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Republic of Macedonia on the way to the EU

Joint Parliamentary Committee EU-RM

The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and the EU

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Culture

Macedonian legislation harmonized with the EU acquis in October 2010:

- Law on Management of Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators
- Law on Proclaiming of the Locality Ploce Litotelmi for Strict Natural Reservat
- Law on Quality of Agriculture Products
- Law amending the Law on Prevention of Corruption
- Law on Animal Feeding Food Safety
- Law amending the Law on Agencies for Temporary Employments
- Law on Chemicals
- Law on Protection of Competition
- Law on State Aid Control
- Law amending the Law on Manufacturing and Trade of Arms and Ammunition

11 October - Day of the Armed Uprising

On the occasion of 11 October, the 69th anniversary of Anti-Fascist Uprising and the National Liberation Struggle, Award for outstanding achievements in the fields of science, art, economy and other areas of public interest were presented at the Macedonian Assembly.



PRIME-MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO IN THE MACEDONIAN PARLIAMENT

"Both the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic Montenegro share common values and interests in their Euro-Atlantic integration, which further develops the bilateral relations and contributes to the stability of the region. Thus, I sincerely wish, to Montenegro and to its citizens that the integration processes, and the integration in NATO in particular, to be finalized without obstacles, stated the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Trajko Veljanoski.

The role of the parliaments is crucial in the EU integration process, since parliaments on one hand are responsible for the adoption of laws, their harmonisation with the Acquis and on the other, they exercise control over the Executive branch. President

Veljanoski underlined that the Macedonian Assembly is prepared to share the experiences with the Parliament of Montenegro.

President Djukanovic stated that he, as a Prime Minister and the Government as a whole, always express regret on international forums that Macedonia is not a member of NATO. The Republic of Montenegro and all states from the region belong to Europe and the political and economic competitiveness cannot be efficient without integration of the region as a whole.

Both sides underlined that the economic cooperation is under the level of the political relations and that there is a need for intensification, for which there is interest by the governments and by the business communities.



Mr. Rafis Aliti and Ms. Ute Kumpf in the Macedonian Assembly

THE GERMAN SCHOLARSHIPS PROJECT: BENEFIT FOR THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

In the framework of the "International Parliamentary Scholarship" (IPS), the Vice-President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and Vice-President of the JPC Delegation, Mr. Rafis Aliti, had a meeting with a Delegation from the German Bundestag. The German delegation was comprised of: Ms. Ute Kumpf, MP, Mr. Miler Projsker, Director of the Institute for Physics at the Humbolt University in Berlin and Mr. Bertolt Gris-, Deputy-Head of the Management and Technology Department.

The Scholarships project enables perspective young leaders to get directly acquainted with the work of the Bundestag. They have an excellent opportunity to meet German politicians, to see the parliament, as well as to get insight of the academic, cultural and economic life and bring that experience in their own countries. Three students have been granted scholar-

ships from the Republic of Macedonia.

Mr. Aliti informed the Delegation that scholarship students are invited in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia to get acquainted with its manner of work and also to hear their impressions and the experiences gained during their stay in the German Bundestag. This is a great benefit for the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, said Mr. Aliti.

Ms. Kumpf was impressed from the Macedonian students and their great interest for Germany, as well as from their thorough preparation for the selection process. She was positively surprised from the fact that most of the applications are females. As a parliamentarian herself, Mr. Kumpf said that is very important after their return the students have to be more active and spread the information on this project among the young people in the Republic of Macedonia.

75TH ROSE ROTH SEMINAR "SOUTH-EAST EUROPE: CREATING NEW MOMENTUM"



The 75th Rose Roth Seminar, jointly organized by the NATO PA and the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, was organized from 19 to 21 October 2010 in Skopje. This is the sixth time that the two parliaments organize such seminars in the Republic of Macedonia. The seminar brought together some 139 participants, including 37 members of parliament from NATO and partner countries, government representatives, and officials from international organizations, experts and academics.

The Seminar was opened by the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Trajko Veljanovski, Ms. Nicole Wyrsh, Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation in the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. James Perdue, NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Operations and Mr. Marc Angel, Rapporteur of the Sub-Committee on Democratic Governance and Deputy-Head of the Delegation of Luxembourg in NATO PA.

THE REFORMS IN MACEDONIA ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EU STANDARDS - THE VISIT OF MR. VAN ROMPUY IS CONFIRMATION THAT THE COUNTRY IS GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Following the visit of the President of the European Council, Mr. Herman Van Rompuy, to the region and to the Republic of Macedonia, the Co-Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Republic of Macedonia - EU, Mr. Aleksandar Spasenovski, gave the following statement:

„This is proof that the Union remains strongly committed to the enlargement policy. The decision to visit Macedonia is also a confirmation of the progress that the institutions are making in the process of harmonization

During the seminar, experiences were presented on the lessons learned from other NATO member countries. There was a general opinion that a greater commitment is necessary towards Macedonia, Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina and their existing unresolved issues. Participants agreed that Macedonia is leader in the region and exporter of peace, but due to the open issue for the name of the state, is not member of the NATO club. The need for further implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and for building an integrated multi-ethnic society was reaffirmed, as a model that is in the focus of interest in the region and wider. The need was emphasized for further consolidation of state institutions and democratic processes in the youngest state in the region, Kosovo and the point was made that Kosovo belongs to Europe and its future lies in the Euro-Atlantic structures.

The Seminar also took note of the important role of parliaments and their parliamentary dimension as one of the pillars for transparency of the Euro-Atlantic integration of all countries in this region. At the end, the participants concluded that if they can not agree on the past, they can try to agree on the future for joint integration in the NATO and the EU and reiterated the need for finding solutions as soon as possible on all open issues or disputes in the region.

„I would like to say that although at the incoming Lisbon Summit the main topic will be the New NATO Strategy, we are still waiting reaffirmation of the position of the Alliance for the open door policy and for further NATO enlargement", concluded in his final remarks at the Seminar, Mr. Talat Xhaferi, Head of the Parliamentary Delegation from the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

of the Macedonian legal order in accordance with the standards and recommendations of the Union." According to Mr. Spasenovski, third important conclusion from the visit of Mr. Van Rompuy is that in the period after the publication of Report of the European Commission, the institutions have to make further efforts for fulfillment of the obligations with the aim of quicker integration of Macedonia in the Union.

Answering journalist's question about the effect of the name dispute with Greece on the European integration process, Mr. Spasenovski underlined that the issue is being resolved in the United Nations, while the country has an obligation to continue with the reforms of the Macedonian society in accordance with the standards of the European Union.

PUBLIC DEBATES ON EU LAWS IN THE NATIONAL EUROPEAN INTEGRATION COUNCIL

The National European Integration Council continued with the practice of holding debates with MPs and representatives of the society to gather useful information and proposals on how to improve the quality of the EU flagged laws that come for adoption in parliament, as an obligation from the National Program for Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA). Two separate debates on the Draft -Law on Food Safety and the Draft-Audit Law were organized in October 2010.

The first law was presented by Mr. Perica Ivanovski, Deputy-Minister on Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management. On the second debate, the Draft-Audit Law was presented by Mr. Nedim Ramizi, Deputy-Minister on Finance. The adoption of this law is related to the harmonization with the EU Acquis, i.e. European Parliament and the EU Council Directive 2006/43/EC on legislative audit of the annual and consolidated accounts.

The participants in both debates welcomed this initiative and presented their proposals, remarks and comments to improve the texts of the two laws.



Autumn in Macedonia



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