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Councils of the Assembly

Working bodies of the Assembly

Joint Parliamentary Committee EU-RM

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Culture

MACEDONIAN LEGISLATION HARMONIZED WITH THE EU ACQUIS IN JULY-NOVEMBER 2018:

- Law Ratifying the Final Agreement for the Settlement of the Differences as Described in the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 817 (1993) and 845 (1993), the Termination of the Interim Accord of 1995, and the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership Between the Parties
- Law on Working Hours of Mobile Workers in the Road Traffic and Registering Devices in the Road Traffic
- Law Amending the Law on Road Traffic Transport
- Law Amending the Customs Law
- Law Ratifying the Amendments to the Convention on Common Transit Procedure, Made by Decision No 1/2017 of the Joint Committee EU and EFTA for Common transit
- Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecution Office
- Law Amending the Law on Criminal Procedure
- Law Amending the Law on Courts

MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT XHAFERI WITH PRESIDENT SOBOTKA

The President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Talat Xhaferi met with the President of the National Council of the Republic of Austria, Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka, who was on a one-day official visit to the Republic of Macedonia. President Xhaferi informed Mr. Sobotka about the current developments on the political scene and expressed gratitude for the unreserved support that the Republic of Austria gives to the Republic of Macedonia for the European integration process. President Sobotka invited President Xhaferi on an official visit to the Republic of Austria, during which two parliaments are expected to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, as a basis for professional cooperation

between the services of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and the National Council of the Republic of Austria. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. President Sobotka also met with the President and the members of the Foreign Policy Committee, where he welcomed the steps taken so far for start of the EU accession negotiations and pointed out that civil society is most important for the development of democracy. It was pointed out that Austria continuously and openly supports the process of enlargement of the Union and inclusion of WB countries, as well as the start of accession negotiations with the Republic of Macedonia.



WESTERN BALKANS MUST FINALLY BE INTEGRATED IN THE EU

President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Talat Xhaferi paid an official visit to the Czech Republic and met his counterpart and host, Mr. Radek Vondracek, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic. At the meeting, Speaker Vondracek stressed that the Czech Republic will remain a strong partner of the Republic of Macedonia and that as a member of the Visegrad Group, together with Poland, Hungary and Slovakia, considered that the Western Balkans must finally be integrated in the EU. In order to give an even stronger signal to the EU member states for faster EU integration of the WB countries, the Czech Parliament initiated the establishment of the "Slavkov format", 24+, where together with the Presidents of Parliaments of Slovakia, Austria, France and Germany, as well as other EU member states, will discuss the membership of the WB in the EU during their meet-

ing in December. Being aware of the existence of Euro scepticism, the goal is to persuade all EU member states to firmly stand behind the EU aspirations of the WB countries and to show a concrete and significant gesture of unity and constructiveness. President Xhaferi pointed out that the Czech experience in the process of membership in the EU and NATO is valuable and can be of great benefit to the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia. The two interlocutors said they would support each initiative for further constructive cooperation between the MPs from both Parliaments, between the Parliamentary Institutes, to exchange experiences from parliamentary work and share and apply good practices.



MEETING OF PRESIDENT XHAFERI WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA, JOSEPH MUSCAT

President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Talat Xhaferi, met with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta, Jozef Muscat, during his first official visit to the Republic of Macedonia. President Xhaferi noted that the relations between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Malta are open and friendly, but that there is also potential to further strengthen the economic and trade cooperation. The Prime Minister of Malta, Josef Muscat, expressed his country's readiness to support the Republic of Mace-

donia in the process of integration into the EU, with specific programs and plans, both on technical and administrative level. President Xhaferi took the opportunity to extend an invitation to the President of the Parliament of Malta to visit the Republic of Macedonia and at the same time urged the parliamentarians of both countries to intensify and strengthen their communication and cooperation. The two interlocutors expressed their commitment to contribute to deepening the cooperation in all field of interest.



INTERPARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP FOR RECONCILIATION AND INTEGRATION

At the coordination meeting of the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Talat Xhaferi with the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly, the coordinators of the parliamentary groups and the representatives of the political parties that are not organized in the parliamentary groups, a consensus was reached to set up an "Inter-Party Parliamentary Group for Reconciliation and Integration". Ms. Frosina Tashevska Remenski from SDSM and Ms. Emilija Aleksandrova from the new parliamentary group, independent of VMRO-DPMNE and the coalition, were appointed as co-chairpersons of the group. The body will include the vice-presidents of the Parliament, the coordinators of the parliamentary groups, three representatives from the most numerous parliamentary groups SDSM and VMRO-DPMNE and representatives of political parties that are not organized in parliamentary groups. The methodology of work will be determined at the first meeting of the Inter-Party Parliamentary Group for Rec-



conciliation and Integration. The coordinators agreed that the formation of such a group at this moment is

necessary, and if positive effects are shown it can serve as a good practice for the future.

WINTER IN MACEDONIA



START OF COOPERATION WITH THE NEW OPERATIONAL TECHNICAL AGENCY

The members of the Committee on Oversight of the Implementation of the Special Investigation Measure Interception of the Communication by the Ministry of Interior, the Financial Police Management, Customs Management and the Ministry of Defence met with the Director of the Operational-Technical Agency, Mr. Zoran Angelovski. The President of the Committee, Mr. Emil Dimitriev said that the purpose of the first meeting between the members of the Committee and the Director of OTA was to get acquainted and define the way of future cooperation with this newly established important institution. Director Angelovski informed the Committee members that there is no unlawful interception of communications. The Operational and Technical Agency, which currently faces objective problems, as a budget and staff, will be transparent in its operations and in communicating with the four parliamentary committees responsible for its control.



MEETING OF PRESIDENT XHAFERI WITH MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EU RELATIONS WITH THE WB COUNTRIES

The President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Talat Xhaferi, together with the Vice-Presidents and Coordinators of the parliamentary groups, as well as the Secretary General of the Assembly, met with the members of the Working Group responsible for the relations of the European Union with the WB countries. The working group is composed of experts from each of the EU Member States dealing with general political and economic development issues, the stabilization and association process and the financial instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA). At the meeting, the members of the Working Group were interested in the current developments in the Assembly after the referendum. The participants exchanged views on the dynamics of the implementation of the reform processes in the field of justice, security and intelligence services and the fight against corruption. The representatives of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia welcomed the commitment of the European Union institutions to the enlargement perspective of the Western Balkan countries, and the members of the Working Group expressed their readiness to fully support and assist Republic of Macedonia on its path to EU accession.



JPCCommittee - News from the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, No. 57, October-November 2018

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