



Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and
The German-Macedonian Association
are inviting to an

International Conference

"Challenges and perspectives for Macedonia"

Difficulties on the road towards the Euro-Atlantic family?

Wednesday, 3. December 2008

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Hiroshimastraße 17
10785 Berlin

Tel: 030 26935 6

www.fes.de

Conference Languages: English, German, Macedonian

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

09.30

Opening

- **Pia Bungarten**, Director, Division for International Dialogue, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- **Walter Kolbow**, Member of German Bundestag, Vice-President of SPD caucus in Bundestag, President of the German-Macedonian Association
- **H.E Gjorgji Filipov**, Ambassador of Republic of Macedonia in Germany

10.00 – 10.20

Keynote address

H.E. Branko Crvenkovski, President of Republic of Macedonia

10.20 – 10.40

Coffee Break

10.40 – 12.00

Panel 1

Deadlock on the way to Brussels? Internal and external obstacles

Democracy, dialogue and search for consensus, independence of media, justice and rule of law, the name issue, EU reform

Ivica Bocevski, Vice-Prime-Minister for European Integration
Introductory speech (15 Min)

Panelists:

- **H.E. Erwan Fouéré**, Head of Delegation, EC in Skopje
- **Risto Penov**, (LDP) Member of Parliament, Skopje
- **Radmila Sekerinska**, (SDSM) Member of Parliament, President of the National Council for European Integration, Skopje
- **Gjorgji Spasov**, European University, Skopje
- **Uta Zapf**, Member of German Bundestag, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Task Force for South-East Europe, Berlin

Moderation: Stefan Dehnert, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Skopje

12.00 – 13.30

Panel 2

The Ohrid Framework Agreement: Aspiration and reality

Statistics, cultural recognition and political integration

- **Teuta Arifi**, (DUI) Member of Parliament, Skopje
(introducing thesis)

Panelists:

- **Lale Akgün**, Member of German Bundestag, Berlin
- **Oliver Shambevski**, (VMRO-DPMNE) MP (cancelled)
- **Emily Haber**, Federal Foreign Office, Berlin
- **Dane Taleski**, Political Analyst, Skopje

Moderation: Andreas Ernst, Correspondent of daily NZZ

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch

14.30 – 16.15

Panel 3

„Business Haven“ Macedonia?

Flat tax and low wages -

Does this work out?

Strategies and impediments for a stable economic development
and a functioning system of social security

- **Fatmir Besimi**, Minister of Economy of Macedonia (tbc)
(introducing thesis)

Panelists:

- **Tobias Baumann**, Association of Chambers of Industry and
Commerce (DIHK), Berlin
- **Jani Makraduli**, (SDSM) Vice-President of Parliament, Skopje
- **Vanco Muratovski**, President of the Macedonian TU
Federation SSM
- **Jovan Pejkovski**, Institute for social work and social policy,
Faculty of philosophy, University “St. Cyril and Methodius”
Skopje
- **Christoph Zöpel**, Minister of state ret., Berlin

Moderation: Carola Kaps, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

16.15

Conclusions

Walter Kolbow, Member of German Bundestag, Vice-President of
SPD caucus in Bundestag, President of the German-Macedonian
Association

16.30

Reception