

## **Government of the Republic of Macedonia**

**146.**

Pursuant to Article 11, paragraph 2 of the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 67/92 and 8/04) the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, at its session held on 7 February 2005, adopted a

### **Decree**

#### **For Determining the Criteria of the Distinctive Scientific, Economic, Cultural, Sports or Other National Interest for Acquisition of Citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia**

##### Article 1

The criteria of the distinctive scientific, economic, cultural, sports or other national interest for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia shall be determined with this Decree.

##### Article 2

Distinctive scientific interest, in the sense of this Decree, exists if an alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia:

- has achieved scientific research results at international level, which have been assessed as an important benefit for the development of the scientific research work;
- is an inventor of innovations which are important for furthering the economic and scientific-technological development.

The existence of a distinctive scientific interest on grounds of criteria contained in paragraph 1 of this Article is assessed by the Ministry of Education and Science, on the basis of a prior expert evaluation by an appropriate scientific institution.

- Unofficial translation-

### Article 3

Distinctive economic interest, in the sense of this Decree, exists if an alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia, has invested capital by way of:

- direct investment;
- donation;
- buying stocks,
- buying shares;
- know-how (knowledge and experience);
- innovation;
- new technologies and alike.

The determination of the existence of the criteria of paragraph 1 of this Article, shall be assessed from the point of view of the influence of the capital on the increase of the employment rate, the influx of funds in the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia on grounds of payment of taxes and contributions, increase of quality and quantity of production with the application of new more advanced technologies.

Besides the criteria contained in the paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the distinctive economic interest exists if the alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia:

- is a leading well-established manager worldwide;
- is a leading expert for technologies which exist or for which it is announced that they will be transferred in the country;
- is an expert in a field which is deficient in appropriate human resources;
- realizes economic cooperation with business subjects from the Republic of Macedonia (exchange of goods and services, technical and technological cooperation and alike);
- realizes direct investments in the existing business objects or in the construction of new facilities in the country;
- realizes cooperation in the field of surrendering innovations and other rights on grounds of intellectual property;
- contributes for the domestic business persons to implement economic activities in third countries ;

- Unofficial translation-

- contributes to the promotion of the economy of the Republic of Macedonia abroad;
- donates or contributes to donation of funds for the implementation of the economic reforms and other priorities in the Republic of Macedonia.

The determination of the existence of the criteria of paragraph 3 of this Article shall be assessed from the point of view of their influence on the increase of production, export, foreign direct investments, influx of foreign aid and otherwise.

The existence of the distinctive economic interest shall be evaluated by the Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance on the basis of the criteria contained in this Article and within the framework of their competencies,

#### Article 4

Distinctive cultural interest, in the sense of this Decree, exists, if an alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia:

- with his works and his activities has been carrying out continuously in the last five years, an artistic activity with top artistic values in the field of art, music and dance, film and drama;
- is a top expert for works in the field of immediate protection of the cultural heritage;
- is an artist who can be classified under the deficient artistic staff of the Republic of Macedonia.

The existence of a distinctive cultural interest shall be evaluated by the Ministry of Culture, on the basis of the criteria contained in paragraph 1 of this Article.

#### Article 5

Particular sports interest, in the sense of this Directive exists, if an alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia has achieved high sports results in the last Olympic cycle, fulfils the conditions for acquisition of the title of a sportsman in the world category, pursuant to the law and other regulations, and is active in the year preceding immediately the submission of the application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia.

- Unofficial translation-

The existence of a distinctive sports interest on the basis of the criteria contained in paragraph 1 of this Article, shall be evaluated by the Agency for Youth and Sports, on the basis of a prior opinion of the appropriate national sports federation.

#### Article 6

Other distinctive national interest, in the sense of this Decree, besides the distinctive national interest as determined in Article 2,3,4 and 5 of this Decree, exists for an alien who has submitted an application for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia, and who is not an emigrant from Republic of Macedonia, nor his first generation descendant provided that he meets at least one of the following requirements:

- to be by origin from the Republic of Macedonia, while living outside of its borders and being proficient in the Macedonian language;
- to have published positive publications on the history, political and economical development of the Republic of Macedonia;
- to undertake activities for affirmation of the Republic of Macedonia abroad;
- to be active in the associations and communities of the Republic of Macedonia abroad.

The existence of a distinctive national interest on the basis of the criteria of paragraph 1 of this Article, depending on the determined competencies, shall be evaluated by the Agency for Emigration, Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### Article 7

This Decree shall enter force on the day following the day of its publication in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia"

No. 19-313/1  
7 February 2005  
Skopje

President of the Government of  
the Republic of Macedonia  
Vlado Buckovski, PhD, under his  
own hand