

Skopje, 15 March 2010

Ambassador Erwan FOUÉRE
Delegation of the EU to the Republic of Macedonia
Mito Hadzivasilev Jasmin 52v
1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

Subject: 10th Anniversary of the EU Delegation and the 5th NGO Gathering

Your Excellency Ambassador FOUÉRE,

On behalf of the Bulgarian Cultural Club – Skopje (BCCS) I would like to express our sincere gratitude for inviting us to the official cocktail held on 10 March to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the EU Delegation to our country in conjunction with the 5th traditional NGO Gathering.

Because of a small miscommunication (use of an old e-mail address for the invitation) and a number of urgent commitments, we were unfortunately unable to personally attend the Gathering. Anyway, we appreciate very much the kind gesture and your attention to our activities, which is also a high recognition for our young civil society organisation, which is going to reach its 2nd Anniversary on 4 May 2010.

As you know, BCCS comprises citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who have preserved their Bulgarian nationality throughout the ages and are proud of the rich cultural heritage of our Bulgarian predecessors from the Macedonian lands. BCCS is working hard to advance the democracy and the rule of law in the Macedonian society and to encourage good neighbourly relations with the Republic of Bulgaria, based on our common history and the need for a sustainable economic prosperity and a better quality of life on the Balkan Peninsula and across the united Europe.

We strongly believe in the multi-cultural concept of the Republic of Macedonia and devote our endeavours to implementing the Copenhagen political criteria for EU accession and the Council of Europe standards. In that context, we call for respecting human rights and closely watch a number of human rights' violation cases involving Macedonian Bulgarians (e.g. the

cases of Mrs. Spaska Mitrova and Mr. Miroslav Rizinski, who is a member of our Executive Board).

Furthermore, we are working to eliminate the hate speech and hostility against the Bulgarian people, frequently encountered in the public life, media, school textbooks and academic editions in the Republic of Macedonia, along with rude misinterpretations and offensive falsifications of our history, causing prejudices and unfriendliness.

We are therefore counting very much on a closer cooperation with you and the EU Delegation to the Republic of Macedonia. For further correspondence please use our current e-mail address: contact@bkks.org.

Sincerely yours,



Lazar Mladenov
President of the Bulgarian Cultural Club - Skopje