



School of Political Science
Report on activities in academic year 2019/2020

Skopje, October 2020

I. 2019/2020 Annual Report

I.1. Teaching

In academic year 2019/2020 both undergraduate and graduate studies were realised in accordance with the Annual plan of the School of Political Science (SPS).

However, the Covid-19 crisis has forced the University to switch to online teaching as of March 15, 2020. The School has successfully adapted to the new situation and the teaching process went well and uninterrupted.

Key activities carried out by the School included:

- Reaccreditation of undergraduate study programs in Psychology (the application was submitted, but still awaits the approval by the Macedonian Board of Accreditation whose work was on hold due to the Covid19 crisis, early elections in the country and the new government's delayed appointment of new members to the Board).

The School faculty was joined by new colleagues (see Section II.2 of this report) who received socialization training and were successfully incorporated in the educational process.

A remaining issue is that to date the Macedonian Board of Accreditation has not notified the School of the outcome of the reaccreditation request for the MA study program in International Relations and Diplomacy. Motion letters have been sent to the Board to seek prompt response. This situation compels the School to put the enrolment on hold until final decision from the Board is received.

In memoriam: Late Prof. Dr. Zlat Milovanovic, Professor Honoris Causa and former Vice Rector of University American College Skopje (UACS), and distinguished faculty member of the UACS School of Political Science passed away on March 26, 2020, in the U.S.A. He will be greatly missed by colleagues and students.

I.2. Activities

Guest lectures, workshops, panels, visits to institutions, conferences, research projects

- On 18 September 2019, Prof. Ivan Dodovski, Dean of the UACS School of Political Science, was invited as a special guest at the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (CANU) where he delivered a lecture entitled "Perichoresis of Cultures: Overcoming the Old Western Stigma of the Balkans in a Future Europe."



- On 16 October 2019 the Department of Psychology at University American College Skopje (UACS) organized a workshop titled “Social and Emotional Learning and Development in Contemporary Living – Challenges to Young People”. Around one hundred psychologists and pedagogues attended the workshop which was lead by Dr. Rebecca Granger-Ellis UNICEF International Expert and Researcher from Johns Hopkins University in the USA, who has many years of scientific and coaching experience in the fields of education, mental health, social cohesion and prevention of violence between children and adolescents. The workshop was of particular importance to all present, psychologists and pedagogues from kindergartens and schools, professionals from educational institutions, counseling centers, government institutions and health and psychotherapy centers, as well as all those involved in working with children and adolescents. At the end of the workshop, the participants received a certificate of attendance.



- On 22 October 2019, UACS hosted a panel discussion titled “Next steps in the European Integration of the Republic of North Macedonia”. The following panelists took part in the discussion: Timcho Mucinski (Professor at the Faculty of Law “Iustinianus Primus”), Dragan Tilev (State Consular at the Secretariat for European Affairs), Neda Maleska Sachmaroska (Executive Director of the Center for Change management) and Zoran Nechev (Director for the Center for European Integration at Institute for Democracy Societas Civilis).



- On 15 November 2019 UACS students participated in the opening of the redesigned “Europe House” at the invitation of Ambassador of the European Union Samuel Žbogar, who presented the opportunities provided by this space. The new center offers modern and attractive content for young people as well as potential and opportunities for exchange of experiences and networking among students in the future.



- Dedicated to delivering high quality education and aiming for development of critical thinking in students, University American College Skopje constantly organizes events and guest lectures from international lecturers, experts, ambassadors and high profile guests. As part of that commitment, University American College Skopje on 26 November 2019 organized an event where students



were given the opportunity to meet prof. Stevo Pendarovski, PhD, President of the Republic of North Macedonia, and H. E. Kate Marie Byrnes, US Ambassador to North Macedonia, distinguished guests at University American College Skopje. Under the title of “The Importance of North Macedonia’s NATO accession”, the distinguished guests addressed the students and the business community representatives, followed by a discussion. President Pendarovski explained the benefits and the significance of the North Macedonia NATO membership and pointed out: “NATO membership is important to us because, as a small country with limited defense and security resources, is essential to be part of a collective security system. For example, Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty reads that if one Member State is attacked, the response will be collective. This means that, as a future NATO member, our security is guaranteed by all NATO member states. Moreover, we have the opportunity to save resources, i.e. to apply an effective way of investing and spending on defense”. Afterwards, the President talked about another aspect of the membership and the real life benefits for the citizens through the possibilities for growth and development: “NATO does not only mean security and military training, but, also, development and a new labor market and a new market for our companies. NATO has various public diplomacy, research and development programs that can include students, NGO community and universities. Possession of a “NATO standard” will mean that our companies will have access to a larger market in all the NATO member states for which they can provide services and products”.



The US Ambassador in our country Kate Marie Byrnes talked after the President and pointed out that the NATO membership will enable young people to take advantage of the benefits from the process both during their education and during their careers. She emphasized the security aspect as of a key importance for our country, especially having in mind the today’s risks and threats which no country, not even the USA, could

face alone, which is why it is important to unite the potentials and capacities in a common defense. Additionally, the NATO membership has a great political gain, because, as she explained, “the NATO values are within the importance of the democratic institutions and the civil control of army forces, and also a measurement for transparency and capacity building”.

This was the first address to the students by prof. Stevo Pendarovski PhD as President, since before that, he was a professor at University American College Skopje. Besides the business community representatives, a great number of students attended the event, which was a real opportunity for them to expand their knowledge and perspectives.

- On 29 November, UACS students from the School of Political Science and School of Law following courses with Asst. Prof. Marina Andeva and professor of practice Marijana Opasinova Sundovska visited the Parliament of the Republic of North Macedonia, where they had an opportunity to further deepen their knowledge on the work of the parliament and a chance to meet in person a member of the parliament, Hari Lokvenec, Ph.D.



- On 11 December 2019, UACS SPS and Psychology students taking the course on Child and Adolescent Development and Health and Clinical Psychology led by Assistant Professor Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, PhD, visited “The centre for sensory therapy – Vo mojot svet” in Skopje. Ms Vesna Stojanovska welcomed the students and presented the work of the Centre. Students had unique opportunity to learn more about the psychological assessment, followed by observation of individual work with child (with consent provided by parents). They learned about the phases needed to be taken in the process of the therapy with children.



- On 17 December, 2019 UACS students of SPS Psychology as a part of the courses in Child and Adolescent Development and Health and Clinical Psychology led by the Assistant Professor Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, had an excellent opportunity to follow the lecture on: “Developmental problems: obsessive-compulsive and other mental health problems in children and adolescents”, Assistant Professor Dr. Mirjana

Polazarevska, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists, University Clinic of Psychiatry, Skopje. The presentation capture the core principles of the developmental problems in children and adolescents highlighting the holistic approach and supporting them in the therapeutic process to fulfil their growth and well-being. The students had an opportunity to interactively participate and practice several interactive techniques.

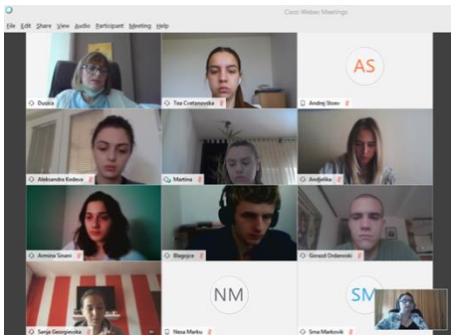
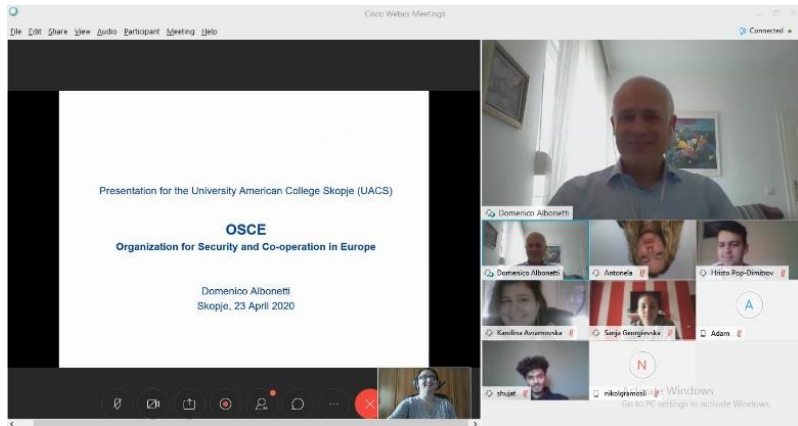
- “Youth is up for Changes” was a training course held at Asnaes, Denmark 13-23 January 2020. Training Courses are a part of the Erasmus Plus program meant to add new and update existing skills for Youth Activists, Educators, Active Citizens and Representatives of NGOs. Done Donev, a student of UACS Department of Psychology was part of the TC “Youth is up for Changes” organized by the Danish NGO ThisUs Copenhagen. Participating countries of the TC were: Macedonia, Serbia, Denmark, Finland, Greece and Belgium. The aim of the training was to provide youth workers with novel ways of tackling discrimination among disadvantaged groups, by using social inclusion as a guiding tool of thinking on how to co-create and expand on the existing framework of social inclusion practices. The method of work was non-formal education, which brought cohesion in the group work and affected the outcomes of the project goal. The participants were working on a series of projects on inclusion among disadvantaged groups by using art and discussion as principal tool aiming to promote every individual’s personal point of view.



- On 26 February 2020 the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia held a one-day seminar for UACS students from the Schools of Law and Political Science. Through a range of interactive sessions, role-play, guessing games and presentations, students had the opportunity to get acquainted with the past, historical processes, events and persons that have left their mark on the history of parliamentary in Macedonia, as well as about the

organization and functioning of the Assembly, the rules governing the parliamentarianism and activity of the Members of Parliament in the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia. They also learned about the legal position of the MPs, the different roles that public representatives can play in the performance of the parliamentary office and the process of passing laws in the Assembly. All participants at the end of the seminar were awarded a certificate of participation.

- On 23 April 2020, the students following the course International organizations and institutions (School of Political Science) had an opportunity to attend the guest lecture by Domenico Albonetti, a former Deputy Head of the Office of Political Affairs and Communications at the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and former Chief of the Political and Reporting Unit at the OSCE Mission to Skopje, conducting a lecture on the Organizations for security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).



- On 18 May 2020 the students from the School of Political Science and School of law following the course Regional autonomy and local self-government had an opportunity to follow a lecture from the Director of the Association of the units of local self-government of the Republic of North Macedonia (ZELS) Mrs. Dusica Perisic. Mrs. Perisic presented the work of ZELS and its role in presenting and promoting the work of the units of local self-government in the country.

- On 4 December 2019 students from School of Political Science joined by students from the American High School Скопје, as part of the Open Cabinet activity, were invited to visit the Cabinet of the President of the Republic of North Macedonia at Villa Vodno. The President was delighted to host them at his residence. The students discussed with President Pendarovski about his work and his competencies. They visited the areas designated for official meetings, the ceremonial hall, along with the rooms for other events and press-briefings. The students met some of the Cabinet's staff and who introduced them to the history of Villa Vodno. The student visit was part of the project "Face to Face with the President" (Лице в лице со Претседателот), which aims to promote direct meetings of citizens with the President.



I.3. Research output

Group mark	Scientific paper/lecture/research project description	Points	SPS 2018-2019	SPS 2019-2020
R10	Outstanding scientific book and monograph with international significance	10	0	0
	Scientific book and monograph with international significance	7	1	0
	Scientific book and monograph with national significance	4	2	1
R20	Book chapter with international significance; summary of books in a leading magazine; in a subject paper anthology with international significance	4	4	0
	Book chapter with national significance; summary of books in a magazine; in a subject paper anthology with national significance	2	1	2
R50	Paper published in an international journal with an impact factor	15	1	3
	Paper published in an international journal without an impact factor	7	7	0
	Plenary lecture with an invitation at a meeting/conference with international significance, printed in whole, or abstract	5	2	4
	Paper presented at an international meeting/conference, printed in whole, or abstract	4	13	10
R60	Paper published in a domestic journal	2	0	0
	Introductory lecture at a meeting/conference with national significance, printed in whole, or abstract	1.5	0	0
	Paper presented at a meeting/conference with national significance, printed in whole, or abstract	0.5	0	1
R80	Defended doctoral thesis	6	0	1
	Defended master's dissertation	3	0	0
R10	Work in an international research-proposal project as a Leading or Co-leading researcher	8	3	2
	Work in an international research-proposal project as an Assistant researcher	6	0	0
	Work in a domestic research-proposal project as a Leading or Co-leading researcher	6	0	0
	Work in a domestic research-proposal project as an Assistant researcher	4	0	0
R20	Work in an international project with a Report, Monograph, Study as an end goal, in which the lecturer appears as a Leading or Co-leading researcher	10	4	4
	Work in an international project with a Report, Monograph, Study as an end goal, in which the lecture appears as an Assistant researcher	7	0	2
	Work in a domestic project with a Report, Monograph, Study as an end goal, in which the lecture appears as a Leading or Co-leading researcher	5	0	0

	Work in a domestic project with a Report, Monograph, Study as an end goal, in which the lecture appears as an Assistant researcher	3	0	0
R30	Report (Editor)	4	0	0
	Short analysis, projections, models (Editor)	3	0	0
	Report (Analyst)	3	0	0
	Short analysis, projections, models (Analyst)	2	0	0
R40	Editor of an international journal with an impact factor at Web of Science	10	1	1
	Editor of an international journal without an impact factor	5	0	0
	Editor of a domestic journal	2	2	0
	Reviewer of an international journal with an impact factor at Web of Science	5	2	0
	Reviewer of an international journal without an impact factor	3	3	2
	Reviewer of a domestic journal	0.5	0	0
	Participation in program or other type of committee of a scientific conference of an international character	3	4	4
	Reviewer of an international scientific conference	2	4	3
	Participation in program or other type of committee of a scientific conference of a domestic character	1.5	0	0
	Reviewer of a domestic conference	0.5	0	0
R50	Research stay in USA, EU countries, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Norway to work on a scientific paper	15	0	0
	Research stay in other countries to work on a scientific paper	7	0	0
			276	223.5

2018/2019 score: 276

2019/2020 compared to 2018/2019 score difference: - 52.5

II. Situation Analysis

II.1 Number of Students

Below is the overview of different categories of students at the School of Political Science in the academic year 2019/2020 (figures as of 30 September 2019).

Undergraduate studies in Political sciences:

Full-time students:

I	II	III	Net 1 (I+II+III)	Graduated	On hold / Transfer
10	7	8	25	3	0

Part-time students:

I	II	III	Net 2 (I+II+III)	Graduated	On hold / Transfer
1	/	2	3	1	0

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 11.

Total undergraduate students of political science = Net 1 + 2 = 28 students

Number of students in 2019/2020 compared to 2018-2019 = -1 students

Students on probation: 0

Undergraduate studies in Psychology:

Full-time students:

I	II	III	IV	Net 1 (I+II+III+IV)	Graduated	On hold / Transfer
16	9	7	3	38	0	/

Part-time students:

I	II	III	IV	Net 2 (I+II+III+IV)	Graduated	On hold / Transfer
1	/	1	3	5	0	/

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 17.

Total undergraduate students of psychology = Net 1 + 2 = 43 students

Number of students in 2019/2020 compared to 2018-2019 = +16 students

Students on probation: 0

Graduate studies in Political Science:

International relations and diplomacy:

I	II	Net 1 (I+II)	MA graduates	Drop back	On hold / Transfer
0	1	1	1	19	0

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 0.

International relations and diplomacy with business:

I	II	Net 2 (I+II)	MA graduates	Drop back	On hold / Transfer
0	4	4	0	15	0

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 0.

Human rights (taught in Macedonian):

I	II	Net 1 (I+II)	MA graduates	Drop back	On hold / Transfer
0	0	0	0	21	0

Graduate studies in Psychology:

Health psychology and psychological counselling:

I	II	Net 1 (I+II)	MA graduates	Drop back	On hold / Transfer
2	0	2	0	0	0

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 2.

Business and organisational psychology:

I	II	Net 1 (I+II)	MA graduates	Drop back	On hold / Transfer
0	1	1	0	0	0

Newly enrolled students in 2019/2020 as of 30 September 2019: 0.

II.2. Human resources

In the academic year 2019/2020 undergraduate and graduate studies at the School of Political Science were conducted by 37 instructors, of whom 11 are permanently employed at UACS, 8 are part-time professors, 3 are visiting professors and 15 are eminent professionals in the field. The structure of instructors shows that 29 hold PhD degrees, 7 hold an MA degree, whereas 1 is a career expert with a BA degree. Foreign lecturers participate with 14% in the SPS faculty team total.

<i>Tenured professors</i>	<i>Scientific field / subjects</i>
Prof. Dr. Zoran Shapurikj, Professor	Constitutional law, EU law, Public administration, Environment and sustainable development
Prof. Dr. Stevo Pendarovski, Professor (on leave)	Introduction to international relations, International organizations and institutions, International security, Theory and history of international relations and diplomacy
Prof. Dr. Ana Tomovska Misoska, Professor	Introduction to psychology, Social psychology, Industrial psychology, Research methods
Prof. Dr. Ivan Dodovski, Dean	Academic writing, Modern Europe, Research methods and critical thinking
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marina Andeva, Associate professor	Introduction to politics, EU structures and institutions, Regional autonomy and local self-governance, Migrations and refugees
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Venera Krliu Handzinski, Associate professor	Organisational psychology
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimitar Kovachevski, Associate professor	Marketing psychology
Dr. Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, Assistant professor	Lifespan Psychology, Emotions and motivation, Health and Clinical psychology
Dr. Kate Trajkova, Assistant professor	Psychology of communication, Management psychology, Educational psychology
Dr. Irena Bojadzievska, Assistant professor	International human rights
Tihomir Janchovski, MA Teaching Assistant	Modern Europe, Composition 1
<i>Part-time professors</i>	<i>Scientific field / subjects</i>
Prof. Dr. Zlat Milovanovic <i>professor honoris causa</i>	International public law, International humanitarian law
Prof. Dr. Evica Delova Jolevska Professor	Statistics
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krum Efremov, Associate professor	Economic diplomacy

Dr. Dancho Markovski, Assistant professor	International public law, Diplomatic protocol, etiquette and correspondence
Dr. Ljupcho Efremov, Assistant professor	Statistics for psychologists, Methods in psychology teaching, Consumer psychology
Dr. Maja Korubin-Kjorluka, Assistant professor	Theories of personality
Dr. Vasilka Salevska Trajkokva, Assistant professor	Administrative law and public administration
Dr. Viktor Dimovski, Assistant professor (on leave)	Electoral systems, Contemporary political systems
Visiting professors and experts	Scientific field / subjects
Prof. Dr. Robert Hudson, visiting professor	Media and politics, Migrations and refugees
Prof. Dimitris Akrivoulis, visiting professor	Current issues in international relations and diplomacy
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elizaveta Mukaetova- Ladinski, visiting professor	Behaviour biological basics, Adult psychology
Dr. Saso Ordanoski, expert of practice	Sociology
Dr. Zhivko Gruevski, expert of practice	Introduction to international relations, Theory and history of international relations and diplomacy
Dr. Atanas Chuposki, expert of practice	Literature, Film and Politics
Dr. Blagica Rizoska Vanikj, expert of practice	Cognitive psychology, Career development, Psychometrics
Dr. Ivan Stefanovski, expert of practice	Constitutional law, Media and politics
Dr. Mira Polazarevska, expert of practice	Biological basis of behaviour
Dr. Marijana Opasinova Sundovska, expert of practice	Public policy
Dr. Vesna Kuzmanovikj, expert of practice	Marketing psychology
Darko Aleksov, MA, expert of practice	Electoral systems
Maja Kadievaska Vojnovikj, MA, expert of practice	Introduction to macroeconomics
Zoran Nechev, MA, expert of practice	International security, Contemporary political systems

Vincent Mosby, MA, expert of practice	US history
Sasko Todorovski, MA, expert of practice	International humanitarian law
Gorica Atanasova, MA, expert of practice	International human rights
Nadica Kostoska, expert of practice	Psychology of creativity

II.3 SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Contemporary, professionally structured programs, textbooks and materials
- Education standards compatible with American and European universities
- Excellent communication between professors and students, individual approach
- Experienced professors open to international cooperation, foreign professors, good teamwork
- Transparency, accountability and broader social responsibility
- Successful reaccreditation of all undergraduate programs
- Easily adaptable to hybrid/online mode of teaching

Opportunities

- Membership in domestic and international projects for mobility of students and professors
- Development of scientific-research projects
- Development of online programs
- Double degree programs with EU universities

Weaknesses

- Lower number of publications by professors, especially with an impact factor
- New full-time faculty members needed

Threats

- Enrolment in IRD graduate studies on hold due to lack of response from the Macedonian Board of Accreditation
- Economic and political crisis, low life standard