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REACHING THE EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

Business administration, economics, law and public administration are the fields in which students from the Universities in Skopje, Bitola and “Van der Stoel” University Tetovo will be able to gain knowledge during the next two weeks in the framework of the International Winter University Macedonia 2005.

This project is organized by the Academic Training Association from the Netherlands and will take place at the Law faculty in Skopje, where 180 students from our country and abroad will participate. The courses will be taught by professors from the three universities in Macedonia and international professors.

According to the Minister of Education and Science, Azis Polozani, who opened the winter university, concrete efforts to adjust higher education to the Bologna process are being made, thus to achieve reaching the European higher education area. “The winter university is established as an instrument to exchange experiences, exchange of aspects of the reforms that need to be pursued in the framework of euro-integration. The presence of students and professors from several centers from the region, establishes a practice of mobility of students and professors as encouragement to the reforms in the higher education”, stressed Minister Polozani. According to him, the project will contribute not only to reforms, but also to the improvement of academic life.

Justifying the motives behind the realization of the winter university in Macedonia, the Ambassador of the Netherlands in our country, Frederique de Man, emphasized that the purpose of this support towards our country is its democratic development. “The Dutch Embassy donated 250 000 euro for the project, and what we expect as benefit is the opportunity for students to socialize and exchange experiences among themselves as well as to achieve this among the academic staff”, she added.

The main feature of the winter university is interactive learning and the fact that the students will be awarded credits based on the knowledge gained, which they will be able to use during their regular courses. These sorts of projects have been implemented in Tuzla, Pristina and Afghanistan.

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