

The Bulgarian Cultural Club – Skopje is a citizens' association in the Republic of Macedonia established on May 4, 2008, and registered on May 22, 2008. The organization has local branches in a number of cities in the Republic of Macedonia.

Our mission is to foster changes and awareness in the Republic of Macedonia about the necessity of bringing closer the two neighbouring countries: the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria.

For the realization of this goal, we believe in the principles and values of democracy, we believe that all citizens should have equal rights and freedoms and we believe in the multi-cultural concept of the Republic of Macedonia. We are striving to build and establish a society that will be part of a united Europe without borders.

We have participated in a number of events for promotion of the joint celebration of the common cultural and historic heritage shared between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria, such as anniversaries of the Ilinden-Preobrazhenie Uprising, commemorations of prominent figures of the Macedonian-Bulgarian liberation movement and visits to the Bulgarian military monuments and cemeteries.

We have taken a clear position on human rights issues related to Macedonian Bulgarians and on the issue of the controversial encyclopedia published by the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts. We proposed that the Mayor of Ohrid erect a monument commemorating the victims of the 2009 boat tragedy that happened in the Lake of Ohrid. We also initiated the donation of valuable old liturgical books for the St. Jovan Bigorski monastery that burned out in an accident.

We understand the need for the implementation of the Copenhagen criteria and the Council of Europe standards in the Republic of Macedonia and the need for ensuring their public compliance.

From these reasons, we call for respect of the human rights of the Macedonian Bulgarians and we want the hate speech and open hostility that is used on a public level in the media and the school textbooks against the Macedonian Bulgarians to be stopped.

We also promote the joint work between the Republic of Macedonia and neighbouring EU Member States, and especially the Republic of Bulgaria, to resolve misinterpretations and falsifications of history that may cause disagreements.