

To conclude, in the name of the Faculty of Philosophy, I would like to wish all of you fruitful discussions, and, according to the conference program, which offers a number of interesting topics, I believe that we will raise awareness among the public concerning the importance of education, while the papers presented in the next three days will be of great importance for the educational strategies and reforms leading to higher quality education in our country and abroad. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the financial assistance offered by the Ministry of Education, the Chancellor of the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, and the city of Ohrid, as well as to everyone else that has supported this Conference.

Thank you!

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**Mr. Kiril PECAKOV**  
*Mayor of the Municipality of Ohrid*  
*Republic of Macedonia*



Dear ladies and gentlemen,

I am honored and really glad to be part of the grand opening of this important International Scientific Conference and to have the opportunity to greet you on behalf of beautiful Ohrid, which is your cordial host.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Institute of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Philosophy on its 75th anniversary and to express my great appreciation for the overall contribution, as the oldest higher education institution for education of pedagogues, teachers and educators in our country.

Holding this academic gathering in Ohrid has great symbolism, because this is the center of Slavic literacy and culture. This is the spiritual sanctuary of St. Clement and St. Naum, home of the laurel wreath Grigor Prlichev and a place that throughout its long history has grown many personalities who played an important role in the affirmation of the Enlightenment and left a mark on their time.

Honored guests,

Pedagogy is the noblest science because it is the foundation and the nursery of all other sciences and all other professions. In the life of every great doctor, lawyer, engineer, scientist, artist or political leader, there is at least one teacher who left a significant mark, who was the motive and guide to the realization of dreams. We should all pay special respect to our teachers, because they have the greatest credit for what we are today, they have taught us to walk towards success and to be the best version of ourselves.

The teacher is our first authority after our parents and has great merit for our upbringing, behavior and our knowledge. The teacher is a set of wisdom, discipline and empathy. The teacher is an intellectual and spiritual guide who gives motivation and inspiration for young minds to grow and reach their potential.

I hope that this conference will exchange significant experiences from the educational policy and that it will contribute to the development of new and modern pedagogical measures.

I wish you continue with even greater enthusiasm, to create successful educators, who will educate successful generations and have the capacity to make the world a better place to live.

Dear guests,

Ohrid is a precious pearl not only for our country but for the whole world, so its natural and cultural heritage is under the auspices of UNESCO. Ohrid is a living postcard and it is a real

privilege to have the opportunity to experience all its beauties. So make the most of your stay here and visit the impressive cultural sights and enjoy all the natural beauties of our city.

Thank you and I wish you fruitful and successful work!

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**Prof. Dr. Nikola JANKULOVSKI**  
*Rector of the Ss. Cyril and Methodius  
University in Skopje  
Republic of North Macedonia*



Dear Professor Stevo Pendarovski, Ph.D., President of the North Macedonia,  
Dear Mr. Jeton Shaqiri, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of North Macedonia,  
Dear Professor Ratko Duev, Ph.D., dean of the Faculty of Philosophy,  
Dear rectors, vice rectors, mayors, deans, professors and students,  
Dear guests and friends,  
Good afternoon!

It is a special honor and pleasure for me on behalf of the “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” University in Skopje to congratulate the great 75-year Anniversary of the Institute of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Philosophy, as one of the oldest institutes of our University. I am honored to attend the opening of the International Scientific Conference “75 years of the Institute of Pedagogy – Educational Challenges and Perspectives”, organized by the Institute of Pedagogy, sponsored by the President of the State, prof. Dr. Stevo Pendarovski.

I am very pleased that an impressive number of university professors attends this event from the country and abroad, pedagogues and teachers, who have been dedicating their working lives to the continuation and affirmation of the teaching profession and the prestigious pedagogical activity.

Pedagogues with their professional contribution and great enthusiasm deal with numerous changes, social and educational reforms, write the history of the pedagogical activity in our country and leave a significant mark in the educational development and rise.

Education is the primary moving force of any society. The creation of a “knowledge-based society” and producing high-powered work qualifications is a crucial task of every university.

In this direction, “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” University also strives for the improvement of the quality in the education of future educators, teachers and pedagogues, by improving the standards and capacities of the educational system in our country. Teachers, educators and pedagogues are the bearers of change, development and progress in one country. Hence, it is especially important to make sure that our students, future professionals are adequately prepared for the tasks and challenges facing modern education. Expectations for the pedagogical and teaching profession are always high. In that context, a large number of personal and professional qualities are required from the modern pedagogue and teacher.

Modern educational trends are reflected in the need for accelerated transformation of the overall setting of higher education and the establishment of quality appropriate to the needs of the country, which is at the same time competitive in international frameworks. Therefore, overcoming the relapses of the past and the implementation of internationally recognized norms and standards in higher education will remain imperative in the operation of the University. Only in this way, the higher education will fully fulfill its mission at the national and international level.