

https://www.sobranie.mk/the-constitution-of-the-republic-of-macedonia-ns_article-constitution-of-the-republic-of-north-macedonia.nspix

1

The text of the Preamble has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment IV, Amendment XXXIV and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

Constitution

 Constitution

The citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia, the Macedonian people, part of the Albanian people, the Turkish people, the Vlach people, the Serbian people, the Romany people, the Bosniak people and the others, taking the responsibility for the present and the future of their fatherland, aware of and grateful to their predecessors for the sacrifice and dedication in their endeavors and struggle to create an independent and sovereign state of North Macedonia and responsible to the future generations for the preservation and development of everything that is valuable from the rich cultural inheritance and coexistence within North Macedonia, equal in their rights and obligations towards the common good for the Republic of North Macedonia, in accordance with the tradition of the Krushevo Republic and the legal decisions stated in the Declaration of the First Assembly of the Antifascist People's Liberation Assembly of Macedonia to the Macedonian people for the held Assembly of APLAM and the Referendum of September 8, 1991, expressing their will to establish an independent, sovereign state and the Ohrid Framework Agreement, establish the Republic of North Macedonia as an independent, sovereign state, with the aim to establish and consolidate the rule of law, to guarantee the human rights and the civil freedoms, to ensure peace and co-existence, social justice, economic well-being and prosperity in the life of the individual and the community, and, through their representatives in the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, elected in free and democratic elections, adopt

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1 **2**

Article 1 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Republic of North Macedonia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and social state.

The sovereignty of the Republic of North Macedonia is indivisible, inalienable and nontransferable.

Article 2 **3**

Article 2 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

Sovereignty in the Republic of North Macedonia derives from the citizens and belongs to the citizens.

The citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia exercise their authority through democratically elected representatives, through referendum and through other forms of direct expression.

Article 3 4

Article 3 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment I, Amendment XXXV and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The territory of the Republic of North Macedonia is indivisible and inalienable.

The existing borders of the Republic of North Macedonia are inviolable.

The borders of the Republic of North Macedonia may only be changed in accordance with the Constitution and based on the principle of free will, as well as in accordance with the generally accepted international norms.

The Republic of North Macedonia has no territorial pretensions to any neighboring state.

The Republic respects the sovereignty, the territorial integrity and the political independence of the neighboring countries.

Article 4 5

Article 4 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia have citizenship of the Republic of North Macedonia.

A citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia cannot be deprived of the citizenship, nor expelled from the Republic of North Macedonia. A citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia cannot be extradited to another state, except on the basis of a ratified international agreement, by a court decision.

The citizenship of the Republic of North Macedonia is regulated by a law.

Article 5 6

Article 5 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The state symbols of the Republic of North Macedonia are: the coat of arms, the flag and the national anthem.

The coat of arms, the flag and the national anthem of the Republic of North Macedonia are determined by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 6 7

Article 6 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The capital of the Republic of North Macedonia is Skopje.

Article 7 8

Article 7 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment V and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet is the official language on the whole territory of the Republic of North Macedonia and in its international relations.

Any other language spoken by at least 20% of the citizens is also an official language and its alphabet, as determined in this Article.

Any personal documents of the citizens speaking an official language other than the Macedonian are issued in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, as well as in that language and its alphabet, in accordance with the law.

Any citizen living in the units of local self-government where at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language other than the Macedonian may use any official language and its alphabet to communicate with the regional offices of the ministries. The regional offices competent for these units of local self-government reply in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, as well as in the official language and alphabet used by the citizen. Any citizen may use one of the official languages and its alphabet to communicate with the ministries, and the ministries reply in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, as well as in the official language and alphabet used by the citizen.

Any official language other than the Macedonian may be used in accordance with the law in the bodies of the state authority in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The language and the alphabet used by at least 20% of the citizens is an official language in the units of local self-government in addition to the Macedonian language and the Cyrillic alphabet. The bodies of the local self-government units decide on the use of the languages and the alphabets spoken by less than 20% of the citizens in the units of local self-government.

Article 8 9

Article 8 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment VI and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The fundamental values of the constitutional order of the Republic of North Macedonia are:

- the basic freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen, recognized in international law and set down in the Constitution;
- the free expression of national identity; Equitable representation of citizens belonging to all communities in the bodies of state authority and the other public institutions at all levels.
- the rule of law;
- the separation of state powers into legislative, executive and judicial;
- the political pluralism and free, direct and democratic elections;
- the legal protection of property;
- the freedom of the market and entrepreneurship;
- the humanism, social justice and solidarity;

- the local self-government;
- the land development and humanization and environmental protection and development; and
- the respect for the generally accepted norms of international law.

Everything which is not forbidden by the Constitution or law is allowed in the Republic of North Macedonia.

II. BASIC FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE CITIZEN

1. Civil and political freedoms and rights

Article 9 **10**

Article 9 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia are equal in their freedoms and rights, regardless of sex, race, color of skin, national and social origin, political and religious beliefs, property and social status.

The citizens are equal before the Constitution and law.

Article 10 **11**

Article 10 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The life of the individual is inviolable.

Death penalty cannot be imposed on any grounds whatsoever in the Republic of North Macedonia.

Article 11

The physical and moral integrity of the individual are inviolable.

Any form of torture, inhumane or humiliating conduct and punishment is prohibited.

Forced labor is prohibited.

Article 12 **12**

Article 12 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment III to the Constitution.

The freedom of the individual is inviolable.

No individual's freedom can be restricted, except by a court decision and in cases and in a procedure determined by a law.

An individual summoned, detained or apprehended must be immediately informed of the reasons for the summoning, detention or apprehension and of its rights determined by law and it cannot be required to give a statement. The individual has the right to an attorney in the police and court procedure.

The apprehended individual must be brought before a court immediately and within a maximum period of 24 hours from the moment of

apprehension, and the court decides on the legality of the apprehension without any delay.

Until the indictment is made, the detention may, by a court decision, last for a maximum period of 180 days as of the day of detention.

After the indictment is made, detention may be prolonged or determined by a competent court in a case and in a procedure laid down by law.

The detained individual may, under the conditions determined by a law, be released pending trial.

Article 13 13

Article 13 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XX to the Constitution.

A person indicted for a punishable act is considered innocent until his/her guilt is established by an effective court decision.

A person unlawfully apprehended, detained or unlawfully convicted has the right to damage compensation and other rights determined by law.

A sanction for misdemeanours determined by a law may be imposed by a state administrative body or an organization and another body exercising public powers.

Court protection is guaranteed against a final decision on a misdemeanour under conditions and in a procedure determined by a law.

Article 14

No person can be punished for an act which has not been determined as a punishable offense by a law or by another regulation before the act has been committed, and for which no punishment has been prescribed.

No person can be tried in a court of law for an offense for which he/she has already been tried and for which an effective court decision has already been brought.

Article 15 14

Article 15 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXI to the Constitution.

The right to appeal decisions adopted in the first instance court proceedings is guaranteed.

The right of appeal or other legal protection against individual legal acts adopted in the first instance proceedings by an administrative body or organization and another body exercising public powers is regulated by a law.

Article 16

The freedom of conviction, conscience, thought and public expression of thought is guaranteed.

The freedom of speech, public address, public information and free establishment of institutions for public information is guaranteed.

Free access to information, the freedom to receive and impart information are guaranteed.

The right of reply via the mass media is guaranteed.

The right of correction in the mass media is guaranteed.

The right to protect the source of information in the mass media is guaranteed.

Censorship is prohibited.

Article 17 15

Article 17 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XIX to the Constitution.

The freedom and inviolability of correspondence and other forms of communication is guaranteed.

Only a court decision may, under conditions and in a procedure set out by a law, authorize non-application of the right of inviolability of correspondence and of all other forms of communication, provided that it is indispensable for the purpose of preventing or revealing crimes, conducting criminal proceedings or where required in the interests of security and defense of the Republic.

The law is adopted by a two-thirds majority of the votes of the total number of representatives in the Assembly.

Article 18

The security and confidentiality of personal data are guaranteed.

The citizens are guaranteed protection against violation of the personal integrity deriving from the registration of information about them through data processing.

Article 19 16

Article 19 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment VII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The freedom of religious confession is guaranteed.

The expression of religion freely and publicly, individually or collectively with others, is guaranteed.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church, as well as the Islamic Religious Community in North Macedonia, the Catholic Church, the Evangelical Methodist Church, the Jewish Community, and the other confessional communities and religious groups are separate from the state and equal before the law.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church, as well as the Islamic Religious Community in North Macedonia, the Catholic Church, Evangelical Methodist Church, the Jewish Community, and the other confessional communities and religious groups are free to establish religious schools and other social and charitable institutions, in a procedure foreseen by a law.

Article 20 17**Article 20 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

The citizens are guaranteed freedom of association to exercise and protect their political, economic, social, cultural and other rights and convictions.

The citizens may freely establish associations of citizens and political parties, join them or leave them.

The programs and activities of associations of citizens and political parties cannot be directed at violent destruction of the constitutional order of the Republic and at encouragement or calling upon military aggression or incitement to ethnic, racial or religious hatred or intolerance.

Military or paramilitary associations which do not belong to the armed forces of the Republic of North Macedonia are prohibited.

Article 21

The citizens have the right to gather peacefully and to express public protest without prior announcement and special approval.

The exercise of this right may be restricted only during states of war and emergency.

Article 22

Every citizen at the age of 18 acquires the right to vote.

The right to vote is equal, universal and direct, and is exercised at free elections by secret ballot.

Persons deprived of capacity to contract do not have the right to vote.

Article 23

Every citizen has the right to take part in the exercise of public offices.

Article 24

Every citizen has the right to submit complaints to the state bodies and other public services and to receive a reply thereon.

A citizen cannot be called to account or suffer adverse consequences for viewpoints expressed in the complaints, unless they entail the committing of a criminal offense.

Article 25

Every citizen is guaranteed the respect and protection of the privacy of his/her personal and family life, of his/her dignity and repute.

Article 26

The inviolability of the home is guaranteed.

The right to the inviolability of the home may be restricted only by a court decision in cases of detection or prevention of crimes or protection of people's health.

Article 27 18**Article 27 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

Every citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia has the right to move freely on the territory of the Republic and to chose freely his/her place of residence.

Every citizen has the right to leave the territory of the Republic and to return to the Republic.

The exercise of these rights may be restricted by a law only in cases where it is necessary for the protection of security of the Republic, conduct of a criminal procedure or protection of people's health.

Article 28 19**Article 28 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

The defense of the Republic of North Macedonia is the right and duty of every citizen.

The exercise of this right and duty of the citizens is regulated by a law.

Article 29 20**Article 29 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

Foreigners in the Republic of North Macedonia enjoy freedoms and rights guaranteed by the Constitution, under conditions determined by a law and international agreements.

The Republic guarantees the foreigners and stateless persons expelled because of democratic, political convictions and activities the right of asylum.

Extradition of a foreigner can be carried out only on the basis of a ratified international agreement and on the principle of reciprocity. A foreigner cannot be extradited for a political criminal offense. Acts of terrorism are not regarded as political criminal offenses.

2. Economic, social and cultural rights**Article 30**

The right of ownership and the right of inheritance are guaranteed.

The ownership creates rights and duties and should serve the well-being of the individual and the community.

No person may be deprived of, or restricted, the ownership and the rights deriving from it, except in cases of public interest determined by law.

In case of expropriation of property or in case of restriction of ownership, rightful compensation which cannot be lower than the market value is guaranteed.

Article 31 21

Article 31 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

A foreigner in the Republic of North Macedonia may acquire the right of ownership under conditions determined by a law.

Article 32

Every person has the right to work, free choice of employment, protection at work, and financial assistance during temporary unemployment.

Every job is open to all under equal conditions.

Every employee has the right to appropriate remuneration.

Every employee has the right to paid daily, weekly and annual leave. Employees cannot waive these rights.

The exercise of the rights of the employees and their position are regulated by a law and collective agreements.

Article 33

Every person is obliged to pay taxes and other public duties and to participate in the coverage of the public expenditures in the manner determined by a law.

Article 34

The citizens have the right to social security and social insurance determined by a law and collective agreement.

Article 35

The Republic provides for the social protection and social security of citizens in accordance with the principle of social justice.

The Republic guarantees the right of assistance to citizens who are infirm and who are unfit for work.

The Republic provides special protection for disabled persons and conditions for their involvement in the life of the society.

Article 36

The Republic guarantees special social security rights to veterans of the Anti-Fascist War and of all national liberation wars in Macedonia, to war invalids, to those expelled and imprisoned for the ideas of the separate identity of the Macedonian people and its statehood, as well as to members of their families without means of material and social subsistence.

The special rights are regulated by a law.

Article 37

In order to exercise their economic and social rights, the citizens have the right to establish trade unions. The trade unions can constitute their confederations and become members of international trade union organizations.

The law may restrict the conditions for the exercise of the right to trade union organization in the armed forces, the police and the administrative bodies.

Article 38

The right to strike is guaranteed.

The law may restrict the conditions for the exercise of the right to strike in the armed forces, the police and the administrative bodies.

Article 39

Every citizen is guaranteed the right to health care.

The citizen has the right and duty to protect and promote its own health and the health of the others.

Article 40

The Republic provides particular care and protection for the family.

The legal relations in marriage, family and cohabitation are regulated by a law.

Parents have the right and duty to provide for the nurturing and education of the children. Children are responsible for the care of the old and infirm parents.

The Republic provides special protection for children without parents and children without parental care.

Article 41

It is the right of the human being to decide freely on the procreation of children.

The Republic implements a humane population policy in order to provide balanced economic and social development.

Article 42

The Republic particularly protects the motherhood, children and minors.

A person under 15 years of age cannot be employed.

Minors and mothers have the right to special protection at work.

Minors must not be employed at jobs which are detrimental to their health and morals.

Article 43

Every person has the right to a healthy environment.

Every person is obliged to promote and protect the environment.

The Republic provides conditions for the exercise of the right of citizens to a healthy environment.

Article 44

Every person has the right to education.

Education is accessible to everyone under equal conditions.

Primary education is compulsory and free.

Article 45

Citizens have the right to establish private educational institutions at all levels of education, except primary education, under conditions determined by a law.

Article 46

The university is guaranteed autonomy. The conditions of establishment, performance and termination of the activity of a university are regulated by a law.

Article 47

The freedom of scientific, artistic and other forms of creative work is guaranteed.

Rights deriving from scientific, artistic or other intellectual work are guaranteed.

The Republic stimulates, assists and protects the development of science, arts and culture.

The Republic stimulates and assists scientific and technological development.

The Republic stimulates and assists technical culture and sports.

Article 48 22

Article 48 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment VIII to the Constitution.

The members of communities have the right to express, nourish and develop their identity and community attributes freely, and to use their community symbols.

The Republic guarantees protection of the ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity of all communities.

The members of communities have the right to establish institutions for culture, art, education, as well as scientific and other associations for expressing, nourishing and developing their identity.

The members of communities have the right to education in their language in the primary and secondary education in the manner determined by a law. The Macedonian language is also studied in the schools where education is delivered in another language.

Article 49 23

Article 49 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment II and Amendment XXXVI to the Constitution.

The Republic protects, guarantees and nourishes the attributes, the historical and cultural heritage of the Macedonian people.

The Republic protects the rights and the interests of its citizens living or staying abroad.

The Republic cares for the diaspora of the Macedonian people and for part of the Albanian people, Turkish people, Vlach people, Serbian people, Romani people, Bosniak people and the others, and nourishes and promotes the links with the homeland.

In so doing, the Republic does not interfere in the sovereign rights of other states and in their internal affairs.

3. Guarantees of basic freedoms and rights

Article 50 24

Article 50 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

Every citizen may invoke the protection of freedoms and rights determined by the Constitution before the courts and before the Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia in a procedure based on the principles of priority and urgency.

Judicial protection of the legality of individual acts of state administration and of other institutions exercising public powers is guaranteed.

A citizen has the right to be informed on human rights and basic freedoms and to contribute actively, individually or jointly with others, to their promotion and protection.

Article 51 25

Article 51 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The laws in the Republic of North Macedonia must be in accordance with the Constitution, and all other regulations in accordance with the Constitution and law.

Every person is obliged to respect the Constitution and the laws.

Article 52 26

Article 52 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The laws and the other regulations are published before they come into force.

The laws and the other regulations are published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia" within a period of seven days as of the day of their adoption at the latest.

The laws come into force on the eighth day as of the day of publication at the earliest and in exceptional cases determined by the Assembly, on the day of publication.

The laws and the other regulations cannot have a retroactive effect, with the exception of cases which are more favorable for the citizens.

Article 53

Attorneyship is an autonomous and independent public service that provides legal assistance and exercises public powers in accordance with the law.

Article 54

The freedoms and rights of the individual and the citizen can be restricted only in cases determined by the Constitution.

The freedoms and rights of the individual and the citizen can be restricted during states of war or emergency in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The restriction of the freedoms and rights cannot discriminate on grounds of sex, race, color of skin, language, religion, national or social origin, property or social status.

The restriction of the freedoms and rights cannot apply to the right to life, prohibition of torture, inhuman and humiliating treatment and punishment, legal determination of punishable offenses and punishments, as well as to the freedom of conviction, conscience, opinion, public expression of opinion and religious confession.

4. Foundations for economic relations

Article 55

The freedom of the market and entrepreneurship is guaranteed.

The Republic ensures an equal legal position to all parties in the market. The Republic takes measures against monopolistic positions and monopolistic conduct on the market.

The freedom of the market and entrepreneurship can be restricted by law only for reasons of the defense of the Republic, protection of the nature, environment or people's health.

Article 56 27

Article 56 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment IX and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

All natural resources of the Republic, the flora and fauna, the goods in general use, as well as the items and facilities of particular cultural and historical importance determined by law, are goods of general interest for the Republic and enjoy special protection.

The Republic guarantees protection, promotion and enrichment of the historical and artistic heritage of North Macedonia and of all communities in North Macedonia, as well as of the goods of which it is composed, regardless of their legal status.

A law regulates the manner and conditions under which specific goods of general interest for the Republic can be given for use.

Article 57

The Republic stimulates the economic development and provides for more balanced spatial and regional development, as well as for more rapid development of economically underdeveloped areas.

Article 58

Ownership and labor are the basis for management and participation in the decision-making.

Participation in management and decision-making in public institutions and services is regulated by a law on the principles of expertise and competence.

Article 59

Foreign investors are guaranteed the right to free transfer of invested capital and profits.

The rights acquired on the basis of the invested capital may not be reduced by a law or another regulation.

Article 60 28

Article 60 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia is a bank of issue.

The National Bank is autonomous and responsible for the stability of the currency, for the monetary policy and for the general liquidity of payments in the Republic and abroad.

The organization and work of the National Bank are regulated by a law.

III. ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE AUTHORITY

1. Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia

Article 61 29

Article 61 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia is a representative body of the citizens and holder of the legislative power of the Republic.

The organization and functioning of the Assembly are regulated by the Constitution and by the Rules of Procedure.

Article 62

The Assembly is composed of 120 to 140 representatives.

The representatives are elected at general, direct and free elections by secret ballot.

The representative represents the citizens and makes decisions in the Assembly according to his/her own beliefs.

A representative's mandate cannot be revoked.

The manner and conditions of election of representatives are regulated by a law adopted by a majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 63

The representatives in the Assembly are elected for a term of four years. The term of office of the representatives is verified by the Assembly. The term of office starts from the constitutive session of the Assembly. The newly-elected Assembly meets at the constitutive session 20 days after the elections have been held at the latest. The constitutive session is convened by the president of the Assembly of the previous term.

If the constitutive session is not convened within the deadline prescribed, the representatives assemble and constitute the Assembly themselves on the twenty-first day after the completion of the elections.

Elections for representatives in the Assembly are held within the last 90 days of the term of the current Assembly or within 60 days from the day of dissolution of the Assembly.

The term of office of the representatives in the Assembly can be extended only during states of war or emergency.

A law determines the incompatibility of, and non-electability for, the office of a representative in the Assembly with other public offices or professions.

The Assembly is dissolved if the majority of the total number of representatives vote for dissolution.

Article 64

Representatives enjoy immunity.

A representative cannot be held criminally liable or be detained for an opinion expressed or a vote cast in the Assembly.

A representative cannot be detained without the approval of the Assembly, unless found committing a crime for which a prison sentence of at least five years is prescribed.

The Assembly can decide to invoke immunity for a representative even if he/she him/herself has not invoked immunity, provided that it is necessary for the exercise of the office of a representative.

Representatives are not called up for duties in the armed forces during the term of office.

A representative is entitled to remuneration determined by a law.

Article 65

A representative may resign his/her office.

The representative submits his/her resignation in person at a session of the Assembly.

The term of office of a representative terminates if he/she is sentenced for a criminal offense for which a prison sentence of at least five years is prescribed.

The representative can have his/her mandate revoked for committing a crime or another punishable act which makes him/her unfit to perform the office of a representative, as well as for absence from the Assembly for longer than six months for no justifiable reason. Revocation of the mandate is determined by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 66

The Assembly is in permanent session.

The Assembly works at sessions.

The sessions of the Assembly are called by the president of the Assembly.

The Assembly adopts the Rules of Procedure by a majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 67

The Assembly elects a president and one or more vice-presidents from the ranks of the representatives by a majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The president of the Assembly represents the Assembly, ensures the application of the Rules of Procedure and carries out other activities determined by the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

The office of the president of the Assembly is incompatible with the exercise of another public office, profession or office in a political party.

The president of the Assembly calls an election of representatives and of the president of the Republic.

Article 68 30

Article 68 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXIX and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- adopts and amends the Constitution;
- adopts laws and gives an authentic interpretation of laws;
- determines public duties;
- adopts the budget and the annual account of the Republic;
- adopts the spatial plan of the Republic;
- ratifies international agreements;
- decides on war and peace;
- makes decisions concerning any changes in the borders of the Republic;
- makes decisions on association in, and disassociation from, any form of union or community with other states;
- calls a referendum;
- makes decisions concerning the reserves of the Republic;
- sets up councils;
- elects the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- elects judges to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- selects, appoints and dismisses other holders of public and other offices determined by the Constitution and law;

- carries out political control and supervision of the Government and of the other holders of public offices accountable to the Assembly;
- grants amnesty; and
- performs other activities determined by the Constitution.

In carrying out the duties within its competence, the Assembly adopts decisions, declarations, resolutions, recommendations and conclusions.

Article 69 31

Article 69 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment X and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Assembly may adopt decisions if its session is attended by a majority of the total number of representatives. The Assembly adopts decisions by a majority vote of the representatives attending, but no less than one-third of the total number of representatives, unless the Constitution provides for a special majority.

As for laws that directly affect culture, use of languages, education, personal documents, and use of symbols, the Assembly adopts decisions by a majority vote of the representatives attending, within which there must be a majority of the votes of the representatives attending who belong to communities not in the majority in the Republic of North Macedonia. The Committee on Inter-Community Relations resolves the dispute regarding the application of this provision.

Article 70

The sessions of the Assembly are open to the public.

The Assembly may decide to work without the presence of the public by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 71 32

Article 71 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

Every representative in the Assembly, the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia and at least 10.000 voters have the right to propose adoption of a law.

The initiative for adopting a law may be given to the authorized instances by any citizen, group of citizens, institutions or associations.

Article 72

An interpellation may be made for the work of any holder of public office, the Government and any of its members individually, as well as for issues concerning the work of the state bodies.

An interpellation may be made by a minimum of five representatives.

Every representative may ask a representative's question.

The manner and procedure for submitting and debating on an interpellation and representative's question are regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

Article 73

The Assembly decides on calling a referendum concerning specific matters within its competence by a majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The decision on the referendum is adopted if it is voted for by the majority of the voters who voted, provided that more than half of the total number of voters have cast their votes.

The Assembly is obliged to call a referendum if at least 150.000 voters submit a proposal.

The decision made in a referendum is binding.

Article 74

The Assembly makes decisions on any change of the borders of the Republic by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The decision on any change of the borders of the Republic is adopted by a referendum, provided that it is voted for by the majority of the total number of voters.

Article 75

Laws are promulgated by a decree.

The decree for promulgation of laws is signed by the president of the Republic and the president of the Assembly.

The president of the Republic may decide not to sign the decree for promulgation of the law. The Assembly reconsiders the law and if it adopts the law by a majority vote of the total number of representatives, the president of the Republic is obliged to sign the decree.

The president is obliged to sign the decree if, in accordance with the Constitution, the law is adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 76

The Assembly sets up permanent and temporary working bodies.

The Assembly may set up inquiry commissions for any field or any matter of public interest.

A proposal for setting up an inquiry commission may be submitted by at least 20 representatives.

The Assembly sets up a standing inquiry commission for the protection of the freedoms and rights of the citizen.

The findings of the inquiry commissions are the basis for initiation of a procedure for determination of liability of holders of public offices.

Article 77 33

**Article 77 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XI and Amendment XXXIII to the**

Constitution.

The Assembly elects the ombudsman by a majority vote of the total number of representatives, and there must be a majority vote of the total number of representatives who belong to communities not in the majority in the population of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The ombudsman protects the constitutional and legal rights of citizens when violated by the bodies of state administration and by other bodies and organizations vested with public powers. The ombudsman protects the constitutional and legal rights of citizens if violated by the bodies of the state administration and by other bodies and organizations with public powers. The ombudsman gives particular attention to safeguarding the principles of non-discrimination equitable representation of members of communities in the bodies of state authority, in the bodies of local self-government units, and in the public institutions and services.

The ombudsman is elected for a term of eight years, with the right to one reelection.

The conditions for election and dismissal, the competences and the manner of work of the ombudsman are regulated by a law.

Article 78 34

Article 78 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XII to the Constitution.

The Assembly establishes a Committee for Inter-Community Relations.

The Committee consists of 19 members out of whom 7 members are from among the Macedonian and Albanian representatives of the Assembly each and one member from among the Turkish, Vlach, Romany, Serbian and Bosniak representatives each. If any of the communities does not have representatives, the ombudsman, after consultation with relevant representatives of those communities, proposes the other members of the Committee.

The Assembly elects the members of the Committee.

The Committee considers issues of inter-community relations in the Republic and gives opinions and proposals for their solution.

The Assembly is obliged to review the opinions and proposals of the Committee and to make decisions on them.

In the event of a dispute regarding the application of the voting procedure in the Assembly, set out in Article 69 paragraph 2, the Committee decides whether the procedure is to be conducted by a majority vote of the members.

2. President of the Republic of North Macedonia

Article 79 35

Article 79 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The president of the Republic of North Macedonia represents the Republic.

The president of the Republic is a commander-in-chief of the armed forces of North Macedonia.

The president of the Republic exercises his/her rights and duties on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and the laws.

Article 80 **36**

Article 80 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The president of the Republic is elected in general and direct elections, by secret ballot, for a term of five years.

The same person may be elected president of the Republic two times at the most.

The president of the Republic must be a citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia.

A person may be elected president of the Republic if he/she is over the age of at least 40 on the day of election.

A person may not be elected president of the Republic if, on the day of election, he/she has not been a resident of the Republic of North Macedonia for at least ten years within the last 15 years.

Article 81 **37**

Article 81 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXI to the Constitution.

A candidate for a president of the Republic may be nominated by at least 10.000 voters or at least 30 representatives.

A candidate voted by a majority of the total number of voters is elected president of the Republic.

If no candidate for a president wins the majority required in the first round of voting, the two candidates who have won most votes in the first round are voted for in the second round.

The second round takes place within 14 days as of the termination of the voting in the first round.

President is elected the candidate who won the majority of votes of the voters who have cast their votes, provided that more than 40% of the voters have cast their votes.

If no candidate wins the required majority of votes in the second round of voting, the whole electoral procedure is repeated.

If only one candidate is nominated for a president of the Republic and he/she does not win the required majority of votes in the first round, the whole electoral procedure is repeated.

The election of the president of the Republic takes place within the last 60 days of the term of the previous president. In case of termination of the term of office of the president of the Republic for any reason, the election of a new president takes place within 40 days from the day of termination of the term of office.

Before taking the office, the president of the Republic makes a solemn declaration before the Assembly of his/her commitment to respect the Constitution and the laws.

Article 82 38**Article 82 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

In case of death, resignation, permanent inability to exercise his/her office, or termination of the term of office by force of the Constitution, the office of the president of the Republic is carried out by the president of the Assembly until the election of a new president.

The occurrence of conditions for termination of the office of the president of the Republic is *ex officio* determined by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The president of the Assembly deputizes for the president of the Republic in case of his/her temporary inability to perform the office.

If the president of the Assembly is performing the office of a president of the Republic, he/she takes part in the work of the Assembly without the right to vote.

Article 83 39**Article 83 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

The office of the president of the Republic is incompatible with the performance of any other public office, profession or office in a political party.

The president of the Republic enjoys immunity.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia decides on the revocation of immunity of the president of the Republic by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of judges.

Article 84 40**Article 84 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XII, Amendment XXII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

The president of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- nominates a mandator to constitute the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- appoints and dismisses ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives of the Republic of North Macedonia abroad by a decree;
- accepts the credentials and letters of recall of foreign diplomatic representatives;
- proposes two judges to sit on the Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- Proposes two members of the Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia.
- appoints three members to the Security Council of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- appoints and dismisses other holders of state and public offices determined by the Constitution and the law;
- grants decorations and honors in accordance with the law;
- grants pardons in accordance with the law; and
- performs other duties determined by the Constitution.

Article 85

The president of the Republic informs the Assembly on issues within his/her competence at least once a year.

The Assembly may request the president of the Republic to state an opinion on issues within his/her competence.

Article 86 41

Article 86 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XIII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The president of the Republic is the president of the Security Council of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Security Council of the Republic is composed of: the president of the Republic, the president of the Assembly, the president of the Government, the ministers heading the bodies of state administration in the fields of security, defense and foreign affairs, and three members appointed by the president of the Republic. In appointing the three members, the president ensures that the composition of the Council as a whole equitably reflects the composition of the population of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Council considers issues related to the security and defense of the Republic and gives proposals to the Assembly and the Government.

Article 87

The president is held liable for any violation of the Constitution and the laws in exercising his/her rights and duties.

The procedure for determination of liability of the president of the Republic is initiated by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives. The Constitutional Court decides on the liability of the president by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of judges.

If the Constitutional Court determines liability of the president, his/her office is terminated by the force of the Constitution.

3. Government of the Republic of North Macedonia

Article 88 42

Article 88 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia is the holder of the executive power.

The Government exercises its rights and duties on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and the laws.

Article 89 43

Article 89 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXIII to the Constitution.

The Government is composed of a president and ministers.

The president and the ministers cannot be representatives in the Assembly.

The president enjoys immunity. The Assembly decides on his/her immunity.

The president and the ministers cannot be called up for duties in the armed forces.

The office of the president and of the minister is incompatible with any other public offices or professions.

The organization and manner of operation of the Government are regulated by a law.

Article 90 44

Article 90 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The president of the Republic of North Macedonia is obliged, within ten days as of the constitution of the Assembly, to entrust the mandate for constitution of the Government to a candidate from the party, that is, parties which has/have a majority in the Assembly.

The mandator, within 20 days as of the day of being entrusted with the mandate, submits a program to the Assembly and proposes the composition of the Government.

The Government is elected by the Assembly on the proposal of the mandator and on the basis of the program by a majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 91 45

Article 91 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXIV and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- determines the policy of implementation of the laws and the other regulations of the Assembly and is responsible for their implementation;
- proposes laws, the budget of the Republic, and other regulations to be adopted by the Assembly;
- proposes a spatial plan of the Republic;
- proposes decisions concerning the reserves of the Republic and takes care of their implementation;
- adopts decrees and other regulations for execution of laws;
- lays down principles on internal organization and work of the ministries and the other administrative bodies, directs and supervises their work;
- gives opinions on draft laws and other regulations submitted to the Assembly by other authorized proposers;
- decides on recognition of states and governments;
- establishes diplomatic and consular relations with other states;
- makes decisions on opening diplomatic and consular offices abroad;
- proposes appointments of ambassadors and representatives of the Republic of North Macedonia abroad and appoints chiefs of consular offices;
- Proposes the public prosecutor of the Republic of North Macedonia on a previously obtained opinion by the Council of Public Prosecutors.
- appoints and dismisses holders of public and other offices determined by

the Constitution and the laws; and
- performs other duties determined by the Constitution and law.

Article 92

The Government and each of its members are accountable to the Assembly for their work.

The Assembly may take a vote of no-confidence in the Government.

A motion of no-confidence in the Government may be proposed by a minimum of 20 representatives.

The vote of no-confidence in the Government is taken three days after the day of its proposal.

Another vote of no-confidence in the Government cannot be proposed before the expiry of 90 days as of day of the last such vote, unless proposed by a majority of the total number of representatives.

The vote of no-confidence in the Government passes by a majority vote of the total number of representatives. If a vote of no-confidence in the Government is passed, the Government is obliged to submit its resignation.

Article 93

The Government itself has the right to propose a motion of no-confidence before the Assembly.

The Government has the right to submit its resignation.

The resignation of the president of the Government, his/her death or permanent inability to perform his/her duties, entail resignation of the Government.

The term of office of the Government ceases when the Assembly is dissolved.

Where a vote of no-confidence in the Government has been passed, it has submitted its resignation, or its term of office has ceased because of dissolution of the Assembly, it remains on duty until the election of a new Government.

Article 94

A member of the Government has the right to submit his/her resignation.

The president of the Government may propose dismissal of a member of the Government.

The Assembly decides on the proposal for dismissal of a member of the Government at its first meeting following the proposal.

If the president of the Government proposes dismissal of more than one-third of the initial composition of the Government, the Assembly decides as for the election of a new Government.

Article 95

The state administration consists of ministries and other administrative bodies and organizations determined by law.

Political organization and action within the bodies of state administration are prohibited.

The organization and work of the bodies of state administration are regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 96

The bodies of state administration perform the duties within their competence autonomously and on the basis and within the framework of the Constitution and the laws, and they are accountable for their work to the Government.

Article 97

The bodies of state administration in the fields of defense and the police are headed by civilians who have been civilians for at least three years before their election to these offices.

4. Judiciary

Article 98 46

Article 98 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXV to the Constitution.

The judicial power is exercised by the courts.

The courts are autonomous and independent. The courts judge on the basis of the Constitution and laws and international agreements ratified in accordance with the Constitution.

Special courts are prohibited.

The types, competence, establishment, abolishment, organization and composition of the courts, as well as the procedure before the courts, are regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 99 47

Article 99 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXVI and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

A judge is elected without limitation of duration of the term of office.

A judge cannot be reassigned against his/her will.

The term of office of a judge terminates:

- if he/she so requests;
- if he/she permanently loses the capacity of exercising the office of a judge, which is determined by the Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- if he/she fulfills the conditions for an old-age pension;
- if he/she is sentenced for a crime to unconditional imprisonment of a minimum six months by an effective court decision; and

- if he/she is elected or appointed to another public office, except when his/her judicial office is in abeyance under conditions determined by a law.

A judge is dismissed:

- for committing more serious disciplinary offense which makes him/her unworthy to exercise the office of a judge prescribed by a law and
- for unprofessional and negligent exercise of the office of a judge under conditions determined by a law.

Article 100 48

Article 100 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXVII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

Judges enjoy immunity.

A judge cannot be held criminally liable for an opinion expressed and a decision made in the process of rendering court decisions.

A judge cannot be detained without the consent of the Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia, except if caught in committing a crime for which imprisonment of at least five years is prescribed.

The office of a judge is incompatible with the membership in a political party or exercise of another public office or profession determined by a law.

Political organization and action in the judiciary is prohibited.

Article 101 49

Article 101 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of North Macedonia is the highest court in the Republic that provides uniformity in the application of the laws by the courts.

Article 102

Court hearings and passing of judgements are public.

The public may be excluded in cases determined by a law.

Article 103

The court tries cases in a panel.

The law determines cases in which a judge can sit alone.

A jury takes part in a trial in cases determined by a law.

The jurors cannot be held liable for their opinions and decisions concerning the court rulings.

Article 104 50

Article 104 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XIV, Amendment XXVIII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia is an independent and autonomous body of the judiciary. The Council ensures and guarantees the independence and the autonomy of the judicial power.

The Council is composed of fifteen members.

The president of the Supreme Court of the Republic of North Macedonia and the minister of justice are *ex officio* members of the Council.

Eight members of the Council are elected by the judges from their own ranks. Three of the elected members belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia, ensuring equitable representation of citizens belonging to all communities.

Three members of the Council are elected by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia by a majority vote of the total number of representatives, and there must be a majority vote of the total number of representatives who belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia.

Two members of the Council are proposed by the president of the Republic of North Macedonia and are elected by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, one of whom belongs to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The members of the Council who are elected by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, that is, who are proposed by the president of the Republic of North Macedonia are from among the university law professors, lawyers and other prominent jurists.

The term of office of the elected members of the Council lasts six years, with the right to one re-election.

The criteria and procedure of election, as well as the basis and the procedure for termination of the office and dismissal of a member of the Council are determined by a law.

The office of an elected member of the Council is incompatible with the membership in a political party and exercise of other public offices and professions determined by a law.

Article 105 51

Article 105 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXIX and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- elects and dismisses the judges and the jurors;
- determines the termination of the office of a judge;
- elects and dismisses the presidents of the courts;
- monitors and assesses the work of the judges;
- decides on the disciplinary liability of the judges;
- decides on revocation of the immunity of the judges;
- proposes two judges for the Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia from among the judges; and
- performs other activities laid down by a law.

In the course of election of judges, jurors and court presidents, equitable representation of citizens belonging to all communities is observed.

The Council submits an annual report for its work to the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, the form, content and manner of adoption of which is determined by a law.

5. Public Prosecution Office

Article 106 52

Article 106 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXX and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Public Prosecution Office is a single and autonomous state body prosecuting persons that have committed crimes and other punishable acts determined by a law and performs other activities determined by a law.

The Public Prosecution Office performs its duties on the basis of the Constitution and the laws and the international agreements ratified in accordance with the Constitution.

The function of the Public Prosecution Office is performed by the public prosecutor of the Republic of North Macedonia and by the public prosecutors.

The competences, establishment, termination, organization and operation of the Public Prosecution Office is regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The public prosecutor of the Republic of North Macedonia is appointed and dismissed by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia for a term of six years with the right to re-election.

The public prosecutors are elected by the Council of Public Prosecutors without limitation of the duration of the term of office.

In the election of public prosecutors, equitable representation of citizens belonging to all communities is observed.

The Council decides on dismissal of public prosecutors.

The competences, composition and structure of the Council, the term of office of its members, as well as the basis and the procedure for termination of the office and dismissal of a member of the Council is regulated by a law.

The basis and the procedure for termination of the office and dismissal of the public prosecutor of the Republic of North Macedonia and of the public prosecutors are regulated by a law.

The office of the public prosecutor of the Republic of North Macedonia and of a public prosecutor is incompatible with the membership in a political party or exercise of other public offices and professions determined by a law.

Political organization and action in the Public Prosecution Office is prohibited.

Article 107

Deleted 53

Article 107 has been deleted in accordance with Amendment XXX to the Constitution.

IV. CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Article 108 54

Article 108 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia is a body of the Republic that protects the constitutionality and legality.

Article 109 55

Article 109 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XV and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court is composed of nine judges.

The Assembly elects the judges of the Constitutional Court. The Assembly elects six of the judges to the Constitutional Court by a majority vote of the total number of representatives. The Assembly elects three of the judges by a majority vote of the total number of representatives, and there must be a majority of the votes of the total number of representatives who belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia. The term of office of the judges is nine years without the right to re-election.

The Constitutional Court elects a president from its own ranks for a term of three years without the right to reelection.

The judges of the Constitutional Court are elected from the ranks of outstanding members of the legal profession.

Article 110 56

Article 110 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- decides on the conformity of laws with the Constitution;
- decides on the conformity of other regulations and collective agreements with the Constitution and the laws;
- protects the freedoms and rights of the individual and citizen relating to the freedom of conviction, conscience, thought and public expression of thought, political association and action, and prohibition of discrimination of citizens on the grounds of sex, race, religious, national, social and political affiliation;
- decides on conflicts of competency among holders of legislative, executive and judicial power;
- decides on conflicts of competency among the bodies of the Republic and the units of local self-government;
- decides on the liability of the president of the Republic;
- decides on the constitutionality of the programs and statutes of political parties and associations of citizens; and
- decides also on other issues determined by the Constitution.

Article 111

The office of the judge of the Constitutional Court is incompatible with the exercise of any other public office and profession or membership in a political party.

The judges of the Constitutional Court enjoy immunity. The Constitutional Court decides on their immunity.

The judges of the Constitutional Court cannot be called up for duties in the armed forces.

The office of a judge of the Constitutional Court ceases if he/she resigns. A judge of the Constitutional Court is discharged from office if sentenced for a criminal offense to unconditional imprisonment of a minimum six months or if he/she permanently loses the capacity of exercising his/her office, as determined by the Constitutional Court.

Article 112

The Constitutional Court abolishes or annuls a law if it determines that it is not in compliance with the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court abolishes or annuls another regulation or general act, collective agreement, statute or program of a political party or association, if it determines that they are not in compliance with the Constitution or a law.

The decisions of the Constitutional Court are final and enforceable.

Article 113

The manner of work and the procedure before the Constitutional Court are regulated by an act of the Court.

V. LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Article 114 57

Article 114 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XVI and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The right of citizens to local self-government is guaranteed.

Municipalities are units of local self-government.

Forms of neighborhood self-government may be established within municipalities.

Municipalities are financed by their own sources of income determined by a law and by funds from the Republic.

The local self-government is regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives, and there must be a majority of the votes of the total number of representatives who belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia. The laws on local finances, local elections, boundaries of the municipalities and of the City of Skopje are adopted by a majority vote of the representatives attending, and there must be a majority of the votes

of the representatives attending who belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia.

Article 115 58

Article 115 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XVII to the Constitution.

In the units of local self-government, the citizens directly and through representatives participate in the decision-making on issues of local importance, particularly in the fields of public services, urban and rural planning, environmental protection, local economic development, local finances, communal activities, culture, sports, social and child protection, education, health protection, and in other fields determined by a law.

The municipality is autonomous in the execution of its competences determined by the Constitution and law, and supervision of the legality of its work is carried out by the Republic.

The municipality may be entrusted, by a law, with the performance of particular activities by the Republic.

Article 116

The territorial division of the Republic and the municipal areas are determined by a law.

Article 117 59

Article 117 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XVII to the Constitution.

The City of Skopje is a separate unit of local self-government the organization of which is regulated by a law.

In the City of Skopje, the citizens directly and through representatives participate in the decision-making on issues of importance to the City of Skopje, particularly in the fields of public services, urban and rural planning, environmental protection, local economic development, local finances, communal activities, culture, sports, social and child protection, education, health protection, and in other fields determined by a law.

The City of Skopje is financed by its own sources of income determined by a law and by funds from the Republic.

The City is autonomous in the execution of its competences determined by the Constitution and law, and supervision of the legality of its work is carried out by the Republic.

The City of Skopje may be entrusted, by a law, with the performance of particular activities by the Republic.

VI. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Article 118

The international agreements ratified in accordance with the Constitution are part of the internal legal order and cannot be changed by a law.

Article 119 60

**Article 119 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

International agreements are concluded by the president of the Republic of North Macedonia on behalf of the Republic of North Macedonia.

International agreements may also be concluded by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia when so determined by a law.

Article 120

A proposal for association in a union or community with other states or for dissociation from a union or community with other states may be submitted by the president of the Republic, the Government or by at least 40 representatives.

The decision on association in, or dissociation from, a union or community with other states is adopted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The decision on association in, or dissociation from, a union or community is adopted if it is upheld in a referendum by the majority of the total number of voters.

Article 121

A decision on membership or withdrawal from membership in international organizations is adopted by the Assembly by a majority vote of the total number of representatives on a proposal of the president of the Republic, the Government or at least 40 representatives.

**VII. DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC, STATES OF WAR
AND EMERGENCY**

Article 122 61

**Article 122 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

The armed forces of the Republic of North Macedonia protect the territorial integrity and independence of the Republic.

The defense of the Republic is regulated by a law adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

Article 123 62

**Article 123 has been consolidated in accordance with
Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

No person has the right to recognize occupation of the Republic of North Macedonia or part thereof.

Article 124

State of war exists in case of direct danger of military attack on the Republic or the Republic is attacked or war is declared on it.

State of war is declared by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives on a proposal of the president of the Republic, the Government or at least 30 representatives.

If the Assembly cannot meet, the decision on declaration of state of war is made by the president of the Republic who submits it to the Assembly for confirmation as soon as it can meet.

Article 125 63

Article 125 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

A state of emergency exists in case of occurrence of major natural disasters or epidemics.

A state of emergency on the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia or part thereof is declared by the Assembly on a proposal of the president of the Republic, the Government or at least 30 representatives.

The decision to establish the existence of a state of emergency is made by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives and it is in force for a maximum of 30 days.

If the Assembly cannot meet, the decision to establish the existence of a state of emergency is made by the president of the Republic who submits it to the Assembly for confirmation as soon as it can meet.

Article 126

During a state of war or emergency, the Government, in accordance with the Constitution and law, adopts decrees with the force of law.

The authorization of the Government to adopt decrees with the force of law lasts until the termination of the state of war or emergency, which is decided by the Assembly.

Article 127

During the state of war, if the Assembly cannot meet, the president of the Republic may appoint and dismiss the Government and appoint or dismiss functionaries whose election is within the competence of the Assembly.

Article 128

The term of office of the president of the Republic, the Government, the judges of the Constitutional Court, and the members of the Republic Judicial Council is extended for the duration of the state of war or emergency.

VIII. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Article 129 64

Article 129 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.

The Constitution of the Republic of North Macedonia can be amended by constitutional amendments.

Article 130 65**Article 130 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

A proposal to initiate an amendment to the Constitution of the Republic of North Macedonia may be made by the president of the Republic, the Government, at least 30 representatives, or 150.000 citizens.

Article 131 66**Article 131 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XVIII and Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

A decision to initiate an amendment to the Constitution is made by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The draft amendment to the Constitution is determined by the Assembly by a majority vote of the total number of representatives and the Assembly puts it to public debate.

The decision to amend the Constitution is made by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

A decision to amend the Preamble, the articles on local self-government, Article 131, any provision relating to the rights of members of the communities, including in particular Articles 7, 8, 9, 19, 48, 56, 69, 77, 78, 86, 104 and 109, as well as a decision to add any new provision relating to the subject-matter of such provisions and articles, requires a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives, and there must be a majority of the votes of the total number of representatives who belong to the communities that are not a majority in the Republic of North Macedonia.

IX. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**Article 132**

Time of residence in other republics of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is also included in the time span provided for in paragraph 5 of Article 80 of this Constitution.

Article 133

A Constitutional Law shall be adopted for the implementation of the Constitution.

The Constitutional Law is adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of representatives.

The Constitutional Law is proclaimed by the Assembly and comes into force simultaneously with the proclamation of the Constitution.

Article 134 67**Article 134 has been consolidated in accordance with Amendment XXXIII to the Constitution.**

This Constitution comes into force on the day of its proclamation by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia.