



PRESS RELEASE

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World Economic Forum: Republic of Macedonia 5th out of 11 non EU countries

According to the ranking by the World Economic Forum with regards to the enforcement of the aims of the Lisbon Treaty for structural and economic reforms, the Republic of Macedonia takes the 5th place in the group of 11 Eastern European countries which are not EU members.

Regarding the final index, Montenegro takes the 1st place with a score of 4.19, and it is immediately followed by Croatia with 4.18. Macedonia is on the 5th place with a score of 3.79, Serbia is on the 8th place with a score of 3.51, and the last place belongs to Bosnia and Herzegovina with a score of 3.07. The Republic of Macedonia with a score of 3.79 outperforms Bulgaria, which together with Romania is on the 26th and 27th place respectively in the group of EU-27.



Regarding the ranking in the Information Society, Republic of Macedonia is on the 3rd place with a score of 3.96, and the leading place in this area of reforms belongs to Croatia with a score of 4.04. As regards to the Innovation and R&D, the Republic of Macedonia is on the 7th place with a score of 2.93, and the last, 11th place, in this area belongs to Albania with a score of 2.52. RM takes the 5th place regarding the reforms in the Financial Services with a score of 4.08, where the leading role again belongs to Montenegro with a score of 4.74 and it is immediately followed by Turkey with a score of 4.39, taking the 2nd place, Croatia with a score of 4.34 on the 3rd place, Azerbaijan with 4.13 on the 4th place and Ukraine takes the last, 11th place, with a score of 3.22. Regarding the enterprise environment, the Republic of Macedonia takes the 3rd place with a score of 4.58 and is thereby a leader among the countries from former Yugoslavia, while the leading 1st place is occupied by Georgia with a score of 5.01, and the weakest result has been shown by Bosnia and Herzegovina with a score of 3.28. With regards to the Social Inclusion, RM is on the 9th place with 3.39, and the best results in this area have been shown by Azerbaijan with a score of 4.50. The reforms in the area of Sustainable Development give the Republic of Macedonia the 6th place with a score of 3.33,



and the leading place goes to Croatia with a score of 4.70, immediately followed by Montenegro with 3.94, and the last place is taken by Bosnia and Herzegovina with 2.73.

It can be noticed in the report that the best performance still lies within the countries from EU-15 as a group with a score of 5.12, which is however decreased when they are evaluated together with the new 12 countries that accessed the EU in 2004 and 2007 and the final score of the EU-27 under their influence is 4.81.

The World Economic Forum for Europe which starts on May 10, in Brussels is the motive for the preparation of this analysis. 400 government leaders, companies, representatives of civil and academic organizations from 40 countries shall take part on this forum.

The World Economic Forum's study is the fifth and final review in a biennial series that assesses the progress made by EU Member countries in the far-reaching goals of the EU's Lisbon Strategy of economic and structural reforms. In addition to assessing the performance of 27 existing EU Members, it also measures the competitive performance of EU candidates and potential candidate countries.