



The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Pero Stojanovski
Minister of Education and Science



Mr. Pero Stojanovski is the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia. Mr. Pero Stojanovski was born on 1 December 1970 in Skopje. He graduated at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" in Skopje. The Honorable Pero Stojanovski was appointed as Minister of Education and Science in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on 26 July 2008. Mr. Pero Stojanovski, since October 2006 until July 2008, served as a State Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia. He also worked as Administrator, Member of the professional team and Mentor-Teacher in natural sciences at the Experimental Teaching Project PEKSNAS at the state secondary school Rade Jovcevski – Korcagin in Skopje. Mr. Pero Stojanovski accomplished different activities and positions concerning his professional and academic background.

Towards a better inclusive education through the campaign "Knowledge is strength, knowledge is power"

Following the title of the Government of Macedonia's and the Ministry's project "Knowledge is strength, knowledge is power", the Government set its priorities in Macedonian educational system, which includes the segment of "Inclusive education".

In the Republic of Macedonia the system of eight-year primary school education was transformed into a system of nine-year primary school education which allows for the inclusion of children in the education system at the age of six.

Furthermore, an obligatory high school education was introduced with the goal that every child in Macedonia should continue his/her education after finishing primary education. Free textbooks were provided to primary and high school students coming from families who are recipients of social benefits by the Macedonian Government and the Ministry of Education and Science as a stimulus measure for the 2008/2009 school year.

Also, from this 2008/2009 school year, the education in public high schools is free of charge and the students in their first year in public high schools receive free bus fair and free accommodations in student dorms. Starting from the 2008/2009 school year, free textbooks for all students in primary and high school education will be provided.

In the area of higher education, in order to decrease the financial burden of future students, a decision was enacted for the opening of new universities and colleges, as well as for the dispersment of existing studies in other cities in Macedonia because we feel that through this many colleges and dispersed study programs, and higher education in general, will be closer for and available to everybody.

Currently we are running the project "A computer for every child" which is part of the Government's initiative on education and training of every student and it is based on the National program for the development of education (2005-2015).



The computers are used as tools for carrying out the instructions in class as well as tools for accessing the digital educational content that are on the global net – the Internet. The goal of the education project is to improve and enhance the implementation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in order to increase the students' interest for information technologies. The Government of the Republic of Macedonia provides 125 scholarships each year for talented college students of informatics at the universities in the Republic of Macedonia.

To that end, and to increase information technologies education, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia organized champagne “Macedonia – land of IT specialists” by organizing free training on the use of computers for all, including students. Vouchers to regular college students who were enrolled in the 2007/2008 academic year were handed out for purchasing computers as part of the project activities. The project for installing free Internet access in student dorms was also implemented.

The Ministry for Education and Science is also making efforts and undertaking activities towards the inclusion of children with special educational needs in the educational process with the intent that they would remain and study in the regular primary and secondary schools. Special, adaptive school curricula have been developed for them.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia invests and takes these activities in education because, according to our deep conviction, the investment in education represents investment in the future of one's country.