



Politics & Security of Northern Macedonia

BALKAN POLITICS

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Problems of the newly emerged state:

- RECOGNITION OF THE MACEDONIAN NATION BY BULGARIANS
- RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA BY GREECE
- RECOGNITION OF THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH BY SERBIA
- ALBANIAN MINORITY

Nation building, state building of the Macedonian/Bulgarian nation at the end of the 19th century



- THE ORIGINAL "MACEDONIAN REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION" (MRO) WAS ESTABLISHED IN SOFIA.
- THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN BEING A MACEDONIAN AND BEING A MACEDONIAN-BULGARIAN WAS NOT SHARP,
- THE BULGARIANS "PROPER" REGARDED THE MACEDONIANS AS SECOND CLASS, PRIMITIVE AND UNCULTURED BULGARIAN RELATIVES WHO INHABIT A PART OF BULGARIA TO THE EAST.
- THE MACEDONIANS THEMSELVES WERE DIVIDED. SOME WISHED TO BE INCORPORATED IN BULGARIA, OTHERS WANTED AN INDEPENDENT STATE –
- A THIRD GROUP (AND GOCE DELCEV WAS, FOR A TIME, AMONG THEM) WANTED A FEDERATION OF ALL STATES BALKAN WITH AN EQUAL STANDING FOR A MACEDONIAN POLITY (AUTONOMY).

Recognition of the Macedonian nation by Bulgarians influenced by the Yugoslav-Soviet swinging politics:

It became axiomatic that whenever relations between Moscow and Belgrade cooled, then the heat rose in the Macedonian problem as far as Sofia was concerned.

- ▶ Warming up in the relations of USSR and Yugoslavia:

▶ 1945-1948

▶ 1953-1968



www.theodora.com/flags



- ▶ Recognition of the Macedonian nation by Bulgaria:
- ▶ 1953: tendention towards recognition
- ▶ 1961: Bulgaria recognises, that since the WWII we could observe the formation of the macedonian nation
- ▶ Since 1971: improving of the situation, Bulgaria signs the documents in bulgarian as well as macedonian language



Bulgaria

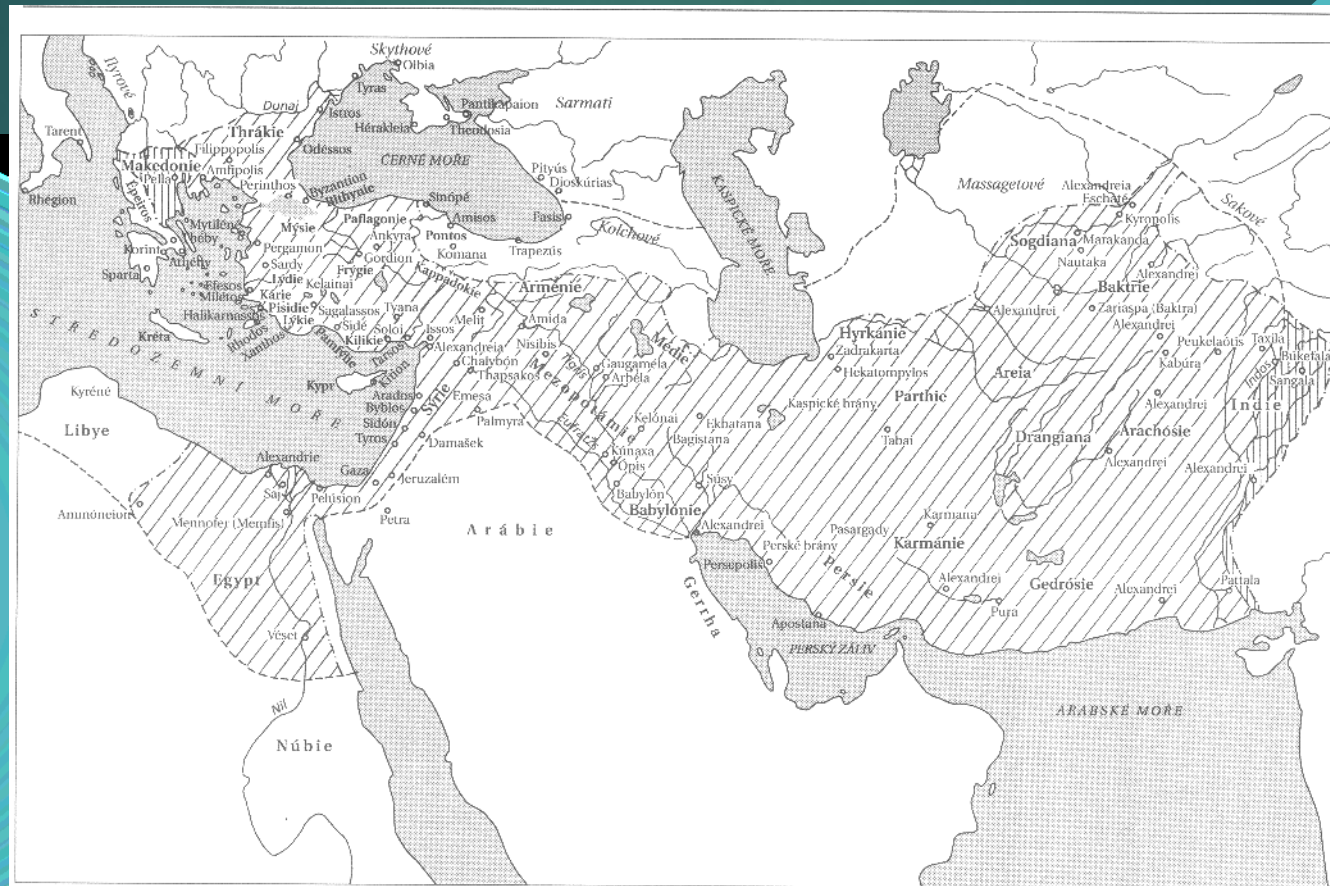
- BULGARIA RECOGNIZED THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, 15TH OF JANUARY 1992,
- THE BADINTER COMMISSION RECOMMENDED MACEDONIA FOR THE RECOGNITION
- HOWEVER, BULGARIA REFUSED TO RECOGNISE THE MACEDONIAN NATION AND THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE
- CURRENT EU DEBATE

Greece

- NAME OF THE NORTHERN GREEK PROVINCE
- ALEXANDER GREAT MACEDONIAN
- THE FLAG: THE SIXTEEN-RAY VERGINA SUN STAR - SYMBOL OF THE ANCIENT STATE OF MACEDONIA
- THE CONSTITUTION: A REFERENCE IN ARTICLE 49 TO THE REPUBLIC CARING "FOR THE STATUS AND RIGHTS OF THOSE PERSONS BELONGING TO THE MACEDONIAN PEOPLE IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS MACEDONIAN EXPATRIATES, ASSIST[ING] THEIR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOT[ING] LINKS WITH THEM," WHICH GREECE INTERPRETED AS ENCOURAGING SEPARATISM AMONG ITS OWN MACEDONIAN SLAV MINORITY.



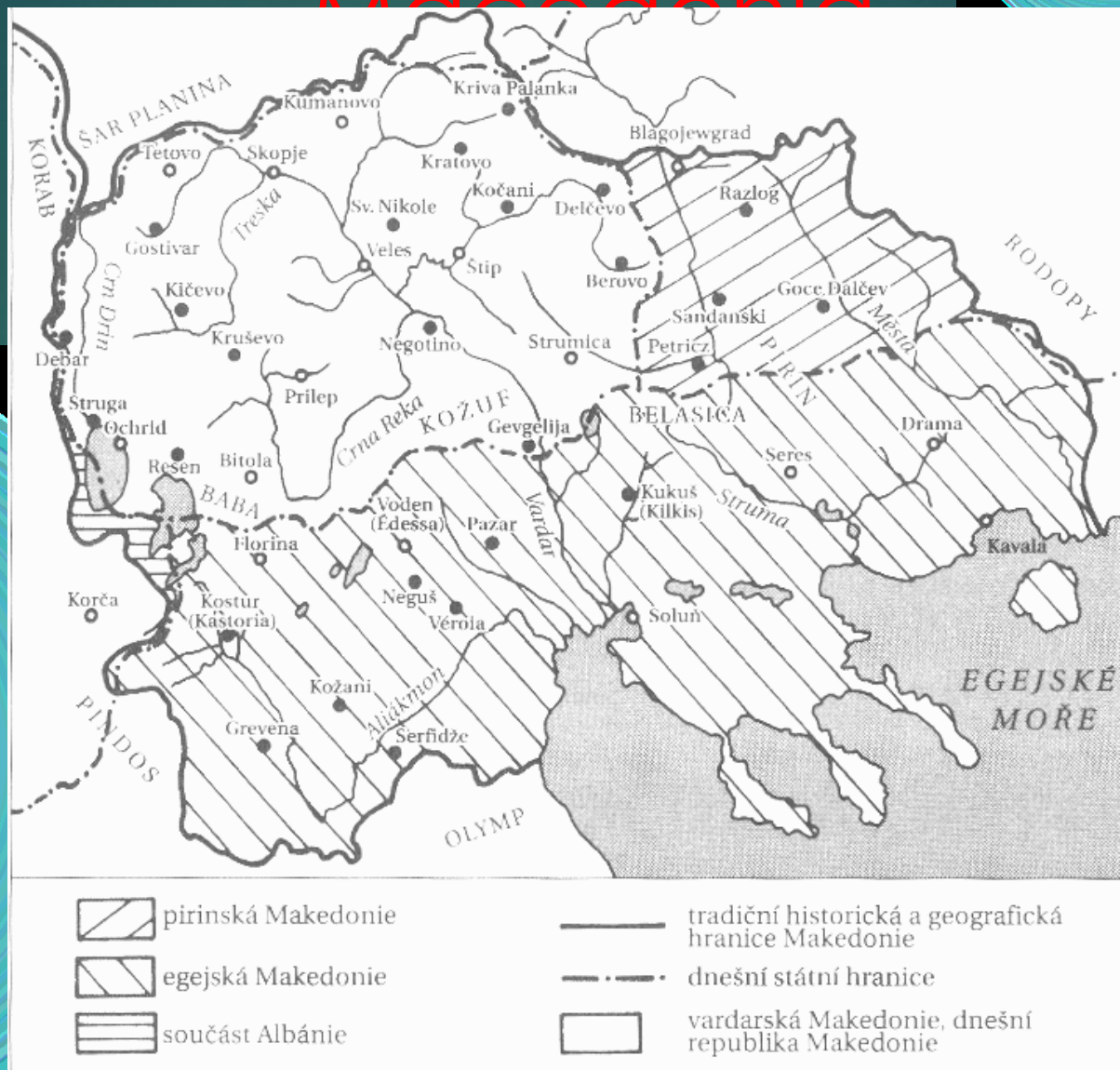
The empire of the Alexander the Great



Říše Alexandra Makedonského

The map of the United (Great)

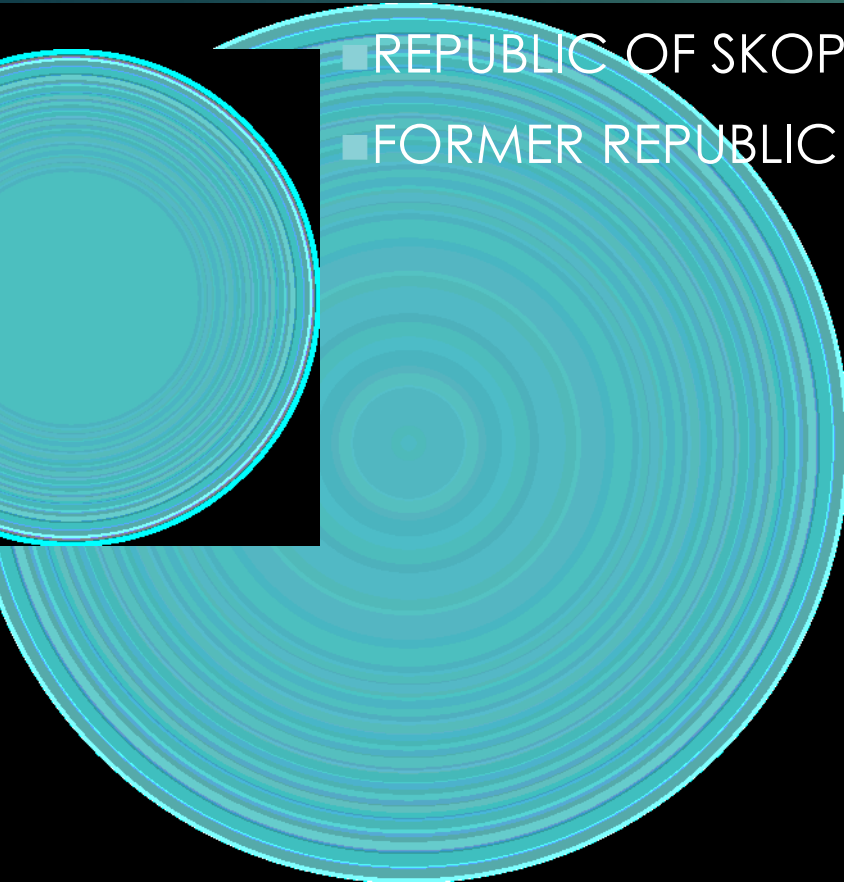
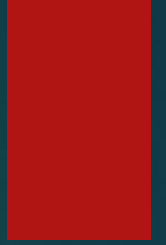
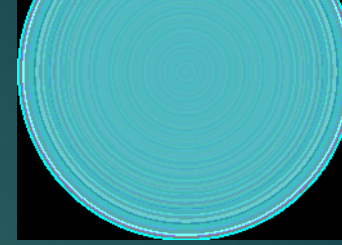
Macedonia



Historický a geografický rozsah Makedonie (podle I. Stawowy-Kawka: Historia Macedonii)

New name??

- VARDAR REPUBLIC
- REPUBLIC OF SKOPJE
- FORMER REPUBLIC MACEDONIA OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA 😊



Greek reactions:



- CLOSING OF THE CONSULATE IN SKOPJE
- TOTAL EMBARGO ON THE TRADE WITH MACEDONIA INCLUDING TRANSIT
- THE NORMALISATION OF THE BILATERAL RELATIONS: TEMPORARY AGREEMENT: THE GREECE RECOGNISES MACEDONIA UNDER THE NAME FYROM, RECOGNISES THE BORDERS AND REVOKES THE EMBARGO. MACEDONIA PROMISED NOT TO HAVE ANY LAND DEMANDS, NOT TO ENGAGE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE MACEDONIAN MINORITY IN GREECE AND PROMISED TO CHANGE THE STATE SYMBOLS.
- 2018 PRESPA AGREEMENT

Bilateral relations with Serbia

- THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SERBIAN FORCES WAS SMOOTH AND QUICK (SERBIAN ENGAGEMENT IN CROATIA, BOSNIA, KOSOVO, NO SERBIAN MINORITY IN MACEDONIA)
- CASE OF MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH – SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH DOES NOT RECOGNISE THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH AND CLAIMS THE PROPERTY (CHURCHES, MONASTERIES ETC.) ON THE MACEDONIAN TERRITORY

Albanian minority

- DEMAND FOR THE CULTURAL, SCHOOL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHONOMY
- PROCLAMATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ILYRIDA (2.4.1992 RECOGNIZED BY NOBODY)
- 1992 RIOTS, UN SENT SMALL STABILISATIONAL CONTINGENT
- ALBANIAN UNIVERSITY
- AFTER 1999 EXTREMISTS FROM KOSOVO FLEW TO MACEDONIA
- 2001 ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT
- OHRID AGREEMENT

Ohrid agreement

- INVIOABILITY OF BORDERS AND INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
- DEMILITARISATION OF THE UÇK
- MACEDONIAN GOVERNMENT IS OBLIGED TO PASS THE NEW DECENTRALISATION LAW, HELD A NEW CENSUS, ASSURE THE EQUALITY OF ALL CITIZENS IN THE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES
- THE CHANGE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE DECENTRALISATION LAW IS POSSIBLE ONLY UNDER THE CONSENT OF THE 2/3 IN THE PARLIAMENT AND SIMULTANEOUSLY UNDER THE 2/3 WITHIN THE MINORITY IN THE PARLIAMENT.
- THE LAWS DEALING WITH THE CULTURE, LANGUAGE, EDUCATION, ID'S, USE OF SYMBOLS, LOCAL FINANCES, LOCAL ELECTIONS, STATUS OF SKOPJE ONLY UNDER THE CONSENT OF THE 2/3 MP'S OF THE MINORITY NATION.
- THE CHANCE OF HAVING PARALLEL ALBANIAN FACULTIES UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF CURRENT UNIVERSITIES
- AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM
- MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, WHERE THE MINORITY IS MORE THAN 20% THEN THEIR LANGUAGE OFFICIAL AS WELL.
- THE IDS IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE MINORITY, SYMBOLS ONLY WITH SIMOULTANEOUS USE WITH THE MACEDONIAN ONES.

Presidents, directly elected, 5 years, 1 re-election, symbolic

KIRO GLIGOROV 1991-1999

BORIS TRAJKOVSKI 1999-2004

BRANKO CRVENKOVSKI 2004-2009

GJORGJE IVANOV 2009-2019

STEVO PENDAROVSKI 2019



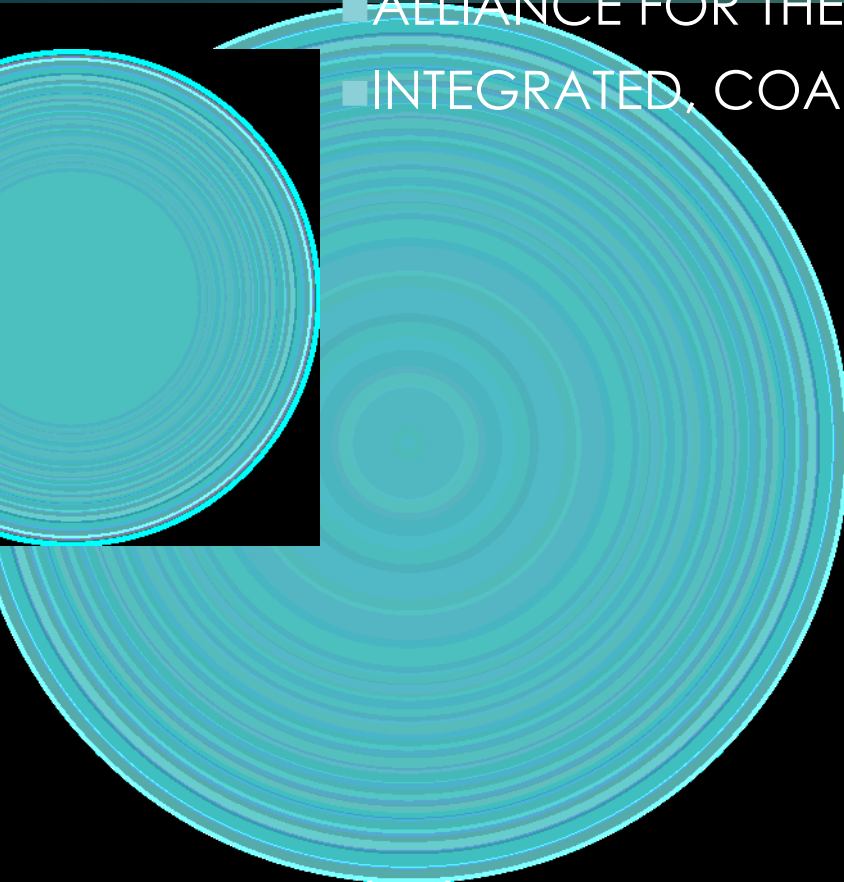
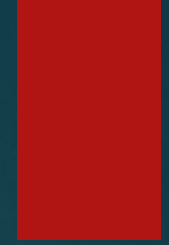
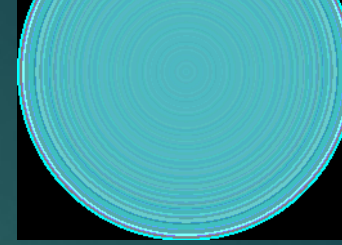
Bipolar party system

- ▶ Macedonian and Albanian
- ▶ Macedonian: SDSM (successor of the communist party) on the left and VMRO-DPMNE (national conservative) on the right
- ▶ Albanian



Albanians

- **THE DEMOCRATIC UNION FOR INTEGRATION BDI/DUI**
- DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ALBANIANS PDSH/DPA
- ALLIANCE FOR THE ALBANIANS, BESA MOVEMENT
- INTEGRATED, COALITION GOVERNMENTS



Prespa agreement

- ▶ 2018
- ▶ Greece and Macedonia – name issue
- ▶ North Macedonia



Macedonia on the way towards EU and NATO

- ▶ 2020 NATO member
- ▶ Was granted candidate status in 2005
- ▶ Bulgaria

