip, where the implementation of the Strategy for Roma at the local level was in focus.

Established collaborations

- Agreement with MIT University in Skopje for awarding 10 scholarships for free tuition of undergraduate studies and 5 scholarships for postgraduate studies for Roma students.



MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

- Zorica Apostoloska

Zorica Apostolska, Minister without Portfolio in charge of foreign investments, attended more than eight events and held over 14 meetings with representatives of existing and potential foreign investors in the energy sector, automobile industry, education and technological industrial development.

Over eight events

- Meeting with existing foreign investors in the Republic of Macedonia, organized by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Dr. Kocho Angjushev;
- Business breakfast with the Union of Chambers of Commerce;
- Promotional event for the project "Foreign Experts for Domestic Companies";
- Visit of the Technological Industrial Development Zone Bunardzik;
- Visit to the Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones; and
- Three meetings of the Council for monitoring the conditions in the pension system.

Over 14 meetings with

- Representatives of 9 foreign companies – potential investors (Greece, Italy, USA, China, India, Romania, Turkey, etc.) in the energy sector, automobile industry, education, the financial sector, as well as in other sectors;
- Representatives of 3 foreign companies that are in phase of realization of the announced green-field investments in order to overcome the problems they face and continue their activity until the full realization of the investment;
- The German company VIK Group for the realization of the investment project in TIDZ Prilep, in order to revise and determine the conditions in the draft agreement for granting state aid;
- Honorary Consul of Bari, Italy, in Macedonia to promote the investment potential of our country in front of the Italian business community in the Puglia region, Italy;
- Delegation of the German economy in Macedonia for encouraging bilateral cooperation and investments; lobbying, promotion and presentation of the potentials of the Republic of Macedonia in front of the German regions / companies, including the presentation of a pilot Project for Introduction of Dual Secondary Vocational Education in the Republic of Macedonia aimed at creating an adequate capacity of professional staff for the needs of the companies / investors; and
- Representatives of the Italian-Macedonian Chamber of Commerce to support and present the potentials for investing in Macedonia in front of the business community in Italy.

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

- Ramiz Merko

Minister without Portfolio in charge of Foreign Investments, Ramiz Merko, realized over 10 meetings with existing and potential investors, as well as representatives of Chambers of Commerce and industry and relevant institutions in the field of tourism and technological industrial development. Minister Merko attended the promotion of the Public Call for the Project "Foreign Experts for Domestic Companies" and the business breakfast organized by the Association of Chambers of Commerce.

Two events

- Promotion of the Third Public Call for the Project "Foreign Experts for Domestic Companies"; and
- Presence at the business breakfast organized by the Union of Chambers of Commerce of the Republic of Macedonia.

Over ten meetings with

- Albanian President Ilir Meta, the mayor of Tirana, Erion Veliaj and representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and industries, as well as Albanian businessmen;
- Head of the Sector of the Agency for Promotion and Support of the Tourism of the Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Nikolovski;
- Representatives from the Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones;
- Representatives from the Agency for Foreign Investments;
- The company Nordic Invest for investment in the production of photovoltaic energy;
- The company Schnell for investment in the tourism sector; and
- The company Elkos Group for obtaining concession of the TIPOS factory in Butel / Skopje for the purpose of converting it into multifunctional shopping center.

A PROMISE is
A PROMISE!

FIRST
100
DAYS

GOVERNMENT OF THE CITIZENS ●



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA