



Одделение за соработка со невладини организации  
при генералниот секретеријат во Владата  
на Република Македонија



## PARTICIPATION OF CITIZENS AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS IN POLICY AND DECISION MAKING PROCESSES

December 11, 2007  
Hotel Holiday Inn, Skopje

### 9:00 Opening remarks

- Mr. Stojan Todorov - Secretary General of the Government of Republic of Macedonia
- Ms. Liljana Popovska, Member of the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia
- Ms. Katerina Hadzi-Miceva, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law, Hungary

The Government Unit and the Contact Office as mechanisms for participation of citizens and civic organizations in policy and decision making processes

- Ms. Suzana Nikodijevic-Filipovska, Head of the Sector for Policy Analyzing and Coordination, General Secretariat of the Government
- Ms. Elizabeta Nedanovska, Government Unit for Cooperation with NGOs
- Mr. Darko Aleksov, Citizens' Association MOST / Contact Office between the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia and NGOs

### 9:45 Experiences, mechanisms and challenges in participation and decision making processes in Europe

- Mr. Jon Ender, PRAXIS Estonia
- Ms. Vanja Skoric, GONG, Croatia
- Ms. Viktoria Mlynarcikova, Open Society Foundation, Slovakia
- Mr. Grzegorz Makowski, Institute of Public Affairs/University of Warsaw, Poland

Facilitator: Mr. Goran Buldioski, Think Tank Fund of the Open Society Institute, Hungary

### 11:15 Coffee

### 11:45 Legal framework and practices of participation in policy and decision making in Macedonia



CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING PROJECT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE THE CENTER FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CIRA); EUROPEAN CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW (ECNL); AND MACEDONIAN INSTITUTE FOR MICRO (MIM)



- Presentation of the preliminary results of the analysis of the legal framework and current practices for participation in Macedonia –  
Dr. Natasha Gaber-Damjanovska, Institute for Political, Sociological and Juridical Studies
- Debate with members of the Parliament, representatives of the Government and civil society organizations
  - Mr. Ivica Bocevski, Spokesperson of the Government of Republic of Macedonia
  - Mr. Aleksandar Nikolovski, Member of the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia
  - Mr. Numan Limani, State Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Republic of Macedonia
  - Mr. Darko Aleksov, Citizens' Association MOST
  - Mr. Saso Klekovski, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation
  - Ms. Marija Ristevska, Center for Research and Policy Making
  - Ms. Neda Korunovska, Foundation Open Society Institute Macedonia

Facilitator: Mr. Dragan Antonovski, journalist

13:30 Lunch

14:30 Parallel Sessions

1. Mechanisms for participation of citizens and civic organizations in policy making processes (co-organized with the Unit for Cooperation with NGOs)

Roundtable discussion with guests from Croatia and Estonia, representatives of the Government and Ministries, representatives of civil society organizations and experts, on the following themes:

- Mechanisms for participation in Croatia and Estonia (the role of the Government office for NGOs in Croatia, the current initiatives in Croatia, and the process and implementation of the Code of Good Engagement in Estonia).
- The role of the Government Office for NGOs as a facilitator of participatory processes in Macedonia.



Одделение за соработка со невладини организации  
при генералниот секретеријат во Владата  
на Република Македонија



- The need to improve or amend the existing legal mechanisms for participation in Macedonia.
  - Mr. Jon Ender, PRAXIS Estonia
  - Ms. Vanja Skoric, GONG, Croatia
  - Ms. Jasminka Frishic, Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women in Republic of Macedonia
  - Ms. Emina Nuredinovska, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation

Facilitator: Ms. Elizabeta Nedanovska, Government Unit for Cooperation with NGOs

Conference room: Millenium

## 2. Mechanisms for participation of citizens and civic organizations in decision making processes (co-organized with the Contact Office between the NGOs and the Parliament)

Debate with guests from Slovakia and Poland, members of the Parliament, representatives of civil society organizations and experts, on the following themes:

- The need to improve the institutional framework for participation of citizens in the legislative processes.
- What are the effective mechanisms for citizens' participation in legislative processes (legislative hearings, investigative hearings, citizen participation in ad hoc committee, informal public discussion and forums).
- Is lobbying a democratic tradition and can lobbying improve the not-for-profit cause and build up public trust?
- Options and mechanisms to support legislative advocacy from comparative perspective.

Facilitator: Ms. Katerina Canevska Arsovska, journalist

Conference room: Dnevna soba

16:30 Closing remarks



CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING PROJECT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENTER FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CIDA); EUROPEAN CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW (ECNL); AND MACEDONIAN INSTITUTE FOR MICRO (MIM)