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**HURDLING ON 3, 6 AND 9.
THE RECOMMENDATION
HAS BEEN SECURED, WHAT IS NEXT?**

Monitoring the implementation
of the last three months
of the 3-6-9 Plan

May 2018

*The views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and the Institute for Democracy
“Societas Civilis” – Skopje.*

IMPRESSUM

Title: Hurdling on 3, 6, and 9. The recommendation has been secured, what is next?
Monitoring the implementation of the last three months of the 3-6-9 Plan

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HURDLING ON 3, 6 AND 9

*The recommendation has been secured, what is next?
Monitoring the implementation of the last three months
of the 3-6-9 Plan*

*“You are free to choose, but you are not free to
alter the consequences of your decisions”
Ezra Taft Benson*

Author: Zoran Nechev in cooperation with Ivan Nikolovski

The goal has been achieved, what is next?

On April 17, the European Commission recommended that the Council decide to open accession negotiations with Macedonia.¹ In their addresses before Macedonian media, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini, and the Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, commended the return of Macedonia on the European path, congratulating the Government and the opposition for the jointly achieved success.² By receiving a recommendation to open accession negotiations, the extraordinary plan for Urgent reform priorities, the 3-6-9 Plan, reached its primary goal.

Nevertheless, despite the shown dedication and political will of the Government to advance the reform agenda by adopting the required laws, strategies and measures,³ their practical implementation is of crucial importance.⁴

More efficient and more effective coordination of reform processes is also of key importance for the European integration of Macedonia.⁵ Therefore, the institutions should explore possibilities in finding an appropriate mechanism for monitoring the implementation of reform processes, especially taking into account the fact that a lot of work awaits the country in the following phases

1 European Commission, “2018 Report on the Republic of Macedonia (working document),” European Commission, April 17, 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

2 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Joint press conference of Prime Minister Zaev and EU High Representative, Mogherini, April 18, 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOBsF3XuAyY>.

3 European Commission, “2018 Report on the Republic of Macedonia (working document),” European Commission, April 17, 2018, p. 4. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

4 European Commission, “2018 Report on the Republic of Macedonia (working document),” European Commission, April 17, 2018, p. 10. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

5 European Commission, “2018 Report on the Republic of Macedonia (working document),” European Commission, April 17, 2018, p. 13. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

of the EU integration process. This demands an uncompromising dedication of the government, but also of the opposition and other relevant stakeholders to work jointly on the implementation of the Union's membership criteria.

In this context, all relevant stakeholders should be involved in the preparing of the announced "Plan 18".⁶ Moreover, in accordance with the new approach of the Commission for accession negotiations, this plan should focus on reforms in the rule of law area in order to 'maintaining' and 'deepening' the initiated reform processes⁷ and should be a logical follow-up of reforms initiated with the 3-6-9 Plan. These are the policy areas covered by the Urgent reform priorities and Priebe's recommendations from 2015 and 2017. It is essential that the new plan be designed in a way that it fully addresses the recommended reforms that these three documents contain, especially taking into consideration that out of a total of 130 foreseen activities in the 3-6-9 Plan, 66 activities (51%) address the recommendations from Priebe reports and/or the Urgent reform priorities, whereas 16 activities (12%) address envisaged measures in the National programme for adoption of the *acquis communautaire* (NPAA

2016 - 2018 and its annex 2017 - 2020).⁸ Beside these priority areas, as a candidate country waiting to open accession negotiations, the Government should devote efforts in sketching comprehensive reforms and capacity building in other policy areas.

The unconditional recommendation and the accession status in which the country is at the moment, gives the Government necessary time to implement substantial and difficult reforms for which a longer period of implementation is needed. There is a need to raise the quality of reforms by conducting extensive analysis and evidence-based policy making. This year's report on Macedonia, as well as Commissioner Hahn's comments during the visit to Macedonia, takes note of the poor practice of frequently using the shortened or urgent procedure of law which reflects negatively on their quality.⁹ Thus, the new plan should concentrate on the quality of reform policies, but also on the manner of their adoption, all with the purpose of policy- and decision-making which is in line with the principles of transparency, accountability, inclusion and good governance.

A valuable guide as to designing and structuring such a future plan are the action plans for implementation of reforms related to chapters 23 and 24 in the cases of Serbia and Montenegro.¹⁰ They offer a detailed elaborated time frame of activities, but also of

6 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "The Deputy Prime Minister Bujar Osmani presented the 3-6-9 Plan Implementation Report," Government of the Republic of Macedonia, April 13, 2018. <http://vlada.mk/node/14445> (last accessed: 23.04.2018); Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Joint press conference of Prime Minister Zoran Zaev and EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn, April 18, 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEIN6zq-Pbo> (last accessed: 23.04.2018); Jasminka Pavlovska, "Plan 18 for a date in June," Nova Makedonija, April 21, 2018, available at: <https://www.novamakedonija.com.mk/makedonija/politika/%d0%bf%d0%bb%d0%b0%d0%bd-18-%d0%b7%d0%b0-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d1%82%d1%83%d0%bc-%d0%b2%d0%be-%d1%98%d1%83%d0%bd%d0%b8/> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

7 European Commission, "2018 Report on the Republic of Macedonia (working document)," European Commission, April 17, 2018, p. 13. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

8 In spite of this, the overall plan entails 130 measures, 129 measures are subject to encoding due to the fact that the activity "revising the Law on Asylum" in part 3 and the activity "adopting the Law on International and Interim Protection" in part 9 refer to the same law, that is, measure.

9 European Commission, "Republic of Macedonia 2018 Report (working document)," European Commission, April 17, 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia-report.pdf> (last accessed on 23.04.2018),.

10 Republic of Serbia, Chapter 23 Negotiating Group, "Chapter 23 Action Plan (Draft)," April 2015. <https://www.mpravde.gov.rs/files/Action%20Plan%20Ch%2023%20Third%20draft%2020.04.2015..pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018); Government of Montenegro, "Chapter 23 Action Plan: Judiciary and Fundamental Rights," June 27, 2013. <http://www.gov.me/ResourceManager/FileDownload.aspx?rid=146815&rType=2&file=AP%2023%20ENG.doc> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

clearly specified competences of stakeholder institutions. In addition, there are indicators of achievement determined, by the help of which the cases of applying methodologically different approaches as to grading reform success by various stakeholders will be avoided or significantly decreased.

From a political perspective, Macedonia needs to continue the positive trend of reform undertakings in cooperation with the parliamentary opposition and remaining stakeholders. Only a clean portfolio and alignment about the importance of comprehensive reforms at home can help the country maintain the unconditional recommendation, convince sceptical member states that Macedonia has a democratic and administrative capacity to lead negotiations and have a clean situation in the negotiations with Greece to overcome the differences arising from the name issue.

This report adds to the series of reports monitoring the implementation of the 3-6-9 Plan, known under the title "Hurdling on 3, 6 and 9". Monitoring the implementation of measures is conducted according to a previously defined methodology available in an annex to this report.

When preparing the report, and as a basis for the research and data provided, journalist articles, previous research and government documents were consulted.

Partially successful implementation of part 9

This chapter presents the findings from the monitoring of the implementation of measures envisaged in part 9.

The monitoring of the part 9 of the 3-6-9 Plan, carried out by the Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis", reveals that out of a total of

26 foreseen activities,¹¹ 8 activities (31%) have been implemented, 2 activities (8%) have been partially implemented, 11 activities have not been implemented (42%), whereas 5 activities (19%) are unquantifiable. Part 9 spans the period between the start of the year and April 17, 2018 - the publication date of the 2018 Report of the European Commission on Macedonia.¹² The comparison with parts 3¹³ and 6¹⁴ is presented in the table below.

Taking into consideration the figures presented above, one can conclude that out of the entire plan, part 9 rates a weaker status of implementation of activities compared to its forerunners, bearing in mind the percentage of implemented activities which is the lowest until now. Therefore, part 9 marks 10% fewer implemented activities compared to part 3 and over 20% fewer implemented activities compared to part 6. On the other hand, the number of not implemented activities is comparatively the largest and refers to almost half of the measures foreseen in this part. Statistically speaking, the greatest percentage of not implemented activities belongs to reform legislation in the part of the judiciary, for the adoption of which support is also necessary from the opposition. Taking into account that the opposition boycotted the work of the Parliament for most of the time foreseen for part 9, this status of implementation should not be taken as a surprise.

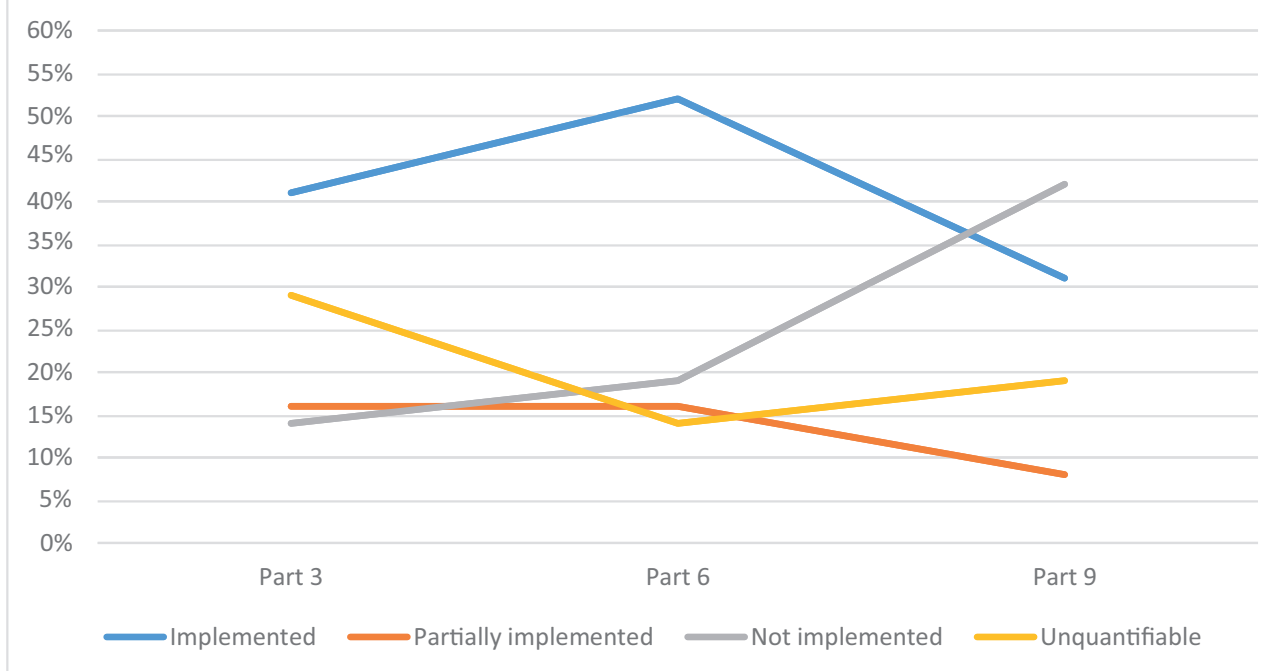
11 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "3-6-9+ Plan," November 15, 2017. <http://vlada.mk/sites/default/files/dokumenti/%D0%9D%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%B5%D0%BD%20%D0%BF%D0%BB%D0%B0%D0%BD%206-9%20%28MK%29.pdf>. (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

12 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "Reforms of the 3-6-9 Plan round off on April 17 and accelerate EU and NATO integration processes for the Republic of Macedonia," Government of the Republic of Macedonia, March 31, 2018. <http://vlada.mk/node/14365> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

13 Zoran Nechev and Ivan Nikolovski, "Hurdling on 3, 6 and 9: Monitoring the implementation of the first three months of the 3-6-9 Plan," Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje, November 2017.

14 Zoran Nechev and Ivan Nikolovski, "Hurdling on 3, 6 and 9: Towards an unconditional recommendation? Monitoring the implementation of the second three months of the 3-6-9 Plan," Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje, February 2018.

Table 1. Comparison of the completion status of parts 3, 6 and 9



Note: Values shown in this table correspond to the percentage of implemented, partially implemented, not implemented and unquantifiable activities.

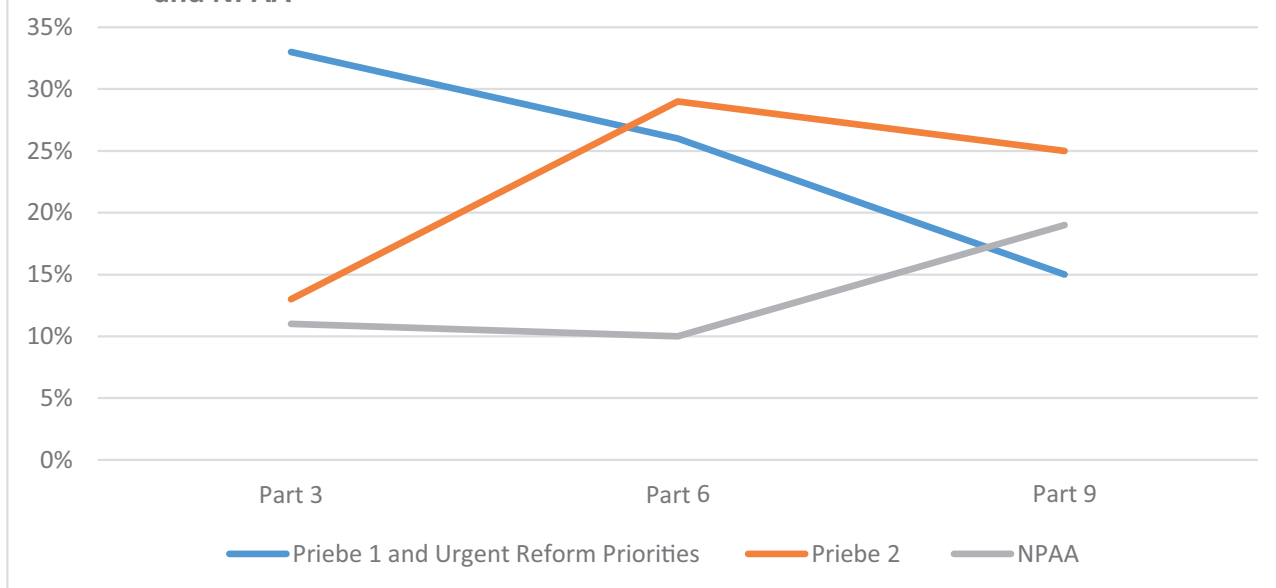
Unquantifiable activities also mark a mild increase. Examples of such type of activities include the “continuation of the work of the reform working group of the Parliament, with a view to reaching an acceptable political agreement on changes to the Rules of Procedure, as well as strengthening the independent capacities of the Parliament” in the priority area “Parliament”. Such are also the activities entailing appointments of officials in managerial positions and members of management and supervisory boards in the priority area “Appointments” - activities which do not indicate which officials in managerial positions, that is management and supervisory boards, the respective appointments refer to. Set in this way, it is not possible to precisely quantify these activities.

it comes to the alignment of the measures with the NPAA. The comparison of parts 3, 6 and 9 regarding these issues is presented in the table below.

Finally, bearing in mind the fact that parts 6 and 9 were presented to the public at the same time, the same conclusion from the previous report could be drawn - that there is an improvement in terms of increased predictability of activities. Moreover, the conclusion from part 6 remains that an appropriate prioritisation is performed of key reform areas and of activities contained therein. This is visible by the fact that the plan puts an emphasis on reforms in the judiciary, security and intelligence, and public administration.

When it comes to the percentage of addressed recommendations from Priebe’s reports and/or the Urgent reform priorities of the European Commission, activities in part 9 address these recommendations to a lower extent than parts 3 and 6. On the other hand, part 9 is rated higher than parts 6 and 3 when

Table 2. Comparison of the alignment of measures in parts 3, 6 and 9 with the recommendations from Priebe's reports, the Urgent Reform Priorities and NPAA



Note: Values shown in this table indicate the percentage of measures from the 3-6-9 Plan which are aligned with the recommendations in Priebe's reports, the Urgent reform priorities and the NPAA.

Political context - a seeming conflict, agreements behind the scenes and avoiding responsibility?

This chapter reviews the political context during the implementation of part 9.

Just as in the case with part 6, during the time period covered by part 9, the work of the Parliament was boycotted by the largest opposition party VMRO-DPMNE. At the same time, this period was also marked by mutual accusations as to blocking the reform processes. The Government accused the opposition of lack of constructiveness, irresponsibility and setting party interests above state interests due to its non-participation in adopting the reform legislation package requiring a two-third majority. Thus, the Government convinced the public that everything which was within its power had been fulfilled, transferring the guilt for the delay in implementation of activities to the

opposition and its blockage of the Parliament.¹⁵ On the other hand, the opposition accused the Government of not honouring its promises, of inability to implement the reforms, partisanism of institutions and disrespect for the principle of rule of law.¹⁶ Here it is important to state that the opposition boycotted the work of the Parliament when deemed needed, returning to Parliament only, from their perspective, when there was a need to "defend national interests", which, on the other hand, gives the impression that their approach does not rest on principles and honesty. In fact, one of the top national interests since the country's independence henceforth, of all previous governments since independence, is precisely the membership in the European Union.

¹⁵ Radio Free Europe, "Osmani: Reform laws are late due to a blockage in Parliament," Radio Free Europe, March 21, 2018. <https://www.slobodnaevropa.mk/a/29113796.html> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

¹⁶ VMRO-DPMNE, "The Ministry of Justice has not done anything in 10 months," www.a1on.mk, April 1, 2018. <https://a1on.mk/archives/874619> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

The clash between the Government and the opposition reached its climax on March 14, 2018 - the day when the Parliament voted the Law on the Use of Languages for the second time. The governing majority decided to adopt the Law despite the remarks of the expert public regarding its constitutionality, the emphasises of EU officials that it is not a European priority piece of legislation,¹⁷ the criticism of abuse of procedure with the European flag and the danger for it to put the positive recommendation to open negotiations into question,¹⁸ the criticism of civil society about the lack of regulatory impact assessment in its preparation,¹⁹ and also about the neglect of around 35.000 amendments filed by the opposition. The fate of the law is unknown for now and it may be a source of problems in the future. A solution must be found for the existing vacuum in which it has entered. This can only be done in cooperation with the President of the country and in a manner that is dignified for a democratic state waiting to commence accession negotiations with the EU.

On the other hand, some of the media speculated that the Government and the opposition, in fact, cooperate behind closed doors, especially for the reform legislation package. These speculations were later

confirmed by the president of the Government, Zoran Zaev, and the leader of VMRO-DPMNE, Hristijan Mickovski, upon completion of one of the leaders' meetings.²⁰ Furthermore, the overview of the state of play on the implementation of the Plan 3-6-9 mentions the participation of the opposition in several instances, and in the introduction to the report itself it is noted that "in the definition of the measures... own contribution was given by the expert services of all competent institutions, the Parliament, the Government, state institutions, the civil sector and the opposition".²¹ In the end, in a matter of several days from the deadline to implement the plan, April 17, the opposition returned to Parliament and supported the adoption of the Law on Operational Technical Agency and the Law on Interception of Communications - both part of the reform legislation package in the reform of the intelligence and security services priority area. There is also an announcement that the remaining laws will be adopted during the month of May with a positive vote cast by the opposition. Such set-up of key political players gives the impression that their mutual clash is, in fact, a seeming one. Unfortunately, such "clash" created an additional polarisation of the already polarised society, regarding important questions related to the European integration process of the country. This practice is unsustainable, bearing in mind that it tackles questions of national interest related to the EU integration process, for which all parliamentary groups supported the Declaration in the Parliament within part 3 of the 3-6-9 Plan.

Despite the commendation of the European Commission for the performed work directed at the both the Government and the opposition,

17 Faktor, "Žbogar: The Law on Languages is not a European priority," Faktor Portal, March 24, 2018. <https://faktor.mkzbogar-zakonot-za-jazici-ne-e-evropski-prioritet> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

18 Goran Mihajlovski, "The EU recommendation can be problematic because of how the Law on Languages was adopted, says the French Ambassador Thimonier," Sakam da kazham, March 15, 2018. <https://sdk.mk/index.php/makedonija/preporakata-za-eu-visi-poradi-nachinot-na-koj-e-donesen-zakonot-za-jazitsite-veli-frantsuskiot-ambasador-timonie/> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

19 Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje, "Better Legislation Network: Public reaction to the failure to conduct a Regulation Impact Assessment regarding the Law on the Use of Languages," Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje, January 26, 2018. <http://idscs.org.mk/mk/2018/01/26/%d0%bc%d1%80%d0%b5%d0%b6%d0%b0-%d0%b7%d0%b0-%d0%bf%d0%be%d0%b4%d0%be%d0%b1%d1%80%d0%b0-%d0%bb%d0%b5%d0%b3%d0%b8%d1%81%d0%bb%d0%b0%d1%82%d0%b8%d0%b2%d0%b0-j% d 0 % b 0 % d 0 % b 2 % d 0 % b d % d 0 % b 0 -%d1%80%d0%b5%d0%b0/> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

20 Press 24, "Reform laws harmonised - it is waited only for VMRO-DPMNE Members of Parliament to leave custody,"/press24.mk, March 5, 2018. <http://www.press24.mk/reformskite-zakoni-usoglaseni-se-cheka-samo-pratenicite-na-vmro-dpmne-da-izlezat-od-pritvor> (last accessed: 24.04.2018).

21 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "A fact-finding report on the implementation of the 3-6-9 Plan from July 4, 2017 - April 17, 2018," p. 4, Secretariat for European Affairs, April 2018.

such behaviour of both sides is, unfortunately, an indicator of the democratic deficit of political parties and a low level of responsibility in the approach towards implementing the reform priorities - which are of key importance for sustaining the EU integration process of Macedonia and building a political and social consensus aimed at resolving the name issue. The success of any government in the EU process is also comprised of its action to maintain and nurture good cooperation with other branches of government, but also with the opposition while the responsibility for non-implementation of a significant part of the measures foreseen in part 9 should be shared, not shifted and avoided. Additionally, it is necessary to perceive the actual problems that have led to such a condition. On the other hand, the opposition, taking into account its non-participation in the reform processes, did not contribute to accelerating the country's European aspirations.

Satisfactory implementation of the 3-6-9 Plan

This part of the report observes the status of implementation of the 3-6-9 Plan as a whole.

Observing the status of implementation of the entire plan,²² the results are as follows: out of a total of 130 activities,²³ 78 activities (60%) have been implemented, 7 activities (6%) have been partially implemented, and 14 activities have not been implemented (11%), whereas 30 activities are unquantifiable (23%). Taking into account the time frame and the political context

22 The implementation of the plan as a whole spans the period from 04.07.2017 to 17.04.2018, not taking into account the time frame for individual parts of the plan.

23 This figure does not include the two activities presented in the 3-6-9+ Plan which are designed as continuous ones. The monitoring of the implementation of measures does not take into consideration the activity "adopting the Law on International and Interim Protection" in part 9 due to sameness with the activity "revising the Law on Asylum" in part 3.

in which the 3-6-9 Plan has been shaped, but also the political challenges in and outside the country during its implementation, one can conclude that the plan marks a satisfactory status of implementation. Furthermore, our analysis shows that 66 activities (51%) of the measures address the recommendations from Priebe's reports and/or the Urgent reform priorities, whereas 16 measures (12%) show alignment with NPAA and/or its Annex. Therefore, the Plan partially follows Priebe's recommendations and the Urgent reform priorities, and there is also a low level of alignment with the NPAA - a key strategic document, which includes the priorities, dynamics of alignment of national legislation with the European one, as well as adjusting national institutions to European administrative structures.

What still needs to be underlined is that in almost all the parts of the plan there are activities which have been implemented after the envisaged deadline for the separate parts. In addition, the difference of opinion regarding the scope of the 3-6-9 Plan measures was also notable. Namely, in the initial versions of the plan, more specifically in the Plan on Urgent reform priorities 3-6-9 which refers to part 3²⁴ and the narrative plan for parts 6 and 9 (3-6-9+ Plan)²⁵ there were a total of 130 measures envisaged (73 in part 3, plus 57 activities in parts 6 and 9, not counting the declarative commitment to fulfil the Ohrid Framework Agreement and the two continuous activities). On the other hand, during the press conference presenting the implementation of the whole plan, the Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs, Mr. Bujar Osmani, reported on 103

24 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "3-6-9 Plan," Government of the Republic of Macedonia, July 4, 2017. <http://vlada.mk/sites/default/files/programa/2017-2020/Plan%203-6-9%20MKD.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

25 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "3-6-9+ Plan," Government of the Republic of Macedonia, November 15, 2017. <http://vlada.mk/sites/default/files/dokumenti/%D0%9D%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%B5%D0%BD%20%D0%BF%D0%BB%D0%B0%D0%BD%206-9%20%28MK%29.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018)

measures of the plan.²⁶

Furthermore, both during Osmani's press conference and in the detailed overview report, activities were referred to which were initially not encompassed by parts 3, 6 and 9. Such examples include the adoption of the Law on Free Legal Aid, the nomination of a Head of the Probation Service, keeping records of the implementation of recommendations given by the Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture and many more.²⁷ Set in this way, the detailed overview report creates a situation causing unnecessary confusion among the public.

Learning from one's own mistakes: Towards full cooperation, lending a hand and preparation of a new reform plan

The main goal of the 3-6-9 Plan, receiving a clean recommendation to start accession negotiations, has been achieved. Macedonia has been singled out as the (most) positive example, the process of dismantling the state capture is well on its way, whereas striding towards full membership is finally back on the right track.

Despite the appropriate priority setting of the reform agenda in part 9, the latter marks a partially satisfactory status of implementation. One of the reasons for this situation is the lack of responsibility among the main political actors

26 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "The Deputy Prime Minister Bujar Osmani presented the 3-6-9 Plan Implementation Report," Government of the Republic of Macedonia, April 13, 2018. <http://vlada.mk/node/14445> (last accessed: 23.04.2018)

27 Government of the Republic of Macedonia, "Fact-finding Implementation Report of the 3-6-9 Plan from July 4, 2017 to April 17, 2018," Secretariat for European Affairs, April 2018. <http://vlada.mk/sites/default/files/programa/2017-2020/faktografskiizveshtajplan369.pdf> (last accessed: 23.04.2018).

in the country regarding the adoption of key reform documents to release the European integration process of Macedonia.

The Plan marks a satisfactory degree of fulfilment of envisaged measures which amounts to 60%. Moreover, the plan addresses Priebe's recommendations and/or the Urgent reform priorities just above half. On the other hand, the plan shows low alignment with the NPAA. It can be observed that there is a difference of opinion regarding the scope of the measures covered by the plan, whereas the detailed overview report includes measures for the plan's implementation which were initially not foreseen in the previous versions.

Taking into consideration these remarks, but also the need for continuation, 'maintaining' and 'deepening' of the reform process, it is of key importance to prepare a new reform plan that in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders. Such a plan should be clearly structured, encompassing a time frame specified in detail, strictly defined competences of institutions and indicators of success. It should fully address Priebe's recommendations, as well as the Urgent reform priorities, but also the remarks and recommendations from the latest European Commission report on Macedonia, especially with regard to the need for proper implementation of adopted legislation, but also the quality and manner of policy-making. When preparing the plan, it is also necessary to ensure its alignment with the NPAA and Plan 3-6-9..

Macedonia's membership in the EU is a top priority of the country and this demands a state approach, especially in the forthcoming period. Finding a solution for the name issue is the greatest challenge and a burden for the EU accession process. Therefore, Macedonia needs a crystal clear file in fulfilling reform priorities and membership criteria in order to fully engage in the resolution of the dispute. This is why the most important element of this long-term process is demonstrating political maturity, responsibility and cooperation among all relevant stakeholders, and primarily between the governing majority and the opposition.

Annex to the report

The methodology used for monitoring the implementation of the 3-6-9 Plan

The fulfilment of activities is monitored by determining own indicators and, in certain cases, sub-indicators. Measuring the status of fulfilment of the activities will be performed according to the following logic: 1. Implemented; 2. Partially implemented (ongoing); 3. Not implemented; 4. Not quantifiable/ cannot be determined. This method of monitoring stems from the very nature and the way in which the activities in the plan are determined.

Implemented: The activities that are considered as fulfilled indicate that the envisaged activity is fulfilled within the anticipated time frame of 3 months, i.e., with the local elections.

Partially implemented (ongoing): Partially fulfilled are those activities whose indicator and sub-indicators are partially fulfilled; only one of the indicators is met (in the case of multiple indicators); or the indicators are met, but not the sub-indicators.

Not implemented: Those activities whose indicators and sub-indicators indicate that the envisaged activity is not fulfilled within the foreseen time frame will be considered as unfulfilled.

Cannot be determined: The activities whose status of fulfilment cannot be determined are those activities for which there is no credible source that they are implemented, that are not implemented, or that they are partially implemented; activities that need to be reformulated in order to determine indicators; activities that by their nature are the competence of the competent institution, as well as activities that are not measurable by nature.

When determining the status of fulfilment for each of the activities, there is a source that serves as evidence and supports that its encoding has been done in accordance with the methodological guidelines provided.

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Additional information

Project information

Monitoring the implementation of measures from the government 3-6-9 Plan is a part of the Perform on Reform project of the Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje (IDSCS) in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

Information about IDSCS

IDSCS is a civil think-tank organisation researching the development of good governance, rule of law and Macedonia's European integration. IDSCS has the mission to support citizens' involvement in the decision making process and strengthen the participatory political culture. By strengthening liberal values, IDSCS contributes towards coexistence of diversities.

Information for KAS

Freedom, justice and solidarity are the basic principles underlying the work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS). The KAS is a political foundation, closely associated with the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) of Germany. We conduct education programs for the society and cooperate with governmental institutions, political parties, civil society organizations and handpicked elites, building strong partnerships along the way. Together with our partners we make a contribution to the creation of an international order that enables every country to develop in freedom and under its own responsibility.

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Link

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**HURDLING ON 3, 6 AND 9.
THE RECOMMENDATION
HAS BEEN SECURED, WHAT IS NEXT?**

Monitoring the implementation
of the last three months
of the 3-6-9 Plan

May 2018

