

Summer 2011

Background Report on Social Sciences and Humanities FYR of Macedonia

Prepared for the project WBC-INCO.NET

FYR of Macedonia

Authors: Sasho Josimovski, Ph.D., Lidija Pulevska Ivanovska, Ph.D.

wbc-inco.net Co-ordination of Research Policies with the Western Balkan Countries

WBC-INCO.NET, an FP7 funded project running from 2008 to 2013 with a total of 29 project partners, aims at the enhancement of the integration of Western Balkan Countries in the European Research Area (ERA).

Its core objectives are to support the bi-regional dialogue on science and technology (S&T), to identify RTDI cooperation potentials and priorities for take-up in FP and other EU programmes, to enhance participation of WB researchers in EU projects, to analyse innovation needs and barriers in the WBC, to exchange information and best practices on innovation policies and to establish closer cooperation between research and innovation. WBC-INCO.NET is being coordinated by the Centre for Social Innovation, Austria.

Publisher: WBC-INCO.NET

The report is a WBC-INCO.NET deliverable produced in the frame of the project's Work Package 2: Priority setting to structure participation in FP, Task 2.4: Consultation sessions. The project is co-funded by the European Community's Programme for International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (2007-2013). Neither the Community, nor WBC-INCO.NET project partners and Centre for Social Innovation, as a main publisher of this report, are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

Authors: Sasho Josimovski, Ph.D., Lidija Pulevska Ivanovska, Ph.D.

Design, Typesetting and Cover Illustration: Caroline Asen

Date of publication: September 2011

Please cite this publication as: WBC-INCO.NET (2011): Background Reports on Social Sciences and Humanities. FYR of Macedonia. Available from: http://www.wbc-inco.net/object/document/124477.html

nttp://www.wbc-inco.net/object/document/1244/7.ntt

WBC-INCO.NET coordinator:

Elke Dall Western Balkan Countries INCO-NET Information Office of the Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan Countries <u>www.wbc-inco.net</u> c/o Centre for Social Innovation Linke Wienzeile 246, A-1150 Vienna. Austria. ZVR: 757405110 Tel: 0043-1-49 50 442 62 Fax: 0043-1-49 50 442 40 dall@zsi.at office@wbc-inco.net

Table of contents

1 Purpose of the national background report and methodology/summary of the consultation process	5
2 The SSH S&T system in the Republic of Macedonia	5
2.1 The Republic of Macedonia SSH policy framework	5
2.1.1 The overall SSH policy framework	5
2.1.2 The elements of SSH research policy making	6
2.2 Overview of SSH research activities	6
2.2.1 SSH research projects	6
2.2.2 Key competencies in SSH research fields	7
2.2.3 SSH research infrastructure	7
2.3 Key drivers of SSH research	8
2.3.1 Main SSH sector trends in the Republic of Macedonia	8
2.3.2 Main socio-economic challenges in the Republic of Macedonia	9
2.4 Social innovation	9
3 Integration of the Republic of Macedonia in the European Research Area in the field of SSH	9
4 SWOT analysis of the SSH research capacity in the Republic of Macedonia	10
5 SSH research priorities for the Republic of Macedonia	11
5.1 SSH Research priorities on the basis of the country's readiness	11
5.1.1 Economy and law	11
5.1.2 Education, skills, knowledge and life-long learning	11
5.1.3 EU integration and democratisation of society	11
5.1.4 Identity, religion, language, cultural heritage	11
5.2 SSH Research priorities on the basis of future potential	12
5.2.1 Establishment of appropriate research infrastructure that can allow	
internationalization of the SSH research in the country	12
5.2.2 Competitiveness and innovations are the main priorities in the national policy	
documents	12
5.2.3 Multiculturalism is a big challenge for the Macedonian society since different	
cultures live in the country	12
Additional Questionnaire	13

1 Purpose of the national background report and methodology/summary of the consultation process

The purpose of the national background report on Social Sciences and Humanities is to describe the situation concerning the research in Social Sciences and Humanities in the Republic of Macedonia¹ and also to announce the country's research priorities.

2 The SSH S&T system in the Republic of Macedonia

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia (MES) is the institution that centrally coordinates and finances the science in general, also including here the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH). All scientific disciplines are developed on the same basis and there are no priorities and coordinated actions in selected disciplines, with exceptions of the disciplines related to the preservation of the Macedonian tradition, culture, identity and language (ex. linguistic and historical research).

The latest available data from the State Statistical office of the Republic of Macedonia (SSORM) show that the Mace-

donian GERD was €15.08m in 2008, which is equivalent to 0.225% of its GDP, and €10.4m in 2007, which represent 0.175% of the GDP. These figures show that Macedonian expenditures on R&D are still considerably lagging behind the EU average expenditures on R&D. The SSH participated with 21.5% in the total GERD in 2007, while the remaining part of the total GERD was spent within other scientific fields, mainly in engineering (47.5%) (Source: Sasho Josimovski, Country report for SSH in Republic of Macedonia 2011, METRIS II).

2.1 The Republic of Macedonia SSH policy framework

2.1.1 The overall SSH policy framework

Within the framework of the Macedonian MES functions the Department of Science and Technological Development and they act as the main player responsible for the science policies, as well as the SSH policies, in the country. The activities of MES are according to the laws and national policy documents related to research and include providing financial support of projects proposed by either scientific organisations or the industry in cooperation with scientific organisations, scholarships for master and doctoral studies, financial support for publishing scientific books and magazines funding for participation in international conferences and workshops, enabling international cooperation in the scientific activities, providing scientific infrastructure, etc.

The Council for scientific - research activities (CSR) is an expert advisory body to the Minister of Education and Science. CSR consists of six members, one from each scientific discipline, and therefore there are two separate counsellors for the social sciences and humanities. The mandate of the counsellors is four years. The CSR is responsible for making decisions on the development of scientific and research activities in accordance with the needs of the Republic of Macedonia, including the annual programs of the scientific institutions, the budget for research activities, the development and maintenance of research databases, the evaluation of research activities, internal and external evaluation of the scientific – research activity and the preparation of laws regulating this matter interna-

tional cooperation, creation and maintenance of databases for the system of scientific-research etc.

There are also separate representatives for SSH in the National Committee for Development of Scientific Research and Technological Development (NCD). NCD is an expert and advisory body to the Government for science policy and the development of common scientific and technological development activity in Macedonia. NCD consists of nine members: the Minister of Education and Science, the president of Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA), the president of the CSR and six members from different scientific disciplines, appointed by the Government on a four-year mandate. NCD prepares opinions and suggestions for the starting points and directions of the National Programme for Government; scientific research and management of science policy; regulations concerning scientific - research; priority areas and programs for scientific research and technological development; compliance with the National Program of strategic needs of the Republic of Macedonia; measures for the development of the Republic of Macedonia in all segments, based on scientific basis; development of specific policies at the request of the Minister; the most important programs and projects for development of the Republic of Macedonia; monitoring the results and effects of the development of the country's scientific basis; initiatives on the programs and projects for international cooperation that are particular public interest and other issues required by the Government.

^{1.} Note by WBC-INCO.NET editors: the official UN reference is "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and the project convention to use "FYR of Macedonia" have not been applied throughout the report, but the original use of the authors has been accepted.

The work of the Universities is regulated by the Law on Higher Education. One of the main roles of the Universities is performing fundamental, developmental and applied research, as defined by the Law on Higher Education. According to the principle of academic autonomy of the higher educational institutions, the members of the academic community are guaranteed intellectual freedom during the research and educational processes. The academic autonomy ensures the intellectual freedom of the members of the academic community and the creative nature of the research and educational process, as the supreme values and capabilities. The autonomy also implies a freedom to establish funds and other organisations from the incomes, donations and other sources of finances for the purpose of conducting scientific, research and educational activities.

The Educational and Scientific Councils and the Evaluation and Accreditation Board for Higher Education are the bodies that are most involved in creating the scientific and research strategy of the University units. The Educational and Scientific Councils carry a program for scientific and research activities, suggest measures to the Deanery and make decision on advancing the educational, scientific and applied work. The Evaluation and Accreditation Board for Higher Education follows and assesses the quality of the activities and proposes the continuation or termination of the units' accreditation.

The financial means for supporting the scientific and research activities of public interest are planned with the four-year National Programme for Scientific and Research Activities. The funds for financing the research activity are from the budget of the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the objectives and priorities identified in the National Programme and the development programs of public interest for the Republic of Macedonia, as well as from other sources: international programs and funds, local governments, legacies, gifts, contributions and other sources. According to the Law on Scientific and Research Activities, the Programme is adopted by the Government on a proposal by the MES, after a prior consultation with the NCD, MASA and the Interuniversity Conference. The programme is realised through annual programmes, and defines the basic aims, content and range of tasks to be performed in the area of scientific activities; the methods for coordinating, monitoring and financing the activities; the relation to the economy and institutional network etc. The programmes for the period 2008-2011 do not give priority to SSH. Among the disciplines, the focus is on areas contributing to the international promotion of the country, such as folklore, archaeology, history and language.

2.1.2 The elements of SSH research policy making

The most important policies in the Republic of Macedonia are not SSH specific, but refer to all scientific fields. In all policy documents adopted since 2000, the technical and technological scientific fields are emphasised and the SSH fields are only briefly mentioned, mainly focusing on topics contributing to the international promotion of the country, mentioned before. Since the first national R&D strategy for the period 2011-2020 is in the process of adoption, the main policy documents in the country are the Programme of the Government 2008-2012 and the Strategy for the Development of the Education in the Republic of Macedonia 2005-2015. The important policy that refers to the economics sub-field is the Strategy of the Ministry of Economy 2010-2012 and the Industry Policy of the Republic of Macedonia 2009-2020. The SSH institutions, which are mainly university units and institutes, have their own specific strategies, visions and missions which are in line with their responsibilities and goals.

2.2 Overview of SSH research activities 2.2.1 SSH research projects

The most important international programmes/projects in SSH in the Republic of Macedonia are the following:

- Regional Research Promotion Program / Western Balkans (2008-2011) – RRPP, http://www.rrpp-westernbalkans.net/home.
- Evaluating the Capacities of Social Science Research Institutions in Macedonia (Prepared by Center for Research and Policy Making (CPRM) and supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in 2008/09)
- FP7 project with title "Gender, migration and intercultural interactions in the Mediterranean and South East Europe: an interdisciplinary perspective". Macedonian partner in this project is the "Euro-Balkan" Institute from Skopje.

• International bilateral projects financed through the Programme for Scientific and Research Activities.

National projects financed through the Programme for Scientific and Research Activities.

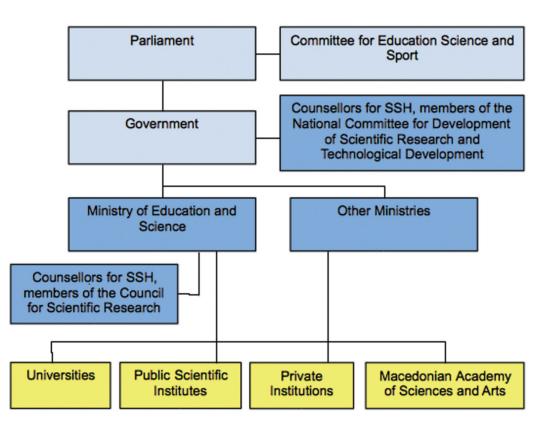
2.2.2 Key competencies in SSH research fields

The Macedonian research institutions have competencies in the following research fields:

- Economy and law
- Education, skills, knowledge and life-long learning
- EU integration and democratisation of society
- Identity, religion, language, cultural heritage.

2.2.3 SSH research infrastructure

Figure 1. Structure of the institutional framework for SSH in Macedonia



Source: Country report for SSH in Republic of Macedonia 2011, METRIS II

The Macedonian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia are responsible for making the highest level of policy decisions on strategic development of science and financing in R&D, in regulations with laws and legal enactments. The Government prepares and proposes programmes, laws and policies to the Parliament through its ministries or through inter-ministerial expert working groups. The Parliamentary Committee for Education, Sciences and Sports helps the preparation and adoption of the legislative acts. The main advisory and expert body of the government for R&D is the National Committee for Development of Scientific Research and Technological Development, which consist of representatives of all six scientific areas, including one representative for social sciences and one representative for humanities.

The Ministry of Education and Science (MES) coordinates

and administrates the development of the entire research and scientific system in the Republic of Macedonia including social sciences and humanities. For SSH developments the Minister for Education and Science is advised by two counsellors, one for social sciences, and one for humanities. These counsellors are members of the Council for Scientific Research (CSR), and participate in preparation of programmes for scientific research, propose themes for domestic and international projects, carry out internal and external evaluation of scientific and research activities, etc.

The Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Culture also participate in the development of R&D policies with the focus on their specific responsibilities, in close cooperation with the appropriate performers. The main research performers in SSH are the public scientific institutes, the SSH units of the state universities and the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA). MASA is a public independent research institution having a distinguished role in SSH research. The private sector is a very small performer in SSH. There is only one private scientific institute in SSH, which is the most distinguished performer from the private sector. Private universities comprise mainly SSH units (85.6%), but they are oriented towards education, instead of research. A few private foundations, which are not registered as research organisations, are active in some SSH research, but their contribution is often not registered in the official R&D statistics.

The list below encompasses the institutions involved in SSH research in Macedonia:

1. Ministry of Education and Science (MES)

2. Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA)

3. Universities

3.1. Public Universities

- a) University Ss. Cyril and Methodius (UKIM)
- 3.1.1. Faculty of Philosophy
- 3.1.2. Faculty of Economics
- 3.1.3. Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus"
- 3.1.4. Faculty of Philology "Blaze Koneski"
- 3.1.5. Faculty of Dramatic Arts
- 3.1.6. Faculty of Fine Arts
- 3.1.7. Faculty of Music
- 3.1.8. Faculty of Pedagogy "St. Kliment Ohridski"

b) University "Goce Delcev" Stip (UGD)

- 3.1.1. Faculty of Law
- 3.1.2. Faculty of Economics
- 3.1.3. Faculty of Education
- 3.1.4. Faculty of Music
- 3.1.5. Faculty of Philology
- 3.1.6. Faculty of Tourism and Business Logistics

3.2. Private Universities

- c) SEEU South East European University
- d) European University
- e) FON University
- f) American College University

g) MIT Faculty

- h) New Balkan Faculty
- i) European Film Academy ESRA
- j) Faculty of Business Economy-Skopje,
- k) University of Tourism and Management -Skopje,
- I) International Faculties for Law, Economic Sciences and Political Sciences in Struga.

4. Research Institutes

- 4.1. Economic Institute
- Institute for Social, Political and Judicial Research (ISPJR)
- 4.3. Euro-Balkan Institute for Social and Humanitarian Research
- 4.4. Institute of Macedonian Literature
- 4.5. Institute of National History
- 4.6. Institute of Macedonian Language "Krste Misirkov"
- 4.7. Institute of Folklore "Marko Cepenkov"

5. Policy Research Organisations (Think-Thanks) 5.1 Analytica

- 5.2. CEA -Center for Economic Analysis
- 5.3. CRPM Center for Research and Policy Making
- 5.4. EPRI- Economic Policy Research Institute
- 5.5. IDSC Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis'
- 5.6. FORUM-Center for Strategic Research and Documentation
- 5.7. OHRID Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs
- 5.8. 'Studiorum'- Center for Regional Policy Research and Cooperation

6. Donor Organisations/Foundations

- 6.1. FOSIM- Foundation Open Society Institute-Macedonia
- 6.2. European Commission
- 6.3. FES-Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- 6.4. KAS-Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
- 6.5. USAID-United States Agency for International Development
- 6.6. The World Bank
- 6.7. OSCE- Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje
- 6.8. UN-United Nations

2.3 Key drivers of SSH research 2.3.1 Main SSH sector trends in the Republic of Macedonia

The national SSH policy in Macedonia is mainly influenced by the country's initiative to become a member of the EU after achieving EU candidate status in 2005. Policy makers have recognised the importance of research for European integration and have approved many projects in the areas of economy, financial, business and social consequences of the possible integration into the EU. On the other hand, this has also initiated research in the domain of sociocultural identity driven by the declaration of independence in 1991.

Additional regulations that have impact on the development of higher education institutions come from provisions of the Bologna Declaration that Macedonia signed in 2003. The aim is to harmonise the higher education sector in the country with European standards and guidelines for quality assurance in higher education and its recognition in a European context. The Bologna process comprises of a European Credit Transfer System, student mobility, research activities, Diploma Supplements, quality assurance and monitoring, which have changed the landscape of the higher education sector in Macedonia. The TEMPUS programme had significant importance for higher education in the period 1996-2010, where 119 joint European projects and 44 structural and complementary measures were implemented. Tempus, which represents the largest input of education projects in the Republic of Macedonia, has contributed to the harmonisation of higher education in terms of unifying curricula, with 70% of higher education institutions stating that over half their curricula are in line with the Bologna criteria as a result of Tempus. (EACEA, Higher education in the Republic of Macedonia, 2010). More than a half of the all projects were related to SSH research. The Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) programme represents another possibility in Macedonia for development and implementation of projects in SSH. Macedonia has been eligible for the IPA programme since 2007 and has signed the contract for the IPA Human Resource Development (HRD) component. The overall strategic goal of the IPA HRD component is to foster the development of human resources, in particular by improving the quantity and quality of human capital, leading to more and better jobs, higher growth and development and the increased national competitiveness at international level. The Operational Programme for the HRD component was established on the basis of the socio-economic analysis in the field of human resource development and includes a strategy for defining the priorities and objectives as well as a description of the priorities and measures. Employment, education and training, social inclusion and technical assistance are identified as priorities in this programme.

2.3.2 Main socio-economic challenges in the Republic of Macedonia

The main policy challenges in SSH are inspired by the main features of the national economy and society. After the Declaration of Independence in 1991, Macedonia has been facing problems such as high unemployment rates, high percentage of underground economy, macroeconomic imbalances, discretionary applicability of rules and regulations, corruption and emigration of highly trained and educated people. On the other hand the Macedonian society has gone through radical changes in social, political and cultural life on its way toward EU integration and establishing a market economy and a parliamentary democracy. These issues are also presented in the EC report "EU research on Social Sciences and Humanities - Functional Borders and Sustainable Security: Integrating the Balkans in the European Union". Furthermore, regional co-operation across all sectors has continued to be approached with caution.

Some important aspects of these economical and societal challenges are the progress toward European integration, the increased competitiveness of the national economy, crime prevention, prevention of brain-drain and decrease of the unemployment rate.

The societal challenge for Macedonia is also the research related with national culture, language, history, nature and state. The country has problems related to the national identity and national language, since the name dispute has not been resolved. However, a few societal challenges have not been properly confronted, such as problems initiated with privatisation, restructuring of the economy towards new technology-based sectors, etc.

Some of the societal challenges perceived in the Innovation Union and in the other European policy documents are also taken into account in the national policy documents. In the Industrial policy for the Republic of Macedonia 2009-2020 medical equipment and services are recognised as main societal challenges. The industrial policy also envisions the encouragement of cross-border knowledge circulation with participation of the business sector. The opinion stated in the Innovation Union that its starting point is to create an excellent, modern education system, is also shared in the national policy documents. Reforms in the Macedonian higher education are rated as top priority in the country, and the latest changes in the Law on Higher Education impose new stronger criteria for the establishment of higher educational institution and new compelling criteria for the selection of professors.

2.4 Social innovation

Social innovation is not explicitly addressed in the national innovation strategies and policies. However, some priorities defined in the main national policies affect the social innovation in specific sectors. For example, the increased investment in education has contributed to adoption of innovative teaching methods.

3 Integration of the Republic of Macedonia in the European Research Area in the field of SSH

Macedonia has been fully associated with the EC Framework Programme (FP) since January 2006. Before that, Macedonia participated in FP6 as a third country allowing eligible Macedonian partners to participate in projects. There were also some specific calls in the programme for International Cooperation (INCO), which explicitly encouraged the submission of projects from third countries. In the period between 2007 and 2010 Macedonian orga-

nisations have participated with 271 eligible proposals in FP7, out of which 27 were in SSH (10%). Out of 47 proposals retained for funding of €7.51m, only one project was in SSH (2.1%), and only for one of these projects a Macedonian organisation was a coordinator. Therefore, while the overall success rate in FP7 in all scientific fields for the country was 17%, the success rate for FP7 projects in SSH was only 4%. Themes with success rates below the overall country's success of 17% are also those related to Science in Society (0%) and those related to the European Research Council (0%). In 2009 the Macedonian contribution to the FP7 program was €0.716m. Part of this contribution was covered by the IPA instrument (70%) and the remaining funds were covered by the state budget (30%). The title of the only SSH project within FP7 is "Gender, migration and intercultural interactions in the Mediterranean and South East Europe: an interdisciplinary perspective", and the Macedonian partner is the "Euro-Balkan" Institute from Skopje.

Within FP6, Macedonia cooperated with 154 partners, signed 45 project contracts and obtained funds of €4.7 million. The Macedonian participation in all FP6 was 0.08%, or 63 participations in total. It should be noted that three participations were from social sciences (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, "Assessment of Research Capacities in Social Sciences in Macedonia", page 15), and the performance of Macedonia in FP6 was influenced by a few 'major' projects acquired under INCO in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) field just before the end of the programme.

Macedonia participates in ERA NET initiatives through the project SEE-ERA.NET PLUS and also WBC-INCO.NET, which enhance the integration of the Western Balkan countries (WBC) in the European Research Area. These projects are not SSH specific, but they treat different SSH aspects by supporting the bi-regional dialogue on science and technology (S&T), identification of R&D potentials and priorities and analysing innovation needs and barriers. Additionally, the MES is the project partner in both projects, additionally strengthening the synergy effects of the projects.

The project SEE-ERA.NET PLUS is a four-year project that began in 2009 within the Ministry of Education and Sci-

ence. The total budget for the project is ≤ 3.5 m, with the ministry participating with ≤ 0.1 m. Through the SEE-ERA. NET PLUS initiative ten projects with Macedonian organisations are selected for funding in the fields of Information Technologies, Agro food and Agriculture. No SSH field has been selected for funding.

The Republic of Macedonia has been a COST (Collaboration on Science and Technology) member since 2002 and started participating in five COST actions in 2003, which significantly increased to 50 Actions with 83 participants in 2010.

The Macedonian representative in the domain "Individuals, societies, cultures and health" comes from the MES. In this domain the country participates in 11 actions with 16 scientists.

In the period 1996-2010 the Macedonian higher education participated in the framework of the TEMPUS programme with 119 joint European projects and 44 structural and complementary measures. More than half of all the projects were related to SSH research. The TEMPUS programme had a significant impact on the harmonisation of higher education in the country with European standards and quality assurance system, as 70% of higher education institutions stated that over half their curricula are in line with the Bologna criteria as a result of TEMPUS (EACEA, Higher education in the Republic of Macedonia, 2010).

Finally, the structural funds also play a role in shaping SSH projects such as Community assistance for reconstruction, development and stabilisation (CARDS) and IPA. Macedonia has been a beneficiary of the CARDS programme, and its replacement, IPA in 2007. IPA provides possibilities for financing different projects related to SSH through the Human Resource Development component. The priorities identified in this programme are the following:

- employment attracting and retaining more people in employment;
- education and training investing in human capital through better education and skills;
- social inclusion promoting an inclusive labour market; and
- technical assistance.

4 SWOT analysis of the SSH research capacity in the Republic of Macedonia

Strengths	Opportunities
The majority of Ph.D. candidates are from SSH; Increasing number of Ph.D. candidates from SSH; Satisfactory level of researchers; Number of HE institutions in SSH; Internationally educated human capital; Increasing number of NGO think-tanks.	Inclusion in ERAWATCH since 2008 and METRIS since 2011; Participation in international projects (TEMPUS Program- me); International collaboration on regional level.
Weaknesses	Threats
No SSH priorities defined for the country; HE institutions in SSH are mainly oriented towards teaching; Marginal attention on SSH in R&D policies; There is not an SSH specific support measure; Unsatisfactory level of budgetary funds for R&D Brain-drain phenomenon; Unsatisfactory transfer of knowledge and research results in the business sector; Lack of participation in European RTD projects.	SSH field are not emphasised in national policy documents; Destabilisation of economic and political climate in the country; Identity problems with neighbouring countries.

5 SSH research priorities for the Republic of Macedonia

The topics applied in SSH research depend on the field of expertise of the researchers and institutions, and are very much reliant on the topics assessed as priority issues by the Government and the international donors. The research projects funded by the MES, the donor organisations and the international research programmes differ in the issues promoted as important, as well as in their methodological approach. The main types of research funded by international donors are applicative in nature, and include issues related to NATO and EU integration; social protection and inclusion; assessment of public policies in the areas of: health, economy social policy and labour market; local socio-economic development of municipalities; development of certain industry sector; conflict prevention and management; gender issues, etc.

In contrast, the MES aims to fund projects which are considered to be of national interest. As the national interest is related to issues regarding the national identity, the topics supported by MES are primarily related to Macedonian history, language, archaeology and folklore and are inclined to have theoretical, rather than applicative value. Moreover, there appears to be a lack of sense on the side of state institutions for the need of SSH research (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, "Assessment of

Research Capacities in Social Sciences in Macedonia", page 30). The national policies clearly indicate that the priorities are strongly placed on the sphere of natural, technical and technological sciences, which although a positive trend, cannot support the development of the country on its own. Bearing in mind these two divergent priorities, there appears to be insufficient support of innovative and interdisciplinary social science research aimed at the theoretical development of certain scientific disciplines. Specifically, Macedonian researchers do not conduct a lot of relevant interdisciplinary research which could be of interest to the wider scientific community. While these types of projects appear to be supported within the Framework Programme, not many research institutions from Macedonia have been involved (from the total of 47 projects retained for funding in FP7 for the period 2007-2010, only one project is from SSH). One of the reasons for this situation might be that the SSH are not priorities selected for the country within the research programmes.

From the above we can identify the following SSH thematic priorities for the country based on the country's readiness and based on the country's future potential.

5.1 SSH Research priorities on the basis of the country's readiness

5.1.1 Economy and law

The country has an increasing number of Ph.D. candidates in economy and law, a satisfactory level of well educated researchers and a large number of HE institutions in economy and law.

5.1.2 Education, skills, knowledge and life-long learning

The increased investment in education and the highest governmental priority put on education are reason Macedonia to has readiness in this field.

5.1.3 EU integration and democratisation of society

The permanent orientation of the country towards EU integration since its independence in 1991 has encouraged these topics to be included in the curricula of HE institutions with EU financial support (TEMPUS). This enables increased number of educated professionals in this field in the country.

5.1.4 Identity, religion, language, cultural heritage

The identity problems that the country has been facing since its independence in 1991 have emphasized these priorities in the support measures financed by the Government.

5.2 SSH Research priorities on the basis of future potential

5.2.1 Establishment of appropriate research infrastructure that can allow internationalization of the SSH research in the country

Based on the last available data provided by the State Statistical Office of the Republic of Macedonia, despite of the well educated personnel in SSH, only few papers in SSH are published in international scientific journals.

5.2.2 Competitiveness and innovations are the main priorities in the national policy documents

However, the data provided by the European Innovation Scoreboard published for the first time for the country for 2010 show that Macedonian companies have low levels of competitiveness, innovation capacity and absorption of new high-tech.

5.2.3 Multiculturalism is a big challenge for the Macedonian society since different cultures live in the country

Additional Questionnaire

This questionnaire aims at producing an inventory of research structures, current and future R&D priorities, and policies for cooperation between Western Balkan Countries in the field of R&D in the domain of *Social Sciences and Humanities*.

Theme: Social Sciences and Humanities

Country name: Republic of Macedonia Contact person: Sasho Josimovski Institution: Postal address: Phone: +389 71 829372 E-mail: sasojos@eccf.ukim.edu.mk

Section A: Main R&D resources in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities

A 1. List of institutions / organisations: main RESEARCH PERFORMERS in the PUBLIC sector in the S&T field of Social Sciences and Humanities (such as national universities, government laboratories, institutes etc.)

	Name	Postal address	Website / Contact
1.	Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA)	Bul. Krste Misirkov, 2, P.O. Box 428, 1000 Skopje	www.manu.edu.mk
2.	University Ss. Cyril and Methodius (UKIM)	blvd. Krste Misirkov bb, 1000 Skopje	www.ukim.edu.mk
3.	Faculty of Philosophy (UKIM)	blvd. Krste Misirkov bb, 1000 Skopje	www.fzf.ukim.edu.mk
4.	Faculty of Economics (UKIM)	blvd. Krste Misirkov bb, 1000 Skopje	www.eccf.ukim.edu.mk
5.	Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus" (UKIM)	blvd. Krste Misirkov bb, 1000 Skopje	www.pf.ukim.edu.mk
6.	Faculty of Philology "Blaze Koneski" (UKIM)	blvd. Krste Misirkov bb, 1000 Skopje	www.flf.ukim.edu.mk
7.	Faculty of Dramatic Arts (UKIM)	Ruger Boskovik bb, 1000 Skopje	www.fdu.ukim.edu.mk
8.	Faculty of Fine Arts (UKIM)	Bitpazarska bb, 1000 Skopje	www.flu.ukim.edu.mk
9.	Faculty of Music (UKIM)	Pitu Guli 1, 1000 Skopje	www.fmu.ukim.edu.mk
10.	University "Goce Delcev" Stip (UGD)	"Krste Misirkov" b.b. P.O. Box 201, 2000Stip	www.ugd.edu.mk
11.	Faculty of Law (UGD)	St. Kuzman Josifovski Pitu bb Kocani	www.pra.ugd.edu.mk
12.	Faculty of Economics (UGD)	"Krste Misirkov" b.b., 2000 Stip	www.eco.ugd.edu.mk
13.	Faculty of Education (UGD)	St. Goce Delcev 89, 2000 Stip	www.pf.ugd.edu.mk
14.	Faculty of Music (UGD)	St. Goce Delcev 89, 2000 Stip	www.fmu.ugd.edu.mk
15.	Faculty of Philology (UGD)	St. Goce Delcev 89, 2000 Stip	www.ff.ugd.edu.mk
16.	Faculty of Tourism and Business Logistics (UGD)	st. 7 Noemvri, Gevgelija	www.tb.ugd.edu.mk
17.	Economic Institute	St Prolet,br 1, 1000 Skopje	www.ek-inst.ukim.edu.mk
18.	Institute for Social, Political and Judicial Research (ISPJR)	blvd. Partizanski odredi bb, 1000 Skopje	www.isppi.ukim.edu.mk
19.	Institute of Macedonian Literature	Gligor Prlicev 5, 1000 Skopje	www.ml.ukim.edu.mk
20.	Institute of National History	Gligor Prlicev 3, 1000 Skopje	www.makedonika.org
21.	Institute of Macedonian Language "Krste Misirkov"	Gligor Prlicev 5, 1000 Skopje	
22.	Institute of Folklore "Marko Cepenkov"	Ruzveltova 3, 1000 Skopje	www.ifmc.ukim.mk

A 2. List of institutions / organisations: main RESEARCH PERFORMERS in the PRIVATE sector in the S&T field of Social Sciences and Humanities (such as national universities, government laboratories, institutes etc.)

	Name	Postal address	Web-site
1.	SEEU - South East European University	Ilindenska nn, 1200 Tetovo	www.seeu.edu.mk
2.	European University	Blvd Kliment Ohridski 68, 1000 Skopje	www.eurm.edu.mk
3.	FON University	Str. Vojvodina b.b. 1000 Skopje	www.fon.edu.mk
4.	American College University	Blvd. Treta Makedonska Brigada bb, Skopje 1000	www.uacs.edu.mk
5.	MIT Faculty	bul.Treta Makedonska Brigada BB, 1000 Skopje	www.mit.edu.mk
6.	New Balkan Faculty		
7.	European Film Academy ESRA	st. Nicholas Rusinski no. 1, 1000 Skopje	www.esra.com.mk
8.	Faculty of Business Economy-Skopje,	Kosta Novakovik 8, 1000 Skopje	www.fbe.edu.mk
9.	University of Tourism and Management -Skopje,	Bul. Parkizanski odredi 99, 1000, Skopje	www.utms.edu.mk
10.	International Faculties for Law, Economic Sciences and Political Sciences in Struga.		
11.	Euro-Balkan - Institute for Social and Hu- manitarian Research	Blvd Partizanski Odredi 63, 1000 Skopje	www.euba.edu.mk
12.	Analytica	Dame Gruev No:7-8/3, 1000 Skopje	www.analyticamk.org
13.	CEA -Center for Economic Analysis		www.cea.org.mk
14.	CRPM - Center for Research and Policy Making	St. Cico Popovic 6-2/9, 1000 Skopje	www.crpm.org.mk
15.	EPRI- Economic Policy Research Institute		www.epri-macedonia.org
16.	IDSC - Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis'	Kraguevacka 2, 1000 Skopje	www.idscs.org.mk
17.	FORUM-Center for Strategic Research and Documentation	Blvd Ilinden, 50, 1000 Skopje	www.forum-csrd.org.mk
18.	OHRID Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs	Dimitrije Tucovic 24, 1000 Skopje	www.oi.org.mk
19.	'Studiorum'- Center for Regional Policy Re- search and Cooperation	Nikola Parapunov bb, Kompleks Makoteks 1 kat, 1000 Skopje	www.studiorum.org.mk

A 3. Organisations responsible for financing R&D in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities

	Name	Web-site		Financing R&D– Year 2009: Total amount in EUR (000)
	Ministry of Education and Sci-			
1.	ence	www.mon.gov.mk	/	/
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
TOTAL:	·	·		

A 4. How research is performed (indicate all that apply)

	Lead participating body (please use numbers from question A 3)	Other relevant bodies (please use numbers from question A 3)
In own institutions	1	
Published calls for tenders, open to all researchers	1	
Restricted tenders to preferred suppliers		
Co-funding with other national bodies		
Co-funding with other countries	1	
Other approaches – please fill in:		
Other approaches – please fill in:		
Is support restricted to national bodies (Y / N)		

A 5. R&D capacity* in SSH field

	2005	2009
Total number of research organizations		53
Of which universities		31
Of which public research organizations		13
Of which private research organizations		9
Number of PhD students graduated	92	119
Total number of R&D personnel	2642	2211
Percentage of women in the total number of R&D personnel	53.63	57.53
Total number of employees on a Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE) basis		
Total number of researchers	1711	1367
Percentage of women in the total number of researchers	50.67	53.04
Total number of researchers on a FTE basis		
Number of researchers with Ph.D. degree or higher	933	864
Number of researchers with Ph.D. degree or higher on a FTE basis		
Number of researchers under the age of 35		
Number of researchers under the age of 35 on a FTE basis		

* Please use OECD - Frascati Manual definitions if possible.

A 6. Research infrastructure in S&T field of Social Sciences and Humanities

a) Assessment of the physical research infrastructure (without office equipment)

The R&D institutions in general have an internationally competitive research infrastructure and are able to conduct top research in cutting-edge research topics	
The R&D institutions in general have top research infrastructure, the infrastructure enables regular inter- national research co-operation but are not competitive if compared with the ,best in this research field`	
The R&D institutions in general have good quality research infrastructure, probably one of the most up-to- date in the country, but are not good enough to join in international research on a regular basis	
The R&D institutions in general have a rather obsolete research infrastructure if compared with internatio- nal organisations and this is an obstacle to international research co-operation	х
The R&D institutions in general have a rather obsolete research infrastructure and it is an obstacle to more domestic contracts	
The R&D institutions in general have no substantial infrastructure, but they have access to it and can par- ticipate in top research both nationally and internationally	

b) Most important physical research infrastructure in S&T field of Social science and humanities

- 1. The Research Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (MANU) (Medicine)
- 2. Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (UKIM) (Engineering)

3. Institute for Development and Control of Quality (Alkaloid AD) (Pharmacy)

A 7. Large and/or National R&D projects in S&T field of Social Sciences and Humanities

	ongoing /star in 2009	rted completed in 2009
Number of large R&D projects**		
Of which: the number of projects in collaboration with industry		
the number of projects in which the national organisation co-ordinates		
the number of EU FP projects in which national institutions participate	1	
the number of EU FP projects in which national institutions coordinate		
Number of national R&D projects***		
Of which: the number of projects in collaboration with industry		

** the total project budget is above EUR 100 thousand and the national institutions' share is at least EUR 20 thousand *** projects funded in some proportion (10-100%) by the national agency/ ministry

A 8. Source of financing of R&D activities in S&T field of Social Sciences and Humanities

	Year 2009 - Share in %:
a) Private companies?	
b) International sources (such as the EU, UN, OECD, NATO etc.)?	
c) Not competitive* government financing?	
d) Competitive* government financing?	100
e) Other sources (foundations, non-profit organisations, etc.)?	

* Projects won after competitive bidding procedures – so that the organisation can actually lose the funding targeted at the end of the procedure – count as source on a competitive basis. If the organisation participates in a money-allocation mechanism so that the money cannot be lost (but e.g. "only" reduced), it counts as source on a non-competitive basis of research funding even if the procedure itself is called "competitive bidding".

Note: There is no information available.

Source: Hukić, M. et al. (2009): Strategija razvoja nauke u Bosni i Hercegovini 2010-2015., Sarajevo, pp20-23; Anon. (2010): Informacija o stanju nauke u Federaciji Bosne I Hercegovine. Federalno ministarstvo obrazovanja i nauke., Sarajevo, pp74-75

Section B: Qualitative assessment of the S&T field

B 1 Current situation in SSH

a) What are the main national development policy priorities?

Increase of the economic growth and employment, as prerequisites for better standard of living and better quality of life; Integration of the Republic of Macedonia into EU and NATO;

Uncompromised fight against corruption and crime and effective implementation of the law, through comprehensive reforms of the judiciary and the public administration;

Maintaining good inter-ethnic relations, based on the principles of mutual tolerance and respect, equality before the law and finalization of the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement;

Investments in education, science and information technology as the main components of a knowledge-based society.

b) What are the main R&D priorities?

The main R&D priorities will be defined in the new R&D strategy for Macedonia. R&D priorities that have been identified in various strategies and policy documents (Industry policy for the period 2009-2020; Programme for Technological Development; Programme of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia) are:

production and use of energy (including clean energy);

- environmental protection;
- biotechnology;
- high-quality food production;
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT);
- healthcare;
- geological science and engineering;
- new materials.

c) How would you put identified R&D priorities in EU research topics?

The new strategy for R&D is taking in account the EU research topics and based on that is developing the new R&D priorities for Macedonia

B 2 Future priorities

a) Describe how your future R&D priorities are selected and priorities agreed (e.g. foresight)? Are these driven by national policy priorities?

The process of development of the future priorities should be initiated by the Government, Ministries and all interested stakeholders. The priorities should be developed in coordination with EU and other international organizations. Internet and ICT based technologies should be strongly used in order all the interested stakeholders to provide their feedback and opinion. The R&D priorities should be based on the national priorities identified in the multi-annual programme of the Government but there should be an option for bottom up development of R&D priorities.

b) Over the next 10 years, what will be the main R&D policy issues in this S&T field?

Nano-technologies, ICT, renewable energy, SMEs, multicultural society

B 3 What national policy and R&D priorities should be the subject for establishment of specific co-operation with other Western Balkan Countries?

ICT, SMEs, multicultural society

B 4 It is hoped that this exercise will identify areas for future collaboration and R&D co-operation in this S&T field, probably leading to a possible WBC R&D co-operation proposals under FP7. These projects foresee four levels of co-operation. They range from:

- a) The minimum exchange of information and results;
- b) Systematic exchange and development of complementary programmes;
- c) Development of common approaches to agreed R&D priorities;
- d) The maximum full joint approaches, common programmes and pooled funds with open access to researchers from participating countries.

So, with this in mind, what levels of co-operative actions would your country be able to support in the future in this S&T field?

We will put maximum efforts to have maximum level of cooperation.

B 5 A suggestion is to have a high level meeting once or twice a year; where WBC could decide upon themes on which to co-operate. This may lead to a proposal for a project or other forms of co-operation. Would your country be willing to participate in a high level meeting with other WBC to decide upon these themes?

Yes we are willing to participate in high level meetings with other WBC to decide upon these themes



Background Report on Social Sciences and Humanities FYR of MACEDONIA

Prepared for the project WBC-INCO.NET

WBC-INCO.NET is a project (Contract Number: 212029) co-funded by the European Community's Programme for International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (2007-2013). The sole responsibility for the content of this report lies with the authors. It does not represent the opinion of the Community. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

