



Република Северна Македонија

**Министерство за труд
и социјална политика**



PRESS RELEASE

Promotion of the First National Gender Equality Index Report That Aims to Reduce Inequality in All Areas of Life in North Macedonia

Today, the State secretary of the Ministry of labour and social policy, Jovana Trenchevska delivered an address at the Promotion of the National Gender Equality Index and presented the National Gender Equality Index Report of the Republic of North Macedonia.

“It is with great honour that I am giving this address today at this event which is very important for our country. I would like to emphasize that this event and the presentation of the first National Gender Equality Index Report presents an opportunity to reaffirm the commitment and dedication of the Republic of North Macedonia to promoting gender equality and equal opportunities. Women and men must have equal access to opportunities and services planned and created in compliance with their specific needs. The status of women in our society demands not only promises, but also progress and a clearly defined approach, since that is what both the national standards and the real needs of women oblige us to achieve,” Secretary Trenchevska noted.

The gender equality index for the Republic of North Macedonia presents a key indicator for measuring gender equality on the bases of which measures and policies for reducing inequality in all areas of life will be developed in the future.

“We welcome the publication of North Macedonia’s first Gender Equality Index, which shows that North Macedonia is not an exception: there is room for improvement across all domains measured by the Index. North Macedonia’s strong result in the domain of power deserves praise, partly thanks to the country’s 17-year-old gender quota for members of parliament. In general, this gives solid ground for comparison in the region to guide politicians in planning the right measures to increase gender equality,” Virginija Langbakk, the Director of the European Institute for Gender Equality, said.



This project is funded
by the European Union



The initiative to introduce the Gender Equality Index in North Macedonia was launched by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, via its Department for Equal Opportunities, and the State Statistical Office, with great support from the European Institute for Gender Equality in Vilnius, Lithuania, and the UN Women Office in Skopje.

The overall value of the Index indicates that significant gender inequality still exists in the Republic of North Macedonia. However, by comparing the overall result of the Gender Equality Index of North Macedonia to those of other EU member states, it can be concluded that the country ranks better than half of the member states, most of which are part of the Balkans or the former Soviet bloc.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy continues to work on promoting gender equality. For that purpose, funds for preparation of the new index in cooperation with the State Statistical Office have been secured.



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