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PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY MR. TALAT XHAFERI DELIVERS ADDRESS ON ILINDEN-REPUBLIC DAY



MEETINGS OF PRESIDENT XHAFERI WITH HIS BULGARIAN COLLEAGUE AND WITH THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER



In the spirit of building good-neighbourly relations, the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Talat Xhaferi had separate meetings with the President of the National Assembly of the Re-

public of Bulgaria, Mr. Dimitar Glavchev and with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Greece, Mr. Nikos Kotsias. At the working visit meeting, both Presidents welcomed the Agreement of Friendship, Good-Neighbourly Relations and Cooperation signed by the Prime-Ministers of the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria, that should initialize new history in the mutual relations, and looked forward to its ratification in the two national parliaments.

At the meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Greece, Mr. Nikos Kotzias, both collocutors shared their expectation for intensification of the meetings on all levels in the future, and that the time has come to achieve compromise for the open issues that hold us in the prison of history.

Both Bulgaria and Greece have offered their support and experience to assist the Republic of Macedonia on its road to Euro-Atlantic integration.



MEPS ON MEETINGS IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

A Delegation of MEP Ivo Vajgl, MEP Knut Fleckenstein and MEP Eduard Kukan, as well as representatives of the European Parliament and the European Commission met with President Talat Xhaferi and Coordinators of Parliamentary Groups in the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia. The focus of discussions was on the activities of the Assembly pursuant to 3-6-9 Plan of the Government, the Pribe's Recommendations, the Inquiry Committee Report on the events from 24 December 2012, as well as the reforms that are to be taken for the plan of the European and Euro- Atlantic integration of the state. Mr. Vajgl welcomed the normal functioning of

the state institutions in the Republic of Macedonia, especially the new concept of work of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and its President, returning the dignity of the institution. He underlined that there is a positive atmosphere in the European Parliament and offered their assistance and support for approaching the new democracy to the European values and creating atmosphere of compromise among the parliamentary political parties, facilitating the resolution of the problems arising from transition of power, and aiming for promotion of European integration of the state in general.



Meps on Meetings on the Assembly of the Republic Of Macedonia

Continued from page 1

The MPs from the Macedonian side expressed special gratitude for the interest shown by the European Parliament for the work of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and hope that the country will receive further support for the promotion of the democratic processes in the state and for the necessary EU and NATO membership reforms that this ruling coalition is prepared to undertake. At the end, all interlocutors agreed that the political dialogue must be constantly cultivated and promoted among all participants in the political process in direction of uninterrupted functioning of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia.



INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON REGIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION

The President of the Committee on Defence and Security of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Maksim Dimitrievski and the President of the Committee for Oversight of Implementation of Special Investigation



Measure Interception of Communication by the Ministry of Interior, Finance Police Directorate, Customs Administration and Ministry of Defence, Mr. Emil Dimitriev, took part at the regional meeting for security cooperation in Cetinje, Montenegro, organized by the Committee on Defence and Security from the Parliament of Montenegro. At the meeting, participants expressed their support for NATO membership of the Republic of Macedonia. They also concluded that no state is strong enough to manage security issues by its own, such as migration, trans-national crime and fight against terrorism and that cooperation on all levels between the states in the region must continue in future.

ESTONIAN DEPUTY-MFA MINISTER MET MEMBERS OF THE EU AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Deputy-Minister of European Affairs in the Foreign Ministries of the Republic of Estonia, Mr. Matti Maasikas met with Members of the European and Foreign Affairs Committee, within the frames of the Estonian Presidency with the Council of the EU. Informing on the Presidency priorities, Mr. Maasikas emphasized that Estonia has been strong supporter of the enlargement process and supported the dedication of the Macedonian Government to



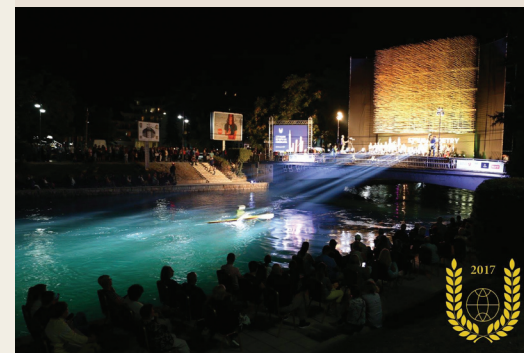
the EU-related processes. He pointed out that the country must implement the required reforms in order to improve living standards and to keep young people see their future in the Republic of Macedonia.

Macedonian interlocutors used the opportunity to thank the Baltic states once more for their letter in 2012 sent to the Council Presidency for opening of accession negotiations of the Republic of Macedonia in parallel with the negotiations on the dispute over the name issuer with Greece. They also informed the Deputy-Minister of the consensus regarding the Euro-Atlantic integrations in the European Affairs Committee, and the proof of that being the unanimously adopted Declaration for Speeding Up the Reform and Integration Processes for Membership of the Republic of Macedonia in the European Union, as well as that they will continue working on reforms related to the rule of law, system reforms, and equality of citizens in accordance with the Ohrid Framework Agreement.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES MEET EXPERT PRIEBE

The Presidents of the Committees on Oversight of the Work of the Security and Counter-Intelligence Directorate and the Intelligence Agency and the Committee for Implementation of Special Investigation Measure for Interception of Communication by the Ministry of Interior, Finance Police Directorate, Customs Administration and the Ministry of Defence, met with Mr. Reinhard Priebe and his team. At the meeting they discussed on the parliamentary oversight, as well as the implementation of the recommendations presented in his report related to this issuers and the activities to be taken in the future by these two committees.

Both Presidents of these Committees, Mr. Trajko Veljanoski and Mr. Emil Dimitriev emphasized that they will give greater contribution in all areas in competence of these committees.



MR. CHARLES SIMIC
Laureate of the "Golden Wreath" Award for 2017

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