We believe that human capital is a key precondition for positive social change.
– Institute for Political and International Studies
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IPIS’s envisioned future is to become the most influential Balkan think-tank offering sound analysis as well as advice and influencing policy agendas of Macedonia and the Southeast European region in various formats. Also, we envision offering an abundance of research resources (data bases; books; articles; papers; internet based resources and other logistical support) to individual researchers, professionals, journalist, students, civil society organizations and interested parties. No important national or regional policy issues will be discussed without IPIS experts taking by debating and offering analysis on the issues.

IPIS will be sought out, as a provider of policy advice, by governments, civil society organizations and private companies. We believe that IPIS’s research work, carried out with patience and persistence, will bring new life to public policy, good governance will be advanced, knowledge increased, and human existence improved. We will be respected and admired by our peers and academics. Our analyses and policy solutions will be actively sought by governments and companies.

The best up-and-coming people in the academic world will seek to cooperate with our think-tank. We feel that IPIS will contribute to society in a positive way.

Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela
President
December 31, 2016
About us

The Institute for political and International Studies (IPIS) is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental and non-profit, think-tank organization. It has been created by a group of intellectuals and analysts with extensive experience in foreign policy, and policy-making issues, who are gathered around the idea of democracy, solidarity, globalization, European integration, political and international studies and regional cooperation.

The long term objectives of the Institute are to work on balanced socio-economic development, capacity building and trainings, active citizen engagement and participative political culture. In these directions, we focus our activities on rule of law, evidence based policy research, good governance and multiethnic and multicultural co-existence.

We believe that human capital is a key precondition for positive social change. Hence we eagerly undertake capacity building projects based on said skills and knowledge transfer.

Finally, ISPS’s growth is directly linked to availability of resources for self-reflection. In this sense, we advocate policy recommendations and strive to enrich public discourse through promotion of evidence based policy, publishing public events, diligent team work and individual productivity, and working closely with other national and international research institutions.
Conferences

4 – 8 May 2016, Skopje

EU Days in Chair Municipality

In the period from 4th to 8th of May in The Municipality of Chair, Skopje took place the “EU Days in Chair Municipality”. This 5 days event was organized by the Institute for Political and International Studies – Skopje in cooperation with the Municipality of Chair.

This event covered vast range of activities and huge number of participants from different profiles such as politicians, professors, municipality representatives, students and citizens of Skopje.

The opening of the event was done by the Major of the Municipality Mr. Izet Mexhit, continuing with a speech by the Director of Institute for Political and International Studies, Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela, and closing the speeches by Dr. Arber Ademi, the Deputy Minister for European Affairs.

The day was followed by showing a documentary movie about how EU was created and by promotion the best essays prepared by students in Republic of Macedonia in the theme “European Union”. The best essays were awarded with a certificate of appreciation.
In this event participated as well as the Dutch Ambassador in Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Wouter Plomp, who gave a speech about European Union in general as well as concentrated in the role of EU in strengthening Macedonian position in European geopolitical map.

Another interesting activity organized during this event was the debate on “Euro – Atlantic Values”. The debate took place at the premises of The Secretariat of European Affairs in Skopje, and the debate was attended by a representative of EU in Macedonia, H.E. Avio Orav, by the ex Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs Mr. Fatmir Besimi, and the current Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs Dr. Arber Ademi, as well as a representative of University of Vienna, Prof. Dr. Otmar Hoel, representative of the Center for International Relations from Croatia, Dr. Monika Begovic, President of the Atlantic Council Albania, Dr. Arian Starova, ex Macedonia Ambassador in EU, Prof. Dr. Blerim Reka, as well as other professors and experts from Macedonia and the region.

During the EU Days was promoted the book “International Relations” prepared by Prof. Dr. Blerim Reka, Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela and Ass. Prof. Dr. Bardhok Bashota.

The EU Days were closed by organizing a Peace March which started from the Municipality of Chair and finished at the Mount of Gazi Baba. The event was attended by over 50 participants.

In general Institute for Political and International Studies and its team can conclude that the organization of the “EU Days in Municipality of Chair” was concluded successfully.
Conferences

3 June 2016 – Skopje
International Scientific Conference

“ENERGY SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES IN WESTERN BALKAN- CASE STUDY REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA”

Energy has always been an issue that has developed courage with regard how to be produced, controlled, and finally exported as renewed or regenerate. There is no doubt that good part of wealth of natural assets constitutes precisely the types of energy and different energy fuels, without which either imaginable economic development or humanity itself. In this regard, namely the possession, control and management of this asset have been challenging and problematic to the point that serves to initiate interstate wars, internal conflicts.

Different regions of the world are facing various challenges such as energy security and environmental or ecological. The particular importance will be how societies - countries will face these phenomena fairly and maintaining the balance of economic and technological development but also the need for a clean and maintain the environment without damage and pollution. Of course the media and the people involved in this case are probably the ones that mostly together with environmental and non-governmental organizations to sensibility opinion that decisions may not always be right in terms of how social institutions are trying to show to their citizens.
So particularly one comprehensive approach to the challenges and problems that can come as a result of technological and economic or financial needs or even the destruction of the environment and the environment must be addressed scientifically impartially and based on previous experience. The main theses enhanced during the conference were:

- Definition of the energy security,
- Challenges on energy security,
- International organization and energy security,
- Country emergency energy security,
- Rapid response to energy supply emergencies,
- Country policy on energy security,
- Renewable energy,
- Environmental challenges,
- Country policy on environment challenges,
- Green Peace and ecological challenges,
- Environmental journalism

The conference took place at SEE University in Skopje on 3th June 2016 with many participants from abroad. At the conference participated and gave a speech many academic scientists and researchers from Western Balkan, Minister of environment and physical planning - Republic of Macedonia, Minister for economy - Republic of Macedonia and Deputy Minister for Defense - Republic of Macedonia.

This successful activity gathered students, lecturers and professionals across the Western Balkan. Selected working papers of the conference were published by the Institute for Political and International Studies on December 2016.
Conferences

30 June - 5 July Island Šipan - Republic of Croatia

Summer school:

**15TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ABOUT NATO, EU AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT- IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION FOR EFFECTIVE CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES AND NEW SECURITY CHALLENGES – INTEGRATION OR ISOLATION**

This summer school gathered many participants from the region and wider, and lots of professors and experts in international relations and international security. The School was held under the high auspices of the President of the Republic of Croatia H.E. Kolinda Grabar Kitarovic, and supported by NATO Public Diplomacy Division and International Institute for Peace from Vienna. President of the Atlantic Council of Croatia Prof. Radovan Vukadinovic PhD stated that the traditional Summer School has been throughout these past 15 years very efficient in showing young professionals and leaders new thoughts in international relations. By the Institute for Political and International Studies on this summer school participated two lectures, Prof. Ylber Sela who was teaching about Balkan challenges for integration and Assistant Professor Bekim Maksuti who was teaching about Macedonia challenges for NATO and EU integration.
Conferences

9th of September – Prishtina, Kosovo
International Scientific Conference

“RELATIONS BETWEEN ALBANIANS AND AUSTRO-HUNGARY (AUSTRIA) BY MID XIX CENTURY TO OUR DAYS”

The International Scientific Conference “Relations between Albanians and Austro-Hungary (Austria) by mid XIX Century to Our Days” took place at the premises of University for Business and Technology in Prishtina, Kosovo.

The main aim of this conference was to elaborate the role of Austro-Hungarian Empire in contributing in development of education and culture of Albanians. During this conference was examined the support and contribution from Austro-Hungary from the mid XIX century until the fall of the Empire, as well as today’s support of Austria.

Besides elaborating the educational and cultural aspect it was elaborated as well as the political influence of the Austro-Hungary in Albania in particular, as well as Balkan Peninsula in general. This scientific conference was attended from speakers from Austria, Hungary, Turkey and Balkan countries.

This conference was organized by University for Business and Technology - Prishtina in partnership with Institute for Political and International Studies - Skopje, University “Kadri Zeka” - Gjilan, University of Prishtina – Philosophic Faculty – Prishtina and the Publishing House “Logos - A”, Skopje.
Conferences

26th to 27th of May – Bucharest, Romania

Conference attended by Institute for Political and International Studies staff

“SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE BALKANS”

The regional conference “Security Challenges in the Balkans” which took place in Bucharest, Romania and was organized by the New Strategy Center – Bucharest and the University of Bucharest aimed at:

- identifying the security challenges in the Balkans from a multiple range of expertise;
- facilitating a dialogue platform for think tanks, academia, and public administration from the Balkan region and NATO member states;
- reflecting on the vision and means to consolidate the security in the Balkans and create partnerships among stakeholders to increase cooperation in the Balkans.

The Director of Institute for Political and International Studies, Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela had a speech and presented during the third panel named “Energy Security in the Balkans – Challenges and Cooperation Means”, and Dr. Bekim Maksuti adressed to the second Panel "Risks and vulnerabilities to the security in the Balkans".
Conferences

23rd to 25th of June – Ljubljana, Slovenia

Conference attended by Institute for Political and International Studies staff

“CEEISA-ISA 2016 JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, LJUBLJANA”

The conference brought together over 450 participants, scholars, researchers and PhD students from 52 countries from all around the world. There were 109 panels that enrolled during the three conference days and special attention was given to junior scholars by organizing several Graduate Students’ panels.

Staff of Institute for Political and International Studies presented the Paper Called “The Immigrant Crisis and the Legal, Historical and Humanitarian Accountability of National States and the International Community”.

The CEEISA-ISA joint conference on Politics of International Relations was hosted by the Centre of International Relations (CIR) and co-organized by the Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA) and International Studies Association (ISA) took place from 23th to 25th of June 2016 at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
Conferences

13th to 15th of October – Palermo, Italy

Transnational Cooperation Activity (TCA) Contact Seminar attended by Institute for Political and International Studies staff

“ADULT EDUCATION IN ERASMUS+ TO PROMOTE INTERGENERATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE TO BUILD A SOCIETY OF INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION”

The “Adult Education in Erasmus+ to Promote Intergenerational and Intercultural Dialogue to Build a Society of Inclusion and Integration” was organized by the Italian Erasmus+ National Agency, as part of its training and promotional activities.

The seminar aimed at promoting cooperation and improving the quality of the international projects within the Key Action 2, Strategic Partnership in the Sector of Adult Education. It was an occasion to reinforce the impact of Erasmus+ Programme in line with the sectorial priorities related to adult education, with a particular focus on social inclusion of immigrants residing in Europe.

Director of Institute for Political and International Studies was participant at this event.
Conferences

16th to 23rd of October – Beijing, Peoples Republic of China

Study Visit attended by Institute for Political and International Studies staff

“WORKSHOP ON CHINA-EU RELATIONS OF COMPASS PROJECT”

The Workshop on EU-China Relations in Global Politics took place in PR China, from 16th to 23rd of October 2016. Taking place in one of the most rapidly developing and globally significant Chinese cities, Beijing, it welcomed participants from different EU and Western Balkan countries. The staff of Institute for Political and International Studies participated in all lectures.
Conferences

8th to 10th of November – Zagreb, Croatia

Conference attended by Institute for Political and International Studies staff

“WESTERN BALKAN IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - FACING NEW CHALLENGES AFTER WARSAW SUMMIT”

International Scientific Conference “Western Balkan in International Relations – Facing New Challenges after Warsaw Summit”, took place from 8th to 10th November 2016 at European House in Zagreb. The conference gathered many experts in international relations from the whole world: United States, Russia, Turkey, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and from the region of the Western Balkan. The conference was organized by the Atlantic Council of Croatia and Center for International Relations, with the support of NATO PDD, and had the aim to show how new relations in the international politics bring a special dimension in the contemporary international community and world politics.

The Director of Institute for Political and International Studies, Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela and Dr. Bekim Maksuti presented with the paper “Western Balkans in International Relations”.

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Publications

Promotion of the book by Blerim Reka, Bardhok Bashota and Ylber Sela:

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The promotion of the book “introduction to International Relations” prepared and published by Prof. Dr. Blerim Reka, Ass. Prof. Bardhok Bashota and Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela for the first time took place at Hotel Swiss Diamond in Prishtina, Republic of Kosovo on 29th of April 2016. The book was promoted by Prof. Dr. Enver Hoxhaj and Prof. Dr. Afrim Hoti. During the second book promotion which took place at the Cultural and Information Center in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia on 07th May 2016 the book was promoted by Prof. Dr. Otmar Hoel, Prof Dr. Sali Kelmendi and Dr. Monika Begovic. Book reviewers were: Prof. Dr. Radovan Vukadinovic - Croatia, Ambassador Prof. Dr. Fatos Tarifaj – Albania.
Publications

Promotion of the book by Shaban Murati:

ALBANIANS FROM MACEDONIA – PRIORITY OF ALBANIAN ISSUE

The book was promoted by the Director of Institute for Political and International Studies, Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela, and the Director of Institute of Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of the Albanians, Prof. Dr. Skender Hasani.
Publications

Editor of the Book: Prof. Dr. Ylber Sela:
“VIENNA CONGRESS AND THE BALKANS”

The Book was published by the Institute for Political and International Studies and Austrian Embassy in Skopje.
Authors of the publication: Blerim Reka, Bardhok Bashota and Ylber Sela:

“INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS”
Publications

Editors of the publication: Bekim Maksuti and Ylber Sela:

“ENERGY SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES IN WESTERN BALKAN”
Case Study Republic of Macedonia
Publications

Editor of the publication: Ylber Sela:

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