



**ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**

DENMARK

Folketing

Ms Eva KJER HANSEN

Chairwoman of the European Affairs Committee

Dear Ms. Chairwoman,

The priorities and the commitment of the Republic of Macedonia for building its European perspective with a clearly expresses public and political support for realization of the goals for achieving the European reality continue to be our primary strategic objective.

Since its independence until today the Republic of Macedonia has endorsed the policy of peace and friendly and open relations with all the nations from the neighbourhood and beyond. We are working with dedication on realization of the European agenda and on implementation of the reforms in the country, and our efforts resulted in receiving the candidate status for membership in the European Union.

In its 2011 Progress Report on Macedonia, the European Commission third year in a row repeated its recommendation to give the Republic of Macedonia a date for opening the accession negotiations with the Union, which is confirmation of our commitment to the European values.

Allow me, dear colleague, to note that it is difficult to maintain the enthusiasm after 7 years since we gained the candidate status and 3 years since the first recommendation from the Commission, without negotiations. The frustration in the society is growing and it is effecting the situation regarding the domestic policies, as well as in the context of the developments and the open issues in the region.

For the Republic of Macedonia it is especially important that the basic principles of enlargement of the EU are preserved, which means that only the Copenhagen Criteria should be the standard according to which the readiness of the countries for membership in the EU will be assessed. The name issue is not part of these Criteria. On the Summit of the Council of Ministers of the EU in December, where the enlargement will also be on the

agenda, together with the overall developments and situation in Macedonia and the stability in the region, it is exceptionally important for us to be given the date for opening the accession negotiations.

I am certain and I strongly believe that you and your nation support Macedonia and its citizens in the realization of the strategic commitment to be part of the European community.

Dear colleague allow me, on behalf of the members of the Committee on European Affairs of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia and on my personal behalf, to appeal for your support and help in the realization of our efforts to be given the date for opening the accession negotiations of our country at the December meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Having in mind the importance of the parliamentary dimension in the realization of our European perspective, I would like to use this opportunity to express our interest for intensification of the cooperation with your distinguished Committee and to invite you to visit the Republic of Macedonia.

Convinced in your friendly feelings towards the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs,

Hajrula Misini

