



## ***PRIUM - PRomoting a model of Integrated University in the fYR of Macedonia***

This TEMPUS project which starts October 1st and lasts 2 year, was submitted by:

- UNICA
- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje
- St Kliment Ohridski in Bitola
- Brussels Education Services
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- University of Vienna

The topic is the promotion of an Integrated University Model in two public state universities in fYR: St Kliment Ohridski in Bitola (UB) and Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (UKIM). This will allow a central university management and administration structure with modern decision-taking bodies and faculties as important component parts, under one single legal entity and budget from the state. This will imply restructuring and/or establishment of central offices in order to respond to new demands coming from faculties that will be part of an integrated university. These specific objectives will be tackled by three different Project Teams. Each Team will be composed of two Macedonian experts (one from UB and one from UKIM) and one European University expert. Both senior and junior University staff members will be actively involved.

The proposed model should comprise a central University management and administration, democratic decision-making bodies and faculties as important component parts of an integrated university under one single entity and budgeted from state resources. The model will ensure appropriate quality assurance mechanisms, a collaborative research platform, full implementation of ECTS standards, common standards for academic verification, and central services that will efficiently meet the needs of the academic community, such as shared library and information communication technology resources, central registration of students and student support centers, a center for continuous education of the teaching and administrative staff etc.

State of the Arts report, seminar with case studies and a report with the conclusions will serve as a basis for the experts from each project partner university to draft a proposed new model structure for the Macedonian State Universities. Interviews with policy makers, regional authorities, student organizations, national boards and associations of professors and university staff will be scheduled during this phase.

The final project outcome will be a publication which will contain recommendations for the benefit of the Macedonian Higher Education System. It will not only be addressed to the university management staff but also to the Macedonian authorities and governments (at national and local level). The final aim is to provide the background information and findings to develop a new Higher Education Policy in fYR with appropriate laws and structures which will align Macedonian State Universities with the European ones and which will capacitate them to compete in a globalized world.