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Social Legacy Program (SLP): Transparent Education Network (TEN) *Program Update: Macedonia*



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The Transparent Education Network

(TEN) brings together key individuals and organizations from the Europe and Eurasia region to foster peer-to-peer collaboration and dialogue and share lessons learned, best practices, challenges, and knowledge / resources relevant for understanding and addressing the issues related to corruption in education.

EDC is working with various organizations to implement project activities with youth including: 1) **NGO Center (NGOC)** in Armenia; 2) **YUVA Humanitarian Center (YUVA)** in Azerbaijan; and 3) **Youth Educational Forum (YEF)** in Macedonia.



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Project Overview The USAID Eastern Europe & Eurasia Social Legacy Program (SLP) reaches out to youth and other vulnerable groups in the Europe and Eurasia region, giving them the tools they need to become local leaders and promote social change. SLP is implemented by Education Development Center (EDC) through EQUIP3 — a USAID-funded mechanism focused on youth development. SLP is implementing three components in the E&E region: 1) Anti-corruption in Education in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Macedonia; 2) Disabilities in Armenia and Georgia; and 3) Workforce Development in Kosovo and Montenegro.

The SLP **Anti-Corruption** component has developed the Transparent Education Network (TEN) aimed at: (a) raising awareness about corruption in education and its impact on society; (b) strengthening local capacity to analyze effects of corruption in education at individual and school levels; and (c) promote a culture of transparency and accountability in secondary- and tertiary-level schools.

TEN Activities in Macedonia: Anti-Corruption Movie Night

Artistic commentary on social issues and public forum for discussion

Youth in Macedonia gathered at **Anticorruption Movie Night** to screen the 4 winning short films from SLP's Transparent Education Network's call for short amateur films in Macedonia with the topic "Anticorruption vaccination." These films, produced by students, aim to raise awareness on corruption in education. **Movie Night** was organized by EDC's partner Youth Educational Forum and took place in Skopje's 'Mala Stanica' cultural center on May 21, 2009. The event, which was called a "huge success" by organizers and attendees alike, was promoted on national TV and radio stations. The high visibility of this activity caught the attention of young people, NGO activists, high school and university students, educators and other interested individuals and organizations who filled up the venue.

After a welcome speech from YEF, that included information on SLP-TEN project goals and its international network for transparency in education, the promotional video produced by YEF and the four winning films were screened. The winning films included story lines to highlight that cheating on exams and bribery are severe forms of corruption and may have long-term consequences. Each of the film producers shared a brief summary of the video, followed by a Q&A session to encourage informal discussions between the producers and the participants. The goal of **Movie Night** was to raise awareness among youth of the power they have to reduce corruption in education. This was well summarized by Slavica Anastasovska (one of producers) in her speech: "we can achieve better education quality just if we (the students) fight for zero corruption and 100% transparency".

Part of the success of **Movie Night** is due to YEF's creative strategy to promote and announce the call for videos, which incited action from the Macedonian youth to serve as support for institutional changes. The video contest was open for 15 days during which 24 students applied with 27 scenarios.

The videos can be seen on: <http://www.youtube.com/user/YouthEduForum>



A speech by one of the winning authors-
Lazar Pop Ivanov



The promotional screening of the four winning films
on the video contest "Anticorruption vaccination"

