



**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**  
**H.E. NIKOLA DIMITROV, AMBASSADOR**

**“THE FUTURE OF THE MACEDONIAN MULTIETHNIC DEMOCRACY”**

**Utrecht**  
**5 April 2011**

# BASIC FACTS

## POPULATION

2.052,722

(Macedonia in figures 2010)

## Census 2002

Macedonian  
(64.18%),  
Albanians  
(25.17%),  
Turks  
(3.85%),  
Roma  
(2.66%),  
Serbs  
(1.78%),  
Bosniacs  
(0.84%),  
Vlachs  
(0.48%)  
and others  
(1.04%)

## NATIONAL FLAG



## National Currency:

Macedonian Denar (MKD)  
Approximate rate:  
1 Euro = 61,1 denars;

## CAPITAL CITY

SKOPJE

## AREA

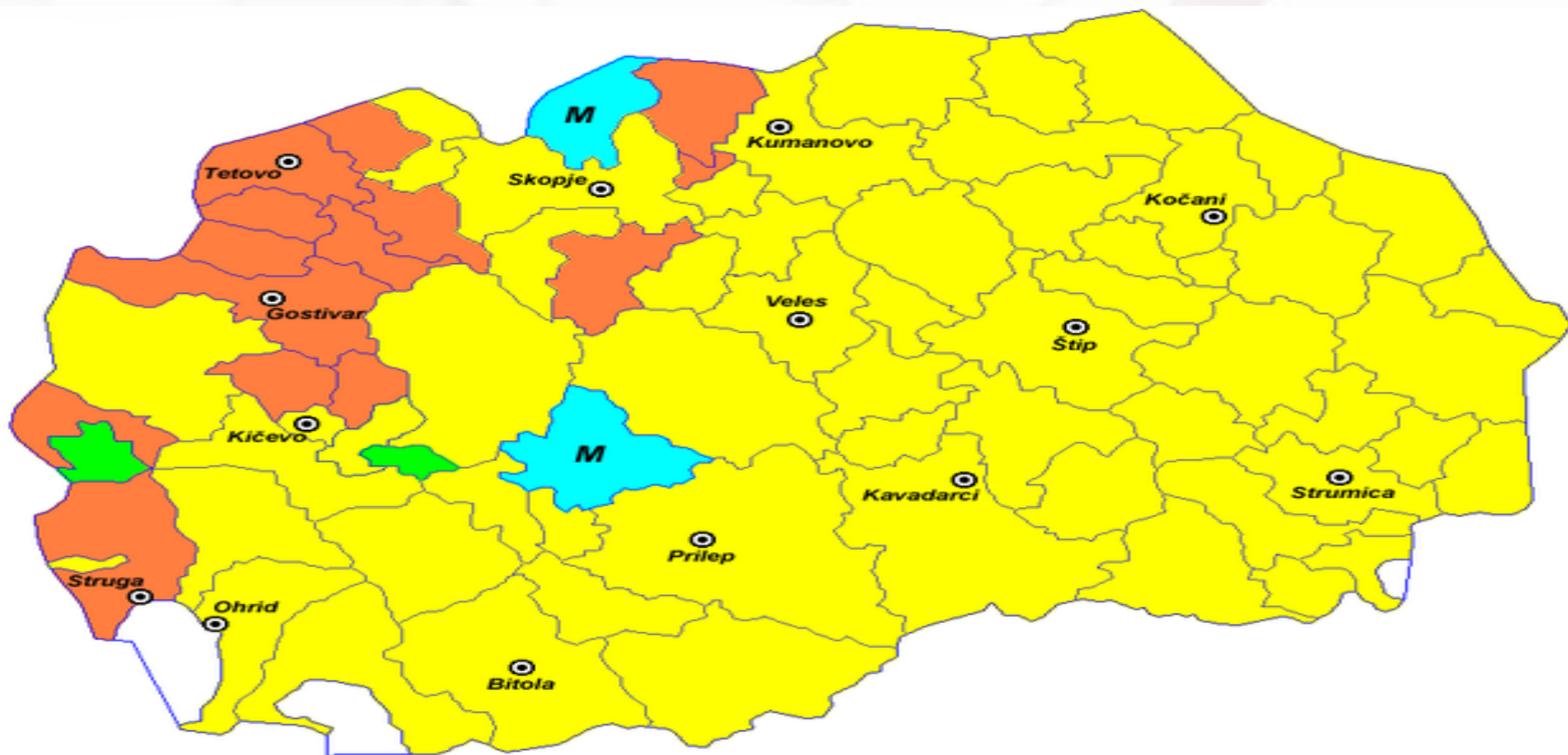
25.713 square kilometers

Language: Official - Macedonian.

With respect to local self-government, in municipalities where a community comprises at least 20 % of the population of the municipality, the language of that community will be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian



# Map of ethnic composition



*Macedonia - 2002 census*

**●** - Macedonian majority   **●** - Albanian majority   **●** - Turkish majority   **●** - Mixed

**M** - Relative Macedonian majority

# STONE BRIDGE - SKOPJE



OHRID



# MONASTERY PLAOSNIK



*Mojama cydecna zemja*

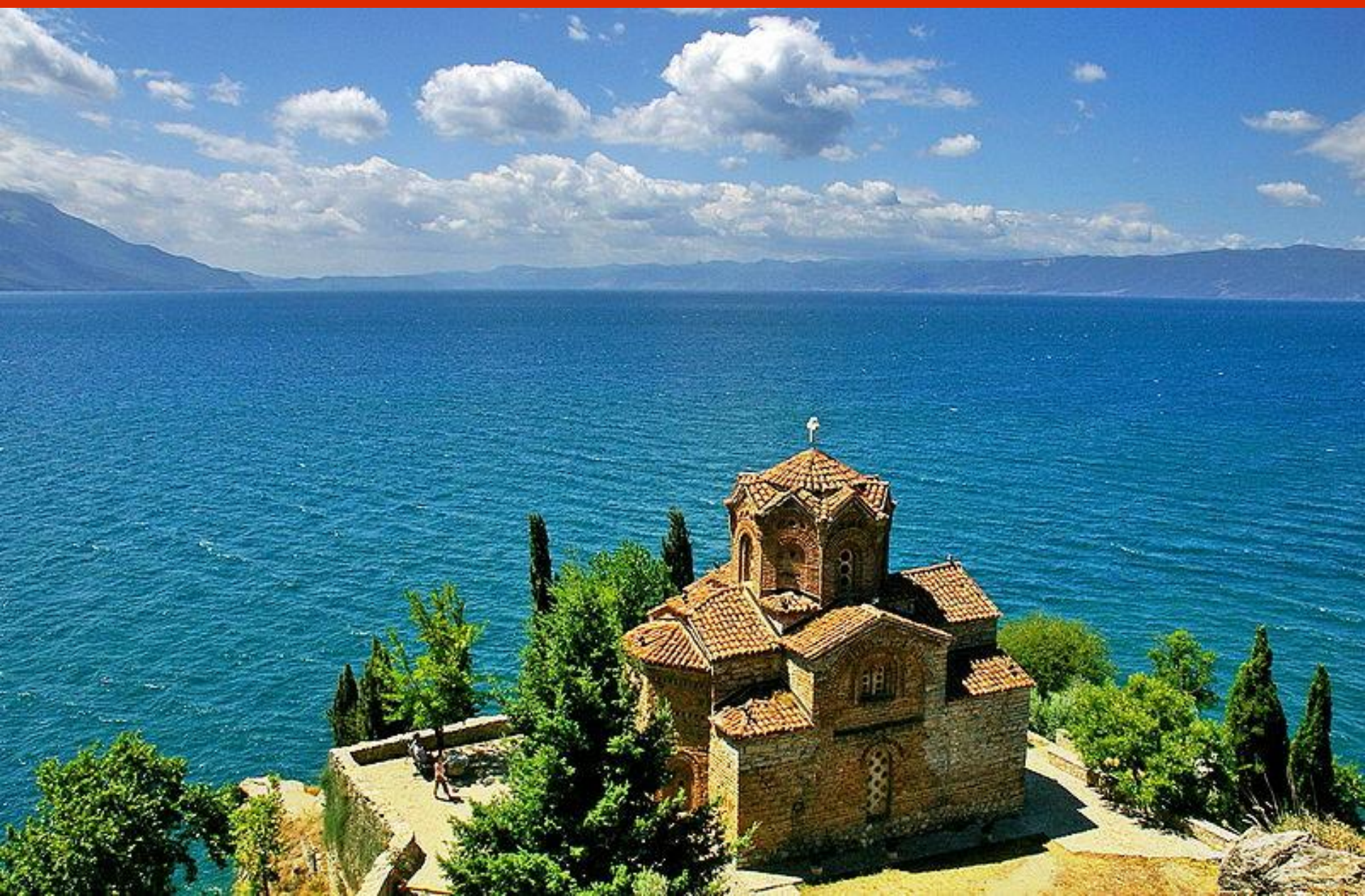
*[www.travel2macedonia.com.mk](http://www.travel2macedonia.com.mk)*

# OLD BAZAR - SKOPJE





# ST. JOHN AT KANEO - OHRID



# DECORATED MOSQUE



# WINERY POPOVA KULA



# Referendum for independence held on 8 September 1991



**The Macedonian citizens voted overwhelmingly by a 95 % majority  
(on a 75% electoral turnout) in favor of  
“Sovereign and independent Macedonia”**

# Opinion No. 6 of the Badinter Committee on 14 January 1991

**“ ...the Republic of Macedonia satisfies the tests in the Guidelines on the Recognition of New States in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union and the Declaration on Yugoslavia adopted by the Council of the European Communities on 16 December 1991;**

**...the Republic of Macedonia has, moreover, renounced all territorial claims of any kind in unambiguous statements binding in territorial law;**

**... the use of the name “Macedonia” cannot therefore imply any territorial claim against another State”**

# THE NAME ISSUE

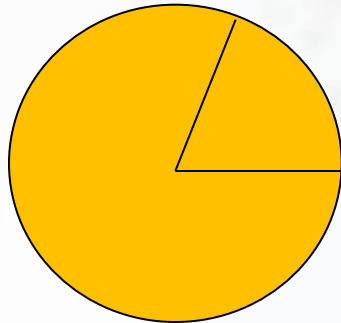
- Embargo by Greece in August 1992 on oil imports
- Macedonia amended its Constitution on 6 January 1992, reiterating that it has no territorial claims towards neighboring countries
- UN Membership on 8 April 1993 under the provisional reference
- Full embargo by Greece in 1994
- The Interim Accord between the two countries was signed on 13.09.1995
- Macedonia changed its national flag on 5 October 1995
- OSCE Membership on 12 October 1995
- Council of Europe Membership on 9 November 1995



## Macedonian Daily Newspaper “Dnevnik”



# KOSOVO REFUGEE CRISIS IN 1999



360.000 refugees in  
Macedonia





1. Basic Principles
2. Cessation of Hostilities
3. Development of Decentralized Government
4. Non-Discrimination and Equitable Representation
5. Special Parliamentary Procedures
6. Education and Use of Languages
7. Expression of Identity
8. Implementation
9. Annexes
10. Final provisions



# Macedonia & NATO



**Macedonian Assembly's resolution on the accession of Macedonia to NATO, 23 Dec '93**

**Full member country of the NATO initiative - the Partnership for Peace, November 1995**

**MAP Participant since 1999**

**VILNIUS GROUP - May 2000**

**Founding member of the Adriatic Charter 2 May 2003**

**Macedonia began its participation in the NATO-led ISAF operation in August 2002**

**20th NATO Summit in Bucharest, 2 - 4 April 2008**



# Macedonia and EU

**Diplomatic relations, December 1995**

**The Stabilisation and Association Agreement was signed in April 2001**

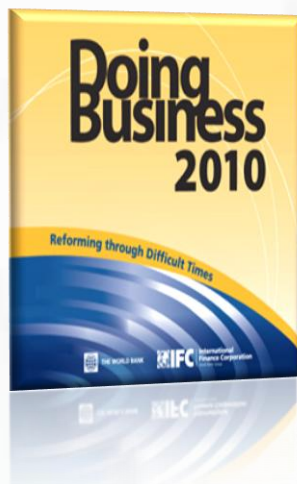
**Entry into force of the Stabilization and Association Agreement, April 2004**

**EU Candidate country status, December 2005**

**EC recommends opening accession negotiations in Oct 2009 and Nov 2010**

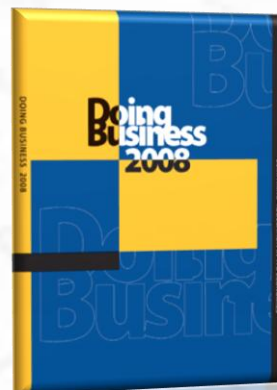
**VISA Liberalisation, 19 Dec 2009**

# Recent achievements



**3<sup>rd</sup> BEST REFORMER  
IN THE WORLD**

World Bank's Doing Business 2010 Report

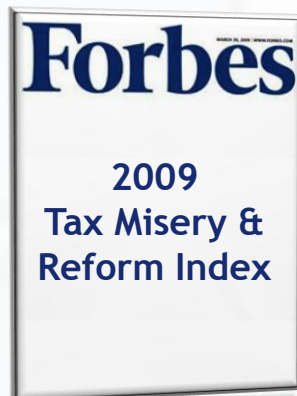


**4<sup>th</sup> BEST REFORMER  
IN THE WORLD**

World Bank's Doing Business 2008 Report

**BEST CONSECUTIVE REFORMER  
OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE**

Based on the World Bank's Doing Business Report 2008 , 2009 and 2010



**5<sup>th</sup> MOST TAX FRIENDLY  
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD**

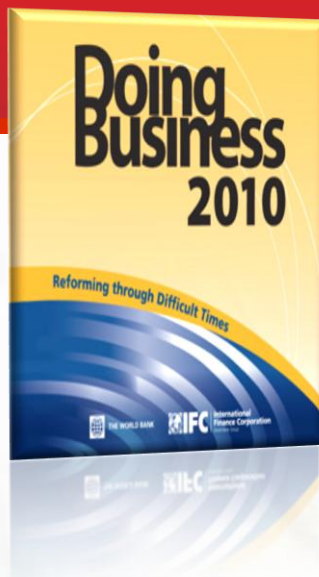
Forbes Magazine



**BEST EUROPEAN ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT REGION 2008**

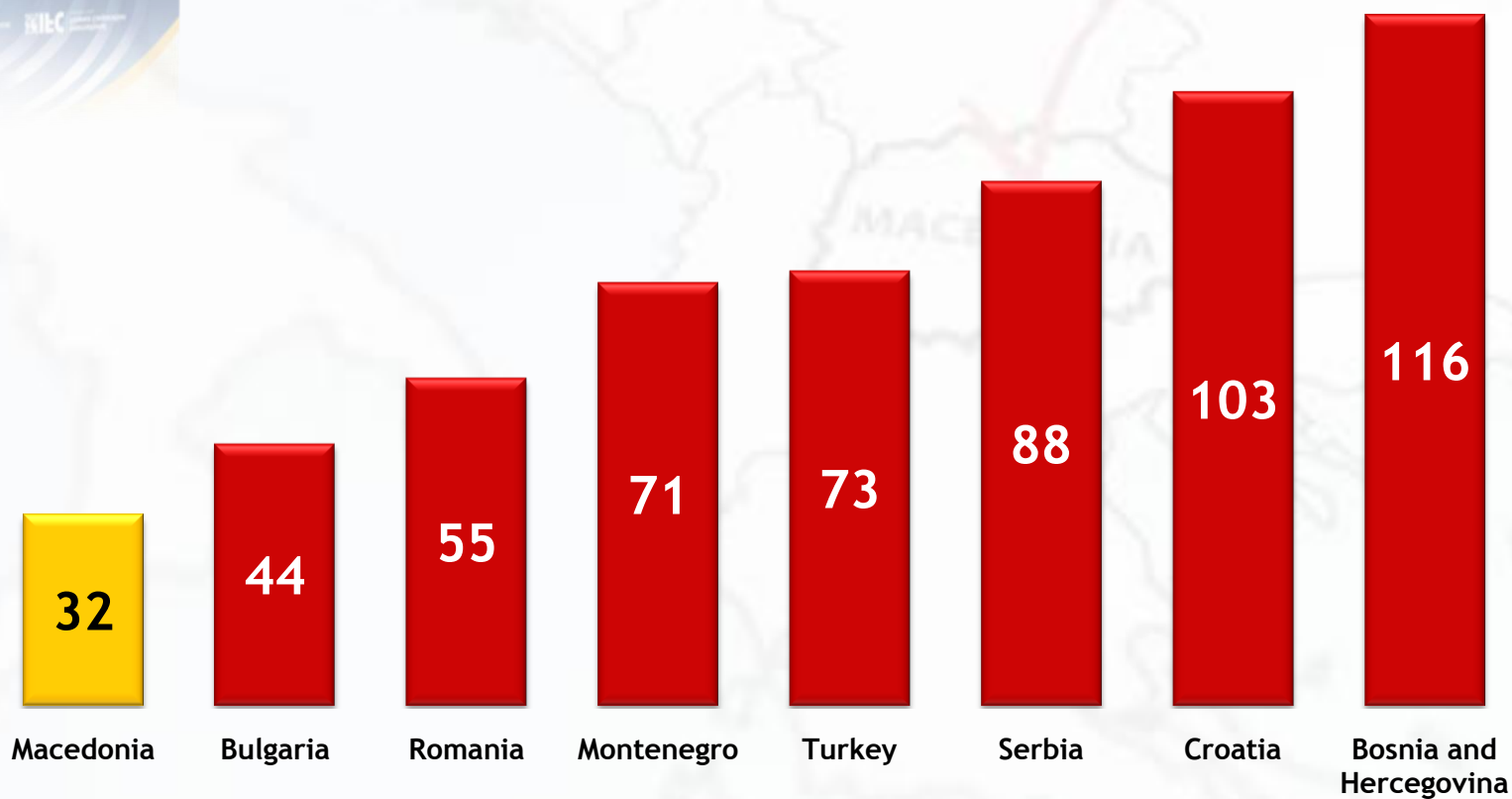
Institute of Transport Management, UK

## Recent achievements

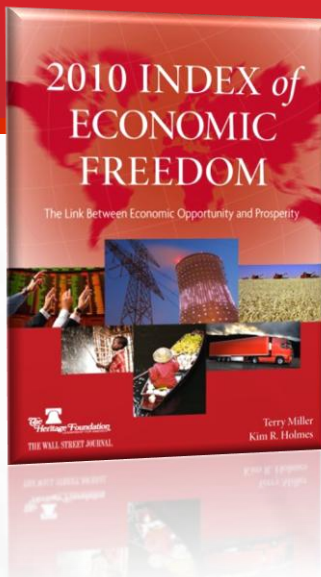


# Ease of Doing Business

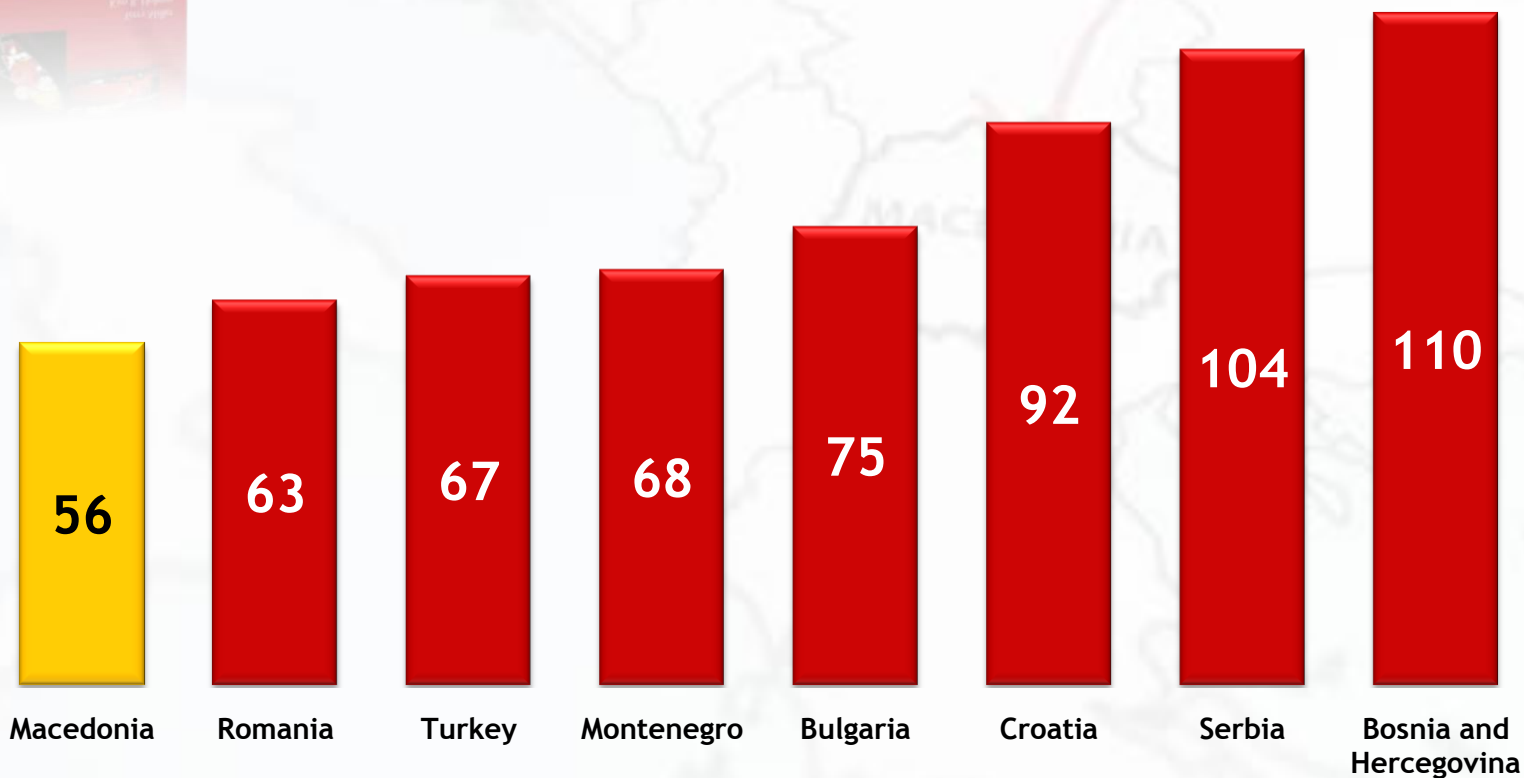
## Global Rank

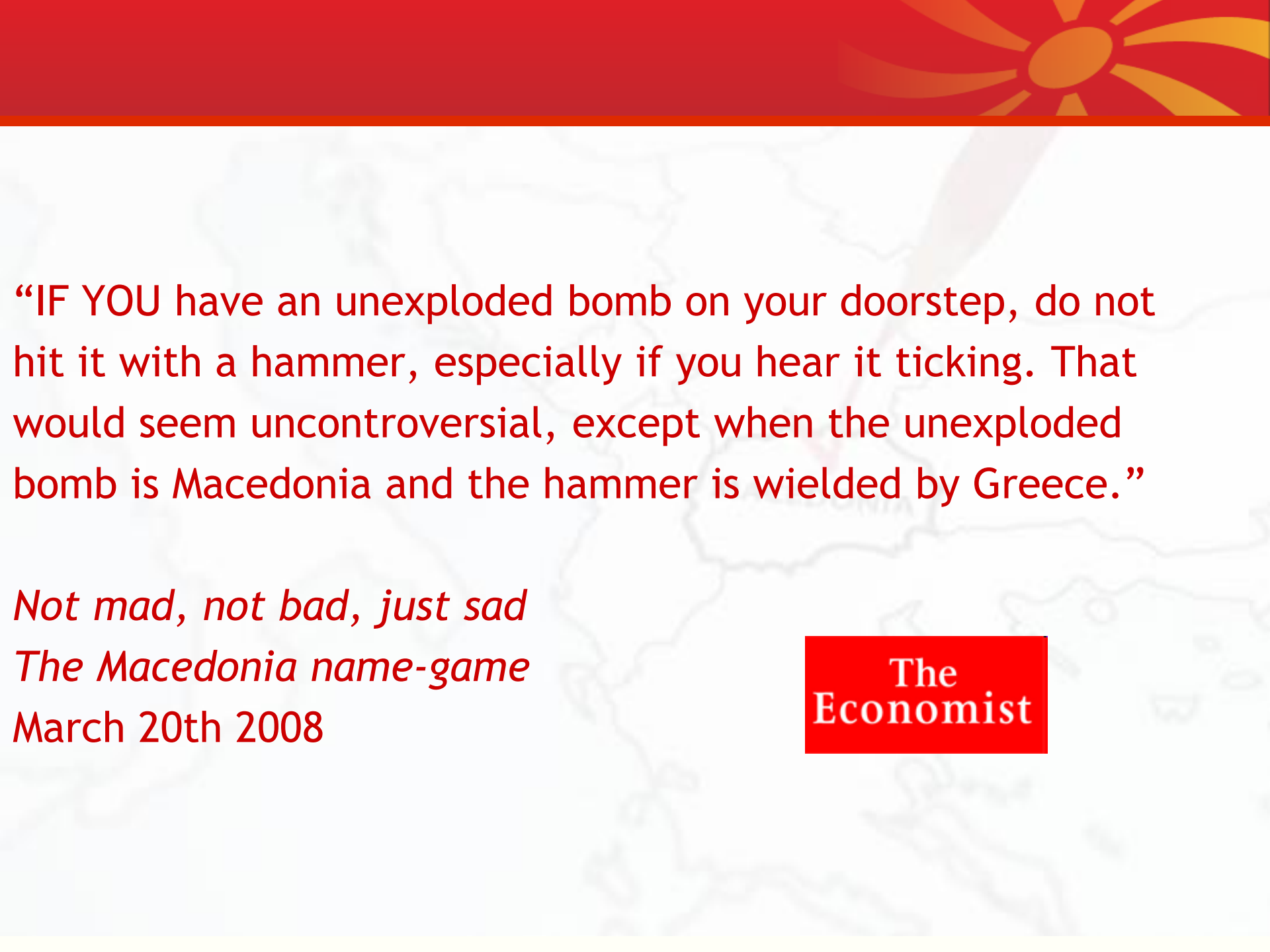


# Recent achievements



## Index of Economic Freedom World Rankings





“IF YOU have an unexploded bomb on your doorstep, do not hit it with a hammer, especially if you hear it ticking. That would seem uncontroversial, except when the unexploded bomb is Macedonia and the hammer is wielded by Greece.”

*Not mad, not bad, just sad*  
*The Macedonia name-game*  
March 20th 2008

The  
Economist

# POST NATO BUCHAREST SUMMIT

## President George W. Bush on 5 April 2008:

“[l]ike Croatia and Albania, Macedonia has met all the criteria for NATO membership.”

*United States Office of the Press Secretary, Radio Address of the United States President, George W. Bush, President’s Radio Address (5 April 2008)*

## United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at a press briefing immediately following the Bucharest Summit:

“[w]e certainly regret that Macedonia was not invited today, and we and many others worked to try and make it happen. But NATO is a consensus organization, and the good thing here is that there was no effort to suggest that Macedonia was not ready in any other way, that it didn’t somehow meet the criteria ... and I think we’ve made no secret of the fact that we believe that Macedonia should have been invited, but it’s a consensus organization”.

*United States Department of State, White House Office of the Press Secretary, Press Briefing by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley (3 April 2008)*



# POST NATO BUCHUREST SUMMIT

## INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

*“...Like Croatia and Albania, Macedonia also fulfilled its MAP. But Macedonia was not invited to join the Alliance because one NATO member - Greece - objects to the country's name. It is absurd enough that Greece claims to be concerned that Macedonia has designs on the area in Greece that is also known as Macedonia. But to allow that to become part of the debate over whether Macedonia should be allowed to join the world's most successful alliance makes a mockery of the process.”*

*NATO: A Mockery of Enlargement*

*Ivo H. Daalder, Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy*

*James Goldgeier, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations*

*April 08, 2008*

# POST NATO BUCHUREST SUMMIT

On 17 November 2008, Republic of Macedonia instituted proceedings before the International Court of Justice against Greece for a violation of Article 11 of the Interim Accord of 13 September 1995.

It asked the Court to:

« ... to order that the Respondent (Greece) immediately take all necessary steps to comply with its obligations under Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Interim Accord, and to cease and desist from objecting in any way, whether directly or indirectly, to the Applicant's membership of the NATO and/or of any other 'international, multilateral and regional organizations and institutions' of which the Respondent is a member, in circumstances where the Applicant is to be referred to in such organization or institution by the designation provided for in paragraph 2 of UN Security Council resolution 817 (1993).”

# DUTCH - MACEDONIAN RELATIONS



- Established full diplomatic relations on 16 Dec 1993
- Macedonia as inspiration to the Dutch writer Den Dolaard



(A Den Dolaard Monument in Ohrid)

- In the framework of the development cooperation, for Macedonia, the Netherlands was the biggest donor country of all EU member states
- Macedonia is a member of the Dutch led World Bank/IMF constituency group
- Opening of the exhibition “Unimagined beauty - Icons from Macedonia”, Catharijneconvent Museum in Utrecht, from February to May 2011



# EU Enlargement

“...On this basis, and in view of the overall progress of reforms, the Commission considers that the country sufficiently fulfils the political criteria set by the Copenhagen European Council in 1993 and the Stabilisation and Association Process. The country has moved closer towards becoming a functioning market economy and has made progress in a number of areas linked to its ability to take on the obligations of membership.

In the light of the above considerations and taking into account the European Council conclusions of December 2005 and December 2006, the Commission recommends that negotiations for accession to the European Union should be opened.”

- COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL, Brussels, 14.10.2009 / COM(2009) 533

Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2009-2010



# EU Enlargement

**“...The Commission reiterates its recommendation that negotiations for accession to the European Union should be opened...”**

- **COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL, Brussels, 9.11.2010 / COM(2010) 660**  
**Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2010-2011**

# Benefits of EU enlargement

“...Of all the old member states, the Netherlands has benefited the most from enlargement. It has generated nearly €11 bil. in additional income ...”  
(Report of July 2010 of Adviesraad Internationale Vraagstukken)

...Recipe for reconciliation...

...Prosperity, stability, common European values...

...Where there is no stability, troops are needed entailing vast expenses...  
(there were 60,000 troops in Bosnia and 50,000 troops in Kosovo)

...Instead of changes of borders - no borders..

...Strict but fair...

...Europe whole and free with Scandinavia in the North and Balkania in the South...