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Factors and Conditions of the Labor Market in Macedonia and the Region

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FACTORS AND CONDITIONS OF THE LABOR MARKET IN MACEDONIA AND THE REGION - CONDITION AND ANALYSES

Labor markets in the Western Balkan countries—comprising Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia—are characterized by low employment rates and high unemployment by European standards. As elsewhere in Europe, almost the entire region is facing an ageing and shrinking population due to low birth rates and high emigration.

In this report, labor market developments in the Western Balkan countries in the period 2010-2022 are presented and compared with selected member states of the European Union (EU). This paper presents the developments in the main labour market indicators in Macedonia and evaluates the level and movements in these indicators compared to the EU and selected European countries. Another important issue that has been touched upon in this paper is the skills supply and demand mismatch by activities that has a favorable downward movement indicated by the declining trend in job vacancy rate almost in all activities in conditions of increase in the number of occupied posts in Macedonian economy and simultaneous decline in the number of job vacancies.

This paper also provides a broad analysis on the implementation on the ALM measures in Macedonia, based on the available data and information from the administrative sources as well as comparison to the experiences in EU and other regions. Although it is still difficult to provide an evaluation of the impacts of the ALM measures in Macedonia, the general conclusion is that they have positive impacts on curbing down the unemployment, especially on the awareness of the unemployed people that they need to work on improving their skills as necessary precondition for providing a job. In addition, the analysis points out areas where additional improvements in designing the ALM measures are needed in order to increase their effectiveness.

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The paper presents labor market developments in the Western Balkan countries which are characterized by low employment rates and high unemployment by European standards in the period 2010-2022 and are compared with selected member states of the EU. Another important issue are the skills supply and demand mismatch by activities that has a favorable downward movement indicated by the declining trend in job vacancy rate almost in all activities in conditions of increase in the number of occupied posts in Macedonian economy and simultaneous decline in the number of job vacancies. Paper also provides a broad analysis on the implementation on the ALM measures in Macedonia, based on the available data and information from the administrative sources as well as comparison to the experiences in EU and other regions.

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