



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

At the invitation of the delegation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee EU-MK and the delegation of the Committee for Foreign Policy in the European Parliament, the OHRID Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs took part in a public debate, along with other non-governmental organizations.

The public debate took place on February 18, 2010, in “Best Western Hotel” in Skopje starting at 7 pm and the following non-governmental organizations took place: The Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Foundation Open Society Institute, Coalition for Just Trial, citizen movement “Wake Up”, Citizens’ Association “Most”, Macedonian Institute for Media, Citizens’ Association for Roma Integration “Mesecina”, etc.

The debate was moderated by the co-chairman of the Joint Parliamentarian Committee, Mr. Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, and also the special representative of the European Union, Mr. Erwan Fouere was present, together with the informer of The European Parliament for Macedonia, Mr. Zoran Thaler, the EP members Mr. Evgeni Kyrilov, Mr. Alois Peterle, Mr. Martin Kastler, etc.

The OHRID Institute emphasized the importance of the implementation of the Copenhagen criteria and the standards of the Council of Europe in the Republic of Macedonia. Furthermore the OHRID Institute, stressed out that in Republic of Macedonia there is joint political dialogue when it comes to EU and NATO Integration.

OHRID Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs