



International Bulletin

Issue 14, September 2021

NEWS & FEATURES

Faculty centennial conference proceedings published 'Science and Society: Contribution of Humanities and Social Sciences'

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International Conference: Post-Covid World: Old and New Responses to Uncertainties and Challenges"

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Transnational Erasmus project meeting

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Restart of the incoming mobilities at the Faculty of Philosophy

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Finalisation of the Cultural Adaptation Project for Adolescent Risk Behavior for application in the national context

The aim of the project was cultural adaptation of two measures, the Questionnaire for Risky Behavior and the Impulse Activity Scale by Martin Dolejš & Ondřej Skopa, designed to assess adolescence behavior and validated in the Czech Republic. The research was conducted by professors from the Institute of Psychology, prof. Biljana Blazevska Stoilkovska and prof. Katerina Naumova.

The check of the psychometric characteristics of the two measures (construct validity and reliability) was done on a sample of high school students from first to fourth year from high school and vocational education. The data collection was realized through the Qualtrix platform. The final sample consisted of 3760 students who answered in Macedonian (91.3% Macedonians and 8.7% Bosniaks, Vlachs, Roma, Serbs and Turks) and 432 students who answered the version of the instruments in Albanian (all Albanians).

According to the results of the analysis, the measures can be used for research purposes. The insight they provide in the behavior of adolescents and their determinants can be a solid basis for the development of prevention programs and interventions.



International Conference "Post-Covid World: Old and New Responses to Uncertainties and Challenges"

The annual international conference of the Institute for Security, Defence and Peace, Faculty of Philosophy, this year was focused on the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on various aspects of life and national & human security.

The conference entitled "Post-Covid World: Old and New Responses to Uncertainties and Challenges" took place from 2-4 September 2021 in Ohrid. Despite the travel restrictions, last moment cancellations and all odds related to the fourth wave of the pandemic, the organisers managed to bring together around 40 participants from various countries, such as Germany, Sweden, Poland, Turkey, Russia, Spain, Slovakia, USA, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, in addition to a number of Macedonian scholars.

Having been organized in 8 panels, the participants got engaged into discussion on global and local impact of the pandemic, international relations and geopolitics of the pandemic, the responses and challenges to the security sector, education, etc. The lively debate was ongoing both during the official panels and in the breaks and the free time in between. It is worth mentioning that all the participants expressed their thrill to be again able to gather and exchange their findings and personal and institutional experiences in dealing with the Covid-19.



On the margins of the conference, on 1 September 2021, a book promotion was also held. Four foreign scholars promoted the book entitled "The Membership to NATO: On the Frontline?" authored by Prof. Biljana Vankovska.

On behalf of the publisher, the Faculty of Philosophy, the dean Prof. Ratko Duev addressed and welcomed the audience.

The speakers included: Dr. Jan Oberg from Lund, Prof. Vladimir Pryakhin from Moscow, Prof. Jovan Donev from Skopje and Prof. Radmila Nakarada from Belgrade. The speeches were followed by discussion from the floor.



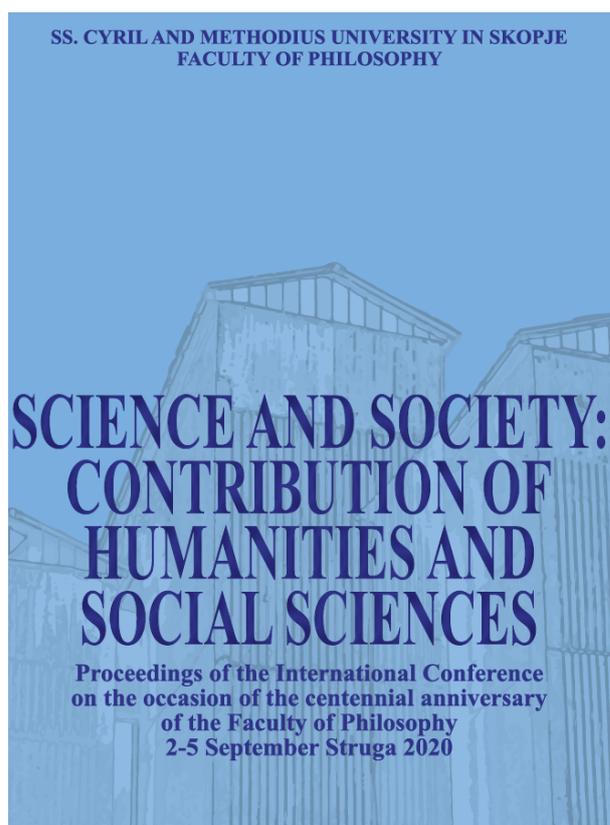
Faculty Centennial Conference Proceedings published

"The very title of these proceedings - Science and Society: the Contribution of the Humanities and Social Sciences, carries an important question: what is the contribution of the Faculty of Philosophy in the development of science, and, thus, in the development of Macedonian society?"

Borrowing from the introductory words of the editor of the conference proceedings, prof. Ratko Duev, the main aim of this edition is to present the rich, interdisciplinary history and profile of the Faculty of Philosophy throughout its one century of existence, by contributions that explore topics ranging from philosophy, history, history of art and archeology through peace studies and gender relations.

The edition is divided in 2 sections, one on humanities and one on social sciences. Throughout the 770 pages, 88 authors present recent research findings in their respective fields. The section on humanities comprises of 19 titles, discussing different themes from the perspective of philosophy, history, history of art and archeology and classical studies. The section on social sciences comprises of 35 titles, elaborating science and society through the lens of pedagogy, sociology, psychology, security and peace studies, social work, special education and rehabilitation and gender studies.

The edition is available as an open electronic resource, through the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University repository - <http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12188/14185>



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ErasmusKA203 transnational project meeting

From 26th to 29 of August 2021 a research team from the Faculty of Philosophy and the Institute of special education and rehabilitation (Prof. Dr. Olivera Rashikj-Canevska – coordinator, Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Karovska Ristovska and Prof. Dr. Natasha Chichevska Jovanova), participated at the first transnational meeting of the Erasmus+ project “Developing new software for psychomotor reeducation of children with autism” in Canakkale – Turkey on the Onsekiz Mart University. The project started in June 2020 and is planned to last 24 months. The basic idea is to create software with exercises for psychomotor re-education of children with autism spectrum disorder. The project itself is designed in 4 intellectual outputs starting from research of the current situation on the field, determination of psychomotor re-education exercises suitable for children with autism spectrum, creation of software with interactive exercises shown by avatars, training in the use of professional software and a documentary film for the realization of the entire project.



Researchers from all four partners from “Onsekiz Mart University” from Canakkale, “Ss. Cyril and Methodius University” in Skopje, “Ss. Kliment Ohridski University” from Sofia-Bulgaria and “Piriteknologi” from Canakkale participated at the meeting and presented the obtained results from the realization of the first two intellectual outputs. The software and the way of its application were presented to a wider audience and guests from outside, and during the internal meeting the partners defined the next steps and phases of the project until its finalization.

Visiting Fulbright Scholar from the United States Studying Career Counseling in North Macedonia



Richard Hall is an affiliated scholar of Saints Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje for the 2021-2022 academic year. He will be working at the university with support from the Faculty of Philosophy and professor Elena Rizova. His work is also supported by Vanderbilt University in the United States and a Fulbright Research Award.

Richard's research focuses on the YES Network program funded by USAID and implemented primarily by the American company, Education Development Center (EDC). EDC worked with many local Macedonians in an effort to design a number of youth employment and development initiatives which were applicable to the local context of North Macedonia. Collectively, these initiatives comprised the content of the YES Network. One of the YES Network initiatives, career counseling, is the primary focus of Richard's research.

Career counseling was added to the YES Network in 2013 to bolster the availability of career planning and preparation services available in secondary schools. While initially focused on VETs, it soon spread to gymnasiums as well. This program added career counseling centers to many secondary schools and trained psychologists, pedagogues, and teachers in career counseling practices.

While implemented successfully between 2013 and 2016, the funding for this program expired in 2016. Since 2016, career counseling was sustained to varying degrees in different secondary school based primarily on the presence or absence of continued interest from individuals trained by the YES Network. The variable existence of career counseling at present is largely due to the lack of formal policy requiring career counseling in secondary schools. Additionally, this variation is caused by the lack of a unique position, solely responsible for providing career counseling. Rather, this work is completed by individuals already employed in alternative roles in secondary schools. Richard's research seeks to continue to explore the differing rationales for the presence or lack thereof of career counseling in secondary schools as well as ways in which to further establish career counseling in these schools.

In order to explore the sustainability of career counseling, Richard is conducting interviews, observations, and time-use surveys with career counselors and other career counseling experts in North Macedonia. He will spend a total of ten months in Skopje conducting his research and compiling his results. By June of 2022, his research will be compiled into a completed document which will present the findings from ten months of fieldwork and will serve as his dissertation.

Richard looks forward to the opportunity to communicate and collaborate with academics and educational professionals from around the country. He can be reached at Richard.hall.1@vanderbilt.edu with any questions or comments.



Erasmus+

Professors from University of Split visited Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje



At the end of August and beginning of September 2021, Associate Professor Tonča Jukić, Head of Department of Pedagogy, Associate Professor Zorana Šuljug Vučica (Head of Department of Sociology) and Associate Professor Gorana Bandalović (Deputy of Head of Department of Sociology) from Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split visited Faculty of Philosophy at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. The visit was realized through Erasmus+ training staff mobility between Programme Countries. The visit was initiated by Full Professor Tatjana Stojanovska Ivanova and Full Professor Elizabeta Tomevska-Ilievska.



Professors from Split had meetings with the Dean and the Vice Deans at the Faculty of Philosophy, as well as with the colleagues from the Department of Pedagogy and the Department of Sociology. They discussed different themes regarding differences and similarities between two faculties, challenges they face, such as education and teaching in the period of pandemic. They also discussed possible future aspects of cooperation such as mobility, conferences, summer schools programmes, research work, projects, etc. Furthermore, they visited the Archaeological Museum Collection within the Institute of Art History and Archaeology and enjoyed in the presentations of artefacts and stories from the history of North Macedonia. They also visited the Rectorate office, where they had meeting with the Vice Rector for Teaching Prof. dr. Hristina Spasevska.

