

NEWSLETTER

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Center for Research and Policy Making

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Dear Sir/Madam,

The Center for Research and Policy-Making (CRPM, www.crpm.org.mk) is proud to present some of its most recent accomplishments. In our policy papers you can read if contributors in the Macedonian pension schemes are excessively charged by the pension funds, ([Policy Study N.5](#)) whether Skopje is a child friendly city, ([Policy Brief N.15](#)) and does the government with the changes of the Law on Health Care disturbs the free market putting the doctors in an unequal position compared to the other citizens ([Policy Brief N.12](#)) ?

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Macedonian pension schemes are excessively charged by the pension funds

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Is Skopje a child friendly city?

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Does the government with the changes of the Law on Health Care disturbs the free market putting the doctors in an unequal position compared to the other citizens?

Insights from analyzing the Macedonian pension scheme

Contributors in the Macedonian pension scheme are encountering *high opportunity costs*. The investment strategies of pension funds should be immediately reconsidered in order to allow appropriate diversification across instruments and countries! The investment restrictions should be relaxed were the medium-term goal should be moving towards a 'prudent-person' rule. Thirdly, the fees and charges are too high and should be immediately reassessed by the pension funds. However, this refers also refers to the government institutions. Finally, funds should be able to compete in offering different risk-return investment strategies to their participants.

[Policy Study N.5](#)

Is Skopje a child friendly city?

The 'child friendly cities' movement originated in Italy, and is committed to implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Macedonia lags behind both in terms of legislature and realities on the ground. It needs to learn from good practices from around the world and improve the friendliness of its cities in particular the capital Skopje. The two institutions that deal with the rights of children, the Ministry for Labor and Social Policy (Department for Child Protection) and the National Ombudsman (Department for the Protection of the Rights of Children) are insufficient and not well equipped to deal with the issue. There is not a single institution within the public administration that includes the children's participation principle in the decision-making process. There are not enough children facilities in the neighborhoods of Skopje, neither there are adequate facilities provided in shopping malls, supermarkets, and restaurants and bars. Based on our own research and overview of international best practices the CRPM recommends a number of measures including that a new Ombudsman for Children is founded to take the leading position in the protecting the rights of children with a full set of competencies.

[Policy Brief N.15](#)



Insights from analyze for public health

Does the government with the changes of the Law on Health Care disturbs the free market putting the doctors in an unequal position compared to the other citizens?

The changes of the Law on Health Care prohibiting doctors employed in public health care institutions to work in private health care facilities are according to the Constitution since they do not disturb the freedom of entrepreneurship nor the free market, do not affect the right to work of the health care experts neither do they put the public health care doctors in an unequal position compared to other citizens.

[Policy Brief N.12](#)



That is all from this edition of CRPM newsletter. Stay tuned with CRPM at www.crpm.org.mk. All news will be published on our web site.

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