

Institutionalizing Participatory Budgeting: Legal Challenges and Opportunities in North Macedonia

PROF. ISKRA AKIMOVSKA MALETIC, FACULTY OF SECURITY-SKOPJE, ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI UNIVERSITY

PROF. KRISTINA MISHEVA - FACULTY OF LAW, GOCE DELCEV UNIVERSITY - SHTIP

ONLINE CONFERENCE, KRAKOW UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS,

15 MAY 2026

Introduction and Conceptual Foundations

Introduction to Participatory Budgeting

- Definition and Origin

- Participatory budgeting allows citizens direct input on public fund allocation, originating in Latin America (1980s Brazil).

- Democratic Empowerment

- PB shifts decision-making power to citizens, enhancing transparency, accountability, and local democracy.

- Social Inclusion and Education

- PB fosters civic education and inclusion, empowering marginalized groups through dialogue and participation.

- Relevance to Local Governance

- PB supports decentralization reforms and strengthens local self-government, especially in North Macedonia.



Principles, Benefits, and Challenges

Legal Framework Analysis

Institutionalising Participatory Budgeting

Practical Experiences and Municipal Practices

Main Legal Challenges

Conclusions