

# Macedonian DIPLOMATIC BULLETIN



*„Considering all the parameters, including those that do not depend on us and our results, I believe that being given a date for start of membership negotiations in 2007 will truly be a success“*

*Interview with Minister Antonio Milososki, page 4-5.*



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

No. 1 / October 2006

*Presentation of the 2006-2007  
Annual National Program for  
NATO Membership*

*page 7.*

Dear readers,

Welcome to the pages of the Macedonian Diplomatic Bulletin. Through this new publication of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we would like to present some of our country's diplomatic activities in a simple and modest, yet we hope, receptive and concise manner bearing in mind that most of them are closely related to the everyday work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The main purpose of the publication is not to inform about everything concerning Macedonia's foreign policy. The other media are doing the job well. We have no intention either of presenting an overview of all the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia for the simple reason that their sheer enumeration would require much more space.

Our Bulletin is first and foremost intended for the diplomatic community in the Republic of Macedonia, as well as for all those following Macedonia's foreign policy. In addition to the information that you may have already absorbed in one way or another, you will come by news not to be found elsewhere, yet related to your professional interests. We will be greatly honored if our Bulletin succeeded in capturing your attention. It is designed in accordance with the usually busy diplomatic schedules: brief and to-the-point news on eight pages taking into full consideration how precious your time is and relying on your curiosity to learn more about the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its activities. Your response will be indicative of our success. We do not ask you to be "diplomatic" in this regard - all criticism is welcome. In fact, this Bulletin is all made for you. It can prove successful and accomplish its mission only through your help.

We intend this Bulletin to also be the chronicler of the crucial stages in the realization of Macedonia's strategic goals of joining the EU and NATO. A major portion of our journey to Brussels is already behind us. We have only the closing stage left.

The Macedonian Diplomatic Bulletin will do its best, in words and pictures, to make a modest contribution, closely following this historic undertaking.

  
Pajo Avirovik, Editor

### **We would like to give a warm welcome and wish a successful diplomatic mission in the Republic of Macedonia to the Ambassadors:**

H.E. Mr. Vladimir Dmitrievic Solocinskij / Russian Federation

H.E. Dr. Nyaho Nyaho-Tamakloe (Resident in Belgrade) / Republic of Ghana

H.E. Mr. Veaceslav Madan (Resident in Sofia) / Republic of Moldova

H.E. Mr. Adrian Stefan Constantinescu / Romania

H.E. Mr. José Manuel Paz y Agüeras / Kingdom of Spain

H.E. Mr. Bernard Valero / French Republic

### **And to thank the following Ambassadors for their completed diplomatic mission in the Republic of Macedonia, wishing them success in their future career:**

H.E. Mrs. Véronique Bujon-Barré / French Republic

H.E. Dr. Giorgio Marini / Italian Republic

### **We wish a successful diplomatic mission to our colleagues:**

Mr. Hanif Dauti, I Secretary / Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Bucharest

Mrs. Beti Jaceva, Counselor / Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to the EU in Brussels

Mr. Mitko Janevski, II Secretary / Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Stockholm

Mrs. Lina Ogenova, Minister Counselor / Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Moscow

Mr. Angel Ivanov, Counselor / Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Canberra

Mr. Blagojce Krstanoski, Counselor / Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Ljubljana



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## Dr. Srgjan Kerim - Candidate of the Republic of Macedonia for President of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations

At its 3rd meeting held on 10th September 2006, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia decided to put forward the candidature of Dr. Srgjan Kerim for President of the 62nd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Republic of Macedonia officially presented its nomination for the President of the 62nd General Assembly of the United Nations for the period of 2007/2008 in 2002, as a representative of the East-European Group by the principle of rotation of the regional groups.

The Government's decision to nominate Srgjan Kerim draws upon his remarkably extensive experience in the field of international relations and his abilities to perform this highly significant and responsible job.

Dr. Srgjan Kerim was Macedonian Foreign Minister in 2000 and 2001. During his diplomatic career, from 1994 to 2000 he was Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to the Federal Republic of Germany, and from 1995 to 2000 he was appointed Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. From 2001 to 2003, he served as Macedonian Ambassador to the United Nations in New York. In 2000 he was Special Envoy of the Coordinator of the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe.

The offices he held during his political career in the former SFR Yugoslavia include: Minister of Foreign Economic Relations in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Assistant Minister and Spokesperson in the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of SFRY.

As an expert in international economic relations, professor at the International Economic Relations Department in Belgrade and visiting professor at the Universities of Hamburg and New York, Dr. Kerim has published nine books and over a hundred scientific articles relating to international politics, international economy and youth problems in Macedonia and a number of other countries, such as Germany, France, Greece, Austria, Serbia, Montenegro and Slovenia. He speaks English, German and French.

The office of President of the General Assembly of the UN is one of the most important posts at the UN. The election to this prestigious position is an exceptional opportunity for the Republic of Macedonia to demonstrate its dedication to the goals of the United Nations and to make a comprehensive and significant contribution to the strengthening and revitalization of this unique global organization undergoing sweeping reforms.



*Ambassador Kerim with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan*

## La République de Macédoine - membre de plein droit de l'OIF

La République de Macédoine a obtenu le statut de membre de plein droit de la Francophonie, lors du dernier Sommet de cette organisation, qui s'est tenu à Bucarest, les 28 et 29 septembre 2006.

La candidature de la République de Macédoine, a été acceptée à l'unanimité par les Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernements des pays membres de la Francophonie, qui ont ainsi approuvé la recommandation du Conseil Permanent de la Francophonie et de la Conférence Ministérielle.

La République de Macédoine a adhéré au sein de la Francophonie, en tant qu'observateur, en 1997, lors du Sommet de Hanoi, Vietnam. Deux ans après, au Sommet de Moncton - Canada, la Macédoine est devenue membre associé.

La décision prise au Sommet de Bucarest présente un accomplissement de l'engagement de notre pays à participer d'une manière encore plus approfondie à la noble mission de cette organisation. En s'engageant à affirmer d'avantage la langue française dans notre région et dans le monde entier, nous exprimons aussi notre volonté de promouvoir les principes de la liberté, la démocratie et du respect des droits de l'Homme, ainsi que de renforcer les liens avec les pays des quatre coins du monde, rassemblés autour de l'idée francophone. Nous estimons également que la francophonie est un domaine où nous pourrions approfondir le Dialogue entre les différentes cultures, tout en respectant la richesse de la diversité culturelle et linguistique - a déclaré M. Zoran Petrov, Vice-ministre des Affaires Etrangères et Chef de la Délégation de la République de Macédoine au Sommet de Bucarest.



L'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie compte aujourd'hui 55 Etats membres de plein droit.

# SUCCESSFUL DIPLOMACY NEEDS STABILITY COUPLED WITH NEW ENERGY

**Minister Milososki, you have been holding this office for slightly over a month. What are your first impressions of the Ministry at Dame Gruev St. No. 6?**

Milososki: I am getting the complete picture as I go. Diplomacy implies an established system functional at all times and I am glad to conclude that this is the case with the Macedonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As a Minister, I will certainly set the major guidelines in keeping with the Government's foreign policy. I also have new thoughts, initiatives and ideas and I would like that they prompt a positive reaction of motivation and creativity. In order to be successful, diplomacy needs stability coupled with new energy. I want to be the mainstay of that new energy and I have the impression that the experienced diplomats will work in the same spirit.

**What are the foreign policy priorities in the period to come?**

The strategic priorities of the foreign policy are well known - membership of the EU and NATO. In addition to the political, there is also a social consensus on these priorities. In the forthcoming period, numerous activities aiming at rapprochement with the European and Euro-Atlantic structures lie ahead of us. The efforts are to be doubled and the reforms are to be considerably accelerated. The Government is prepared for such an endeavor and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is certainly an extremely important segment in attaining the country's stra-



“ One should trust their own abilities and be an optimist, but it is also very important to keep their feet on the ground. I do not like to dwell on dates and neither do the officials in Brussels, I believe. ”



*Interview conducted by Dragan Antonov, MIC Director*

tegic interests. The goal is known, and so is the direction. We cannot make the journey shorter even if we want to, but what we can do is go faster and properly fulfill our responsibilities.

**You said you would consider getting a date for start of membership negotiations with the EU in 2007 a success.**

A precondition for success in life is adjusting your plans to your capabilities and taking into account the factors that objectively you cannot influence. One should trust their own abilities and be an optimist, but it is also very important to keep their feet on the ground. I do not like to dwell on dates and neither do the officials in Brussels, I believe. No particular conclusions should be drawn from this position. There is no need to cool the champagne before it is time and to create an atmosphere of continuous waiting for a response from Brussels. This is not the best approach and besides being a potential source of frustration, in fact it is not taking us any closer to receiving a date for starting accession talks. Our approach is different: the date should be a result of what we achieve at home. We have Europe's support, which has been confirmed during Prime Minister Gruevski's first visit to the capital of the Union and I have no doubts that our achievements will be properly and timely valorized. We have a saying here: still waters run deep. We are going to talk less and work more and the results will come.

The sooner the better. However, I stress again, this mostly depends on our work. Considering all the parameters, including those that do not depend on us and our results, I believe that being given a date for start of membership negotiations in 2007 will truly be a success.

**What is our position in respect of NATO?**

Based on how the process has usually developed in the past, it is evident that integration into NATO precedes admission to the EU. Macedonia too is going along that road. The Government has set the pace for good and timely fulfillment of the remaining standards, owing to which we would qualify for membership at the next enlargement Summit of the Alliance. We expect this to happen in 2008. The talks that we recently had with Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer are encouraging. I trust that at the Riga Summit the evident progress of the Republic of Macedonia will be acknowledged and that the Riga Summit will be our last stop on the way to the Alliance. In the meantime, our activities continue at an accelerated pace. The fact that Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski has personally taken over the management of the NATO Coordination Body best reaffirms our resolve to meet all the remaining requirements fully and consistently. Of course, the intensive activities and cooperation under the Adriatic Charter for Partnership continue. This

cooperation has thus far proven to be instrumental in the process of integration of Macedonia, Albania and Croatia into NATO and in promoting regional security.

**The activities you mentioned are only part of the regional cooperation. How do you see Macedonia's regional policy in the period to come?**

Good relations with the neighbors and improved regional cooperation are an integral part of the European idea. Everything starts here. The Republic of Macedonia will do all in its power to intensify the regional cooperation and strengthen the spirit of mutual understanding and trust in the Region. Not only is intensive regional cooperation part of the agenda on the way of our integration into the European and Euro-Atlantic structures, but it is also an imperative for achieving faster economic growth and creating a stable and economically prosperous Region. It is in the best interest of all countries in the Region, while Macedonia will be particularly active in this regard. I am glad that as early as the first month of my term of office, I took part in two meetings in Zagreb and Struga dedicated to the strengthening of regional cooperation in the context of the European and Euro-Atlantic integration. This fact too demonstrates that regional cooperation ranks highly on Macedonia's foreign policy agenda.

## DESTINATION BRUSSELS - WITH NEW ENERGY AND ENHANCED CAPACITY

Brussels was the first foreign destination of the new Government. This reaffirms, in a symbolic way as well that European and Euro-Atlantic integration remain the crucial strategic priority of the Republic of Macedonia. Representatives of institutions and officials in Brussels were informed about the program of activities of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in the forthcoming period. Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski stressed the Government's commitment to accelerated and quality realization of projects for the purpose of faster economic growth, comprehensive institutional reform and uncompromising fight against corruption. The success in pursuing the reforms will enable the Republic of Macedonia to promptly receive a date for start of accession negotiations with the EU and an invitation to join NATO.

### BILATERAL RELATIONS

## FOREIGN MINISTER MILOSOSKI IN GERMAN BUNDESTAG

Within the frames of Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski's visit to the Federal Republic of Germany - the first bilateral visit at a prime-minister level following the election of the new Government - Foreign Minister Antonio Milososki addressed the Foreign Policy Committee in the Bundestag, which was chaired by Committee President Ruprecht Polenz.

In his address Minister Milososki, among other things, expressed gratitude for the support and assistance that the Federal Republic of Germany gives to the Republic of Macedonia. He also expressed special gratefulness for the Bundestag's recommendation to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on use of the constitutional name of the Republic of Macedonia. Minister Milososki appealed for active support from the German parliamentarians for the Republic of Macedonia's chief priorities: membership of the Republic of Macedonia in NATO and the EU.

Committee President Ruprecht Polenz welcomed the objectives of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and he stressed that there is no dilemma in Germany as regards Macedonia's European prospects. But he asked for understanding for EU's position that internal institutional reform of the European Union is extremely important, considering that it will help create the necessary preconditions for admission of new members.

During his stay in Germany, Minister Milososki also held a lecture at the Foundation for Science and Politics, whose members include prominent German scholars, political scientists, and analysts, on the topic "Macedonia's foreign policy in the context of the current efforts for membership in EU and NATO". The foreign minister presented the overall objectives of the Macedonian Government, stressing the determination for quality implementation of the reforms necessary for fulfillment of the criteria for speedier membership of the state in EU and NATO. Minister Milososki also

responded to questions on the future development of the Republic of Macedonia and current foreign-policy issues, as well as regional cooperation and relations with the neighboring countries.



*Macedonian delegation in Berlin, October 2006*

### REGIONAL COOPERATION

## ENHANCING THE VOICE OF THE REGION

### NEW CONTRIBUTION TO THE EUROPEAN AND EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION

On 8th. and 9th. September 2006, in the capital of Croatia, Zagreb the Conference "Challenges of the Regional Cooperation in 2007/2008 - From the Stability Pact for SEE to Regional Cooperation Council: Enhancing the Voice of the Region" took place. The goal of the conference was to exchange views on the transformation of the Stability Pact, the modalities of the future regional cooperation and their relation to the European integration process. Representatives of all the Stability Pact member countries, the donor countries and the international organizations operating in the Region participated in the Conference. The participants voiced strong support to the decisions at the meeting of the Stability Pact Regional Table on 30th. May 2006 in Belgrade with respect to the transformation of the Stability Pact and the establishment of the Regional Cooperation Council.

In his address, Foreign Minister Antonio Milososki presented the priorities of the foreign and home policy of the new Government of the Republic of Macedonia. He stressed that in compliance with the strategic commitments to its European and Euro-Atlantic integration, the Republic of Macedonia paid particular attention to the advancement of regional cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral level, as a precondition for building the trust and stability in the Region and as a key factor on Macedonia's way to the EU and NATO. The Republic of Macedonia is particularly interested in promoting regional cooperation in the following three segments: economy and trade, justice and home affairs, and good governance and education for the purposes of human capital building.

Furthermore, Minister Milososki underlined that the goal of the Republic of Macedonia was starting membership negotiations with the EU by the end of 2007, further stressing that a clear message from the EU December Summit that all the countries in the Region would join the EU once they met the membership criteria could accelerate the process of attaining lasting stabilization of the Region.

At the margins of the Conference, Minister Milososki met his Croatian counterpart Kolinda Grabar Kitarovic, at which the Ministers stressed the need for immediate definition of the date for the first meeting of the Joint Committee, established under the Agreement on Cooperation between the two countries in regard to their accession to the EU. The Ministers further agreed to make concerted efforts in order that at the Riga NATO Summit a message is given about the timeframe for the invitation to NATO membership.

MFA Milososki also met the Foreign Minister of Montenegro, Miodrag Vlahovic, at which the idea of setting the headquarters of the Secretariat for Regional Parliamentary Cooperation in Skopje received initial support.

At Minister Milososki's meeting with the Romanian Foreign Minister, Mihai-Răzvan Ungureanu, it was agreed that the countries should start making concrete use of the possibilities for cooperation provided for under the Joint Ministers' statement on bilateral cooperation in the field of European integration.



*MFA Grabar Kitarovic and MFA Milososki in Zagreb*

## ACCELERATING THE PACE TOWARDS FULFILLMENT OF NATO STANDARDS

### PRESENTATION OF THE 2006-2007 ANNUAL NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR MEMBERSHIP

On 6th. October 2006, in Brussels, the Republic of Macedonia presented the 2006-2007 Annual National Program for Membership to the representatives of the NATO member countries and the NATO Senior Political Committee. This Program was prepared in the framework of the implementation of the VIII cycle of the NATO Membership Action Plan

Ambassador Nikola Dimitrov, National Coordinator for NATO, presented the Program in Brussels.

- In an open discussion, we highlighted the results achieved in the reform processes in the last cycle and we promoted our country's priorities as regards the completion of reforms in the forthcoming one-year period, focusing on the objectives and Program of activities the Government of the Republic of Macedonia – Ambassador Nikola Dimitrov underlined.

Dimitrov is satisfied in terms how the Annual National Program was received in Brussels.

- Expressing particular appreciation for the quality of this year's Annual National Program, the NATO member states also commended the country for the manner in which the parliamentary elections were conducted, as well as the transition of power, then the progress in the implementation of the Framework Agreement, Macedonia's constructive role in regional cooperation and stability, its participation in international operations, and the high public support for the Republic of Macedonia's future membership in NATO. They also positively assessed the decision to place the entire process for preparation for membership under Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski's auspices, as well as the Government's special focus on economic growth, rule of the law, and the fight against corruption and organized crime.

Before the Annual National Program was presented in Brussels, Foreign Minister Antonio Milososki had a working meeting at the Macedonian MFA with the Ambassadors of NATO member states accredited to the Republic of Macedonia. Presenting the Program, Minister Milososki stressed that the Republic of Macedonia's 2006-2007 Annual National Program reflects the major priorities and directions of activities of the Macedonian Government, as well as the plans and projects that would guarantee further accelerated implementation of the overall reforms, with the aim of fulfilling the standards required for NATO membership.

Defense Minister Lazar Elenovski also attended this meeting with the Ambassadors. Speaking about the role of the Republic of Macedonia as a contributor to international security, Minister Elenovski underlined that the Government of the Republic of Macedonia would continue the defense sector reforms, in accordance with the Strategic Defense Review. Elenovski stressed that the Macedonian troops' participation in international peace operations will continue to be an important contribution by the Republic of Macedonia to the protection of the values shared in the Euro-Atlantic community.

### TEAMWORK – THE KEY TO SUCCESS

All activities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to the integration of Republic of Macedonia into NATO are under competence of the Sector for Collective Security Systems. This Sector was also

fully engaged in the preparation of the Annual National Program, which required months-long intensive work. The lights in the offices of this Sector are on until late in the night. This speaks plenty of the commitments and dedication of the MFA's NATO team to fulfilling their obligations.

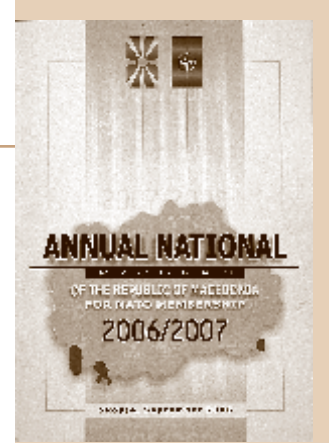
- The main feature of this Sector's activities is teamwork. Such an approach is necessary in dealing with multilateral issues. This approach on the other hand is also a reflection of the team's desire and readiness to fulfill the professional obligations with maximum creativity and joint work – says Ruzica Zanteva-Angelova, State Counselor for NATO at the MFA.

This Sector is composed of three Departments: a Department for NATO Integration; Department for Relations and Cooperation with NATO; and Department for Regional Security and Defense Policy and Cooperation. This Sector works on a wide range of issues, which include the overall preparations of the Republic of Macedonia for speedier accession to the Euro-Atlantic family and all the activities that are regularly top issues on NATO's Agenda.

Following the presentation of the Annual Program for Membership, the Sector's activities will be focused on following up on the implementation of the obligations. This includes preparing a comprehensive review of the existing and required personnel and financial capacities of the Republic of Macedonia for fully-fledged membership, as well as identifying the concrete problems and situations that could hinder the membership process.

This Sector is also in continuous contact with NATO's Advisory Team, thus demonstrating the determination of the Republic of Macedonia for full cooperation and transparency in its relations with NATO. It also coordinates the cooperative activities under the Adriatic Charter for Partnership.

- The convening of the EAPS Security Forum in Ohrid on 28-29 June 2007 is an exceptionally important activity. A number of Ministries will be involved in the preparation of this significant event. The successful preparation and realization of the EAPS Security Forum is a great challenge for all of us. There is a high degree of mobility and motivation at our Sector, which gives us the right to believe that we, in cooperation with the other actors involved, will complete this task successfully, as well – stresses Zanteva-Angelova.



## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL DIPLOMATIC TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Václav Mleziva, Chargé de Affaires at the Embassy of the Czech Republic, and Eli Bojadzieska, Counselor at the West Europe Department at the Sector for European Countries of the Macedonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are this year's winners of the traditional diplomatic tennis tournament held on the occasion of the Macedonian National Holiday - 11 October.

Twenty-two foreign and Macedonian diplomats took part in the 11th. edition of this tournament in a pleasant and laid-back atmosphere at the ABC Club, even though the weather conditions were not most favorable, hence the event took two days instead of one.

The foreign diplomats greeted the traditional tennis tournament, wishing that this successful event that contributed to bringing diplomats closer together in an informal way continued in the future.

Winner Václav Mleziva thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the excellent organization. He says the most important thing is that the tournament takes place in the spirit of unconventional socializing and adds that fortunately this year the competition was not as fierce as in the previous years.

Bojadzieska, who had her third successive victory in the women's draw, stresses that the fight on the court brings people closer together in a way different from the communication they have at work. To her the love of tennis grows deeper when the game is related to work and helps get to know the colleagues better. Frequently, she says, those friendships last even after the foreign diplomats leave Macedonia.



The first diplomatic tennis tournament in Skopje was held 11 years ago - in 1996, at the initiative of the MFA staff. The aim of this tournament was to encourage foreign diplomats to socialize with representatives of the MFA and other institutions in the Republic of Macedonia through sports, Organizing Committee Chairperson Aleksandar Novotni said. Novotni is Deputy Chief of Protocol at the MFA. This tournament is characteristic by the system of play, which enables more intensive socializing. It is a doubles tournament, each match lasts half an hour, and no one knows at the start who they will play with and against whom, he says.

Former US Ambassador to Macedonia Christopher Hill was the first winner of this tournament. As many as eight ambassadors participated in the tournament in year 1996.

The diplomatic tournament was assisted by the general sponsor Cosmofon, as well as by Lozar-Pelisterka, Austrian Airlines, Komercijalna Bank and the restaurant Momir in Skopje.

FROM THE DIPLOMATIC DIARY:

## SHPRESA JUSUFI, SPOKESPERSON OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

My working day? Well, first of all, my working day is very long. I mean my working hours are not defined, because my phone keeps on ringing even after 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and in the evening, and at weekends, and on holidays. In New York, at the 61st UN General Assembly, my phone started ringing at three in the morning given the time-lag. My cell phone is ringing, I am still asleep and the voice on the other end of the ocean reels off her name and agency she works for and asks the question right away: "Could you please tell us the official position of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in regard



to Merkel's and Barroso's statements earlier today?" I beg your pardon!? I am disoriented, it is three in the morning here, six hours time-lag from Europe. Half-awake I say, "Look, I'm in New York. It's nighttime here, I have not been informed about the statements yet. You will have to wait for another few hours for the official position of the Ministry." The response from the other end is brisk, the voice is nervous and goes like this: "Does that mean that the Ministry will not present an official position? Thank you, good bye!" and then she hangs up. I am awake now, and I am worried. I did not catch the reporter's name to answer her question later and prevent a potential misunderstanding. The moral of the story: a spokesperson should be available at all times, awake, alert and informed. Science fiction. Almost.

Fortunately not all days, especially nights, are like that.

Usually I begin my day by reading daily newspapers and reports from the Ministry's Sectors and our Embassies. In the morning or later in the day I visit the websites of some international organizations or the websites of certain countries' MFA's. After 9 o'clock, I usually start my phone calls, talking to reporters. I also try to find time to see them and spend time with them, because in addition to the fact that reporters are usually interesting people to talk to, I believe that our mutual understanding and good relations contribute to the quality of my and their job. In doing so, I always have in mind my and their professional integrity.

In the meantime, I attend meetings of the Minister with foreign officials, get in touch with the relevant Sectors of the Ministry and our Embassies or Consulates for the latest news, and consult with the Minister on major political issues and on the Minister's and Government's positions. This helps me answer properly reporters' questions.

In the afternoon and in the evening I watch the news on various TV channels and take calls from reporters. In short, it is dynamic.

Now, I am working on examining and elaborating the needs of the public in respect of issues under the Foreign Ministry competences with the aim of seeking out appropriate mechanisms to articulate them.

After twelve years of honing my skills in diplomacy, this is a new experience for me. It is an indeed delicate job, which I consider to be a challenge.

My decision to accept this challenge resulted from my first conversation with Foreign Minister Milososki when he said he intended to enhance the public relations activities. This involves creating a Public Relations Sector and public diplomacy, as well as raising the office of spokesperson to the level it has in contemporary international diplomacy.