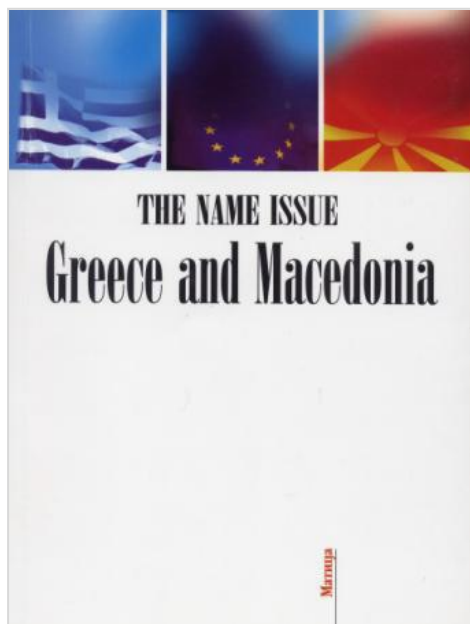


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THE NAME ISSUE
GREECE AND MACEDONIA
(REVIEW)



Book-title:

The Name Issue – Greece and Macedonia

Editors:

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This **research Project** came as a result of a proposal made by the second year law students from the Faculty of Law “Iustinianus Primus” at the University “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” – Skopje (Republic of Macedonia). This project has been officially confirmed by the decision of the Academic-Scientific Council No. 02 300/6 [5.V.2008], and resulted with the publication of the book *The Name Issue – Greece and Macedonia* (in a Macedonian and an English edition), under the guidance of Ph.D. Svetomir Skaric – professor of Constitutional Law and Political System, now in retirement.

The **students** put forward the idea during the lectures on *Political system* held in March 2002. Almost simultaneously, the fourth year students, who were attending the courses in *Constitutional law – applied programme* and *Comparative Constitutional law*, accepted the idea spontaneously and enthusiastically. This provided the students with the possibility to feel part of something very important and to consider themselves as factors that bear responsibility for the future of their

country. They immediately realized that they would need several independent sources in order to be able to reveal the truth. The truth was more attractive to them than false patriotism (*Amicus patria, sed magis amica veritas*).

This topic is a huge challenge. This type of research demands great dedication and moral strength, a lot of time and persistence to enter places that are not accessible to everyone. The project was conceived of during the lectures, through *paper works* (essays) and through the lively debate in which more than 60 students **participated**. In their spare time, the students were getting familiar with the source literature, they visited a great number of institutions and other places where they had conversations with many people and translated lots of texts and documents from English and Greek into Macedonian. They paid the notaries who authenticated those translations and proved their correctness. They hired a professional who edited the text for they wanted it to be understandable, accessible to the Macedonian public and suitable for other Macedonian students who would like to participate in the project in future.

From a *structural* point of view, the text of the book is voluminous and it is composed of a preface, introduction, three parts, epilogue and an index of personal names:

The **Preface** outlines how the project was born, the conditions under which it was carried out as well as the objectives it is aimed at.

The **Introduction** is preceded by a *List of participants* in the project, the *Contents* of the book, as well as the *List of acronyms* that appear in the text. The *Introduction* shows the attractiveness of the name “Macedonia” to the students and their wish to help their country.

The **First part** contains historical, cultural, political, commercial and legal aspects of the subject of the dispute.

The **Second part** outlines analysis of the proposals related to the name as well as analysis of the issues related to the war that Macedonia was faced with in 2001. The First and the Second part are divided into several sections. Each section contains source texts, student essays and talks (interviews). The *texts* elucidate the aspects of the dispute, the *essays* outline students’ views, while the *interviews* explain certain issues better through vivid conversation, description of the interlocutor and his/her attitude towards the topic and the students. The titles and the headings have been formulated collectively by the editors of this book according to the topic and the contents of the project. The copyrights of the texts are fully protected by giving the names and surnames of the authors as well as the time and the place of their creation.

The **Third part** gives documents that are relevant to the dispute over the name and the Greek veto imposed at the Bucharest Summit on 3 April 2008. The *documents* contained in the third part have been chronologically arranged ranging from 1913 to 2008 (from Bucharest to Bucharest?!).

The **Epilogue** contains the conclusions drawn by the students in relation to the project. It has been approved of by all the participants following a debate that was organized; during the debate all the participants were given the opportunity to make specific remarks and comments.

The **Index** contains approximately 560 names of people who appear in the text. Some ICG members, public figures and university professors *refused* to talk with the students, while some of them accepted after a lot of insistence.

The publication of this book in Greek and in **English** ensures that the debate over Macedonia is experienced in other milieus, especially in the *universities* in Greece and in Europe. That is the reason why the Teachers' Council of the State Faculty of law "Iustinianus Primus" in Skopje approved of the printing of this book.

This project has neither started nor put an end to the research related to the name dispute. The fact that the students demonstrate interest in this topic and that they try to find a way out from the deadlock is a very *positive signal*; no one else is more indicated than them for achieving this because they have time and they are young. They have a deeper sense for morality and justice because they act freely and straightforwardly, without fake patriotism and pressure from the outside.

From the Preface of the Book

