Balkan Universities Association
The Agricultural University of Plovdiv (AUP) was established in 1945 as a national centre for agricultural science and education in Bulgaria.

The major structural units are the Faculty of Agronomy, Faculty of Viticulture and Horticulture, Faculty of Plant Protection and Agroecology, Faculty of Economics. The University provides education for obtaining BSc, MSc and PhD academic degrees in agronomy, plant protection, animal husbandry, agroecology, horticulture and viticulture, agricultural economics, rural development, tourism, etc.

For the last three years the University ranks first in three professional majors – Crop Science, Plant Protection and Animal Breeding, according to the National Rating System of higher education institutions. The key activities, underlying the University mission, combine education, research and links with agricultural business:

- providing high quality education guaranteeing the graduates competitiveness on the Bulgarian and the European labour market
- producing research achievements, quickly transferred in agricultural practice, through a close collaboration with business.
- preparing competent specialists committed to civic virtues, capable of realization of national and EU policies and strategies in the agricultural sector

The University is equipped with modern research laboratories, experimental and demonstration fields and greenhouses, lecture halls, computer rooms and libraries, sport-halls and play-grounds.

The University research policy involves implementation of research programmes and projects focused on knowledge-based advancement of Bulgarian agricultural development, tourism and the country’s integration into the European economic area. The AUP provides high-quality expertise to agri-business through research and development centres: Research, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Rights; Integrated Management of Plant Diseases; Agroecological Centre, Centre of Biological Testing, etc.

The AUP participates in international educational and research projects within various EU programmes: Erasmus, Horizon 2020, National and Transnational Operational Programmes, etc.

Two important international events marked the year 2018 for the Agricultural University - Plovdiv.
The first edition of the International Field Days Bulgaria were held in the Experimental Fields of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv from June 5 to 7, 2018. The unique and absolutely novel event was organized together with DLG (German Agricultural Society) and IFW Expo Heidelberg. The Experimental Fields of the Agricultural University became the meeting point of agribusiness professionals, academics, researchers, farmers, students who gained a first-hand experience on modern plant varieties, improved cultivation methods, advanced production technologies, live demonstration of agricultural machinery, as well as the latest research findings. Machinery for soil preparation, seeding and fertilizer application were presented on the stationary exhibition area and in sections designated for individual live demonstrations. The exhibiting companies had the possibility to show their products on over 50 trial fields. The expert presentations featured discussions on challenges in different agricultural sectors and provided opportunities for future cooperation and new business initiatives.

The Agricultural University and the Ministry of Education and Science of Bulgaria hosted and successfully executed the Second FOOD 2030 High Level Conference "Research and Innovation for Food and Nutrition Security: Transforming our food systems", under Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, held in Plovdiv on 13-15 June 2018. The Conference involved a wide range of participants from 32 EU Member and Non-Member States and beyond, i.e. scientific community, high level officials, industry, entrepreneurs, investors, policy-makers, and civil society organisations. The event was attended by the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Mr. Vytenis Andriukaitis, the Director General for Science and Innovation Mr. Jean-Eric Paquet, the Director for the Bioeconomy in DG Research & Innovation and representatives of the European Commission and European Agencies for Research and Innovation, participants from European and world scientific institutions.

The European Commission presented the status quo of Food and Nutritional Systems research and innovation policy and its vision of shaping tomorrow's sustainable food and nutritional systems, with respect to healthy and sustainable diets, climate resilience and circularity of food systems, user-centric innovation, new business models and investment.

The exhibition Food Village presented over 20 stands with innovative food technologies, trying to identify the future transformation of our food systems.

74-year history of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv is a source of pride and a hope that agriculture is the past, present and future of Bulgaria. The profession, which our students acquire, is related to land, plants and people. A life dedicated to this cause is full of sense and worth living.
On November 1 and 2, the first international conference “CONSTRUCTION STATE IN WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES: JUSTICE, MEDIA AND ART” was held, organized by the “Haxhi Zeka” University.

This conference brought together academics, researchers, experts and representatives of civil society, not only from Kosovo and neighboring countries, but also from distant continents such as America and Australia.

The conference aimed at sharing local, national and international experiences and discussing the challenges of the state building process between the community academy and the expert media, as well as artists.

From the participants this conference qualifies as very successful.

http://unhz.eu/konferenca-e-pare-nderkombetare/
“Haxhi Zeka” University respectively, Faculty of Business, Faculty of Tourism, Hotel and Environment Management and Agribusiness, organized the Second International Scientific Conference entitled “Promoting Sustainable Development in Business, Tourism and Agribusiness in Balkan Countries”.

The conference was held on December 07-08 2018. A total of 190 local and foreign participants attended it. There were also guest from Austria and Malta. The participants had submitted a total of 90 works from 35 local, regional and international institutions. Also as a guest speaker was a representative of the Ministry of Finance, representatives of other public universities in Kosovo and business representatives.

The purpose of the conference was to exchange knowledge and experiences about the topic in question. The conference was considered very successful both by the organizers, as well as by the participants and the guests.

http://unhz.eu/konferenca-e-dyte-shkencore-nderkombetare/
1ST GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE INTERNATIONAL VISION UNIVERSITY

In the fifth year of its establishment, INTERNATIONAL VISION University have its first graduates.

International Vision University had the pleasure of giving its first graduates especially the master's degrees and graduates from the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Architecture.

To the 1st graduation ceremony of the International Vision University attended lots of guests from domestic and abroad.

Among the participants were Culture Minister of the R.M. Asaf Ademi, Chief Advisor to the President of Republic of Turkey Ihsan Şener, State Minister of R.M Adnan Kahil. AK Party (Justice and Development party) Bursa Deputy Hüseyin Şahin, MHP (N.M.P) Deputy Saffet Sancaklı, TDP Deputy Yusuf Hasan, THP (T.M.P) Deputy Enes Ibrahim, Head of the Turkish Democratic Party (TDP), Dr. Beycan İLYAS, Head of the TMBH (T.N.U.M) party Erdogan Sarac, Honorary president of TDP Kenan Hasip, Secretary General of Islamic Society Irsal Yakupi, Supreme Board of Judges and Prosecutors (HSYK) Member Alp Aslan, Vice-Rector of Bursa Uludağ University Mehmet Yüce, President of the Turkic World Research Foundation Közhan Yazgan, State Council Member Rasim Aytin,18th President of the Supreme Court Ziya Diner, Member of the Supreme Court Law Mehmet Durgun, Member of the Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation Necip Topuz, YÖK (Higher Education Board) member of supervisory board Siddik Topaloğlu, the President of the New Ottomans Association Saffet Atak, and Şaban Sönmez, one of the founders of the AK Party (Justice and Development party)

ACADEMIC COOPERATION SIGNED BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL VISION UNIVERSITY AND YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

International Vision University continues to cooperate with reputable universities around the world to develop and strengthen academic collaboration and to build bridges between cultures.

On June 27, 2019 was signed a protocol of academic cooperation between International Vision University and Yildiz Technical University.

Academic protocol was signed by the rector Prof.Dr. Fadil Hoca on behalf of the International Vision University and the rector Prof.Dr. Bahri Şahin on behalf of the Yildiz Technical University. Prof.Dr. Fadil Hoca emphasized that the academic agreement between universities is important for future education and mutual projects...
TURKISH CULTURE CONFERENCE OF “28TH HIDIRELLEZ SPRING FESTIVAL” WAS HELD AT VISION UNIVERSITY

On 3rd May 2019, at the International Vision University, in the framework of the 28th Spring Festival took place, the 24th International Symposium on Turkish Culture and Art Exhibition.

The conference was attended, Chief Adviser to the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. İhsan Şener, the deputy chairman of the National Movement Party (MHP), Ms. Deniz Depboylu, deputy cof the National Movement Party, Mr. Safet Sancaklı, the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Northern Macedonia, Ms. Tulin Erkal Kara, rector of the International Vision University Prof. Dr. Fadil Hoca, The Deputy Chairman of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo and the Deputy of KDTP Müferrah Şinik, The Chairman of Folk Culture Research Institute Prof. Dr. İrfan Ünver Nasrattinoğlu, President of the Festival Dr. Şenol Tahir, and academis society, students of International Vision University.

The symposium, which began with protocol talks, continued with sessions and exhibitions by artists.

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS WAS HELD IN BURSA (ICEB’19)

Between 11-13 April 2019 in coordination with the Uludağ University of Bursa was held an International Congress of Economics and Business (ICEB’19), where among the participants was also International Vision University.

The Rector of International Vision University prof. Dr. Fadil Hoxha, who delivered a speech at the opening of the congress said that he is honored to be one of the allies of the congress. The Rector continued his speech by saying that they have realized cooperation with many universities offering education in Turkey and underlined that they are ready and open to cooperation in the future in all scientific and academic projects.
The founding of the Higher Medical Institute [HMI] dates back on September 22 of the year 1952 and the duty of this institution was to prepare only General Practitioners.

In 1957 a decision was made for establishing the University of Tirana, on the basis of several higher institutes, including the Higher Medical Institute [HMI], which was transformed into the Faculty of Medicine of the State University of Tirana.

In the year 1994 the Nursing Higher School was founded. After a decade of its activity, in the year 2004, this school was transformed into a Nursing Faculty, under the authority of the State University of Tirana.

The recent decades have seen radical changes and transformations of the social and economic system, which were reflected directly also to the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Nursing, which were ultimately headed towards western experience and practices, establishing the University of Medicine, Tirana.

University of Medicine, Tirana was established in 2013. The Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Medical Technical Sciences were separated from the University of Tirana, becoming main units of the UMT. University of Medicine, Tirana, is presently composed of three faculties: Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Medical Technical Sciences and the Faculty of Dentistry.

Study at the UMT has been organized in conformity with the law on higher education and other bylaws. UMT presently offers all the three cycles of study, where the main focus are the study programs with full orientation to the medical field, ensuring that the UMT graduates, by way of academic, research, implementation, analytical and professional skills that they acquire, get involved in covering services offered to the populace in the field of health promotion, prevention, diagnosing and treatment.

The Faculty of Medicine offers programs in the first cycle (Bachelor of Sciences in Public Healthcare), in the second cycle (Master), in integrated programs of the second cycle (General Medicine and Pharmacy), and the third cycle, Long-Term Specializations in the medical field, alongside Doctorate studies in these fields.

The Faculty of Medical Technical Sciences offers programs in the first cycle (Bachelor in General Nursing, Midwife, Laboratory technician, Logopedics, Imagery, Physiotherapy, and in the second cycle (Master), alongside Doctorate studies in these fields.

The Faculty of Dentistry offers programs in the first cycle (Bachelor in Dental Hygienist, Dental Technician), in integrated programs of the second cycle Stomatology, Long-Term Specializations in the dental field, alongside Doctorate studies in these fields.

In addition, the University of Medicine, Tirana is member of various network universities in Europe.

University of Medicine Tirana is full-rights member
of Balkan Universities Association and member of the Francophone University Agency that represents a global network of more than 845 universities and research centers from 111 countries on five continents that use the French language. Recently, the University of Medicine, Tirana has become a member of Uniadrion that represents an association of universities and research centers of the Adriatic-Ionian area established in 2000 with the purpose to create a permanent connection among these institutions, within the framework of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative. The purpose of UniAdrion is the collaboration between universities and research centers with the aim of strengthening international cooperation and of favoring the progress of culture, science, training and research in the countries of the Adriatic-Ionian basin. UMT is a member of Organisation for PhD Education in Biomedicine and Health Sciences in the European System (ORPHEUS) that is an association of European biomedical and health science faculties and institutions. ORPHEUS is committed to safeguarding the reputation of the PhD as a research degree and strengthening career opportunities for PhD graduates.

For further information about the events and academic activities of UMT, please consult the official website in the address:

www.umed.edu.al
One of the projects realized by Trakya University with the theme of “Cultural Heritage and Conservation” Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum closed the year 2018 with a record number of visitors. The museum, which became one of the attraction centers of Edirne thanks to Trakya University, hosted a total of 270,669 visitors in 2018. The Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum, which was opened on April 23rd, 1997, set a new visitor record with this number of visitors. The museum in Bayezid Complex, 531-year-old civilian architecture example, restored by Trakya University, founded with the support and contributions of Ratip Kazancigil sheds light on the health traditions of Ottoman Empire with practices of higher education, medical history, education and health from the Ottoman Empire to our days and with its recreations as well and carries the history to the future.

In 2004, Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum was awarded “European Council Museum Award”, one of the most prestigious museum award, was also awarded the second-best presentation in “global meeting featuring award-winning museum” to which it joined many times, attracts thousands of local and foreign art, culture and history enthusiasts to Edirne every year and makes a significant contribution to the cultural tourism of the city. The museum, which was included in the Excellence Club by the European Cultural Heritage Association, hosted 249,830 people in 2017. The museum which attracts a great deal of interest from domestic and foreign tourists hosted 270 thousand 669 people in 2018 and increased the number of visitors by 8 percent compared to the previous year. The number of foreign visitors to the museum, which was 7,026 in 2017, increased by 53 percent. In 2018, 10,737 people from 30 different countries visited the museum. The museum, which played an important role in transferring the city memory to the next generations and introducing Edirne, had set a new record by hosting 7,500 visitors in a single day on May 5th, 2018.

Following the “Mercury Excellence Award”, which is accepted as the Oscars of communication in the world, in the theme of organisation in 2015, in 2016 as a result of a 7-month study had the pleasure of being accepted in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Temporary List and was elected as the “Museum of the Year” by Union of University Museums in
In 2018, Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum hosted 10,737 foreign visitors from 30 countries such as America, Brazil, Venezuela, China, India, Indonesia, Australia, Japan, Russia, Spain, England, Bulgaria, Greece, and mostly by Bulgarian citizens with a total of 6,289 people. Bulgaria was followed by foreign guests from Greece and Indonesia. In 2018, the total number of visitors from the Balkans was counted as 9,754.

The museum welcomes thousands of tourists every year coming from the Balkans especially Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia, Romania, Hungary and Bosnia and Herzegovina in addition to Turkish visitors, aside from fostering a lot of information, documents and works of art about the history of health information from the past to today, the Ottoman Bimarhane’s recreation gives information about 500 years ago also takes visitors to centuries ago. In addition to the medical knowledge of the period, the museum where music, water sound, fragrances, and occupation were used carries the past to the present with a rich visual expression with its venues. The museum which tells the medicine in 15th-18th century Ottoman Empire, as well as 15th-century medical madrasah education by means of documents and models, is hosting many exhibitions, concerts and international congresses in different fields each year while fulfilling its responsibility towards history with the values it has carried from past to present.
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF “TURKEY-ALBANIA JOINT RESEARCH CENTER” IN TIRANA FROM TRAKYA UNIVERSITY

The administration of Trakya University had a series of contacts in the Albanian capital, Tirana. Rector of Trakya University Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, Trakya University International Relations Advisor Prof. Dr. Hilmi İbar and the Director of International Relations Application and Research Center, Assoc. Dr. Murat Türkyılmaz joined the visit for the founding “Turkey-Albania Joint Research Center” in Albania’s capital Tirana. Trakya University, representatives from the Turkish Embassy in Tirana, Ministry of Education, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) and Yunus Emre Institute joined the meeting in Tirana on the subject-matter. The details and plans were discussed on the establishment of the “Turkey-Albania Joint Research Center” at the University of Tirana. As well as the delegation of the Trakya University, the Rector of the University of Tirana, Prof. Dr. Mynyr Koni and Ambassador of Turkey in Tirana, Murat Ahmet Yörük, YTB President Abdullah Eren, the Director of the Tirana Yunus Emre Institute Ömer Osman Demirbaş also attended the meeting. Furthermore, a bilateral cooperation protocol was signed between Tirana University and Trakya University.

After the meeting with Tirana University, Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu and his delegate attended the Ottoman Civilisation Symposium that is organized by the ALSAR Foundation and YTB and also visited the Rector of Aleksander Xhuvani University, Elbasan Prof. Dr. Skender Topi. They hold a consultation on the establishment and maintenance of the Turcology Department at Elbasan University with the support of Yunus Emre Institute which has worked for two years.

After the visit of Aleksander Xhuvani University, Elbasan, the delegation met with the leaders from many Balkan countries, especially the leader of the ALSAR Foundation named Mehdi Gurra.
THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TETOVA AND 2ND ANNUAL CONGRESS OF TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY SURGERY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ITS PROCEEDINGS

Professors, physicians, surgeons, orthopedists, internists, dentists, cardiologists and various specialists of the medical sciences from the country, the region and Europe expressed their ideas and exchanged their opinions on various topics related to general medicine. The conference was mainly focused on new developments in the general medicine, while the core of the convention was the latest achievements in the field of trauma.

These jointly organized events, besides the scientific sessions in which there were a different opinions between professionals and experts, were characterized by other activities also, which were in favor of all participants, as there were many ideas for a wider cooperation in the future.

Rectors of some Albanian universities like the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, Rector of the Medical University of Tirana, Prof. Dr. Arben Gjata, Rector of the Aleksandër Xhuvani University of Elbasan, Prof. Dr. Skënder Topi, and representatives from other universities agreed on a more extended cooperation between the Albanian universities in order to coordinate the joint activities and through this to achieve the goals and to meet the objectives of universities, that have a mission of knowledge and scientific research. As a result, with the initiative of the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti was founded the Albanian Association of Morphologists and Anatomists. The foundation of this association was welcomed by the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Prof. Dr. Kastriot Haxhirexha, President of the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, Prof. Dr. Agron Dogjani, Head of the department of Anatomy at the University of Medicine in Tirana - Prof. Dr. Xheladin Ceka, and many other personalities.

The Dean, Prof. Dr. Kastriot Haxhirexha, emphasized that this scientific activity is a motivation for expanding the future cooperation between universities of the region, Europe and the world. “It was a pleasure for us, as the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the University of Tetova to join universities not only Albanian but also Balkan and European ones by inviting a large number of eminent personalities from the medical sciences in a scientific event. This is a great achievement for the University of Tetova, but it is also a message for the whole society that the key of success is the cooperation. Only by cooperating we will open the doors of welfare and progress” - said Prof. Dr. Kastriot Haxhirexha.

President of the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, Prof. Dr. Agron Dogjani, expressed the readiness of the association and the team he leads to continue the cooperation. "It was a pleasure to be part of such an important event that was jointly organized by the University of Tetova, namely the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery. I am glad that within this event, were conducted many other events. I also want to praise the creation of the Albanian Association of Morphologists and Anatomists, an association that will be of great assistance to all doctors, surgeons, morphologists and specialists in various fields of medicine. It was a pleasure for me, as a leader of the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery..."
Surgery to be part of the foundation of this association and we will always be in support of this association” – said Prof. Dr. Agron Dogjani.

Head of Department of Anatomy at the University of Medicine in Tirana, Prof. Dr. Xheladin Ceka, emphasized that it was a good opportunity to attend the Scientific Conference of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Tetova and the 2nd Congress of the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery among many Albanian researchers from the country and beyond. “It was a pleasure for me to be among many Albanian researchers and those of many medical personalities from Spain, Italy, Turkey, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and so on. In addition to this scientific event, I was proud of the idea of foundation of the Albanian Association of Morphologists and Anatomists, which now became a reality. We the researchers of this field needed such an Albanian association and we are grateful to our universities, especially to the University of Tetova and its Rector, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, for the support he has given for the foundation of this association. So far in Tirana there is an association of Albanian clinical morphology, but it functions only there. This association was founded to gather all Albanian researchers” - said Prof. Dr. Xheladin Ceka.

The 3rd International Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and 2nd Annual Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, in accordance with their agenda and their program proceedings, apart from the presentations by specialists and experts in the fields of medicine, special treatment was paid to the students of the Faculty of the Medical Sciences of the University of Tetova, who in front of the eminent professors presented their scientific work. In the meantime the students of the study program of dentistry conducted workshops with dentistry specialists. Oral surgery specialists, among whom Dr. Spec. Dancho Bizevski, highly evaluated the study
program of Dentistry, as the students’ ability to conduct the tooth implant is an evidence that this faculty prepares professionals in the field of dentistry.

Praises for the organization of the 3rd International Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the University of Tetova were paid by different personalities of medicine. Former Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Sadi Bexheti noted that this scientific event raises the values and qualities not only of the Faculty of Medical Sciences but also of the University of Tetova in general. “This scientific event enabled us as researchers of these fields to present our knowledge about various topics related to medicine. Certainly the debate was not lacking. There were divergences among researchers, numerous discussions, remarks, and so on. Within this activity was founded the Albanian Association of Morphologists and Anatomist. This association will be part of the University of Tetova, because our institution needs it. With associates from all Albanian territories we will realize our goals as an association by accomplishing our mission as scientific researchers” - said Prof. Dr. Sadi Bexheti.

Head of the Trauma Clinic in Skopje, Dr. Ilir Hasani said that the productivity of this scientific event was seen from all aspects. “It was a great event. We hope that such international events will be organized even more often. Productivity has been at a high level in all the sessions in which I have been present and followed. There have been high-level and effective discussions. From what I heard during the presentations and discussions seemed to me that I am not in a conference that is being conducted in the Balkans. At every trauma and orthopedics session, there was an international guest, and this shows that we are really on the right way even though we are far behind compared to the modern world, again, I think we are on the right way. This joint event has increased productivity even more because in each country, where the forces are synchronized, it becomes power and there is progress and not regression. In addition to productivity, it motivates the young students and specialists, who participated in a very large number” - said Dr. Ilir Hasani.

While the Honorary Chairman of the 2nd Annual Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, Prof. Dr. Rifat Latifi, special praise he paid to the cooperation between higher education institutions and their importance for the society. “I want to express my deepest gratitude to the organizers of this event. As we started the first congress in Tirana, we said that we will make this congress even more successful and more important regarding its quality. This year the congress conducted the proceedings in Ohrid in cooperation with the University of Tetova and the Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, and next year it will be held in Prishtina. It was a special event. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to the University of Tetova for the excellent organization. I hope that this congress will move around all Albanian territories. Next year in Prishtina we intend to hold the first congress of the Albanian surgeons’ college and all associations of surgeons and doctors could be part of this college that in the future will be a source of knowledge and a tremendous force for new inflows into general medicine” - said Prof. Dr. Rifat Latifi.

University professor, Prof. Dr. Jordan Savevski, in his opinion about the organization of this scientific event,
suggested that opportunities towards the advancement of science in the Balkan countries are open as well. “I was a participant as a surgeon, dentist, orthopedist, who works in this part of the surgery. All the sessions I attended were well organized. Many discussions took place and I think we are on the right way to open our dark and heavy Balkan doors, to open knowledge, because only in this way we can move forward. So the conference was useful for trainee specialist, students and researchers of this field. In some cases there were divergences during the discussions and all this was for the benefit of the patients” - said Prof. Dr. Jordan Savevski.

On behalf of the University of Prishtina the 3rd International Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences highly appreciated the Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Rudhani. “University of Prishtina has always been by the University of Tetova. The Faculty of Medical Sciences in Prishtina is ready to be part of all joint scientific organizations. Our faculty supports the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the University of Tetova, although as a faculty was recently founded yet it shows scientific maturity. I want to congratulate you in my name and on behalf of the Dean and the management staff of the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the University of Prishtina for this important event” - said Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Rudhani.

Evaluations for the conference were also given by the student of Dentistry, Luljeta Civuli, who considered this scientific event as one of the most beautiful experiences that she had experienced throughout the studies. “What I’ve heard during the sessions in the field of dentistry was very valuable to my profession and has motivated me to continue learning, studying, researching and working in this field, a maximum appreciation and special thanks to the professors as well as all other lecturers who did not get tired at any moment to help us and explained everything we needed” - said fifth-year dentistry student, Luljeta Civuli.

All the students participating in this scientific event were satisfied with the professors, because as they said, for the first time they have heard things for which so far they have not heard, and that this is a great help in their journey towards professionalism in the field of medicine.

THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TETOVA AND 2ND ANNUAL CONGRESS OF TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY SURGERY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ITS PROCEEDINGS

University of Tetova and Northern Illinois University today solemnly promoted the opening of the joint study program for Business Administration, accredited by the Accreditation Council of Macedonia. The promotion of this study program was made in the presence of the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, Ambassador of the United States of America in Macedonia, Jess Baily, Minister of Education and Science, Arbër Ademi, and other representatives from both universities.

The Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, emphasized that the new study program for Business Administration, in the second cycle of studies, accredited by the Council for Accreditation and Evaluation of Higher Education in the Republic of Macedonia, is the only one of this kind, in Southeast Europe and beyond, and aims to provide students with deep knowledge in the relevant field and to prepare them to become successful managers, to run enterprises, and various companies operating in the global labor market.

“Students who will successfully complete their studies in this new program will be awarded a joint degree that will carry the emblem and stamp of both universities and will obtain the title Master’s Degree in Economics in the field of Business Administration. Promoting or opening this study program together with one of the most prestigious American universities is an acknowledgement for the continuous work and engagement of our University, but at the same time it’s a great challenge and responsibility for our institution, for the fact that for this kind of partnership, from many European universities, the University of Tetova was the one that was selected. With this advantage we once again prove that the University of Tetova is being included in the international academic scene, and becoming a serious partner of many educational and scientific projects. As a Rector, I ensure our American partners that we will work continuously for the Business Administration program to succeed, to attract the attention of our young generations in the next five years, the period for which it is accredited, through the quality staff to
help the business community, to contribute to the elimination of barriers that represent a challenge to this important sector for society” – said the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.

The Minister of Education and Science, Asst. Prof. Arbër Ademi, said that the University of Tetova, following a history of difficulties for more than 20 years, today is promoting a study program that proves its commitment as an institution of higher education to make a valuable contribution to increase the quality in education in general and higher education in particular in the Republic of Macedonia. “Certainly, this university has a very good management staff, has a very good professional, research-scientific staff, a great administrative staff, who responded excellently to all the challenges faced by every institution of higher education in the Republic of Macedonia. Of course, this institution exists, operates and carries out its activities because of its students, and the students, namely the citizens of this country have chosen this university, given the quality it offers, while today I am more than satisfied that the students of this university, but not only of this university, students of public and private universities in the Republic of Macedonia are also offered another option, it is the new program in the second cycle of studies together with our American partners, together with one of prestigious universities at the global level. By offering this program, in fact it is offered a program which also influences the increase of quality, and influences the creation of staff who will respond to the needs and demands of the labor market”, stated Asst. Prof. Arbër Ademi, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia.

While the Ambassador of the United States of America to Macedonia, Jess Baily said that the University of Tetova and the Northern Illinois University of Chicago, USA, offers the first opportunity in Macedonia for students to obtain a master's degree from an American university, while attending studies in Macedonia. “It is my honor to be here to promote this program at the University of Tetova. Education and business are the two best ways to build bridges between countries, so with this joint program we will do both, educate new generations of Macedonia as business leaders and provide them with an American perspective, practice and experience. So, congratulations to the University of Tetova and the Northern Illinois University for this achievement. So, this is a step forward to bring closer these two countries. In fact, this new program is an outcome of the cooperation between the two universities, at the level of academic staff and students, in order to visit and to cooperate in various fields, as we've had many conferences, and now in the field of business as well”, said the US Ambassador to Skopje, Jess Baily.
The Dean of the College of Business of the Northern Illinois University, Prof. Dr. Rajagopalan Balaji said that with this study program, our two institutions mark an important moment, proving that we are committed to cooperate for the advancement and prosperity of citizens of our countries. “I would like to thank Ambassador Jess Baily, Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, for the support they give us in this partnership. The leadership of the University of Tetova, with the Rector, Vullnet Ameti and Professor Arbër Çeliku, through the steps they’re taking, are showing their commitment to build the future of Macedonia. Their vision and commitment to promote peace and prosperity of education will help all future generations. The University of Tetova and its leadership are our strategic partners in the Balkans, and we, at the Northern Illinois University, believe that with your University, will create other common platforms as well, which will have an impact on the development of the society, with a focus on solving political problems in the Balkans, by nurturing coexistence through various activities in the region through the Center for Peace and Transcultural Communication. Today we are here to initiate a joint study program of the second cycle of studies and this will be a phenomenal success for both our institutions. The University of Tetova and the North Illinois University share the same values and have the same level of importance for learning and quality improvement” - said Prof. Dr. Rajagopalan Balaji.

At this event, the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, on his behalf and on behalf of University, academic staff and students, expressed deep gratitude to the US Government and their Embassy in Skopje, that through the engagement of eminent professors within the Fulbright program, they contribute every academic year to the progress of the educational process in our University. He also thanked the leaders of the Northern Illinois University for their readiness to cooperate with the University of Tetova in various educational projects.
UT MARKED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1968 FLAG DEMONSTRATIONS

In honor of the sacrifice, suffering and resistance of Albanian activists in our country and beyond, in remembrance of the patriotic work of the organizers and participants of the 1968 flag demonstrations in Tetovo, the University of Tetova in the jubilee year, their 50th anniversary, organized the Symposium with the topic: “1968, the challenge of national identity of Albanians of Macedonia”. At the official opening of the symposium, the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, in addressed the participants, said that taking part in this historic event is a privilege, more so when among us are present witnesses who came from all our ethnic lands to mark this important date dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the flag demonstrations in Tetovo.

“History tells us that our nation's resistance to the invading, oppressive and genocidal enemies’ efforts includes various dates and years. One of these dates is obviously the December 22, 1968, the date of the flag demonstrations in the city of Tetovo. The 1968 demonstrations remain a significant event in the political history of Albanians of Macedonia. This event really marks the most dignified response to a system that in essence was against the Albanian being, against the symbolism that identifies Albanians as a nation with identity and a sensational story. This year, Tetovo citizens demonstrated their national will and the affirmation of their historical and cultural identity, thus marking their awakening, an awakening that will come through many intellectual figures, as well as the youth of the time, who without hesitation was set in defense of national dignity, in defense of the flag, raised by the activists of that time. Fifty years after the demonstrations in Tetovo, we believe that historical distances have been created to see this event from a wider context, using different information from the media of that time and with various archive documents. According to scholars, the demonstrations broke out after several years of accumulation of the revolt against Yugoslav violent regime regarding the Albanians. The riots were not accidental”, said Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.

He added that Tetovo has never lacked the national spirit and is known as a resistance center to pan-Slavic ideas. “Collective memory had deposited bitter memories of a previous period, especially since the early years of the communist regime, when many Albanians were executed without trial, many were sentenced to heavy prison or forced to leave and seek political asylum in different countries. Our University, in this jubilee year, has tried to pay attention to this historic event, so through the organization of this symposium
and the scientific contributions that will be presented to the well-known scholars, we hope to reveal unknown data up to now for the broader opinion. Today, by marking of this date, we rejoice in honor of the work, the sacrifice of the organizers, before the suffering of the Albanian prisoners, we express from our hearts the eternal gratitude and praise for the determination and the titanic mission in the service of advancing our national cause", said among others the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.

Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Ibish Kadriu, the Tetovo demonstrations that broke out on December 22, 1968, assessed them as one of the most marked events of the resistance of the Albanians, which were in defense of the national flag from the violation that was provoked and setup by the people of the previous system. “These demonstrations in Tetovo, which were the most open manifestation of the Albanian revolt, were oppressed by the regime of the time, with murder, violence, imprisonment, mass persecution, but it could not break the resisting will of Albanians. The ugly face of the past regime was unfortunately demonstrated in Tetovo on December 17, 1994 when the foundations of the University of Tetova were laid. The establishment of this hub of knowledge has remained a story of dignity of Albanian resistance”, said Prof. Dr. Ibish Kadriu.

Coordinator of this scientific symposium, Prof. Dr. Musa Musai, said that this event of scientific-memorial character is organized on the aurora of a contribution of a constellation of people who have sacrificed for the Albanian nation. “This constellation chose to replace personal comfort with collective concerns, to move from the goal of living for their families to a livelihood for a family called the nation; so at least what we can do is to remember the great work of that generation which raised the image of the “demonstration” of the willpower, the individual sacrifice, the sacrifice for the nation. At this symposium titled “1968, the Challenge of Albanian National Identity in Macedonia”, we have 20 distinguished scholars who will contribute to shed light on this historic event for Albanians of Macedonia”, said Prof. Dr. Musa Musai.

The thematic paper devoted to the demonstrations of 1968 was introduced by Fadil Lushi, who characterized these demonstrations with four pairs of stories. “The first story is the story of praise, this story was built by all participants of that time, young men, intellectuals, farmers, burghers and noble peasant, headed by the icon of Tetovo consciousness, Uncle Memetriza Murtezani, nicknamed Gega. The second story of these demonstrations, the story of the accusation, was built by the ruling class of that time, and the capital punishment passed on Uncle Memetriza Murtezani – Gega. The third story is the story of forgetfulness, the story of forgetfulness was written by ourselves, the participants themselves and some historians who didn't dare to say a word about these stories, even if they were right, who knows, and the fourth story is the story of Albanian collaborationists, after the demonstrations were completed, they willingly and openly
agreed to collaborate with the authorities for the persecution of Albanians.

In order to end my passage, I will also paraphrase a saying about an ancient expression: Making a laurel wreath is easy, but deserving such a laurel wreath is very difficult. And, if I had a laurel wreath today, I would give it to this temple that emits light, knowledge, peace, and above all emits love, especially this laurel wreath in particular I would give it to the sentinel of this unconquerable fortress, your respected rector, my friend Vullnet Ameti and his honored staff who found the courage to organize a scientific symposium dedicated to all people who in 1968, demanded the delayed freedom of this occupied homeland.

In the end, in the time when in this building the construction works were about to end I met a carpenter who was fitting the last doors in this building I asked him: dear craftsman, why these doors have no keys, and he reminds me: these doors do not need keys because these doors will never be shut, so you dear lecturers, you who have sons and daughters, you dear students, make sure these doors are never shut down", said Mr. Fadil Lushi.

In this activity, Prof. Dr. Zeqirija Rexhepi read the congratulatory telegram of Pan-Albanian Organization “Vatra” from America, which states: “Albanian patriotism has never harmed the one who lives with us or with us but has had a journey and a goal that Albanians as European people do not differ from others. This was also seen on December 22, 1968, when the Albanians went out on the street, initially spontaneously, and then organized, to protect their dignity, the flag, their right to education, equality in employment and everything that belongs to a European people. You have many historians who know better the details of these demonstrations and I am convinced that the University of Tetova has the potential to reveal the truth. By using the right methods of scientific research in history, our federation wants to disclose this not well-documented event, that needs the cooperation of other Balkan universities”, says the congratulatory telegram of the Pan-Albanian Organization “Vatra” from America.

In honor of the national activity, the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti shared some gifts with the portrait of the founder - The First Historical Rector of UT, Prof. Dr. Fadil Sulejmani, for the activists Fadil Lushi, Shpëtim Pollozhani, Hydajet Hyseni and Çun Lajçi. Also, the Rector, on the occasion of marking the 50th anniversary of the flag demonstrations, to the participants and the organizers, gave letters of gratitude for the national contribution in organizing and supporting the 1968 demonstrations in Tetovo.

The opening of this symposium was concluded with a recital by the people’s artist, Çun Lajçi and the performing of the song “Fryn murlani me stuhi”” by the students of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Tetova. At this scientific symposium, with their works were presented renowned scholars from our country, the Republic of Kosovo, the Republic of Albania and other ethnic Albanian regions.
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