

THE HIDDEN ECONOMY IN MACEDONIA

Venue: Conference Hall Vodeniva-Mulino
Skopje, Macedonia

AGENDA

DAY 1: TACKLING UNDECLARED WORK IN MACEDONIA: LOCAL AND EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

27 November 2014 (Thursday)

9:30 - 10:00	Registration and welcoming coffee
10:00 - 10:10	<p>Opening</p> <p>Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy Ms. Ana Mickovska-Raleva, Center for Research and Policy Making</p>
10:10 – 10:30	<p>Keynote: New Hidden Economy Policies in Macedonia Mr. Mladen Frckovski, Advisor at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy</p>
10:30 - 11:30	<p>Macedonia on the way to the EU: What is Done in the EU in Measuring and Tackling Undeclared Work and Perspectives for Macedonia</p> <p>European Experience in Monitoring Undeclared Work Dr. Peter Rodgers, Lecturer in Strategy and International Business, Sheffield University Management School, University of Sheffield</p> <p>Undeclared Work in Bulgaria: Monitoring and Policy Dynamics Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program / Ms. Daniela Mineva, Research Fellow, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p> <p>Hidden Economy and Undeclared Work in Macedonia: Review of Policies and Samples from the Latest Survey Data Mr. Emil Shurkov, Center for Research and Policy Making</p> <p>Discussion</p>
11:30-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-12:30	<p>Experience and Challenges of the Labour Inspection in Detecting Undeclared Workers and Possible Solutions Mr. Zlate Stojanovski, Director of the Labour Inspection</p> <p>European Platform for Tackling Undeclared Work: State of Play and the Way Forward Ms. Daniela Mineva, Research Fellow, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p>

	<p>Presenting the Eurofound Database of Measures for Tackling Undeclared Work in EU Countries: What is Applicable in Macedonia? Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p> <p>Discussion</p>
12:30-13:30	<p><u>Lunch</u></p>
13:30-14:10	<p>The changes in the Law on Pension and Disability insurance from July 2014: Potential Impact on Undeclared Work, Risks and Possibilities for Improvement</p>
14:10-14:50	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Reporting undeclared work: The role of Trade Unions Ms. Mare Anceva, Association of Trade Unions of Macedonia</p>
14:50-15:30	<p>Discussion</p>
15:30-16:00	<p>The Hidden Economy Trends and Developments and the Role of CSOs: the Experience of Bulgaria Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p> <p>Discussion: Recommendations for Possible Policy Solutions: Developing a Public – Private Platform for Dialogue</p> <p>Moderators: Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy / Ms. Ana Mickovska – Raleva, Policy Analyst, Center for Research and Policy-Making</p>

DAY 2: STRENGTHENING MEDIA REPORTING ON HIDDEN ECONOMY AND CORRUPTION: LATEST TRENDS AND EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

28 November 2014 (Friday)

9:30 - 10:00	Registration and welcoming coffee
10:00 - 10:15	Opening Ms. Ana Mickovska – Raleva, Policy Analyst, Center for Research and Policy-Making
10:15 – 11:15	<p>Panel 1: Media Reporting of Hidden Economy and Corruption in Macedonia: Main Cases and Challenges</p> <p>This panel will feature a presentation of the current state of the art on undeclared work in Macedonia and a discussion on the way undeclared work is reported in Macedonian media, what topics it relates to, and what are the most common ways of presenting the issues. In particular, we will be looking into what are the closest topics associated with the hidden economy, and what are the unexpected ways of looking into the topic. Will look into ways of looking for the positive lining in negative cases and vice versa. How does hidden economy relate to corruption, and organised crime, for example. How does it relate to the wider economic environment, unemployment, and vulnerable groups issues. What are the main positives and negatives of undeclared work.</p> <p><i>Discussants:</i></p> <p>Mr. Emil Shurkov, Policy Analyst, Center for Research and Policy Making</p> <p>Ms Ana Mickovska, Raleva, Policy Analyst, Center for Research and Policy-Making</p>
11:15 – 12:30	<p>Panel 2: The European Perspective in Measuring the Hidden Economy</p> <p>Europe has been targeting undeclared work since 2003. But Europe faces the many faces of undeclared work, and they are not the same all over the continent. While in the north these are mainly undeclared home workers and workers in construction, in the south and the east, these have more precarious faces and forms. But they all can lead to worse (crime, corruption) but also to better (entrepreneurship, income) outcomes. We will present the development of Europe’s policies in this area, and the future directions so that our guests can prepare as to what is to come next, and to be able to put the Macedonian issues in a wider perspective. Taking into account that undeclared work often spills over country borders, we will demonstrate how an integrated European approach is important, and what has been done so far on this.</p> <p><i>Discussants:</i></p> <p>Dr. Peter Rodgers, Lecturer in Strategy and International Business, Sheffield University Management School, University of Sheffield</p> <p>Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch

<p>13:30 – 14:45</p>	<p>Panel 3: The Experience of Bulgaria in Measuring and Countering the Hidden Economy and Corruption</p> <p>In this panel we will present to the audience many individual cases of undeclared work in Bulgaria, and how specific policies have affected the size and dynamics of the undeclared work. In particular, we will look into the way media and policies have interacted to reinforce positive and punish negative outcomes in the area of undeclared work. How has Bulgaria fared in comparison to other EU countries? What not to do in the area of undeclared work? What have been unintended positive and negative consequences of undeclared work policies? These will be part of the questions we will present to the audience and will relate them to the current debate in Macedonia. We will pay special attention on the impact on vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p> <p>Ms Daniela Mineva, Research Fellow, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria</p>
<p>14:45 – 16:00</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>16:00</p>	<p>Closing</p>

Simultaneous translation is provided: from Macedonian to English and English to Macedonian language.