

**CONFERENCE ON ACCESSION
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION
– NORTH MACEDONIA –**

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Subject: UNILATERAL STATEMENT BY NORTH MACEDONIA

Political Meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference
on the accession of North Macedonia to the European Union

Brussels, 19 July 2022

UNILATERAL STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

(to be attached to the minutes of the first political IGC)

As stipulated in the Constitution of the Republic of North Macedonia, the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet is the official language of the Republic of North Macedonia on the entire territory of the state and in its international relations.

The standard Macedonian language was codified in 1945. In accordance with the knowledge established by acts, broadly accepted theories, and empirical research of contemporary world Slavic studies and linguistic science, the Macedonian language has its own linguistic, spatial, and time continuity. This continuity is based on the specific development of the dialects at its base that were prevalent on the territory of today's Republic of North Macedonia. The Macedonian language is defined as a Slavic language in the South Slavic group of languages, which over the centuries grew, developed, and rose into a supra-dialectal, national standard language of the Macedonian people.

The Macedonian language was recognized by the Third UN Conference on the Standardization of the Geographical Names, held in Athens in 1977.

The Macedonian language is taught in many Slavic studies departments and lectureships at faculties and universities across Europe and the world. Its long verbal and written tradition are an indisputable fact in the linguistic science. Literature written in the Macedonian language has received international awards and recognitions.

When concluding any agreements, contracts and documents between North Macedonia and the European Union that contain a language clause listing all the official languages of the EU, such as the status agreement with Frontex, they should be signed with the Macedonian language listed in the language clause without any explanatory notes, additions or footnotes.

In the course of the accession negotiations and until their completion with the conclusion of the Treaty on Accession, and after the admission of North Macedonia to full membership in the EU, North Macedonia shall not accept to discuss any solution for the Macedonian language other than the one stated in the Negotiating Framework. With the admission of North Macedonia to full membership of the EU, the Macedonian language should become one of the official languages of the EU.
