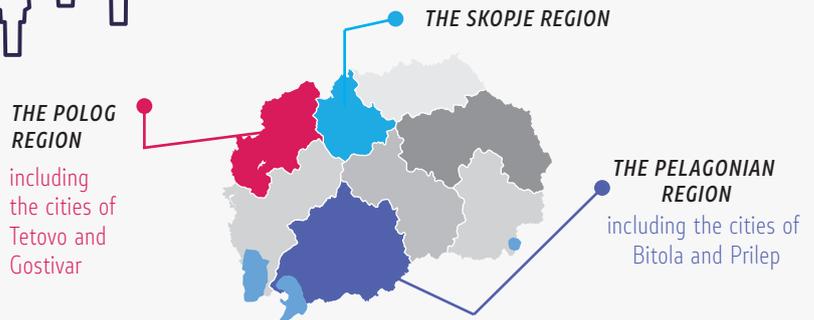


New geopolitical developments and the impact on the Republic of North Macedonia

THE LAST TWO YEARS WERE MARKED BY SIGNIFICANT GLOBAL EVENTS THAT CREATED SIGNIFICANT UNCERTAINTIES AND OPENED UP MANY CHALLENGES FOR THE COUNTRY. TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE POLITICAL CONTEXT IN THE COUNTRY AND THE NUMEROUS CHALLENGES, IT IS IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR THE DIALOGUE THAT WAS MISSING, TO ANALYZE AND TEST THE PERCEPTIONS OF THE CITIZENS ON THE TOPIC **"NEW GEOPOLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THE IMPACT ON THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA"**.



IN THE PERIOD FROM **FEBRUARY TO OCTOBER 2023**, THE EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTE - SKOPJE ORGANIZED **THREE LOCAL DELIBERATIVE EVENTS WITH 82 CITIZENS** FROM DIFFERENT CITIES AND REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY, SUCH AS:



THE AIM WAS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION, USING THE DELIBERATIVE POLLING METHOD AND THE CONCEPTS OF DEBATING DEMOCRACY AND CIVIC DEBATES.

WHAT ARE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITIZENS?



INCREASED EFFORTS TO ADVANCE THE EU ACCESSION PROCESS WITH ACTIVE DIPLOMACY, FOCUSING ON INTERNAL REFORMS.



IMPROVING SECURITY CAPACITIES THROUGH COOPERATION WITH THE OSCE AND OTHER ALLIES, WITH A FOCUS ON DIALOGUE, SOLVING INTERNAL CHALLENGES AND SUPPORTING STABILITY IN THE REGION.



DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON ENERGY SOURCES, SUPPORT INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND INTRODUCE MEASURES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY.



MORE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF ECONOMIC REFORMS TO STABILIZE THE ECONOMY.



THE EU NEEDS CONCRETE STEPS IN THE PROCESS OF ACCESSION AND RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH MACEDONIA'S PROGRESS, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION.



ENHANCED COMMUNICATION AND INFORMING THE WIDER SOCIETY ABOUT THE COUNTRY'S KEY STRATEGIC AGREEMENTS AND STEPS.