

Address by the President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia Nikola Gruevski MA at the School of Mechanical Engineering on the Occasion of Signing the Contract for Cooperation with University of Cambridge

Skopje, February 13th

Respected rector, Martinovski,

Respected representatives of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts,

Respected Dean of the School of Mechanical Engineering, Mr. Kosev,

Respected Director of the Institute for Production at Cambridge University, Mr. Tempelton,

Respected professors,

Respected representatives of the Government,

Your Excellency, The Ambassador of Great Britain to the Republic of Macedonia, the Ambassador of Austria to Macedonia,

Representatives of USAID,

Respected representatives of the academic community,

It is my great pleasure that today I have the opportunity to give a speech in this highly education institution that represents a temple of the Macedonian innovation and creativity.

And exactly the innovation and creativity, the intellectual force of the Republic of Macedonia will be our main weapon and our main support in struggles that are ahead to our state. These are fights in the era of globalization, digitalization, informatics technologies and the global mobility. The unique resource of a society in this struggle will be the knowledge, particularly the specialized and applied knowledge which can be achieved at this school.

The School of Mechanical Engineering with its activities shows that it has one of the leading roles in the system of the high education of the Republic of Macedonia. Beside the education of the highly educated staff who is ready to face the contemporary demands of the modern technique and technology, mechanical engineers who complete their studies also achieve the managing capabilities and the spirit of entrepreneurship that make them competitive both to domestic and the world's labor market. Beside the high education activity, this school through realization of a number of projects, permanently gives accelerated rhythm of

technology transfer and the knowledge in economy with a purpose to enlarge the competitiveness of domestic companies. I am convinced that also in future the School of Mechanical Engineering will make quant jumps in the global and European rank-lists for quality in education and innovation.



A proof for this point of view is the present day sign of the Contract for cooperation between the School of Engineering at Sts Cyril and Methodius University and the Production Institute at the Cambridge University. This contract will develop and implement the multidisciplinary academic and practice program which will provide production of knowledge and skills that will support the development of production section in the Republic of Macedonia.

As start of this cooperation two programs will be realized:

- The international postgraduate studies for industrial innovations, entrepreneurship and management, through which the new leaders of the industrial firms will be formed as well as the new production orientated entrepreneurships, and
- The Program for transmission of the knowledge in the Macedonian industry on the basis of the best experiences from the Cambridge University, that will provide an increase and

development of the production section and increase of competitiveness of the firms through improvement of the strategies, capabilities and productivity of the same.

This cooperation is in complete coordination with the priorities of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia for attraction of the well-known foreign universities in our countries from the rank-list of the world's top 100 universities as a part of the priorities of the qualitative education and support of the process for attraction of foreign investments and accelerated economic development.



This contract for cooperation is so important because it is arranged with the secondly ranked university on the world's list for 2007, the University of Cambridge, from Great Britain. Additionally, this represents the first cooperation of this kind at this university with a country from South-East Europe.

It is very interesting that exactly the Institute for Production at the Cambridge University connects the University and the Industry of Cambridge, which is popularly named as a “silicon valley” of Europe.

Establishing these studies in the Republic of Macedonia, ideal conditions will be created for Macedonia to become a leader in the sphere of industrial innovations, entrepreneurship and management of South East Europe.



We have the opportunity to transform in a place where will be created the future regional and world innovation leaders who will be the motivators of the development of the Macedonian creative economics based on knowledge. Through realization of this cooperation, will be increased the number of educated expert staff in these activities, and thus will be fastened the industrial development of the Republic of Macedonia.

I am convinced that our state will survive a quantitative and qualitative jump in applied and innovative technology that will give a

contribution to reach the level of the countries in the region in the processes of globalization and increase of the own competitiveness, economic growth and well-being.

Thanks to the innovation and the creativity of such staff, Macedonia could hope for better competitiveness in the world, higher level of direct foreign investments and economic growth, larger power, relevancy and weight in the international economic and political relations, but also larger freedom and democracy in the own society.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia continues with the implementation of the capital projects and reforms in education and permanently will give its support for development of scientific and academic process, as well as the promotion of the applied sciences. The new generations at the School of Mechanical Engineering, will face at least an easy tasks and obligation to superimpose the achievements of the previous generations Macedonian engineers and more firmly to involve the Republic of Macedonia into contemporary streams of the science, technology and innovation.

In the end, let me once again to express my entire support for this mutual project, because I know that it will be of great meaning for the Republic of Macedonia, for all of us and will be an additional argument and stimulant for attraction of new world's renown universities in the Republic of Macedonia.

Thank you.