



HIE in a Time of Social and Economic Change

Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti
Rector
University of Tetova
Macedonia
www.unite.edu.mk



Brief history

- ❑ Founded 1994
- ❑ 13 colleges
- ❑ 20.000 students (BA, MA and PHD)



- An Albanian University (mix community)
- Integrated University
- A very good network of partnerships all over the world (most than 200)
- Member of EUA, Magna Charta Universitatum, EURAS, BUA, etc.
- International projects: Tempus, Erasmus, CEEPUS, Mevlana, Join EU-SEE Penta, etc.
- After the OFA, the UT 'fed' the state administration (25%)

Challenges

- In the Republic of Macedonia (about 2 Mio. Inhabitants) about 22 universities (7 state ones and 15 private ones)
- The quality is decreasing and lacking evidence of adequate performance
- Hard to keep the fundamental values like: autonomy and academic freedom
- Lack of financial resources (49% state budget, about 70% of this amount for wages; 51% self-budget from students participation); only 2% for science and the state GDP for sciences is about 0.4%

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- Year by year the number of the students is decreasing
 - Low rate of natality
 - Emigration
 - Lack of jobs, etc.

Why the Association like BUA is important for the Balkan Region and what could be done?

- Improve the communication between the universities itself and initiate strong partnerships
- Improve the inter-ethnic communication (through think-tanks, common conferences, sport and cultural activities, summer schools, projects, etc)
- Create a good network with public and private sector in order to improve the academic life
- Pushing the regional governments to be more aware in educational issues (for ex. through a resolution) and acting as a mediator in case of conflicts, tensions, disputes or misunderstandings)
- Taking the role of creating bridges of cooperation with the European and the prestigious universities worldwide



Thank You for Your attention!

State University of Tetova

Rectorate

Ilinden str. nn

1200, Tetova, Macedonia

Tel **+389 44 356 500**

Fax **+389 44 334 222**

E-mail: **international@unite.edu.mk**



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