



Organizational Profile

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Who We Are

The Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" - Skopje (IDSCS) is a Macedonian based think-tank organisation that is non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit. It was established in 1999 by a group of intellectuals gathered around the idea of democracy, solidarity and civil society. The long term objectives of the Institute include the work on a balanced socio-economic development, active citizenship and participative political culture. In this direction, we focus our activities on rule of law, good governance and multi-ethnic and multicultural coexistence. IDSCS's work is primarily based on a sociometric research and project-based activities. We believe that human capital is a key precondition for positive social change, hence we eagerly undertake capacity building projects based on skills and knowledge transfer. Finally, our society's improvement is directly linked to the availability of resources for self-reflection. In this sense, we advocate policy recommendations and strive to enrich the public discourse through the promotion of evidence-based policy, publishing and public events.

Mission and Vision

Our **vision** is Macedonia as a highly developed democracy of free and active citizens.

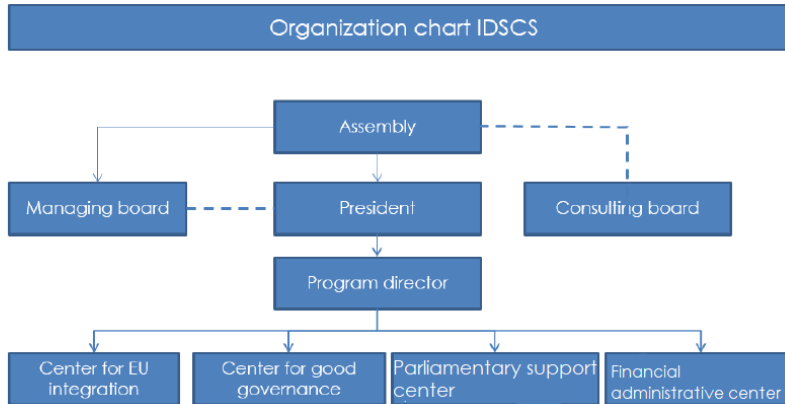
Our **mission** is to support the development of the democratic processes through the promotion of policy making based on research, analysis and consultation with stakeholders.

In pursuit of our vision and mission, we aim to achieve the following **LONG-TERM GOALS**:

- Balanced **Socio-Economic Development**;
- Active **Citizen Engagement**;
- Participative **Political Culture**;
- Embodiment of **Liberal Values in the Society**;
- Respect for the **Rule of Law and Good Governance** ;
- Promoting **Sustainable Education**;
- Achieving **Evidence-Based Decision Making**;
- Promotion of **Multi-ethnic and Multicultural** Coexistence.

Organizational Structure

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Donors/Partners

- European Commission IPA (Horizon 2020, Civil Society Facility, EIDHR)
- Open Society Foundation - Think Tank Fund
- Civica Mobilitas
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- USAID Macedonia
- Swiss Regional Research Promotion Program (RRPP)
- FCO – British Embassy Skopje
- European Fund for the Balkans
- Konrad Adenauer Foundation Office in Skopje
- Slovak Balkan Public Policy Fund
- Deutsche Welle

IDSCS Team

IDSCS employs 11 full-time, 5 part-time associated researchers and 1 intern.

Position	Number
President	1
Program director	1
Senior researcher	2
Associated researchers	5
Junior researcher manager	4

Financial and administrative officer	2
Communication officer	1
Intern	1
Total	17

Educational profile	Number
PhD	2
PhD candidates	3

Master degree	5
Bachelor degree	6
Total	16

Memberships

ESOMAR

IDSCS is a member of ESOMAR a not-for-profit organization that promotes the value of market, opinion and social research and data analytics. They provide ethical and professional guidance and advocating on behalf of their global membership community.

Platform of CSOs for Anti-Corruption

This platform is an informal network of 15 civil society organizations that work in the field of anti-corruption. The general aims are to provide individual and collective recommendations to policy makers; engage with them; and collectively build capacities of the organizations in the field. IDSCS's representative in the Platform is a Member of its Board and has so far initiated several activities of the network.

SELDI.net

Southeast European Leadership for Development and Integrity is an anti-corruption and good governance coalition of think tanks created in 2012. Its aims are coalition building for endorsement of a regional strategy and action agenda; implementing good governance monitoring; and raising public awareness. IDSCS is a partner in the network.

CSOs network for prevention of spoils and conflict of interest in the public administration

This is a network of 18 civil society organizations with a strategic focus on the prevention of conflict of interests in the public administration at national and local levels. The network is coordinated by the Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" Skopje (IDSCS), the Ohrid Institute for Economic Strategies and International Relations (OI) and the Macedonian Institute for Media (MIM). The Network prepared a total of 15 monitoring reports on conflict of interests and corruption at the local level, 4 public opinion survey reports on good governance and EU integration issues and conducted 20 public debates across the country on good governance issues.

TACSO Local Advisory Group

IDSCS has its own member in the TACSO Local Advisory Group. The aim of the LAG is to provide advice on the planning activities of TACSO's Skopje office by representing different parts of civil society. Our member represents the think tank community.

Publications

Recent publications

1. Reinvigorating political dialogue in light of Macedonia's EU accession negotiations, September 2018 [Policy brief]
2. Informal life of Political Parties in Western Balkan Societies, INFORM, Horizon 2020, October 2017 [Report]
3. The Berlin Process and Regional Cooperation in the Western Balkans: How to make Agreements more Effective and Efficient, EFB, December 2016 [policy brief]
4. Reinstating the Transformative Power of the European Union in the Western Balkans, EFB, October 2016 [policy brief]
5. Public perception on the work of the Macedonian parliament, IDSCS, October, 2016 [survey report]
6. The Berlin Process: Crystallization Point for the Western Balkans, regional study on the implementation of the commitments from the 2015 Vienna western Balkans Summit, EFB, June, 2016 [policy study]
7. What kind of situation is this? Public opinion survey on the current political events in Macedonia, IDSCS, May, 2016 [survey report]
8. From bill to law: Policy making and civic participation in the Republic of Macedonia, IDSCS, March, 2016 [policy study]
9. Advocacy goals 2016: Focus on rule of law policies, IDSCS, February 2016 [synthesized recommendation]
10. In the Labyrinths of the policy making cycle: Possibilities for influence of the CSOs, IDSCS, January, 2016 [policy brief]
11. How to promote CSOs involvement in service provision? Situation, challenges and possibilities, IDSCS, December, 2015 [policy brief]
12. Imagine If You Were a Low Paid Clerk: The Challenges with Using Corruption Reporting Mechanisms in Controlling Corruption in Macedonia IDSCS, December, 2015 [policy brief]
13. Advancing Public Participation in the Macedonian Parliament, IDSCS, November, 2015 [policy brief]
14. How was the 2015 Budget Adopted? A Look Towards the Debate in the Macedonian Parliament, IDSCS, November, 2015 [policy brief]
15. In Quest of an Effective Discussion: Key Constraints about the Freedom of Speech Exercised from the Parliamentary Stand, IDSCS, November, 2015 [policy brief]
16. Debate from Trenches, analysis of the quality of the debate in the Parliament June 2014 – May 2015, IDSCS, November, 2015 [analytical report]
17. Political Dialogue, IDSCS and KAS, August, 2015 [analysis]
18. Conflict of Interests and Corruption on a Local Level – Collection of research and monitoring studies, IDSCS, July, 2015 [Collection of studies]
19. Public opinion about the work of the Parliament, IDSCS, June, 2015 [survey report]
20. Perceptions on Macedonia's EU integration, IDSCS, May, 2015 [survey report]

21. Conflict of interests and Corruption at a Local Level, IDSCS, May, 2015 [survey report]
22. Reports on the Monitoring of Media Reporting on the work of the Parliament, IDSCS, May, 2015 [9 quarterly reports]
23. Public opinion about the wiretapping affair, IDSCS, March, 2015, [survey report]
24. Monitoring Reports on the Quality of the Debate in the Parliament, IDSCS, February, 2015 [9 quarterly report]
25. Report from the monitoring of the Parliament Debate for changes in the Law on Higher Education, IDSCS, February, 2015 [report]
26. A Life for Tomorrow, Social Transformations in South-East Europe, IDSCS, February 2015 [book]
27. Spoil System and Conflict of Interests in the Public Administration, IDSCS, February 2015 [policy study]

“POLITICAL THOUGHT” QUARTERLY (2003-2016)

Since 2003 and in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung office in Skopje, IDSCS publishes the **quarterly magazine “Political Thought”** which deals with political and social issues. Each issue covers a particular topic. It is the oldest and the only political journal in Macedonia. It is distributed to governmental institutions, political parties, the academic community, think tanks and the NGO community, international organizations and diplomatic representatives in Macedonia.

All volumes of “Political Thought” can be accessed at our website:
<http://idscs.org.mk/en/publications/political-thought>



Books

- Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights, Will Kimlika, IDSCS, 2004
- Globalization, Malkom Wolters, IDSCS, 2003
- The Third Way, Anthony Gidens, IDSCS, 2002
- Beyond postmodern politics, IDSCS, Honi Fern Heiber, IDSCS, 2002

Projects (selection)

Project name	Donor	Program	Period
1. EU IDEA – EU Integration and Differentiation for Effectiveness and Accountability	Horizon 2020	EU Integration	2019-2021
2. SDC Parliament Support programme	Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency	Parliamentary reform	2018-open ended
3. INFORM	Horizon 2020	Research center	2016-2019
4. Towards Good Governance of State owned enterprises an independent state bodies	British Embassy Skopje - GGF	Good Governance	June 2018 – March 2019
5. Regulatory Impact Assessment in the Shadow: Fostering evidence-based policy making in Macedonia	IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2015	Good Governance	January 2017 January 2020
6. Berlin Process in shadow of Brexit	European fund for the Balkans	EU Integration	January 2018 – December 2019
7. Promotion of Social inclusion through effective use of EU funds.	IPA	EU integration	December 2015-June 2017
8. TTF grant for organizational development	Think tank fund	Organizational development	November 2015- November 2017
9. USAID Macedonia Anti-Corruption Program	USAID	Good governance	June 2013 - September 2016
10. Parliament Watch. Strengthening political debate and deliberative discourse in the Republic of Macedonia	European Union (EIDHR)	Research center	February 2014 – October 2015
11. Parliament Watch	Swiss development and cooperation SDC	Research center	September 2015- December 2017

12. Public opinion on EU integration	Konrad Adenauer office in Skopje	EU integration	July, 2016
13. CSO as service providers	Balkan fund for public policy	Good governance	July -November 2015
14. SELDI 2	Regional Civil Society Facility	Good governance	March 2015
15. Enhancing Regional Cooperation: Monitoring of the Implementation of the Vienna Western Balkans Summit Commitments	European fund for the Balkans	EU integration	January – 2016 December 2016
16. Election archive	Konrad Adenauer office in Skopje	Research center	June –December 2015
17. Western Balkans and the Berlin process: What has been achieved so far and what are the next steps?	European fund for the Balkans	EU integration	January – 2017 December 2017
18. The Role of the Parliament in the EU Accession Process	Macedonian Center for European Training	EU integration	October 2016 March 2017
19. Project 463: Monitoring of the transfers towards the Civil Society Organizations on local level	Metamorphosis Foundation	Good Governance	December 2016 April 2017
20. Public opinion on EU integration (extension)	Konrad Adenauer office in Skopje	EU integration	February 2017
21. Shadowing the Implementation of the Priebe Report	Konrad Adenauer office in Skopje	EU integration	January 2017 December 2017