

PROBLEMS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN REGION: THE CASE OF MACEDONIA

Abdula Azizi

South East European University, Tetovo 1200, Macedonia
E-mail: a.azizi@seeu.edu.mk

Abstract

Western Balkan states are defined for a common future, which relates to their integration into the European Union (EU). In this paper, I will analyze the path of Macedonia to the EU, the problems and challenges faced in this regard. It will be raised dilemmas about the European future of Macedonia, which are closely related to the resolution of internal affairs (political and ethnic problems) as well as those inter-neighborhood (the problem with the name of the country and national identity). In particular, it will be an empirical analysis of the results arising from the survey conducted by the citizens in Macedonia, about their beliefs to resolve open issues and problems in the country's European integration path. I believe that this paper will encourage somewhat political interest, particularly those representing the Albanian community in the Macedonian government, to take into account the results of research in further actions related to the resolution of the problems in question. At the end, conclusions and recommendations are issued in order to facilitate the path of Macedonia towards the EU.

Keywords: *Macedonia, European Integration, name issue, national identity, interethnic relations.*