“EURO-BALKAN” INSTITUTE

Annual Report 2012
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ABOUT “EURO-BALKAN” INSTITUTE

Mission

The “Euro-Balkan” Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities Research is an accredited self-standing higher education and scientific research institution. The Institute is committed to fostering academic excellence in research and postgraduate education in the social sciences and humanities by promoting a rare integrated interdisciplinary approach to studying and researching the complex problems facing the country and region from multiple and new perspectives for Macedonian academia. Due to this, “Euro-Balkan” is focused on developing cutting edge research and postgraduate teaching interdisciplinary programs in the social sciences and humanities (particularly in the areas of gender studies, cultural studies of the Balkans and Southeastern Europe, political studies of Southeastern Europe, and Byzantine studies).

Considering that the “Euro-Balkan” Institute as a higher education and academic research institution grew out of an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan and not-for-profit think tank, the Institute is deeply committed to integrating its academic research program with its policy research agenda by conducting complex and highly professional analyses, program evaluations, education and training activities, and pilot projects with the view of developing evidence based public policy in Macedonia, influencing public opinion, and thus significantly supporting reforms in all spheres of Macedonian society.

All research and education activities at the “Euro-Balkan” Institute are geared towards strengthening democracy, creating a progressive, open, and inclusive society, developing an authentic European identity and culture deeply respectful of differences, encouraging regional and Euro-Atlantic integration and advocating for a sustainable development of the Republic of Macedonia.
Organizational Structure

I  Education Sector

1. Second and Third Cycle Higher Education Center – School for Regional Studies
   1.1 Department of Gender Studies
   1.2 Department of Southeast Europe Studies
   1.3 Department of Cultural Studies
   1.4 Department of Byzantine Studies
   1.5 Ohrid Summer University (OSU)

2. Center for Life Long Learning

II  Academic Research and Applicative Activities Sector

Center for Gender Studies
Center for Contemporary Political Thought
Center for Visual and Cultural Research
Center for Democracy and Security
Center for Byzantine Studies
Library Department and Electronic News Archive (ENA)
“Euro-Balkan” Institute is accredited to organize and pursue post-graduate program for Gender Studies (structured within the two main study subprograms: Philosophy and Gender Studies, Sociology and Gender Studies), post-graduate program in Political Studies of Southeast Europe, post-graduate program in Cultural Studies, and post-graduate program in Byzantine Studies.

The studies are organized in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Upon the successful completion of the study program in which the student is enrolled, and the successfully defended thesis, she/he can obtain the following degree (depending on the study cycle level):

- M.A. in Philosophy and Gender Studies
- M.A. in Sociology and Gender Studies
- M.A. in Political Studies of Southeast Europe
- M.A. in Cultural Studies
- M.A. in Byzantine Studies

In the academic year 2012/2013, nine students have been enrolled on the Institute’s post-graduate programs. In 2012, one candidate earned MA degree, and three candidates earned PhD degree, the highest academic degree.

Since 2012 “Euro-Balkan” Institute is a member of CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies). CEEPUS covers mobility grants for students and teachers in this framework. One student has joint her research into ARHEOPED network from Slovenia.

“Euro-Balkan” Institute was awarded the Erasmus University Charter under the Lifelong Learning Programme Call.

Graduation Ceremony (PhD, MA)
1. Second and Third Cycle Higher Education Center – School for Regional Studies

Under the name of “The School of Regional Studies” research and teaching activities of all of the five departments of the Institute are assembled. The approach sensitive to the Balkan (or Southeast-European) specific perspective is incorporated in the greatest part of the research conducted by the Institute and is an inevitable component of both the curriculum and the teaching approach. This is a choice that is grounded in the epistemological and political estimation of the Scientific Council according to which the approach of sensitivity vis-à-vis the cultural-political context is enabling of a scientific thought that is accountable of its own specific position.

1.1 Department of Gender Studies

Gender Studies is an exciting lively scientific area of concern with inter-disciplinary structure, containing in itself various disciplines from social sciences and humanities. Philosophy, political sciences, psychology, sociology, literature and cultural studies, history, linguistics, anthropology, economy and law are all areas which the student could choose to pursue aiming to understand the dynamics of relations between men and women in past, present and the future. Gender studies deal with questions of gender roles, identity, the status of males and females in society and the attending changes in different historical periods and different spaces.

1.2 Department of Southeast Europe Studies

Studies of Southeastern Europe are focused on issues from the area of political sciences, the example of which is the question of complex interactions between the states and the communities in the region of the Balkans from the perspective of democracy, security and power relations in the international relation. Although founded on the political science disciplines as their primary basis, Studies of Southeastern Europe also incorporate aspects from other areas in social sciences and humanities, such as history, cultural studies, ethnology and anthropology. Such inter-disciplinary approach widens students’ views, providing them with knowledge necessary for understanding of all essential aspects of the complexity of contemporary Southeastern European politics.

1.3 Department of Cultural Studies

Cultural Studies is academic discipline grounded in the beginning of the ‘60 of the XX century incited by the phenomena of contemporary culture. The postgraduate Cultural Studies’ goal is to study the cultural phenomena in different societies and is founded on interdisciplinary approach which combines critical theory, cultural geography, literary theory, political economy, communication studies, Media theory, sociology, cultural anthropology, philosophy, museum studies and history of art. The postgraduate Cultural Studies focuses on the relations between cultural phenomena and power apparatuses, investigating the contemporary changes in culture deriving from various social conditions and the complexity of communication strategies and models of representation. The Cultural Studies target the profound meaning of culture in regards to identity, globalization, urban culture, but includes cultural histories research as well.

1.4 Department of Byzantine Studies

Byzantine Studies in its conceptual structure are designed for a comprehensive study that among other things, entails overcoming national and geographical barriers that are still present in the Balkan academic context in the definition and interpretation of Byzantium and Byzantine legacy. The studies follow the latest trends in distancing from the established negative stereotypes of Byzantium and the Balkans, as manifested through a critical approach to the application of the terms “Byzantinism” and “Balkanism”. The studies offer perspective research of Byzantium as an integral part of European civilization and culture. The complex of knowledge and practices united in the Byzantine studies is focused on interdisciplinary research on the specifics of the Byzantine world, which as a crucial transitional link between ancient and modern world, had fundamentally shaped political and cultural processes in the Balkans, Eastern Europe, as well as Christian-Islamic Orient.
1.5 Ohrid Summer University (OSU)

Ohrid Summer University (OSU) is an international academic program which offers intensive, problem-oriented, and research-based courses from the domain of social sciences and humanities. It is founded in 1998 and has functioned continuously since then, as one of the core programs of the “Euro-Balkan” Institute, involving a significant number of both junior and senior members of academic communities from various countries. The program is dedicated to build academic excellence for young faculty, PhD candidates, postgraduates, researchers and scholars, by offering international summer schools which pay a special attention to:

- Implementation of the highest academic standards for teaching, research skills, techniques and methodologies;
- Interdisciplinarity and regional contextualization of the subject;
- Promotion of alternative higher education in the region;
- Encouraging renewal of the curriculum and syllabi in the established/incumbent universities in the region, in the field of social studies and humanities.
- Establishing international alumni network.

To date “Euro-Balkan” Institute, through OSU program, have organized over 40 summer schools from various areas with over 700 participants, involving more than 120 professors. Through organization of the Summer Schools’ program, OSU has established an international academic cooperation, creating a network of continuous and productive collaboration.

2. Center for Life Long Learning

The Centre for Life Long Learning is dedicated to offering a non-formal education, which allows participants to be included in specially developed courses, training them in a specific skill, taking place in a time suitable for them. We have developed specialized courses for lifelong learning in collaboration with established professionals. The courses are tailored by the utmost criteria for education with interdisciplinary approach and are consist of lectures and practical work.

In 2012 the Centre for Life Long Learning has added several new courses to the already existed: Archaeology of Macedonia, Handmade Jewellery, Developing Communication Skills and Efficiency in the Business Environment, 3D modeling, 3D animation, Economics in Practice, Specialist Courses in the Field of Archive and with the existed ones Drawing and Painting, Interior Design, Fashion Design and Editing Picture and Sound make a total of 12 courses that are offered by the Centre.

In 2012 the Centre for Life Long Learning has conducted two courses in Fashion Design with total of 15 listeners, one course in Editing Picture and Sound with 3 listeners and one course in 3D modeling with 12 listeners that finished the course.
ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND APPLICATIVE ACTIVITIES SECTOR

1. Center for Gender Studies

The Center for Gender Studies introduces and promotes academic legitimacy of the gender/women's/feminist studies, and pursues research, theoretical investigation, and education in this field in Macedonia and in the region of SEE. As a result of its consistent focusing on this basic mission, the Center succeeded to influence the formal educational system in Macedonia and to incite establishing post-graduate courses in gender studies within the universities in the country. Main achievement in this sense has been the establishing of a joint, inter-institutional Center for Curriculum Development in the area of gender studies with the State University – “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” in Skopje.

Furthermore, the Center has identified the need of acting on a less academic level, which will communicate closely with the activism. The idea of informal education in the field of gender/women’s studies was realized through the School for Gender and Politics.

The Center for Gender Studies is one of the creators of the Regional Network for Gender/Women’s Studies in SEE, organizer of the Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching in the fields of Gender and European Studies (with HESP) 2004-2006, publisher of the regionally distributed Journal for Politics, Gender and Culture “Identities”, and partner organization in the research project exploring the intersections between "gender, migration and intercultural interactions in South Europe" (GeMIC), among other regional projects.

2. Center for Contemporary Political Thought

The Center for Contemporary Political Thought is an inclusive, transdisciplinary scholarly space that aims to think politics in the porous borders between various disciplines in the humanities and the social sciences. Its main purpose is to challenge the dominant framing and disciplining of political knowledge within modernity, and promote a shared yet diverse, global and regional, space for intellectual communication, scholarship and pedagogical practice.

The Center also reflects the reality that an ever growing number of academic and postgraduate researchers throughout the world blur all disciplinary boundaries in the humanities and social sciences in the most profound ways thus creating new hybrids of political knowledge and practice, and recasting old internal rules, norms and biases which govern old disciplinary boundaries about what can be researched and said under the rubric “politics.”

3. Center for Visual and Cultural Research

The Center for Visual and Cultural Research as a consistent part of “Euro-Balkan” Institute analyses and questions the applicability of the cultural theories to the creation of “situated knowledge” in the Balkan context. In other words, the Center discusses how the specific conditions of the world today, i.e. the increasing flows of culture, capital, people in the age of globalization, and also our cultural specificity in the Balkans with the history of immigration, and the entanglement of different cultures both necessitate and enable re-thinking of the theoretical questions posed by visual and cultural theories. Since September 2004, the Center for Visual and Cultural Research brings together committed researchers whose research and teaching focus on the politics and production of culture in the public sphere, with emphasis on the interpretive methods of the social sciences, arts, and humanities.

The mission of the Center for Visual and Cultural Research is to promote a critical trans-disciplinary understanding of the complex entanglement of various cultures in European, regional, and local community context. The Center's intellectual aim is to study the relations between the arts, media, and society. Its approach is interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary.
4. Center for Byzantine Studies

The Center for Byzantine Studies was founded with the main purpose to initiate and promote the interdisciplinary research and to advance the academic knowledge in the field of Byzantine Studies. In accordance with this mission, the Center stipulate the wider scope of the interdisciplinary research in exploring Byzantium as a complex and comprehensive political-cultural sphere, which has been in continuous interaction equally with the Western Christianity and Christian-Islamic Orient. The Center’s goal is to provide an advanced research and teaching of Byzantium as an integral part of European civilization and culture, freed from national and geographical constraints and political and cultural divisions. Our mission is to raise the understanding of the phenomena of Byzantium while endorsing the appropriation of the Byzantine heritage in European cultural history and its inclusion in the conception and definition of unified Europe. Conferences, research projects, lectures, seminars and other activities organized by the Centre are designed for developing wider academic forum of presentation and discussion of the latest research related to Byzantine Studies, aspiring to bring Byzantium within mainstream history of Europe.

5. Center for Democracy and Security

The Center for Democracy and Security is established in July 2003 and its general idea is to serve as a resource centre and a focal point of the increasingly important democracy and security related projects in the Republic of Macedonia. The Centre aims at institutional capacity building, analysis and consulting, expert formation and civil society empowerment in the context of ongoing EU integration process of the country and the region. Currently, the Centre is able to offer a very up-dated and focused academic and expert library (over 4,000 book units plus journals) and other related services (photo-copying, Internet access, etc.). It also conducts its own projects, such as expert assistance in the process of policy-making and forthcoming accession of Republic of Macedonia to EU, assessment related to the national and regional security, supporting applied research, training, and implementing pro-active projects aimed at promoting human rights, non-discrimination, and social inclusion approach in achieving democracy, as well as national and human security.

6. Library Department and Electronic News Archive (ENA)

Library
As one of the key segments of the "Euro-Balkan" Institute, the Library has over 4,000 fine prints, providing access to the information resources required for the exploratory usage of the students, and for the educational projects and programs. There is a wealth of material to support learning and research at the Institute. The Library collections are continuously and systematically supplemented with the latest publications.

Electronic News Archive (ENA)
The only concentrated electronic database of printed media in Macedonia, the Electronic News Archive (ENA), started its activities in October 1999. By the end of 2012, ENA archived more than 300,000 articles from fourteen dailies and sixteen weeklies published in Macedonia, in Macedonian as well as in Albanian language. ENA has also broadened its range of products by introducing a client-orientated press-clipping service, which also includes full monitoring of the press and regular and bi-weekly periodical analyses on the attitude of the printed media towards the work of the client.
7. International Theatre Institute – Macedonian Centre (Re-opening/re-forming)

In December 2012, in the frames of “Euro-Balkan” Institute, and in collaboration with ITI Unesco, Paris, Macedonian ITI Centre was re-established. ITI Centre will be functioning as integral centre of the Institute of Social Science and Humanities Researching “Euro-Balkan” and will operate as official promoter of contemporary Macedonian performing arts scene. Macedonian ITI Centre is in the international network of 100 National ITI Centres, and 22 associative performing art institutions/organizations worldwide, including the international membership of ITI Unesco, Paris.

http://www.iti-worldwide.org/macedonia.php
OUR ACTIVITIES

1. ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROJECTS

1.1 Strategy for Cultural Development of the City of Skopje with Action Plan (2012-2015)

*Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research*

In collaboration with Cultural Department from City of Skopje, our team of researchers in the field of Culture and cultural politics, at the Institute “Euro-Balkan”, Skopje, together we initiate and resume the six months researching process in order to define the best Strategy for cultural development of the City of Skopje for the period of 2012-2015. Researching process was established and performed in four phases:

I. Preparing phase for defining the methodological approaches;
II. Field work, interviews, collecting yearly rapports from public institutions and non-profit organizations in the field of culture, organizing two public panel discussions and two workshops with professionals in the field of Culture;
III. Analyzes of collected materials, references and defining the Strategy with Action Plan;
IV. Final Strategy / Action Plan revisions with the team of City of Skopje and finalization.

*Project Coordinator:* Ivanka Apostolova  
*Supported by:* City of Skopje, Republic of Macedonia  
*Budget:* 11,500.00 €

1.2 EUBAART

*Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research*

The aim of the project is to establish a visible international network of artists, curators and cultural workers from the Balkans (and beyond) by creating a digital database that will contain the basic information of the authors and their works. It would be a practical tool by different criteria, but will also provide and / or facilitate their mutual communication and present authors to the interested institutions (museums, galleries, festivals and other forms of cultural representation) in Europe and in the world. In this way, artists and cultural workers from Macedonia and Macedonian cultural institutions will be offered a platform for different types of institutional and non institutional cooperation.

Culture represents universal values. Such a project makes sense only if it promotes broad access to the cultural environment. At the same time, the broader regional platform will accommodate artists in a more open artistic context.

[www.eubaart.mk](http://www.eubaart.mk)

*Project Coordinator:* Velimir Zernovski  
*Supported by:* Ministry of Culture, Republic of Macedonia  
*Budget:* 4,045.31 €
1.3 ISCH COST Action IS120: In Search of Transcultural Memory of Europe

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

In 2012 “Euro-Balkan” Institute has joined the Cost Action: In Search of Transcultural Memory of Europe in a consortium of 25 prestige European Universities (Ghent, Lund, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Budapest, Ljubljana, Novi Sad, etc.). This project / network will be closed in 2016, and in a period of 2013-2016 will offer high quality of field researches, international conferences, summer schools, lectures, PhD courses in the domain of Cultural Memory in Europe, today.

Project Coordinator: Ivanka Apostolova

http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/isch/Actions/IS1203

1.4 Consultancy Services for Establishing a Regional Academy for Life Long Learning

Implementing department: Center for Life Long Learning

This project was realized in two phases: first phase - preparatory activities that included developing a local network of all educational centers in Macedonia in cooperation with ZELS (Association of the units of local self-government of the Republic of Macedonia), mapping related educational centers in the region, establishing initial contacts with potential members of the Academy from the various affected areas of interest; and second phase - activities for the establishment of the Academy composed of organization of founder working conference that will determine the nature and needs of regions, arranging the ways of functioning of the Academy, arranging the general principles of cooperation between the Centers in the frame of the Academy.

Project Coordinator: Metodi Chilimanov
Project Assistant: Bojana Gjurovska
Supported by: Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Macedonia
Budget: 3,146.00 €
2. ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND APPLICATIVE ACTIVITIES SECTOR

2.1. “We are the Future Leaders and Agents of Change in Our Communities”

Implementing department: Center for Gender Studies

The project aims at inspiring local women leaders to candidate and be elected for mayors and municipal councillors and thus contribute to increased participation of women in local decision-making processes and to more effective local gender mainstreaming. Through the delivery of mentorship and training program tailored to women who are interested in becoming local leaders, the project will serve as supportive mechanism to the existing elections law and quota system and gender equality structures established with the Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men. It will motivate women and equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to position themselves in local elections and address the challenges they face in participating in local decision-making processes. The project will be implemented in a period of three years in partnership with Macedonian Women Lobby. The Parliamentary Commission for Equal Opportunities, and NGOs DESIDE and SIRMA will also take part in the activities. Through individual capacity building efforts, ICT supported mentoring initiatives, lobbying and networking the project will capacitate a number of aspiring women mayors and future women councillors, it will involve women sections of all registered political parties, cooperate with councils from all established municipalities, women NGOs, local and national government institutions and political leaders.

In its second phase, the project will seek sustainable solution to current obstacles faced by women running for seats in the local elections and in participating in decision making processes through legislative changes by 2015, with the support of the Parliamentary Commission for Equal Opportunities and through the establishment of Academy and National Mentorship Program for Women Mayors and Community Leaders. These activities, that include training, mentorship, awareness raising and networking initiatives will serve as supportive mechanism to the established Equal Opportunities Coordinators and Commissions at local level and to contribute to more effective gender mainstreaming in key areas of municipal work.

The program combines the activists and academic approach in order to encourage partnership of NGO representatives and women politicians. A volunteers program was devised to include vulnerable categories of women.

Coordinators of the Project: Dusica Dimitrovska Gajdoska, Slavco Dimitrov
In partnership with: "Macedonian Women's Lobby"
Duration: 3 years
Supported by: UN Women
Total Budget: 291,906.00 €

2.2 Study on the Progress in Gender Balance and Equality in Agency for Real Estate Cadastre’s Processes of Reforms (April-September, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Gender Studies

The aim of the study was to report on the progress on equal rights between men and women with special emphasis on progress in equal opportunities for women and men in land administration during AREC reforms. It gives the outline of the situation of AREC employees since yea 2007, combining first-hand data obtained with a small survey and through a workshop, with available data about previous activities conducted by the AREC in the area of gender equality. The Study drafts recommendations for possible future activities of AREC in the direction of obtaining full equal rights and opportunities of women and men in land administration.

Study prepared by: Stanimir Panayotov, Dusica Dimitrovska Gajdoska
2.3 Analytical Support on the Socio-Economic Impact of Social Protection Reforms in the Candidate and Pre-Candidate Countries (2010-2012)

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

The European Commission supports Member States and associate and candidate countries in their efforts to modernize social protection systems in the areas of pensions, health and long-term care, notably through the Open Method of Coordination, but also by monitoring EU policies that may have an effect on social protection systems across Europe. To carry out these missions, the Commission needs to be regularly updated on existing reforms and debates, as well as the state of monitoring and evaluation exercises, research and assessments done across Europe regarding the socio-economic impact of social protection systems and reforms.

For that aim the “Euro-Balkan” Institute has been subcontracted by the GVG - Association for Social Security Policy and Research (www.gvg-koeln.de) to implement jointly the “Analytical support on the socio-economic impact of social protection reforms in the EU Member States and EFTA/EEA, candidate and pre-candidate countries” awarded by the European Commission. As a result the “Euro-Balkan” Institute’s team has prepared a comprehensive annual report for the year 2010-2012 on pension and health system, reforms, best practices, and challenges.

Coordinator of the Project: Jana Lozanoska
Project Leader: GVG - Association for Social Security Policy and Research
Project Partner: “Euro-Balkan” Institute
Total Budget: 16,000.00 €

2.4 Reports for Bettering the Work of the AFSARD

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

The aim of this project was to improve the organizational functioning of the Agency for Financial Support of Agricultural and Rural Development (AFSARD). The project was conduct by public opinion survey of farmers who applied and those who used the IPARD programs, support programs in agriculture and rural development support program, implemented by AFSARD. For this research was used a quantitative approach by conducting a telephone survey. Data collection tools were designed by members of the research team in cooperation with the Agency. Prepared questionnaire was divided into five parts. The first and last part of the questionnaire contained general questions pertaining to all respondents, while the remaining parts were related to specific programs designed for those respondents who have applied or specifically used funds from one or more programs.

Sample respondents included 402 subjects from the entire territory of the Republic of Macedonia. The selection of respondents was based upon lists of phone numbers of applicants and beneficiaries of the programs given to use by the Agency. “Euro-Balkan” research team used a targeted sample of farmers who have applied to at least one of the programs.

Coordinator of the Project: Jordanka Galeva
Supported by: Agency for Financial Support of Agricultural and Rural Development (AFSARD)
Budget: 4,490.36 €
2.5 Public Opinion Research About the Interest and Readiness of Potential Beneficiaries, from the Municipalities of Bitola, Mogila and Novaci, Regarding the Planed New Central Heating System

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities Research “Euro-Balkan” conducted a public opinion research as a was part of the feasibility study for the needs of ELEM – Macedonian Power Plants in the area of three municipalities, located near the Mining and Energy Plant - Bitola (REK Bitola): Bitola, Mogila and Novaci. The goal of this research was to explore the interest and readiness of local population and business sector to install planed new central heating system in their homes and firms and to detect the main reasons and conditions under which they would agree to change the existing heating system that they use.

For this purpose team of “Euro-Balkan” Institute used quantitative approach through the implementation of two types of telephone survey, one for households and one for firms located in this area. In order to get a more precise picture was used comprehensive sample of 725 respondents.

Coordinator of the Project: Viktoria Borovska
Founded by: ELEM – Macedonian Power Plants
Total Budget: 4,872.00 €

2.6 Second Opinion Regarding the Acts for Organization and Systematization - Agency for Real Estate Cadastre of Republic of Macedonia.

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

Scopes of second opinion in general were activities carried out during the contractual period under review relating to the set of documents correlated to the prior organizational pattern and the newly developed one. From that perspective job descriptions have been reviewed due to the fact that to some extent changes in the direction of the organization and/or position are present.

The Agency for Real Estate Cadastre acts in the capacity of a legal person with its rights, liabilities and responsibilities as stipulated by the Law on Real Estate Cadastre and for its operation reports to the Government of R. Macedonia.

Coordinator of the Project: Aleksandar Kolekeski
Supported by: Agency for Real Estate Cadastre of the Republic of Macedonia
Contractual Value: 1,500.00 €
2.7 Analysis of the Attitude of National Printed Media in Republic of Macedonia towards the activities of the Agency for Electronic Communications (AEK) during the period 2009-2012

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

The aim of this project was to determine the attitude of the national printed media in Republic of Macedonia towards the activities of the Agency for Electronic Communications (AEK) during the period 2009-2012. Project activities included research of printed media archives and electronic news archive, and content and discourse analyses of the identified articles of interest for the research topic. The analysis treated the printed media as one of the most influential public opinion creators and one of the most important factors shaping the public image of AEK. It included not only the autonomous positions and attitudes of printed media towards the AEK, but also the attitudes and positions of other subjects of the public debate and public opinion creators, as they were presented in the press.

Coordinators and Researchers: Ilija Milchevski, Jordan Shishovski
Founded by: Agency for Electronic Communications (AEK)
Budget: 5,756.00 €

2.8 Analysis of the Attitude of National Printed Media in Republic of Macedonia towards the activities of the Municipality of Centar during the period 2009-2012

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

The aim of this project was to determine the attitude of the national printed media in Republic of Macedonia towards the activities of the Municipality of Centar, during the period 2009-2012. Project activities included research of printed media archives and electronic news archive, and content and discourse analyses of the identified articles of interest for the research topic. The analysis treated the printed media as one of the most influential public opinion creators and one of the most important factors shaping the public image of Municipality of Centar. It included not only the autonomous positions and attitudes of printed media towards the work of Municipality of Centar, but also the attitudes and positions of other subjects of the public debate and public opinion creators, as they were presented in the press.

Coordinators and Researchers: Ilija Milchevski, Jordan Shishovski
Founded by: Municipality of Centar, Skopje
Budget: 5,853.00 €
3. TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, RESEARCH SEMINARS SERIES

3.1 Management team Workshop of the Health Insurance Fund of Macedonia - Strategic management and team building (May-December, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Democracy and Security

Eight component contract on Human Resources Capacity Development / Strategic management and team-building workshops and training courses on HR issues - Health Insurance Fund of Macedonia. Contract components:

1. Strategic Workshop - Creative management of the management team;
2. Strategic Workshop - Creative management and development strategies;
3. Budgeting and Planning;
4. Team Management;
5. Effective management of business processes;
6. Communication skills;
7. Negotiation skills;
8. Customer relations.

Project Coordinator: Aleksandar Kolekeski
Assistant Coordinator: Ivana Krajcinovic
Budget: 14,000.00 €

From the workshop "Effective management of business processes"
3.2. Two-day Workshop on Gender Issues in Land Administration for the needs of AREC’s employees (September 20-21, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Gender Studies

This two-day workshop/educational course in gender issues in land administration for AREC’s employees was organized to meet several objectives: to raise the awareness and sensibility for the gender problematic in general as well as in AREC’s area of work; to provide participants with theoretical and practical knowledge in several specific sub-areas of gender studies; to inform participants about the FIG guidelines, as a specific tool designed for the needs of land administration units, and to stimulate participants to apply gender perspective in their daily work.

The program consisted of the following sessions:

Session 1: Basic concepts in gender studies; the history of equal rights movement and the development of feminism
Session 2: Gender and development: National and international perspective
Session 3: Gender representation and construction in Macedonian tradition and folklore and their reflection in contemporary society and gender relations
Session 4: Gender sensitization in land administration: Gender balance and equal opportunities in AREC

Lecturers: Slavco Dimitrov, Marjan Mladenovski, Vesna Matijasevic-Pokupec, Stanimir Panayotov
Project Coordinator: Dusica Dimitrovska Gajdoska
Total Budget: 3,500.00 €

3.3 Academic seminar Performing Arts, Body Cultures and Body Politics (March – April, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research

Academic seminar was performed in three parts theory and action, focusing on performing arts subjects like political theatre, physical theatre, poor theatre, low budget performing forms of art, history of modern and contemporary dance / performance, including Laban’s dance theories translate into praxis.

Focus groups /seminar participants: Students and young professionals from the domain of dance, drama theatre, gender studies, cultural studies and political science studies.

This academic seminar was realized in partnership with NGO Locomotiva, Skopje.

Project Coordinators: Ivanka Apostolova, Slavco Dimitrov
Guest Lectures: Naum Panovski (Theatre director - USA/Macedonia), Rok Vevar (Performing arts theoretician - Slovenia), Iskra Sukarova (Dancer/Choreographer - Macedonia).
Technical assistance: Igor Panev

The lectures of Prof. Naum Panovski
3.4 Lecture by Daniel Paut (USA). Lecture title: *Feeling home among Aegean Macedonians* (May, 2012)

*Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research*

Daniel Paut is PhD candidate in the field of Political Science. In 2012, he was one year Fulbright research fellow in R. of Macedonia, at the Institute of Macedonian History, UKIM. His field work / research is focused on Greece-Macedonian relation and delicate questions of Macedonian exile from Greece, above all the sensitive feeling of home among Aegean Macedonians.

This lecture attracted specific reactions from the side of USA Embassy in Macedonia, including high interest among local journalists in the field of politics.

*Project Coordinator: Ivanka Apostolova  
Technical Assistance: Igor Panev*
3.5 A Systematic and Intensive Survey of a Small Lateral Valley in the Middle Vardar- the Eastern Foothills of Mt. Klepa

Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research

In the autumn of 2012 “Euro-Balkan” Institute and the NGO Archaeologica started a small-scale artefact and architectural survey of a small valley in the Middle Vardar, a few kilometres upstream from the confluence of the Bregalnica. In orographical terms these are the eastern foothills of Mt. Klepa, a low but imposing massif that is a possible site of an important ancient sanctuary. The fieldwork component of the project lasted for 12 working days, during which were covered an area of only about 40 hectares.

Were discovered a small fortification and an isolated round tower dating to the Late Roman Period, an isolated building with a basilicas plan surrounded by the remains of a necropolis and a prehistoric mound necropolis. Furthermore was observed that almost the entire terrain was terraced. Surprisingly were discovered that they weren’t necessarily built for agricultural purposes, nor were they dating to the more recent historical periods. In fact the systematic collection of the surface artefacts showed that most of the terraces and especially those in the southern half of the survey area were built for habitation purposes in the Roman or the Late Roman Period.

After the preliminary study of the findings gathered during fieldwork, confidently can be claim that there existed a small nucleated settlement in the survey area during the Roman and the Late Roman Period. In addition the study of the surface material showed that the survey area was also inhabited during at least two prehistoric periods: the Iron Age and the Neolithic.

Project Coordinator: Damjan Donev
Supported by: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia
3.6 Performing Art Festival Workshops in collaboration with Impakt – International Performing Arts Festival, Veles, Macedonia, (September-October, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research

“Euro-Balkan” Institute in partnership with Impakt Festival, new local festival with fresh and inspiring international program, realized four one day performing arts workshop with internationally recognized festival guest: Mustafa Kaplan (Turkey), Jure Novak (Slovenia), Jana Svobodova (Czech Republic), Tove Sahlin (Sweden). Workshops were artistically focused on the body as architecture, body as source of movements, actors body as stage instrument etc.

Focus Group: Students and performing art professionals (actors, directors, dancers, performers ...).
Project realization, in partnership with: Impakt – International Performing Arts Festival, Veles, Macedonia
Festival Program Director: Aleksandar Ivanovski (Impakt)
Project Coordinator: Ivanka Apostolova
Team: Valentina Gocevska, Igor Panev
Design of Poster: Danica Lepojevic

"My Own Bodies” with Tove Sahlin (Sweden)  "Body and Space” with Mustafa Kaplan (Turkey)
3.7 Lectures and Creative Workshops for Students in High Schools (2012-2013)

Implementing department: Centre for Contemporary Political Thought

The project is conceived as a series of three lectures and three workshops for groups of 20-30 students from three high schools in Skopje, who will be encouraged to independently implement projects inspired by the contents of the lectures, and for which, from a research standpoint, they will be supported through the workshops.

The aim of the project is to broaden the perception of what is considered to be knowledge; to develop skills for independent research; to encourage critical thinking; and to support the interested students to independently implement innovative and creative projects, in the development of which they will apply the learned skills and freely realize their creativity.

Indirectly, the project will contribute to the building of healthy and responsible individuals by influencing the ability of young people to think critically and independently and by developing skills for independent learning and research, which are hoped to contribute in changing the established notion of knowledge as a mere accumulation and reproduction of facts and information.

Project Coordinator: Vangel Nonevski
Supported by: City of Skopje, Republic of Macedonia
Budget: 1,500.00 €
4. EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS

4.1 “Article 1” 
(22 February – 15 March, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Gender Studies

The Coalition “Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities” and the Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities Research “Euro-Balkan”, from 22.02 - 15.03. 2012, organized the setting of the Swedish LGBT exhibition “Article 1” and “The Unstraight Museum”, followed by an international two-day conference In/Visible: The Political and Sexual Regimes of the Archive.

“Article One” is a touring LGBT exhibition from some of the Sweden’s more prominent museums, with accounts of the history and contemporary life of LGBT-persons, initiated in Stockholm at Europride in the summer of 2008. After its tour on the Baltic Pride in Riga, Latvia, in Belgrade, and Sarajevo, we had the honour to present the exhibition in Skopje, at the Chifte Amam (National Gallery of Macedonia).

The participating museums were the Swedish Police Museum, the Swedish Army Museum, the Nobel Museum, the National Museum of Science and Technology, The National Museum of Sports and the National Historical Museum. The Swedish exhibition was accompanied by a local, Macedonian, contribution comprising two parts: “The Sexuality of the Archive” and “Emotional Archive of the Unstraight Experiences in Macedonia”.


Project Coordinators: Slavco Dimitrov, Velimir Zernovski

4.2 KonFuzija/ConFusion – Experimental Theatre Performance
(May-September, 2012)

Implementing department: Center for Visual and Cultural Research

KonFuzija is artistic performance/project, direct artistic follow up from the Academic seminar with Dr. Naum Panovski. Group of young dancers and performing artists enter into deeply emotional performance focused on emotional intimacy, agony and ecstasy of young people. KonFuzija performed on several local festivals like MOT-Skopje, Impakt-Velles, Bosh Fest-Gevgelija, Slobodna Zona, Vinica. They received significant media support from the local magazines and TV stations such as: TV Sitel, Alfa TV Skopje, TV Telma etc.

Creative Team: Biljana Radinovska (Director), Ines Efremova (Video Art), Nenad Tonkin (Music), Kristina Lelovac (Performer), Viktoria Ilioska (Performer), Angela Dimitrova (Performer), Melani Dimitrioska (Costumography).

Project Coordinator: Ivanka Apostolova

Organizational / Technical Team: Valentina Gocevska, Igor Panev, Jordan Shishovski, Kristina Trajanovska, Ivanka Apostolova

Partner: NGO Lokomotiva, Skopje

Design of poster: Ines Efremova

From the premiere, 8th June, "Euro-Balkan" Institute Skopje

25th September, MOT, Skopje

26th August, Bosh Festival, Gevgelija

27th August, Slobodna Zona, Vinica

4.3 The Summer Academic Conversations
The initiative for organizing *The Summer Academic Conversations* followed the merge of the Institute for social sciences and humanities "Euro-Balkan" into "Euro-Balkan" University. The intention was to reflect the main intellectual premises that "Euro-Balkan" has been known by and to promote new, progressive scientific views. Many professionals from different areas had their exhibiting, and with that, the program was constructed to please different interests. Besides promoting our active academics and researcher’s staff, we gave an opportunity to our students (postgraduates) as a support for their further professional edification and promotion.

President of the Republic of Macedonia, Prof. Gjorge Ivanov, had a lecture as part of the opening ceremony, and the list of participants in *The Summer Academic Conversations* included names such as: Dragan Dautovski; Prof. Biljana Vankovska, Nikola Eftimov, Prof. Branislav Sarkanjac, Prof. Jovan Donev, academic Glogor Cemerski, academic Bogomil Guzel, Nikola Kozabashija, Toni Kitanovski, Viktorija Rangelova, Darko Leshovski, “Strip Centar” - Veles, Gjorgje Jovanovik, and many more; as well as some foreign guests: Dave Wilson, Lenina Zila.

It is our goal *The Summer Academic Conversations* to become traditional for the University so in that way, we can prove that our researches and professionals really do have what to say and show on the World’s professional scene.

*Head of the Project*: Jovan Donev, Mitko Panov

*Project Coordinator*: Aleksandra Veleva

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5. PUBLISHING PROGRAM
5.1 Culture Literary Translation

Euro-Balkan Press is committed to providing high-quality translations of relevant titles from the areas of anthropology, history, philosophy, politics, gender studies and cultural studies. We are trying to expand our field of work, bringing some of the Europe’s most provocative contemporary authors into Macedonian cultural sphere. We selected titles of five authors, awarded and translated in many different languages but for the first time in Macedonia: Saj razumés?, Andrej Blatnik; Sarajevska megila, Eliezer Papo; Sefardske price, Eliezer Papo; Kao da me nema, Slavenka Drakulic; Dimineata pierduta, Gabriela Adameşteanu. Working with this edition we are hoping to bring the idea of cultural diversity to the wide Macedonian public. Hence, translating these books and offering them to the Macedonian readership would make a great contribution towards the acquaintance of Macedonian public with the experiences of different European cultures, yet historically with similar context. Considering the poor availability of European contemporary literature in Macedonia translation (especially South-Eastern and Central European literature), the Edition aims at introducing writers that have been widely translated in other European languages, yet left unnoticed among Macedonian readership.

Project Coordinator: Velimir Zernovski  
Supported by: European Commission  
Budget: 16 228.20 €

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5.2 Identities: Journal for Politics, Gender, and Culture, Vol. 9, no. 1/2, 2012

The double issue, prepared in 2012, to be published in early 2013, will feature articles by Adriana Zaharijevich, Beatriz Preciado, Benjamin Noys, Boyan Manchev, Bracha Ettinger, Jamie Heckart, Jasna Koteska, Bosko Karadjov, Marina Grzinic, Michael O’Rourke, Paul Levi Bryant, Tomasz Sikora, and WARBEAR.

Editors of the number: Slavco Dimitrov and Stanimir Panayotov  
Editor in Chief: Dusica Dimitrovskva Gajdoska  
Supported by: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia  
Budget: 2,425.00 €

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6. OHRID SUMMER UNIVERSITY (OSU)
Summer Institute for Sexualities, Cultures, and Politics: Queerness, Community, and Capital: Towards New Alliances of the Political (August 13-18, Skopje)

The Department for Gender Studies organized, for the first time, the Summer Institute on Sexualities, Cultures and Politics, as a new permanent project initiated by the “Euro-Balkan” Institute, Skopje, in cooperation with the Faculty of Media and Communications – SINGIDUNUM, Belgrade.

The general aim of the Institute is to gather young post-graduate students, scholars and teaching staff from both Eastern and Western Europe and promote a shared platform for research and trans-disciplinary theoretical reflection on the complex modes of interweaving sexuality, culture and politics, and consequently of exchanging and questioning geopolitically determined discourses in the research of sexualities, gender studies, and queer theory.

Our idea is to provide students, scholars and teachers with the opportunity to question, decenter and democratize these areas by way of deferring the notion of theoretical and geopolitical privilege which is often implied by these research areas, and thus to introduce new models of rethinking context-specific phenomena related to sexualities and, vice versa, to enrich theoretical paradigms with context specific phenomena and research.

In its first and founding activity in summer 2012, The Institute was thematically focused on the problem of “Queerness, Community, and Capital: Towards New Alliances of the Political”, and aimed at exploring and reflecting on the complex entanglements of queer theories and practices, the Political, and cultures. We provided space to radically question the hegemonic regimes of political communities’ institutions/sustenance, as well as the global and regional regimes of thinking neo-liberal forces. Hence, the Institute’s goal was to trace the multiple pathways through which queerness enters or exits the political projects of community constitution, in its various forms: revived nationalisms, communism’s legacy and the European community, on the one hand, and the global neo-liberal markets’ imperatives and their consequent commoditization of identities and processes of de-democratization and de-politicization.

The Summer Institute included series of lectures and discussions, given by some of the most prominent scholars in the field of sexuality, gender, culture and politics, in the region and worldwide. The Institute was inaugurated by an opening two-day lecture by David Halperin. The following days included lectures by Prof. Marina Grzinic (Ljubljana, Slovenia and Vienna, Austria), Prof. Jelisaveta Blagojevic (Belgrade, Serbia) and Jamie Heckart (University of Essex, UK).

Project Coordinators: Slavco Dimitrov, Stanimir Panayotov
Poster (Memory: pink#001) Design and Drawing by: Velimir Zemovski
Prof. Dr. Jovan Donev, Executive Director
Prof. Dr. Mitko Panov, Dean

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