



## Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee between Macedonia and the EU

In Strasbourg the Deputy Prime Minister in charge for European Affairs Fatmir Besimi said that the Enlargement Policy is crucial for both the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union. The process of joining of the European continent will not be completed until the integration of the countries of the Western Balkans. In addition, Besimi informed the members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee about the reforms implemented in the country, the level of implementation of the EU agenda and the concrete achieved results.

In the headquarters of the European Parliament Besimi among others met with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland, MEP and the Rapporteur for the Republic of Macedonia Ivo Vajgl and other MEPs who stressed that Macedonia is a country which conducts the EU agenda more years than the other countries in the region and according to the results achieved, Macedonia is already prepared to start the negotiations for EU membership.

*26-27 November 2014*



## **IPA 2 in front of the Committee on European Affairs at the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia**

The Instrument for pre-accession assistance 2014-2020, known as IPA2 is a firm evidence of the partnership and the strong support that the Republic of Macedonia receives from the European Union - stressed Besimi.

With this instrument the Republic of Macedonia will have available a total of 664.2 million euros for the implementation of specific and strategic priorities in several areas including democracy and governance, rule of law and human rights, environment and climate action, transport, competitiveness and innovation, education, employment and social policies, horizontal mechanisms for inter-institutional cooperation, agriculture and rural development.

*17 November 2014*



## **Besimi: EU agenda is not about our left or right political provenience, it's about forward or backward move towards our European future!**

In the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia the Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs Fatmir Besimi, PhD in front of the members of the Committee for European Affairs and representatives of the international community, presented the results and the level of implementation of the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis of the European Union - NPAA 2014, Revision of the third quarter.

„The forthcoming period is very important for the process of European integration of the Republic of Macedonia, especially in terms of addressing the key recommendations in the priority areas from the Progress Report of the European Commission .In this direction the revision of the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis - NPAA 2015 Revision started, which will define the short- and medium-term activities based on the recommendations from the Report of the European Commission. The revision is expected to be completed and adopted by the end of the year. „ - said Besimi.

*12 November 2014*



## **The Report of the European Commission in front of the Chambers of Commerce**

The main topic of the discussion was the Progress Report of the European Commission for the Republic of Macedonia in 2014 and the Enlargement Strategy with emphasis on economic criteria.

In order to improve the awareness and the use of funds from the European instruments for financial support, at the initiative of the Secretariat for European Affairs it was agreed holding of public presentations and workshops in cooperation with the competent national authorities, representatives of the EU Delegation in Skopje and the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce.

*20 November 2014*



## The European Union in Macedonia - Coffee break with the Italian Embassy



In the premises of the MK-EU Info Centre, the Secretariat for European Affairs in cooperation with the Italian Embassy held the first of the event series within the project „the European Union in Macedonia - Coffee break with the Italian Embassy.“

The main objective of this event is approximation of the values of the EU and its Member States to the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, including young people in promoting the EU values, the possibility of involvement of everyone as well as closer informal cooperation with the media.

*06 November 2014*

## Meetings held with the Ambassadors of the Kingdom of Spain and the Kingdom of Norway



Besimi with the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, H.E. Ramón Abaroa Carranza



Besimi with the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway, H.E. Nils Ragnar Kamsvog

The meetings focused on the process of European integration of the Republic of Macedonia, the key achievements and challenges that the country is facing which are noted in the Report of the European Commission from October, the activities undertaken in order to achieve further progress until the meeting of the EU Council in December.

## Besimi on Working Meeting for inclusion of Roma and Roma refugees

„The Republic of Macedonia following the political course set by the European Union, is continuously joining the countries that show willingness to implement the principle of active protection of the rights of Roma, not only as a moral obligation for the state, but also for implementation of legal regulated duty of care for this community...In regional terms, Macedonia has significantly raised the level of treatment of minorities in general. „ - underlined the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia, Fatmir Besimi, PhD.

Among other things, he stressed the outstanding desire and commitment of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia through the budget and through EU / IPA funds to contribute to the realisation of priorities arising from the Decade of Roma.

13 November 2014

## Support from the German International Cooperation (GIZ) for the Macedonian EU integration process



A Workshop held in Ohrid for adoption of the NPAA Revision 2015

The National Programme for the Adoption of the Legislation of European Union in 2015, which should be adopted by the end of the year, will define the strategy of Macedonian EU integration process. More than one hundred experts from the state administration were involved in the creation of the NPAA Revision 2015. Michael Sametz (GIZ) noted that the international experts were impressed by the European spirit of the participants, of their professionalism and high quality of the produced documents that are part of the NPAA.

26-28 November



Preparation of the National Version of the Acquis, cooperation realised between the Republic of Macedonia and Kosovo

The Preparation of the National Version of the Acquis an important step in the Macedonian EU integration process. The Strengthening of the capacities that work in this area is done by the Macedonian-German bilateral cooperation within a project implemented by GIZ.

The Representatives of the Ministry of European Integration of Kosovo were in a working visit of the SEA in order to exchange experience and working practices in the field of preparation of the National Version of the Acquis.

## Conducted TAIEX Mission in Skopje

The Secretariat for European Affairs hosted a mission from TAIEX Department of the European Commission led by Ms. Chiara Pelino, responsible for Macedonia. Pelino during the visit held meetings with the national contact point for TAIEX, the local contact persons in the institutions of the Republic of Macedonia and the representative of the Delegation of the European Union in Skopje. The main topic was the current use of the TAIEX funds by the Republic of Macedonia as well as for the planned needs for the next year.



24 November 2014

---

## EU News

- Pope Francis delivers a message „to all the citizens of Europe“ at the European Parliament
- Investing €315 billion to jump-start the EU economy
- Unpaid bills sink EU budget talks
- Juncker defines 10 priorities for EU, seeks inter- institutional support
- Three decades of EP observation missions
- EU - Moldova deal approved
- New rules proposed to put an end to ‚too big to fail‘ banks
- No more plastic bags polluting our environment

## Did you know that ...?

- In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- Europe's 23m small businesses (SMEs) account for 99 % of businesses, provide 67 % of jobs and create 85 % of all new jobs
- The EU is the world's biggest trader, accounting for 16.5% of the world's imports and exports
- With just 7% of the world's population, the EU's trade with the rest of the world accounts for around 20% of global exports and imports

## International Days

- December 1 - World AIDS Day
- December 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- December 5 - International Volunteer Day
- December 10 - Human Rights Day
- December 18 - International Migrants Day