

# International Bulletin

Issue 8, May 2020

## NEWS & FEATURES

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Faculty of Philosophy

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of COVID-19 restriction  
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members"

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in North Macedonia"

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International Conference

Science and Society:

Contribution of Humanities and Social Sciences

Struga, September, 2-5, 2020

Preparations for the Faculty Jubilee conference continue as planned. We are encouraged by the start of loosening of measures against the COVID-19 pandemic, and we aim and hope to be able to held the conference in early September, as planned. However, we advise all our international participants to closely follow the measures on international travel. In case of restrictions in international mobility in early September 2020, we will invite all accepted paper contributors to join the conference via a video link.

All accepted and presented conference papers will be published in an edited volume, after the conference. The deadline for the final paper submission is 15h of October 2020.

More information:

[http://www.fzf.ukim.edu.mk/welcome/index\\_en](http://www.fzf.ukim.edu.mk/welcome/index_en)

For paper submission:  
[fzf100@fzf.ukim.edu.mk](mailto:fzf100@fzf.ukim.edu.mk)





The Faculty of Philosophy has organized a series of online webinars during the month of May 2020. The webinars aimed to provide students and the academic community with a forum for wider discussion on variety of topics from humanities and social sciences, as well as to have a wider social impact during the COVID-19 crisis. The webinars were organized via the ZOOM platform and were streamed live on the Faculty social media. The webinars can be accessed online on the [Youtube channel of the Faculty of Philosophy, Skopje](#).



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05.05.2020: „Norms and specificities of motor development in children with sensory, intellectual and neurological disorders“

12.05.2020: „Social work and social policy in times of crisis“

19.05.2020: „The belief in the sacred as the basis for religion“

22.05.2020: „Impact of Covid-19 crisis on gender equality in care work: Insights from the European Values Study“

29.05.2020: „The Psychological Impact of COVID-19“



## Research project "Measuring the effects of COVID-19 restriction measures on the family and its members"



The Institute of Social Work and Social Policy at Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje together with the Faculty of Philosophy in Nis, Republic of Serbia have initiated a three month research project that measures the effects of COVID-19 restriction measures on the family and its members. The project aims to determine the changes that families are experiencing from the lock-down, a situation unique in the history of mankind. The research is implemented with total of 225 respondents from different study groups at the faculties involved in the research.

The project instruments consist of three type of questioners. The first questionnaire consists of three parts: a part with demographic data, a part that measures the satisfaction of life and a part that is dedicated to the perceived risk of COVID-19. The second questionnaire is prepared in the form of a diary that each student, participant in the research, fills in for 10 consecutive days. This questionnaire aims to capture changes in: relationship between family members or the partner community; changes in attitudes; uncommon events; and ways of communicating between family members or the partner community. In the second part of this questionnaire, the emotional reactions of the respondents are measured through a Likert scale. The third questionnaire will again measure changes in life satisfaction, changes in emotional state, changes in attitudes towards COVID-19 and changes that occurred after ten days of focusing on family relationships. The third questionnaire will again measure changes in life satisfaction, changes in emotional state, changes in attitudes towards COVID-19 and changes that occurred after ten days of focusing on family relationships.

This comparative study will obtain social and cultural specifics related to families, practices of multi-generational families, age at which children leave the family, and alike. Special segment of the study will be dedicated on presentation of comparative findings obtained from the research. Some of the preliminary basic findings from this comparative research include:

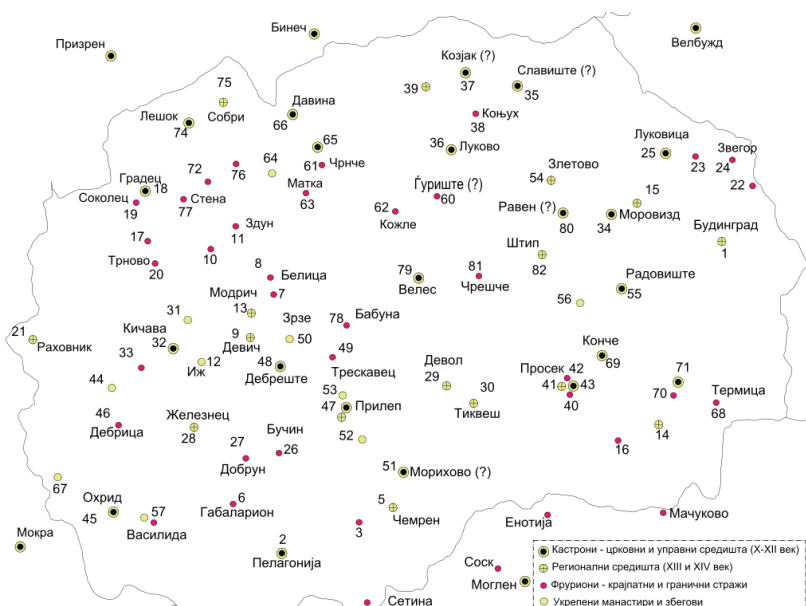
- More than two-thirds of the students' (72.6% MK, 63.2% RS) were satisfied with their life prior to restrictions. However, 13.0% (4.9% MK and 21.1%) were dissatisfied, positioning their responses below the average.
- Most of the students in both countries consider that the most positive effect from COVID-19 restrictions is the time that they have to spend with their families. Time for themselves, time for reading or possibility to be engaged with favourite hobbies is among other positive effects noted by students in both countries.
- Most of the students in both countries consider the inability to socialise with friends as major negative effect of COVID 19 related restrictions. Lack of physical activity, financial problems, restrictions of freedom, fear and other psychological conditions are among other noted negative effects.
- 69.9% of Macedonian and 84.6% of Serbian students fear of transmitting the disease to other family members in case of getting infected without symptoms COVID-19.

## Research project "Digital map of ancient and medieval cities and fortresses in North Macedonia"

The territory of the Republic of North Macedonia consists of 84 municipal communities. On their territory there are between 800-900 ancient cities and fortresses. Unfortunately, these attractive archaeological potentials are almost totally unused in the development of local communities. This research project which will be undertaken by the Faculty of Philosophy - Institute of History of Art and Archaeology, plans to assist the local cultural and tourist development by making a digital map of all the famous old towns and fortresses.

The project will involve field research and documentation of 250 sites on the territory of the entire country. It will be divided in 7 phases, each focusing on different geographical part of the country. Overall, the project will focus on processing and digitalization of 250 sites, creation of database entry, publishing a WEB application using GDi GIS licenses on a GDi hardware environment, as well as the maintenance and support of the developed electronic database.

The project will be led by Prof. Viktor Lilcikj Adams and will involve staff and students from the Institute of History of Art and Archaeology.





New Erasmus agreement between  
Faculty of Philosophy, UKIM and Istanbul Medeniyet University

During the month of May 2020 an Erasmus agreement for mobility exchange for staff and students has been signed between the Faculty of Philosophy, UKIM and the Istanbul Medeniyet University from Turkey. The Erasmus agreement has been signed in the field of History. The Department of History at the Istanbul Medeniyet University offers BA, MA and PhD programs in history. The Ph.D Program of the Department of History is specialised in the following areas: Ancient History, General Turkish and Asian History, Middle Age History, Early Modern History, Late Modern History, The History of Ottoman Institutions and Civilisation, and History of Turkish Republic. Students and staff from both Universities/Faculties can initiate their mobility starting from the academic 2020/21.



CEEPUS  
MOBILITY APPLICATION DEADLINE  
For mobility in the winter term – 15th of June 2020

Applications via [www.ceepus.info](http://www.ceepus.info)



## Erasmus mobility student experience

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My Erasmus experience in Skopje officially began in the middle of February, or more precisely, on the 10th of February. I am a master's degree (second year) student and I listened to and passed all my classes at my home University of Osijek. This enabled me more choice in electing courses at my host University in Skopje. I chose classes concerning Macedonian history, because I knew very little of it. My classes were held as consultation hours, with the exception of Macedonian language classes that were mandatory. I would like to stress the fact that all professors were truly helpful and approachable, and they let me pick my own literature from the mandatory literature list. I also attended lectures from some other classes they were in charge of, so I could meet some students and better learn the language. Because the faculty closed soon (the Coronavirus Epidemic) I attended few classes, but I still had the chance to see how lovely all the students, professors and faculty employees are. My colleagues instantly came and introduced themselves, offering to take me places and to help me find my way around town, around the faculty and around the literature for all the classes. I was really afraid I would spend time by myself, but this did not happen. I am in Croatia right now because it made no sense to stay locked in an apartment in Skopje. The professor that taught me Macedonian language holds classes once a week online, sends tasks and extra materials and is always there for extra questions. During my last lecture he even gifted me with a book written in Macedonian, so I could learn the language. The other professors sent me literature, while offering their help anytime. I hope this situation ends soon, so I can go back to Skopje and finish my studies. I want to see both and feel not just that city but the rest of Macedonia and I hope I get a chance to learn about the and the way of life soon.

Tena Vinkovic, Erasmus exchange student in  
2019/20 at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje

