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## ARCHIVAL EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA NOWADAYS

**Izvleček:**

**Izobraževanje iz arhivistike v Makedoniji**

Organizacija in dejavnost arhivske službe v Makedoniji se je začela z ustanovitvijo sodobne makedonske države, ki je prej obstajala kot del Socialistične federativne republike Jugoslavije. Od ustanovitve Državnega arhiva Republike Makedonije leta 1951 do leta 2000 je bilo za opravljanje arhivske službe zaposleno osebje tako s srednješolsko kot tudi univerzitetno izobrazbo: zgodovinarji, filozofi, jezikoslovci, pravniki, itd. Vsi ti profili so pridobili osnovno znanje in potrebne veščine s področja arhivistike s praktičnim delom, organiziranimi seminarji in drugimi oblikami strokovnega izobraževanja. Razvoj arhivistike v posebno znanost s svojo teorijo in prakso je pripomogel k temu, da je bil ustanovljen redni diplomski in podiplomski študij arhivistike na Inštitutu za zgodovino Univerze sv. Cirila in Metoda v Skopju. To je bil velik korak k pridobitvi strokovnega kadra: diplomirani zgodovinarji - arhivisti in magistri arhivistike.

**Ključne besede:**

arhivistika, arhivist, zgodovina, arhivska izobrazba, arhivi, arhivsko gradivo, predmetnik, Inštitut za zgodovino, Republika Makedonija.

**Abstract:**

**Archival Education in the Republic of Macedonia Nowadays**

The organization of the archival service and activity in the Republic of Macedonia began after the constitution of the contemporary Macedonian state as a part of the Social Federative Republic of Yugoslavia. Since the establishment of the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia in 1951, and until 2000, personnel with secondary-school education had been engaged in the archival service and activity, as well as personnel with university education such as: historians, philosophers, linguists, jurists etc. All these profiles, have acquired the basic knowledge and the needed skills in the area of the Archival Science through practical work, organized seminars and other forms of professional education. The development of Archival Science into a separate science with its theory and practice, contributed to the opening of a regular graduate and post-graduate studies in Archival Science at the Institute of History of the University St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje. It was a big step for the establishment of professional cadre: graduate historians - archivists and Masters in Archival Science.

**Key words:**

archival science, archivist, history, archival education, archives, archival material, syllabus, Institute of History, Republic of Macedonia.

### INTRODUCTION

The education of archival staff in the field of Archival Science, through university education and professional education of the employees in the archives and other institutions - holders of archival material, were always a subject of interest of

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the national and the state archives, the international archival associations, as well as of the scientific and educational institutions. This is the reason why this segment of the Archival Science and profession, theory and practice, is present in the strategies and the program documents of the biggest international archival association - the International Council on Archives from its establishment until today. Each country has its characteristics and possibilities for the organization of the archival education and for the implementation of the recommendations and experiences from the international cooperation in the field of Archival Science. On the other hand, the information technologies called forth intensification of the education of the archivists and for the preservation and protection of electronic records. The interest of scientists from different areas which have used the archival documents as a historic testimony and as proof of the past has also risen. Archival Science with all the theoretical, methodological and applicable segments has established itself as a separate scientific discipline.

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARCHIVAL EDUCATION AT THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY OF THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY

The introduction of Archival Science as a separate educational-scientific department at the Institute of History of the Faculty of Philosophy at the University St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje ten years ago came as a result of a number of circumstances and needs.

The tradition and experience have had an important place in the field of Archival Science from the establishment of the contemporary Macedonian state in 1944 and its development in the common Yugoslavian archival system. In 1951 during the establishment of the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia (then State Archives of the People's Republic of Macedonia) several renowned professors from the Department of History at the Faculty of Philosophy had engaged themselves most actively in collecting and preservation of archival material. The professor Ljuben Lape, who was also a close associate of the Director of the State Archives at that time - Dimce Mire, played a very special role. He was one of the first members of the Archival Council of the People's Republic of Macedonia appointed by the Government. He was also a member of the Commission for publications of archival documents within the Head Archival Council of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia. He especially stood up for the idea of suitably educated cadre from the field of History to be engaged in the Archives as well as philologists which will be needed for the translation, evaluation and processing of documents written in other languages.<sup>1</sup> Professor Ljuben Lape donated a number of documents to the Archives, but he also collected and brought to the Archives a great number of microfilmed and Xerox copied documents from his research visits to the archives of Yugoslavia: Belgrade, Dubrovnik and the European centers: Paris, Lausanne, Geneva, Bern, Moscow and Leningrad etc.<sup>2</sup>

The Institute of History,<sup>3</sup> since the establishment of the Faculty of Philosophy in 1946 in the contemporary Macedonian state, gained great experience in the

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<sup>1</sup> *Violeta i Ljubomir Gerasimovi, Profesorot Ljuben Lape i Arhivskoto delo vo Makedonija, Zbornik, Ljuben Lape, Zivot i delo, Filozofski Fakultet, Skopje, Institut za istorija, Skopje 1997, str. 159.*

<sup>2</sup> *Ibidem.*

<sup>3</sup> *In the past 65 years the Institute of History has changed its name several times: Department of History, later Academic research group in History to the final Institute of History.*

organization and delivering of lectures not only in the basic historical subjects but also in the subjects and disciplines related to Archival Science. One of the more important subjects was Auxiliary Historical Sciences, which was taught by professor Stjepan Antoljak<sup>4</sup> and professor dr. Vladimir Mosin. Candidates from other Yugoslav countries defended their doctoral dissertations at the Department of History of the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje.<sup>5</sup>

One of the favorable circumstances for the organization and introduction of Archival Science as a teaching subject was the cooperation between the most important institutions for the realization of this projects: Institute of History at the Faculty of Philosophy and the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia. Professor Tomo Tomoski (1915-2004) mainly dealt with the history of Macedonia in the Middle Ages, but he also cooperated with the State Archives and researched documents from the Austrian envoys in Macedonia at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Professor Metodija Sokolovski (1913-1984) was one of the founders of the Ottoman science in the Macedonian Historiography. Professor Sokolovski was one of the best archeographers under whose editorial a number of volumes of Turkish documents about the history of Macedonian people were published by the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia. Dr. Hristo Andonov Poljanski, dr. Vojo Kusevski, dr. Aleksandar Apostolov, dr. Mihajlo Minovski and others were engaged most actively in this cooperation of the professors from the Institute of History and the State Archives.<sup>6</sup> The experiences they passed on to their younger colleagues at the Institute were valuable for the cognition of the theory and methodology of the research work in the field of History and in the field of Archival Science.

A small number of professionals and scientists in the field of Archival Science, Library Science and Museum Science finished their Master's and Doctoral studies mainly at the University in Zagreb. This changed with the disintegration of the Yugoslav Federation and the establishment of the independent Macedonian state. On the other hand, the establishment of an independent archival service in Macedonia asked for the organization of a university archival education.

The idea for the opening of a department where the students would gain scientific and professional knowledge of History as well as of Archival Science was realized during 1998 and 1999, when the first curriculums and syllabuses were conceptualized and the procedure for their adoption began. The head of the Institute of History and the Council of the Postgraduate Studies and professors dr. Dimitar Dimeski, dr. Mihajlo Minoski, dr. Darinka Petreska and dr. Kosta Adzievski, as well as other professors and collaborators participated in the preparation of the report for the need of a Department of Archival Science.<sup>7</sup>

A significant contribution in the sketching of the curriculums and syllabuses was given by some of the archivists from the State Archives, who were outstanding

<sup>4</sup> Stjepan Antoljak was engaged as a professor at the Faculty of Philosophy from 1959 to 1969. His university textbook *Auxiliary Historical Sciences* was published in 1966 in Skopje.

<sup>5</sup> *Filozofski fakultet, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Skopje 1996, str. 196, 172; Darinka Petreska, Violeta Ackoska, Osoznavanje na istorijata, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Filozofski Fakultet, Skopje 2007, str. 133.*

<sup>6</sup> *Darinka Petreska, 60 godini Institut za istorija - 60 godini istorisko obrazovanje i nauka vo Republika Makedonija (1946-2006), 60 godini Institut za istorija, Makedonija i sosedita, Megjunarodna naučna konferencija, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Skopje 2010, str. 21, 22.*

<sup>7</sup> *Priracnik za studentite na Institutot za istorija - Nasoka Istorija so arhivistika, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Filozofski fakultet, Skopje 2001, str. 14-15. Professors from the Institute of History, the Institute of classical studies, Faculty of Philology and collaborators from the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia participated in the preparation of the first syllabus.*

experts in the area of Archival Science: dr. Kiro Dojcinovski who was the director of the Archives until 1998, the deputy-director dr. Ivan Aleksov, the manager of the Sector for preservation of archival records Stanojka Todorovska, MA. Many expert and scientific work from the doyen of the Macedonian Archival Science - Todor Talevski were used as well. The director of the Institute for National History in Skopje, Novica Veljanovski, also gave his support to this project. It is also important to mention that the experiences from the foreign Universities, which organized studies of Archival Science, were also used. Thus the University administration at the meeting on June 3, 1999, adopted a positive stance for the opening of the Department of Archival Science, and the Minister of Education on December 7, 1999 issued a decision for the organization of four-year studies at the Institute of History - Department of History and Archival Science from 2000/2001.<sup>8</sup>

### THE PLACE OF SUBJECTS OF ARCHIVAL SCIENCE IN THE SYLLABUS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVAL SCIENCE<sup>9</sup>

The archivists and university professors from other Yugoslav countries, at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, were occupied with questions about the professional education of archivists and the acceptance of Archival Science as a separate science. Yet, an archivist, as it was emphasized at the Professional council of the Croatian archival society, held in Dubrovnik in 1996, "should not strive to be either a historian, or information technologist. He must become and be an archivist."<sup>10</sup> But the process of making Archival Science an independent and separate science has not finished yet. "It seems that it is more appropriate to observe the independence of Archival Science and the archival service as a process which is still in progress, and not as a finished work..."<sup>11</sup> The need for exchange of experiences and support in the sphere of archival education is more and more present in the member countries of the European Union, especially after the issuing of the Report on the Archives in the enlarged European Union in 2005.<sup>12</sup> That is why the opening of the Department of Archival Science at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje should be seen as an attempt to create a system of education which will produce archivists who would be accepted in the archival service, in the society and abroad.

During the conceptualization of the syllabus of the Department of Archival Science, it was taken into consideration that the modern archivist should have a solid knowledge of History, basic knowledge in the Auxiliary Historical Sciences, in Paleography, the Classical languages, Information Science, about institutions which create archival records etc. There have been three types of syllabuses at the Department of Archival Science since its opening.

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<sup>8</sup> *Institutot za Istorija, Pismo od Rektorot na Univerzitetot Sv. Kiril i Metodij do Ministerstvoto za obrazovanie, br. 03-480, 03. 06. 1999 g., Resenieto od Ministerstvoto za obrazovanie na Republika Makedonija, br. 12-27996/2 od 12. 07. 1999 g.*

<sup>9</sup> *Josip Kolanović, Identitet arhivista: od zanimanja do profesije, Arhivski vjesnik, god. 40 (1997), str. 7-14; Bogdan Lekić, Arhivistika, Zavod za udžbenike i nastavna sredstva, Beograd 2006, str. 11-14.*

<sup>10</sup> *J. Kolanović, op.cit.*

<sup>11</sup> *Theo Thomassen, Arhivistika kao Znanost mora se razvijati u akademskoj slobodi, Anali Arhiva Federacije, Federacije Bosna i Hercegovina, knjiga 1, Sarajevo 2009, str. 196.*

<sup>12</sup> *Report on Archives in the enlarged European Union, European Commission, [http://www.arhiv.gov.si/fileadmin/arhiv.gov.si/pageuploads/zakonodaja/EN-Report\\_on\\_Archives.pdf](http://www.arhiv.gov.si/fileadmin/arhiv.gov.si/pageuploads/zakonodaja/EN-Report_on_Archives.pdf).*

There were 27 subjects in the first syllabus.<sup>13</sup> Most of the subjects were obligatory and optional subjects were only the Classical and Contemporary languages and Paleography. Besides the greater number of subjects in Macedonian, Balkan and World History (12 subjects in total), only five subjects were from the area of Archival Science: Archival Science I, Archival Science II, Archival Legislation, Appraisal of archival records and Preservation of archival records and technique. Subjects which were in function of a better profiling of the historian - archivist were also introduced: Auxiliary Historical Sciences, Information Science, one of the Classical languages and one subject in Paleography (Greek, Cyrillic or Latin), Administrative Law etc.<sup>14</sup> The student acquires a diploma - Bachelor in History and Archival Science.

Four years after the Department of History and Archival Science had been introduced, some analyses were made and experiences were drawn and applied in the conceptualization of the second academic program which was created in accordance with the Unique European Credit Transfer System, and was first applied in the academic year 2004/2005<sup>15</sup> with the new rules of studying, the emphasis was put on the optional subjects. There are obligatory subjects in each of the four years of studying. The optional subjects are placed mostly in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year. There are one or two subjects from the area of Archival Science in each semester: *Introduction to Archival Science, Archival Legislation I and II, History of Archives, Appraisal of archival records I and II, Arrangement of archival records, Preservation of archival records I and II, History of the institutions in Macedonia*. Some of the optional subjects, such as: *Museum Science, Preservation of cultural heritage, Auxiliary Historical Sciences, The political system of the Republic of Macedonia*, are also related to Archival Science.<sup>16</sup>

Some new changes in the arrangement of the subjects in History and Archival science have been made in the academic year 2009/2010. This newest academic program is also in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System and the Bologna process. Thus, all the archival subjects are compulsory. They are: *Introduction to Archival Science, Archival Legislation, History of archives, Record management, Arrangement of archival records, Description of archival records, Appraisal of archival records, Digital archives (electronic records), Preservation of archival records, Organization of the archival service, Use and presentation of archival records and Archival standards*.<sup>17</sup> From the optional subjects (which are 35 in total) the student shall select 19.<sup>18</sup>

Master's studies in the area of Archival Science have also been organized at the Institute of History of the Faculty of Philosophy. These studies were organized in accordance with the Unique European Credit Transfer System and started in the academic year 2004/2005. There were three groups of subjects: group of obligatory subjects (there were three subjects in this group: *Theory and methodology of History and Archival Science, History of Macedonia and History of the Balkans*), group of obligatory - optional subjects (there were 6 subjects in this group: *Historical development of the archival service and activity in Macedonia, Record and archival*

<sup>13</sup> Priracnik za studentite na Institutot za istorija - Nasoka Istorija so arhivistika,... 2001.

<sup>14</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>15</sup> Priracnik, Institut za Istorija-nasoka arhivistika, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Filozofski fakultet, Skopje 2006.

<sup>16</sup> Ibidem, 19-26.

<sup>17</sup> Priracnik za studenti, Institut za Istorija, nasoka Arhivistika, Univerzitet Sv. Kiril i Metodij, Filozofski fakultet, Skopje 2009, str. 149-150.

<sup>18</sup> Ibidem.

*management with contemporary systems of classification and appraisal, Preservation of archival records, Electronic archival records, Use and presentation of archival records and Legislation on archives and creators*, and students had to select 2 of these subjects) and group of optional subjects (there were 15 subjects in this group, of which students selected one<sup>19</sup>). The studies were organized in four semesters, with 6 subjects in total. The student acquires a diploma - Master in History and Archival Science.

With the recent changes in the syllabus (2009/2010), Master's studies have been organized in two semesters with the following subjects in the first semester: *Theory and methodology of Archival Science* (obligatory), *Research, use and presentation of archival records* (optional) and *Genesis and structure of archival fonds* (optional). In the second semester there have been the following subjects: *International archival standards* (optional), *Electronic records* (optional), and *The archival activity in Macedonia, 1951-2005*<sup>20</sup> (optional).

## REALIZATION AND EXPERIENCES FROM ARCHIVAL EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

130 students have graduated, 7 have defended their Master's thesis and 4 defended their doctoral dissertations at the Department of History and Archival Science of the Faculty of Philosophy in the last 10 years. It is for further analysis to see how many of them have found employment in the archives and registries of the bodies of the State Administration, in cultural and scientific institutions, public and private companies etc.

Professors and collaborators from the Institute of History at the Faculty of Philosophy have delivered the lectures at the Department of Archival Science.<sup>21</sup> Only one of them is a docent elected for the field of Archival Science, and he has been engaged to deliver lectures to both graduate and post-graduate students. Professionals from the State Archives have also been engaged as part-time lecturers.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> *Institut za istorija, Studiska programa za postdiplomski studii po istorija, 2004.*

<sup>20</sup> *Ibidem, Studiska programa za postdiplomski studii po istorija, 2009.*

<sup>21</sup> *Professor dr. Dimitar Dimeski, professor dr. Kosta Adzievski, professor dr. Darinka Petreska, professor dr. Koco Sidovski, professor dr. Maragarita Pesevska, professor dr. Nade Proeva, professor dr. Metodija Manojlovski, professor dr. Violeta Ackoska, professor dr. Aleksandar Atanasovski, professor dr. Vanko Gjorgiev, professor dr. Dalibor Jovanovski, docent dr. Boban Petrovski, docent dr. Borce Ilievski and docent dr. Vojkan Sarakinski.*

<sup>22</sup> *Dr. Ivan Aleksov, dr. Zoran Todorovski, dr. Aco Angelovski, dr. Gjorgi Stojcevski, dr. Slavica Nikolovska, Stanojka Todorovska MA, Suzana Stamboliska.*

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