

**Republic of  
North Macedonia**

**February 2021**

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SOVEREIGN RATING*	Initial rating	Review	Review
Date of Rating Committee	14.09.2015	27.08.2020	25.02.2021
Date of rating publication	18.09.2015	28.08.2020	26.02.2021
Long-term rating:	BB- (ns)	BB- (ns)	BB- (ns)
Outlook:	Stable	Stable	Stable
Short-term rating:	B (ns)	B (ns)	B (ns)

• (ns) – not solicited rating

\* The full rating history is available at: <https://www.bcra-bg.com/en/ratings/macedonia-rating>

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The report has been prepared and the rating – assigned, based on public information, made available by the National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia, the State Statistical Office, the Ministry of Finance, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission, BCRA's database etc. BCRA uses sources of information, which it considers reliable, however it cannot guarantee the accuracy, adequacy and completeness of the information used.

**Notes:**

- 1) Prior to the present publication the credit rating and the rating outlook were disclosed to the rated entity. Following that disclosure amendments in the credit rating and rating outlook have not been executed;
- 2) During the last two years, BCRA Credit Rating Agency AD has not provided ancillary services to the rated entity or a related third party;
- 3) The users of the rating can find information on the meaning of each rating category in the Global Scale ([https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/global\\_scale\\_en.pdf](https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/global_scale_en.pdf)). The definition of default can be found in the Sovereign rating Methodology ([https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/Sovereign\\_Methodology\\_2019\\_en.pdf](https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/Sovereign_Methodology_2019_en.pdf))

BCRA - CREDIT RATING AGENCY AD **affirms** the **unsolicited** long-term and short-term sovereign rating of the Republic of North Macedonia and **maintains** the outlook related to them:

Long-term rating: **BB- (ns)**  
Short-term rating: **B (ns)**  
Outlook: **Stable**

BCRA's officially adopted **Sovereign Rating Methodology** has been applied:

[https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/Sovereign\\_Methodology\\_2019\\_en.pdf](https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/Sovereign_Methodology_2019_en.pdf)

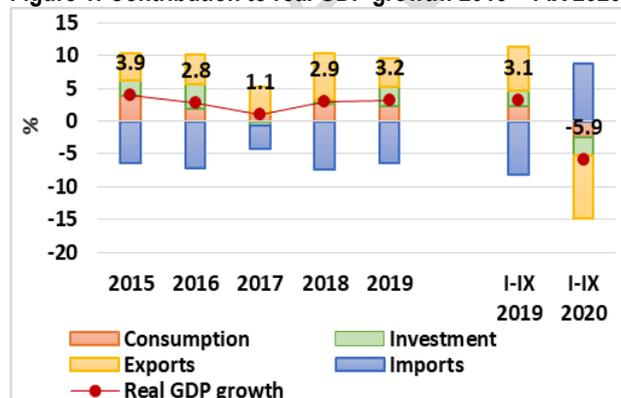
### Overview:

In March 2020, the Republic of North Macedonia advanced notably in the Euro-Atlantic integration process becoming the 30th NATO member state and following the EU Council's decision to open the EU accession negotiations with the country. The accession talks were expected to start in December 2020, but the Bulgarian veto blocked the process, due to unresolved historical, identity and language issues. Discussions between the two countries are ongoing.

After the narrow victory of the early parliamentary elections from July 2020, Zoran Zaev got his second Prime Minister term at the head of the SDSM-led coalition with the Democratic Union for Integration (DUI). SDSM won 35.9% (46 seats out of the 120) of the vote, closely followed by VMRO-DPMNE with 34.6% (44 seats) as both parties worsened their results compared to the previous vote but retaining the internal political status quo, which has brought some political predictability and continuity to the current course. The last counts in full, regarding the policy responses to the corona-crisis in the country, as all the mentioned political events happened in the conditions of a pandemic.

The second wave of infections peaked up in December 2020. Accordingly, the Government declared a *state of crisis* which has enabled it on a legal basis to manage the resources of public administration bodies and the army to assist competent institutions, especially in the health sector. The Government has also continued to timely launch its support packages (the fourth in September 2020 and the fifth in February 2021).

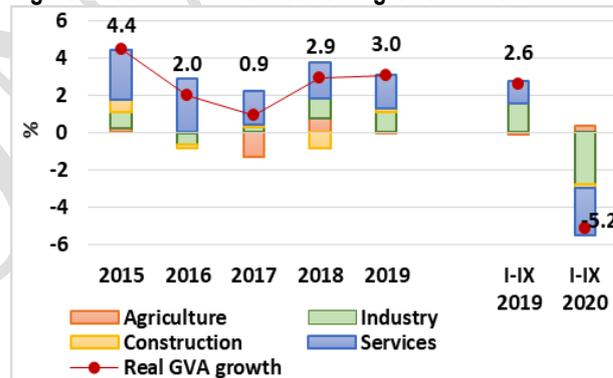
Figure 1: Contribution to real GDP growth: 2015 – I-IX 2020



Source: State Statistical Office

The COVID-19 pandemic and measures taken to limit its spread have caused a sharp slump in **economic activity** in 2020. Real GDP declined by 5.9% YoY in the first three quarters of 2020, driven by the negative contribution of private consumption, investments and net exports. Affected by lockdown restrictions and decline in confidence, private consumption annually dropped by 6%, while the government consumption recorded a robust growth of 11.3%, preventing a more significant drop in final consumption expenditures. Gross investments decreased by 8.8% as shrinking demand and uncertainty caused by the pandemic weighed on private investment decisions. Simultaneously, the fall in demand in North Macedonia's main trade partners took its toll on exports of goods and services, which fell by 15.1% in real terms. Imports also decreased, but at a somehow slower rate of 11.8%, thus, net exports dragged down the GDP growth.

Figure 2: Contribution to real GVA growth: 2015 – I-IX 2020



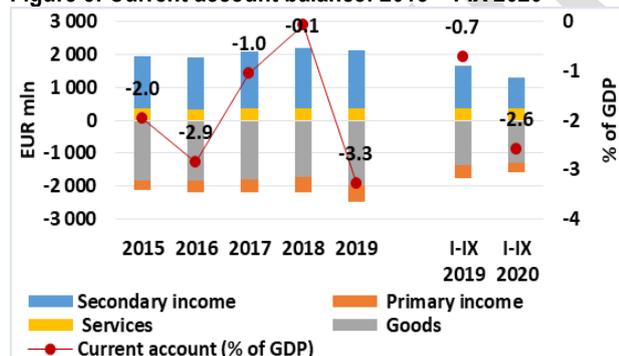
Source: State Statistical Office

On the supply side, **gross value added** contracted by 5.2% YoY in the first nine months of 2020 mainly driven by the downward adjustments in industry and services. The activity in the services sector declined by 3.5% against the same period of 2019 as many services were put at a standstill during the lockdown. The downturn was particularly hard in trade, transport and tourism, while positive dynamics in ICT and real estate activities partly limited the output drop within the sector. The value added of the industry recorded a large drop of 13.2% in real terms, while the activity in the construction sector fell by a milder annual rate of 2.5%. Concurrently, the agriculture sector expanded by 4.1%, providing a slight positive contribution to the GVA growth in the first nine months of 2020.

With the lockdown measures relaxed, the economic activity has begun to revive in the summer months of 2020, but the strong second wave of infections and the reintroduction of containment measures have put the recovery on hold at least until the second quarter of 2021. The recovery may gain momentum as consumer and business confidence restore in line with the beginning of the vaccination for protection against COVID-19. However, the uncertainty about the pandemic development remains present. The recovery pace will be shaped by the duration of the containment as well as by the dynamics of the recovery in external demand from country's main trading partners.

North Macedonia **trades** most actively with the EU member states, among which Germany is the most important with almost 1/2 of country's total exports. The COVID-19 pandemic negatively affected the foreign trade in 2020, with both exports and imports of goods falling by 10% YoY in nominal terms. Analysed according to the main SITC group of products, the drop in exports was driven by the lower export of machinery and transport equipment and chemical products, while imported volumes decreased mainly due to the lower import of raw materials and the decrease in import prices of oil derivatives.

Figure 3: Current account balance: 2015 – I-IX 2020



Source: NBRNM

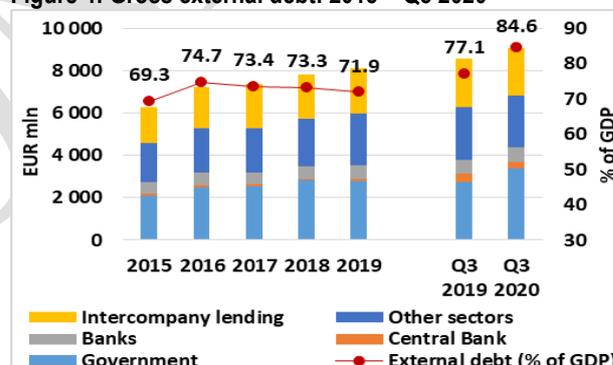
In the first nine months of 2020, the current account deficit widened to EUR 277 mln (2.6% of GDP<sup>1</sup>), from EUR 78 mln (0.7% of GDP) in the same prior-year period. The deterioration resulted almost entirely from the secondary income surplus, which fell by 26.2% YoY amid lower remittances from citizens working abroad. This effect was partly compensated by the lower outflows of investment

<sup>1</sup> GDP ratios were calculated using the sum of GDP in the four preceding quarters.

income, which led to the reduction of the primary income deficit by 26.9%. Also, the trade balance slightly improved as the deficit on trade in goods decreased by 3.7% YoY.

In January - September 2020, **foreign direct investment** in the Republic of North Macedonia amounted to EUR 120 mln (1.1% of GDP<sup>1</sup>), decreasing by EUR 69 mln against the same prior-year period, partly reflecting the higher uncertainty in times of pandemic. Enabling steady FDI inflows is crucial for the country's long-term growth prospects. Notwithstanding North Macedonia's strong performance in the World Bank's **ease of doing business** ranking<sup>2</sup>, the private sector still faces a range of obstacles. Given the already attractive tax regime and financial incentives to foreign firms, strengthening of institutions would be key for attracting foreign investors. In our view, the opening of the EU accession negotiations may provide a confidence boost and renewed reform impulse in the next years.

Figure 4: Gross external debt: 2015 – Q3 2020



Source: NBRNM

**Gross external debt** amounted to EUR 9 087 mln or 84.6% of GDP as of Q3 2020, which represents an increase of EUR 932 mln compared to the end of 2019. Excluding the effect of the specific foreign reserves management activities of the central bank, gross debt picked up by EUR 708 mln, mainly driven by the increased external borrowing of the government, as well as by higher intercompany lending.

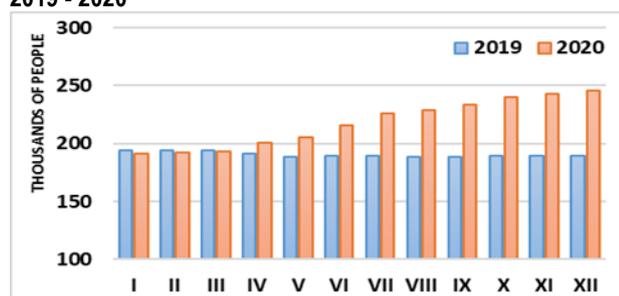
In parallel, country's negative **net international investment position** deteriorated to EUR 6 832 mln (63.6% of GDP) at the end of September 2020,

<sup>2</sup> North Macedonia scored 17<sup>th</sup> out of 190 economies in the 2020 Doing Business report of the World Bank.

amid the higher increase in external liabilities compared to the increase in assets. The sizable negative NIIP poses some risks to external sustainability, however, they are partly mitigated by the large stock of direct investment - representing 49.8% of gross liabilities.

North Macedonia has a *de facto* stabilised **exchange rate arrangement** with a sustained minimum volatility of the MKD/EUR exchange rate. This factor has played a major role in stabilising inflationary expectations, but limits the ability of the NBRNM to accommodate monetary policy and makes it necessary to maintain a secure level of foreign reserves. In line with the government external borrowing, gross **foreign reserves** picked up to EUR 3 360 mln as of end-2020, providing nearly 5 months coverage of imports.

Figure 5: Registered unemployed and other job seekers: 2019 - 2020



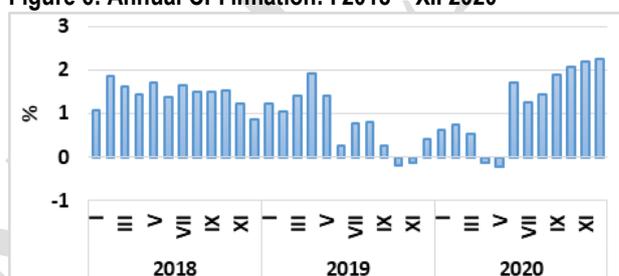
Source: Employment Service Agency of RNM

North Macedonia has been featured by a constantly high **unemployment** rate, gradually falling in recent years to 17.3% in 2019 and to 16.2% in Q1 2020 despite the initiating corona crisis. The negative effects on labour activity have unfolded in the next months of the year as it is observed through the monthly data by the Employment Service Agency for the registered unemployed (see Figure 5). The LFS unemployment rate was 16.5% as of Q3 2020 while the employment rate lost 0.8 pp. on an annual basis (to 46.6%). The weight of workforce in services has increased at the account of the agricultural sector. A continued outflow in the employed in the agriculture has been observed as well as it has hardly been covered by the anti-crisis measures. The government packages have included broad-based financial assistance to companies and individuals in the form of subsidised wages and social contributions. According to the World Bank estimates, approximately 1/3 of all active companies in the country or 1/3 of all private

sector employees benefitted from the wage subsidy scheme from April to June 2020.<sup>3</sup>

The disposable income also sustained the generally positive trends seen in the pre-crisis period, however, at a slower annual pace. The average monthly net wage reached EUR 437 for January - September 2020 representing an 8.1% nominal annual growth as it has occurred against the background of the employment structure changing. The GDP per capita has demonstrated a moderate rise reaching EUR 5 398 in 2019, which in nominal terms corresponded to 16.9% of the EU-average.

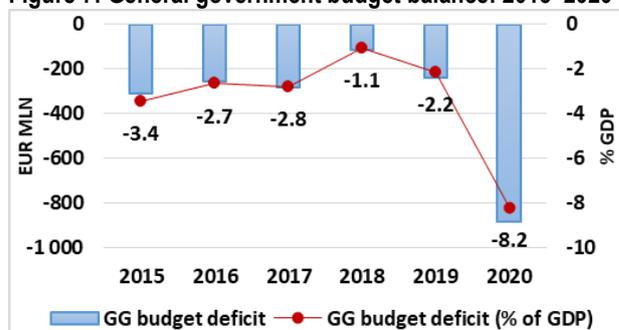
Figure 6: Annual CPI inflation: I 2018 – XII 2020



Source: State Statistical Office

The CPI **inflation** remained low in 2020, albeit slightly accelerating to 1.2%, from 0.8% in 2019. Price changes during the year were dynamic with annual inflation rate falling to -0.2% in May before gradually reaching 2.3% in December. The inflation acceleration was mainly driven by higher food prices, but also reflected some price changes of an administrative and regulatory nature. In the opposite direction, the substantial fall in global oil prices provided downward pressure on domestic inflation rate in 2020.

Figure 7: General government budget balance: 2015–2020



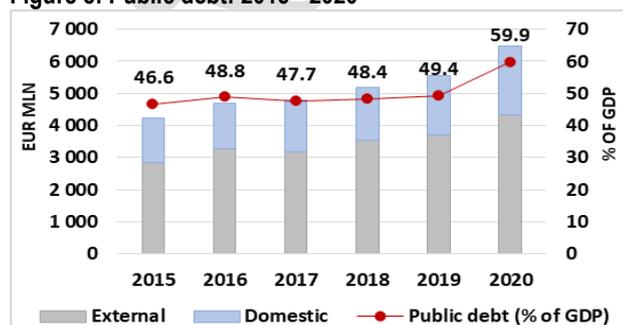
Source: Ministry of Finance

<sup>3</sup><https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/northmacedonia/brief/wage-subsidy-schemes-in-north-macedonia>

The recession triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak had a strong negative impact on the fiscal gap in 2020. Reflecting the fall in economic activity, total revenues in general government budget declined by 8% in 2020 mainly driven by the large drop in receipts from indirect taxes on consumption – excises and VAT. Non-tax revenues and donations also decreased, whereas only receipts from contributions recorded an increase compared to the prior year. At the same time, public expenditures robustly expanded by 8.8%, due to the implementation of the measures adopted by the government to cushion the economic and social effects of the pandemic. The package of measures included subsidies on wages and social security contributions for firms that maintain employment, postponement of income tax payments, loans and guarantee schemes, and sector-specific support. Thus, current expenditures rose by 12% in total, in which transfers recorded the highest annual growth of 18.3%, while interest payments fell by 1.3% and accounted for 1.2% of GDP. Also, the capital expenditures recorded a reduction of 11.4% compared to 2019.

As a result, the general government budget posted a deficit of EUR 886 mln (8.2% of GDP projected) at the end of 2020, which represents a major slippage compared to the deficit of EUR 242 mln (2.2% of GDP) recorded in 2019. The slippage prevented a much more severe economic fallout and the fiscal stance is expected to remain supportive in near-term to help revive sustainable growth. However, a restructuring of current expenditures is needed in order to boost the public investment. The government’s budget plan for 2021 envisages a deficit of 4.9% of GDP and the Fiscal Strategy foresees a gradual reduction of the general government budget deficit to 2% of GDP in 2025, in line with the recovery of economic activity and the expiration of support measures.

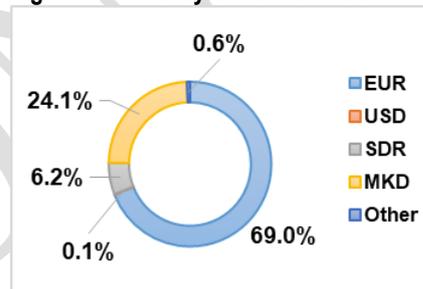
Figure 8: Public debt: 2015 - 2020



Source: Ministry of Finance

Reflecting the rapid rise in budget financing needs, **public debt**<sup>4</sup> markedly increased from EUR 5 541 mln (49.9% of GDP) in 2019 to EUR 6 483 mln (59.9% of GDP projected) at the end of 2020, in which general government debt stood at EUR 5 516 mln and the debt of public enterprises amounted to EUR 967 mln. As a result of the higher external borrowing of funds through loans from international financial institutions and Eurobond issuance, the relative share of external debt in total general government debt picked up by 0.7 pp. to 61.3% at the end of 2020. At the beginning of 2020, the IMF approved a disbursement of EUR 176 mln in emergency financial assistance to North Macedonia under the Rapid Financing Instrument and additional resources were provided by the EU and the World Bank. Moreover, in June 2020, the country successfully tapped the international markets with its seventh Eurobond issue, amounting to EUR 700 mln, with a maturity term of six years and a favourable interest rate of 3.675%.

Figure 9: Currency structure of GG debt as of end-2020



Source: Ministry of Finance

The exposure of general government debt portfolio to market risk further declined. Debt denominated in domestic currency reached 24.1% of total general government debt at the end of 2020, increasing by 0.9 pp. against the end of 2019. The still high relative share of debt denominated in foreign currency (mainly in euros) could affect the repayment costs, however, the exchange rate risk is to some extent constrained by the denar’s longstanding peg to the euro. Also, the exposure to interest rate risk moderated with fixed interest rate debt reaching 77.1% of total.

In 2020, the NBRNM, considering the economic impact of the worldwide COVID-19 spreading,

<sup>4</sup> Public debt comprises the general government debt and the debt of public enterprises and joint stock companies established by the state or by the municipalities, the municipalities in the City of Skopje and the City of Skopje.

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adhered to an accommodative **monetary stance** and temporary regulatory reliefs. The policy rate was cut to 1.50%.

The **banking sector** faced also the challenges of the delicensing of Eurostandard Banka<sup>5</sup> (as of end-2019, the bank was classified as medium-sized but held only 1.7% of the system's assets). Data for Eurostandard has been excluded from the aggregated balances since August 2020, which helped the profitability for the whole sector to restore after six quarters of annualised losses. As of end-September 2020, the net income growth on an annual basis was supported by the net interest income and dragged down by the declined net fees and commissions income and the expanded impairment losses. The ROA and ROE, respectively, reached 1.4% and 12.3% in Q3 2020, almost unchanged compared to the same prior-year period.

Over the first three quarters of 2020, the system has remained generally sound and supportive to the real economy. As of September 2020, the credit to the non-financial sector recorded 6.7% annual growth (5.7% in September 2019), predominantly household-driven but enterprises' activity has also seen an acceleration. The share of the non-performing loans bottomed out to 3.4% of total gross loans in Q3 2020, down by 1.5 pp. on a yearly basis.

On the liabilities side, deposit growth slightly decelerated and continued to support the system's capital base. The capital adequacy ratio hardly changed amounting to 16.9% in Q3 2020 as the rate of increase of the risk-weighted assets only marginally exceeded those of the own funds. The liquidity indicators slightly deteriorated after the outbreak of the crisis but the repo line with the ECB providing euro liquidity up to EUR 400 million, has not needed to be activated. It was, though, extended to March 2022.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup>The NBRNM and the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) announced via a joint statement on the 12 of August 2020 that the founding and operating license of Eurostandard Bank AD has been revoked due to non-compliance with the minimum requirements for operating a bank. A total of 99.4% of the natural persons' deposits would be reimbursed by the DIF.

<sup>6</sup><https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2021/html/ecb.pr210204~f8f544a715.en.html> .

#### Outlook:

The **stable** outlook of the Sovereign Rating of the Republic of North Macedonia reflects BCRA's opinion that risks are broadly balanced. The COVID-19 outbreak translated into a strong economic recession, hence, both fiscal and external metrics deteriorated significantly in 2020. Reflecting the elevated budget financing needs, public debt will follow a moderate upward trend in the medium term, but is expected to gradually decline following 2024. External financing enabled the growth of foreign reserves and their maintenance at the appropriate level to support the exchange rate peg. We believe that North Macedonia and Bulgaria will find a solution to unblock the EU accession negotiations, which may provide a renewed reform impulse to overcome some institutional shortcomings.

**Positive** pressures on the Sovereign Rating and/or the Outlook would be considered:

- Stronger than anticipated fiscal results;
- Swift recovery of economic activity, once the COVID-19 outbreak is contained;
- Increased resilience to external shocks;
- Implementation of comprehensive structural reforms, raising the country's growth potential.

**Negative** pressures on the Sovereign Rating and/or the Outlook may arise in case of:

- Continued fiscal loosening, leading to a rapid increase of public debt;
- Intensification in external imbalances and sudden capital outflows related to shift in investors' sentiment and risk aversion;
- Diminishing foreign reserves, putting the exchange rate peg under pressure.

## Regulatory announcements

### Rating initiative:

#### This rating is unsolicited

Unsolicited sovereign rating	
With Rated Entity or Related Third Party Participation	NO
With Access to Internal Documents	NO
With Access to Management	NO

The complete version of BCRA's policy on unsolicited credit/sovereign ratings can be downloaded through the following link:

[https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/policy\\_unsolicited\\_rating\\_en.pdf](https://www.bcra-bg.com/files/policy_unsolicited_rating_en.pdf)

### Clarifying Notes:

There may be some differences in the stated values and changes in the analysed indicators due to the conversion of those values in another currency (namely in EUR). The used exchange rate is the publically announced by the National Bank of Republic of North Macedonia as the average value for the corresponding period (i.e. yearly, quarterly and monthly). There may also be some differences stemming from using average values for the period rather than end-period values. The cited growth rates in the current report are based on changes in national currency, with the exception of data recorded in EUR (i.e. Balance of payments, External debt, Net international investment position). The data on which the current report is based includes the public data available until February 2021.

## Summary of the minutes of the Rating Committee:

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, Rating Committee of BCRA – CREDIT RATING AGENCY (BCRA) had a session, on which the **Report regarding the affirmation of the Unsolicited Sovereign Rating of Republic of North Macedonia** was discussed. The session was headed by Dr Kiril Grigorov - chairmen of the Rating Committee.

The members of the Rating Committee reviewed numerous qualitative and quantitative risk factors included in the **Rating Model** and analysed in the **Credit Rating Report** in accordance with the **Sovereign Rating Methodology**.

Key points discussed included: 1) domestic politics; 2) the prospect of European Union membership; 3) macroeconomic fundamentals and growth outlook, 4) dynamics of external metrics and reserves adequacy; 5) general government budget execution in 2020 and medium-term fiscal strategy; 6) public debt sustainability analysis; 7) banking system developments.

The sovereign rating and the related outlook have been determined based on the above discussion.

## Tables:

Country	Development classification
Republic of North Macedonia	Emerging and Developing Europe (IMF classification)

MAIN MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS							
	2020 I-IX	2019 I-IX	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Gross domestic product - real growth rate	-5.9	3.1	3.2	2.9	1.1	2.8	3.9
Gross domestic product (EUR mln)	7 729	8 190	11 209	10 744	10 038	9 657	9 072
Final consumption	6 591	6 573	8 933	8 610	8 189	7 952	7 786
Gross capital formation	2 087	2 566	3 872	3 473	3 240	3 139	2 758
Net exports	-950	-949	-1 596	-1 339	-1 390	-1 435	-1 472
Exports	4 410	5 202	6 983	6 487	5 536	4 892	4 422
Imports	5 359	6 151	8 578	7 826	6 926	6 327	5 894
Unemployment rate <sup>1</sup> (%)	16.5	17.1	17.3	20.7	22.4	23.7	26.1
Average net monthly wage (EUR)	437	405	410	395	372	363	356
GDP per capita (EUR)	-	-	5 398	5 175	4 839	4 659	4 382
CPI - annual average rate of change (%)	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.4	-0.2	-0.3
MKD/EUR - period average	61.67	61.51	61.51	61.51	61.57	61.60	61.61
MKD/USD - period average	54.93	54.74	54.95	52.10	54.65	55.69	55.50
EXTERNAL SECTOR							
	2020 I-IX	2019 I-IX	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
EUR mln							
Current account	-277	-78	-372	-7	-105	-275	-177
Goods	-1305	-1355	-1970	-1736	-1787	-1813	-1823
Services	358	373	350	371	375	341	349
Primary income	-283	-388	-520	-451	-398	-384	-286
Secondary income	953	1291	1767	1809	1705	1581	1583
Foreign direct investments	120	189	399	614	182	338	217
Gross external debt	9 087	8 569	8 154	7 844	7 372	7 217	6 291
Net international investment position	-6 832	-6 255	-6 458	-6 039	-5 823	-5 576	-5 083
Official reserve assets	3 480	3 128	3 263	2 867	2 336	2 613	2 262
% of GDP <sup>2</sup>							
Current account	-2.6	-0.7	-3.3	-0.1	-1.0	-2.9	-2.0
Goods	-12.1	-12.2	-17.4	-16.2	-17.8	-18.8	-20.1
Services	3.3	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.8
Primary income	-2.6	-3.5	-4.6	-4.2	-4.0	-4.0	-3.2
Secondary income	8.9	11.6	15.6	16.9	17.0	16.4	17.4
Foreign direct investments	1.1	1.7	3.5	5.7	1.8	3.5	2.4
Gross external debt	84.6	77.1	71.9	73.3	73.4	74.7	69.3
Net international investment position	-63.6	-56.3	-56.9	-56.5	-58.0	-57.7	-56.0
Official reserve assets	32.4	28.1	28.8	26.8	23.3	27.1	24.9

PUBLIC FINANCE							
EUR mln	2020 I-XII	2019 I-XII	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
General government revenues	3 251	3 533	3 533	3 266	3 108	2 951	2 809
General government expenditures	4 137	3 774	3 774	3 381	3 391	3 209	3 120
Interest expenditure	131	132	132	126	137	112	106
General government budget balance	-886	-242	-242	-116	-283	-258	-312
General government debt	5 516	4 557	4 557	4 344	3 958	3 852	3 453
Public debt	6 483	5 541	5 541	5 202	4 787	4 711	4 227
External public debt	4 324	3 709	3 709	3 538	3 188	3 286	2 848
Domestic public debt	2 160	1 832	1 832	1 664	1 599	1 425	1 380
% of GDP <sup>3</sup>							
General government revenues	30.1	31.5	31.5	30.4	31.0	30.6	31.0
General government expenditures	38.3	33.7	33.7	31.5	33.8	33.2	34.4
Interest expenditure	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.2
General government budget balance	-8.2	-2.2	-2.2	-1.1	-2.8	-2.7	-3.4
General government debt	51.0	40.7	40.7	40.4	39.4	39.9	38.1
Public debt	59.9	49.4	49.4	48.4	47.7	48.8	46.6
External public debt	39.9	33.1	33.1	32.9	31.8	34.0	31.4
Domestic public debt	20.0	16.3	16.3	15.5	15.9	14.8	15.2
BANKING SYSTEM							
ratio (%)	2020 Q3	2019 Q3	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Capital adequacy ratio	16.9	16.9	16.3	16.5	15.7	15.2	15.5
Highly liquid assets / Total assets	21.6	24.0	24.0	22.6	23.2	25.7	24.3
Loan-to-deposit (LtD ratio)	84.3	84.2	83.8	86.2	87.7	87.0	90.6
Non-performing loans / Total loans	3.4	5.0	4.8	5.2	6.3	6.6	10.8
Return on assets (ROA)	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.1
Return on equity (ROE)	12.3	13.5	11.7	16.0	13.5	13.6	10.4
Total assets / GDP	85.9	77.4	79.8	76.2	74.7	74.8	75.8
EUR mln <sup>4</sup>							
Total (gross) loans (to non-financial entities)	5 653	5 315	5 525	5 205	4 839	4 570	4 506
Total deposits (of non-financial entities)	6 707	6 313	6 596	6 038	5 518	5 250	4 971
Total assets	9 209	8 596	8 945	8 187	7 513	7 233	6 878
Financial result (net profit / loss)	96	94	109	136	107	103	75

[1] Data for Q3 of the respective year for population aged 15 years and over, LFS;

[2] GDP ratios in the first two columns were calculated using the sum of GDP in the four preceding quarters

[3] Ratios for 2020 were calculated on the basis of GDP amounting to MKD 665 681 mln (Ministry of Finance projection);

[4] The values in EUR are calculated by using the exchange rate of the MKD/EUR at the corresponding period's end.

Sources: National Bank of Republic of North Macedonia, State Statistical Office, Ministry of Finance, World Bank, Eurostat, International Monetary Fund.