



PRESS RELEASE

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Macedonia

Score: 7

Macedonia at Europe's bottom in freedom of association report

The OHRID Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs released the report "Freedom of Association under Threat". Macedonia was ranked at the bottom of the list of Central and Eastern European countries in the Freedom House's report on freedom to association.



In the global report for the year 2007, entitled "Freedom of Association under Threat", Macedonia received score 7. The rankings include countries in Central and Eastern Europe as well as the Baltic countries.

As regards the Balkan countries, Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina got the score 8; Montenegro - 10; Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania - 11; Croatia and Slovenia received the optimal score 12.

More than 20 percent of the world's countries are experiencing a disturbing reversal in freedom of association, according to a new Freedom House report. The report examines the increasingly sophisticated tactics authoritarians are using to restrict nongovernmental organizations, human rights groups and independent trade unions.