

Sidste Nyt fra Albanien, Kosóva og Makedonien

Serbien og Montenegro

The Latest News from Albania, Kosóva and Macedonia

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Den Albanske og den Græske Præsident, Marts 2005

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The framework of *The Latest News from Albania, Kosóva and Macedonia* is in Danish - nevertheless, the news are mostly in English. You may send information, comments and questions to: [»The Latest News«](#) [please *click*].

Indholdsfortegnelse Contents

Ugeoversigt Summary

Internationale organisationer International organizations

FN UN

Verdensbanken, IMF m.fl. World Bank, IMF etc.

OSCE, Europarådet OSCE, Council of Europe (CoE)

EU European Union (EU)

NATO NATO

ICTY - Tribunalet i Haag ICTY

Balkan, generelt The Balkans

Kosóva Kosóva [Kosovo]

Øst Kosóva / Presevo-dalen / Syd-Serbien Eastern Kosóva

Albanien Albania

Serbien og Montenegro. Serbien (alene) Serbia-Montenegro. Serbia

Montenegro (alene) Montenegro

Makedonien Macedonia [FYRoM]

Grækenland Greece

Tyrkiet Turkey

Italien Italia

USA United States (US)

England England

Tyskland Germany

Frankrig France

Danmark (Norge, Sverige) Denmark (Norway, Sweden)

Rusland Russia

Kina China

»Albansk Almanak 2003« bd. 1-3

Almanak'en for 2003 er udkommet. Her finder du årets nyhedsbreve. [Årets litteraturkommentarer vil udkomme i 2006 i »Albanske Studier« ## 3-4].

Bogen findes i trykt form og på CD (som pdf-fil). Papirudgave på 800 sider i 3 bind. Bogen sælges som papirudgave m/ CD og som CD alene. Se pris på: [Bestillingsliste](#).

Udgaven for 2004 ventes at udkomme i slutningen af 2005.

»Albanske Studier« bd. 1-2

Kommentarer til Bjøl, Huntington, Machiavelli, Sørlander, DUPI (Humanitær Intervention), Clausewitz, Mao Zedong, Lars R. Møller, Malcolm og flere andre (kommentarerne er suppleret ift udgaver i Almanak'erne m.v.). Englændere på rejse i Albanien: Edward Lear, Edith Durham og Robert Carver. Bøger om slægtsfejder og blodhævn. Diskussion af Anne Knudsen's disputats om blodhævn på Korsika og af Ismail Kadare's roman »Ufuldendt april«. Baggrundsmateriale om den Sønderjyske general Christian von Holstein, der deltog i Habsburgernes felttog ind i Kosóva i 1689-90. Sidst i bogen et forsøg på en sammenfatning i form af nogle 'grundlæggende synspunkter'. Desuden en kommentar til Hans Hækkerup's »På skansen«. På CD'en supplerende materiale om traditionelle Albanske klædedragter og om Holstein.

Du kan downloade indholdsfortegnelsen og kommentaren til Hækkerup fra: <http://bjoerna.dk/albansk-historie/studier-2002.htm>

Bogen findes i trykt form og på CD (som pdf-fil). Papirudgave 368 A4-sider i 2 bind. Bogen sælges som papirudgave m/ CD og som CD alene. Se pris på: [Bestillingsliste](#).

Til dig der kigger på et ældre nummer af »Sidste Nyt«.

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[»Sidste Nyt« \(klik\)](#)

Seneste 4 udgaver af »Sidste Nyt fra Albanien, Kosóva og Makedonien«:

[Sidste Nyt #277 - 03.11.2005](#) (klik tv.)

[Sidste Nyt #276 - 28.10.2005](#) (klik tv.)

[Sidste Nyt #275 - 21.10.2005](#) (klik tv.)

[Sidste Nyt #274 - 14.10.2005](#) (klik tv.)

Alle årets udgaver: <http://bjoerna.dk/nyt-oversigt.htm>

UGEOVERSIGT (resumé)

De to vigtigste emner i denne udgave er det forringede forhold mellem Albanien og Grækenland - og elektricitetsforsyningen på Balkan, specielt i Albanien.

Den Græske Præsident - Karolos Papoulias - har været på et besøg i Albanien, der blev kortere end aftalt. En Albansk demonstration ved det Græske Konsulat i Gjirokastra blev taget ilde op og gav anledning til at den Græske Præsident returnerede til Athen uden at mødes med Præsident Moisiu.

Der er (igen) store vanskeligheder med **el-forsyningen i Albanien** - og KESH har besluttet at skærpe rationeringen.

USA: Der er stillet forslag om at Repræsentanternes Hus skal vedtage en Scanderbeg-resolution. Forslaget er modtaget fra Albanian American Civic League:

Slægtsfejder og blodhævn i tidligere tid - og nogle bemærkninger om situationen nu. Samtidig med dette nr. er [# 277](#) »sendt på gaden«. # 277 er en Engelsksproget anmeldelse af Diana Gellçi's essay »*Gjakmarrja / Albanian Highlander's »Blood Feud« as Social Obligation*« der udkom tidligere i år.

INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATIONER m.v.

Opmærksomheden henledes på *Economic Reconstruction and Development in South East Europe*. Adressen er www.seerecon.org. Her kan man finde materiale om aktuelle møder og konferencer.

FN

VERDENSBANKEN, IMF M.FL.

Se under de enkelte lande / områder.

OSCE, Europarådet

Se under de enkelte lande / områder.

EU

NATO

ICTY - TRIBUNALET I HAAG

Verserende sager vedr. Kosovo: Anklageskrifter og udskrifter af retsmøderne kan findes på:
<http://www.un.org/icty/cases-e/index-e.htm>

ICTY vs Slobodan **Milosevic**, (IT-02-54)

ICTY vs Fatmir **Limaj** et al. (IT-03-66)

ICTY vs Ramush **Haradinaj** (IT-04-84)

BALKAN LANDE, LANDE VED ØSTLIGE MIDDELHAV

BALKAN GENERELT



Udsnit af EU's Europakort 2004. [Udsnittet kan forstørres ved at klikke på det]. Kortet indgår i en præsentationsbrochure, der kan downloades som pdf fra: http://europa.eu.int/comm/publications/booklets/eu_glance/20/da.pdf.

KOSÓVA

Bynavne: Angives der to navne på samme lokalitet, er den Albanske nævnt først. Se oversigten på: <http://bjoerna.dk/kosova/byer.htm> ... Bynavne: Angives der to navne på samme lokalitet, er den Albanske nævnt først. Se oversigten på: <http://bjoerna.dk/kosova/byer.htm> ... [Rapporter fra FNs Generalsekretær](#) ... 040616 SG Kofi Annan udtaler at han agter at udpege Søren Jessen-Petersen som 5' SRSG. Søren Jessen-Petersen blev senere udpeget og tiltrådte i Kosóva 040816. ... 0308 Harri Holkeri tiltrådte som 4' SRSG. Fratrådt 0406 af helbreds-mæssige grunde. ... 020214 Michael Steiner tiltrådte i Kosóva som 3' SRSG og fratrådte i begyndelsen af 0307. ... En biografi over 2' SRSG Hans Hækkerup kan læses på [Danske Politikere](#). En anmeldelse af hans bog »Kosovos mange ansigter« kan downloades fra: <http://neva.hjem.wanadoo.dk/Hækkerup2.pdf> (0,4 MB) ... [Constitutional Framework for Provisional Self-Government](#) ... [Kosova's Regering](#) ... [Webisode vedr. 2004-valgene](#) ... [UNMIK Politiets oversigt over 2001](#) (artikler, billeder og statistik i pdf-format (fil'en er forholdsvis stor: 2,6 MB)) ... [Kriminaliteten i 2002 - Oversigt](#) kan downloades [[klik på titlen](#)]

Parlamentsvalget 2004 [Præsidenten - Ibrahim Rugóva - er valgt af Parlamentet, *the Assembly*], se: <http://kosovoelections.org/eng/>



Pressemeddelelser fra UNMIK:

Elforsyningen. UNMIK skriver:

PRISTINA – Today, DSRSG Joachim Ruecker has signed, for UNMIK on behalf of Kosovo, the Treaty establishing the EU/South Eastern Europe Energy Community. Deputy Minister for Energy and Mining Agron Dida was also present at the ceremony in Athens, which was attended by the Greek Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis, the British Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on behalf of the EU Presidency, Alan Johnson, Stability Pact Coordinator Erhard Busek as well as representatives from seven countries from the region (Albania, FYROM, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Bulgaria, Romania). At the time of signature, DSRSG Ruecker presented a formal Declaration setting out specific terms governing UNMIK's signature of the Treaty, which flow from UNMIK's interim administration mandate and specific status of Kosovo pursuant to UNSCR 1244 (1999). The Declaration will form part of the official records of the Treaty. "The Treaty aims to create a single stable regulatory framework for the trading of energy across borders. With this agreement, Kosovo will participate in the cooperative energy market institutions that are in line with the EU acquis (entire body of legislation of the European Union) and also take part in the collective mechanisms for the resolution of potential conflicts. This will enhance the prospects for economic prosperity for all, by increasing supply security and hopefully lowering prices.

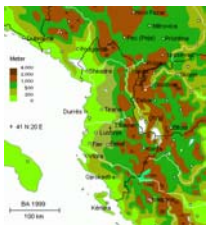
DSRSG Ruecker said at the ceremony: "The implementation of this Treaty will bring huge benefits to all the people of the region. It is a process of regional integration that resembles the very first cornerstone of the establishment of the European Union, back in 1951." The DSRSG expressed his confidence that by establishing free trade of energy and promoting a positive perception of the investment climate in the region, the Treaty will greatly contribute to attracting foreign direct investment to Kosovo.

Ugerapport fra Dansk KFOR. Hærens Operative Kommando skriver (på <http://www.hok.dk/>):

ØST KOSOVA / PRESEVO-DALEN / SYD-SERBIEN

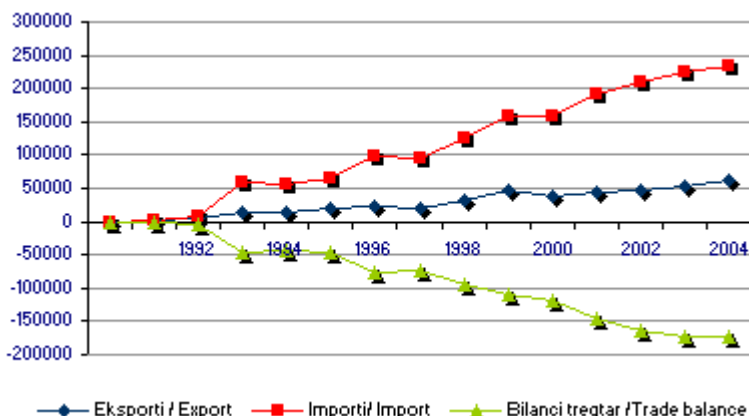
For nemheds skyld bruges betegnelsen Øst Kosóva / Presevo-dalen om det omstridte område med byerne: Presheva, Medvegja og Bujanoci (Albansk stavemåde). Ca. 75 % af befolkningen skønnes at være etniske Albanere - måske omkring 70.000. En modstandsgruppe har været i funktion, men synes nu at være »lukket ned«. Gruppen kaldtes i forkortet form **UCPMB** (som står for noget i retning af: Ushtria Clirimtare e Presheva, Medvegja dhe Bujanoci; på Engelsk: Liberation Army of Presheva, Medvegja and Bujanoci). Gruppen sagde at den **intet** havde at gøre med Kosova's UCK, og at den var en lokal gruppe.

ALBANIEN



Klik på kortet, hvis du vil have det forstørret / click <http://bjoerna.dk/kort/Albanien.gif> to enlarge it

Info fra Albanien's Statistik: Befolkningstal: 3,1 Mio (1.1.2004). GDP (Gross Domestic Product): 630 Mia Lek (2002, current prices); GDP-structure: Agriculture: 26 %, Industry 10-11 %, Construction: 7-8 %, Services: 55-56 %. Export: 54 mia lek (2003) [heraf til Danmark: 23 mio lek; størrelsesorden 1,2 mio kr], Import: 226 mia lek (2003) [Heraf fra Danmark: 855 mio lek; størrelsesorden: 45-50 mio kr], Tradedeficit: 171 mia lek (2003). Største import fra Italien (75 mia lek) og Grækenland (45 mia lek), største eksport til Italien (40 mia lek). Unemployment: 14-15 % (2004-III)



Det Engelske Udenrigsministeriums 'Country Advice' til rejsende kan findes på adressen: <http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket%2FXcelerate%2FShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029390590&a=KCountryAdvice&aid=1013618385522>. Det Danske UM har pt ingen rejsevejledning, men henviser til det Engelske UM. Den Norske Ambassade kan findes på: <http://www.norvegji.org/>. Det Amerikanske UM har Juni 2004 offentliggjort en 'Background Note' om Albanien: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3235.htm>

Mother Teresa: <http://bjoerna.dk/albanien/Teresa.htm>.

Præsident Moisiu's aktiviteter [Billederne i denne sektion kan som regel forstørres ved at klikke på dem (mens man er på nettet)]:

Den Græske Præsident - Karolos Papoulias - har været på et besøg der blev kortere end aftalt. En Albansk demonstration ved det Græske Konsulat i Gjirokastra blev taget ilde op og gav anledning til at den Græske Præsident returnerede til Athen uden at mødes med Præsident Moisiu.

På kort sigt spiller hændelsen naturligvis en vis rolle, om der er nogen langsigtet virkning er svært at sige; derimod må man nok konkludere at der ikke skal så meget til, før de statslige relationer mellem Grækenland og Albanien krakelerer.

Around 35,000 Chams were expelled from Greece after World War II after being accused of collaboration with the Nazi occupation, they say. They were given Albanian citizenship in 1953.

The demonstrators, carrying banners reading "We want justice" and "Stop the indifference", were demanding compensation for or restitution of properties confiscated by the Greek government.

Se evt. reportage på BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4397470.stm>

Den Albanske Præsident's kontor skrev i Marts 2005:

March 28, 2005 Yoannina, Greece



After the informal talks between the President of the Republic, Alfred Moisiu and the Greek President Karolos Papoulias, the two homologues gave press

releases to the medias that were present.

President Moisiu stated that he went to Yoanina to personally congratulate Mr. Papulias on the brand new duty of the President of the Greek Republic.

President Moisiu stated that the two heads of states have agreed for these meetings to have continuity. President Moisiu declared that this time the meeting was held in Yoannina and next time it will be in Gjirokastra or Saranda.

"It is true that our relations are very good and this does not have to be pointed out, because this is evident from the developments and I would add that the relations between Albania and Greece will serve as a model for the relations in the Balkans." – stated President Moisiu.

Pausing on the Wednesday's soccer match between the two countries, President Moisiu stated that: "I would like to say that our meeting will serve as a powerful message to all the fans because soccer is a sport and a very popular sport at that in Greece and Albania also."

President Moisiu stated in a popular fashion that when two teams play, only one of them wins, but the sport unites all.

"I wish all the best and thank President Papulias for the invitation extended and I welcome him in Albania." – concluded his statement President Moisiu.

On his part, President Papulias stated that this was a very friendly and very warm meeting.

"I believe that it was a positive contribution in the development of the Albanian-Greek relations, relations, which are excellent in all the sectors and I am sure that these informal meetings between the two presidents contribute in the further development of these very good relations." – stated President Papulias by concluding: "I wish all the best to Mr. Moisiu! Let's have a nice meeting next time in Albania!"

Den Albanske Præsident's kontor skriver nu:

November 1, 2005

In continuation of the meeting in March of this year in Yoannina between the Greek and Albanian Presidents, on the invitation of President Moisiu, the Greek President Papulias arrived today in our country for an informal meeting in Saranda.

This meeting, as a continuation of the previous one during which, President Papulias called the relations between the two countries excellent and model of regional collaboration, is consider[ed] by the Albanian side as another opportunity to give new incitements to these relations between our two friendly peoples to the benefit of peace and development in the region.

To everybody's surprise, during a stop at the Greek Consulate in Gjirokaster, the Greek side decided to annul the meeting by communicating the return to Greece – all this done under the unjustifiable pretext of the gathering in peaceful way of a small group from the Chameria Association in the promenade near the hotel where the meeting would take place.

The President of the Republic expresses the deep sorrow for this hurried and unexplainable decision of the Greek side which was based on disinformation, regardless of the assurances of the Albanian side that this was a peaceful demonstration of inconsiderable dimensions and under full security measures.

President Moisiu would like to emphasize that although this consists in a undesirable and unprecedented incident, Albania has faith in the Albanian-Greek relations, that Albania has been and will remain committed to the uninterrupted development of these relations through dialogue, reciprocal trust and tolerance in the interest of the two countries, peace and stability in the region.

Det Græske Udenrigsministerium skrev således samme dag (1.11.):

Statement of foreign ministry spokesman Mr. G. Koumoutsakos regarding the incident that took place during the visit of the President of the Hellenic Republic to Albania

Information Department Tuesday, 1 November 2005

"As soon as the incident was made known, there were orders given to the Greek ambassador in Tirana to summon a protesting demarche because the competent Albanian authorities:

- Did not take the appropriate measures in order that the meeting between the Presidents of Greece and Albania in Agios Saranta was conducted smoothly.

- Did not take the appropriate measures in order to discourage known extremist elements, which in their effort to obstruct the smooth development in the relations of the two countries, persist in the projection of unacceptable non existent issues at the moment where Albania attempts to make steps to achieve its European expectations."

2.11. skrev det Græske Nyhedsbureau, ANA:

Gov't on Albania incident involving President

The Greek government spokesman on Wednesday joined the previous day's cascade of condemnations over a same-day incident in southern Albania that led to the cancellation of President Karolos Papoulias' informal meeting with his Albanian counterpart Alfred Moisiu.

"The Greek government considers that the necessary measures allowing for the unhindered meeting of the two presidents in Sarande were not taken," alternate spokesman Evangelos Antonaros told reporters on Wednesday, while adding:

"Albanian authorities did not take the necessary measures to discourage well-known extremists, who in their effort to obstruct the normal development of bilateral relations continue to insist on promoting unacceptable and non-existent issues," the spokesman said in echoing a previous day's announcement by the foreign ministry, issued only hours after the incident took place.

In answer to press questions, Antonaros clarified that he did not mention a "security issue", but to specific measures "taken during visits of high-ranking foreign dignitaries ... The usual contacts had preceded, but the Albanian side did not do what it was supposed to do. The president of the republic, therefore, did what he had to do, and he was in contact with the Greek foreign ministry".

Papoulias' scheduled meeting with Moisiu on Tuesday in the southern Albanian town of Sarande was cancelled after the Greek head of state waited for more than two hours at Greece's consulate in nearby Gjirokaster due to the presence of protestors outside a hotel in the former.

According to press reports, around 200 so-called "Chams" ringed a hotel in the coastal town of Sarande to press with their long-standing demands against Greece, claims that date from the end of World War II. The group had reportedly been bussed to the southwest Albanian town from the country's north.

The Chams, usually identified as a Muslim, Albanian-speaking group, collaborated with fascist and Nazi occupation forces in extreme northwest Greece -- mostly in the Thesprotia border prefecture -- during the Second World War before fleeing the country for neighbouring Albania shortly after Greece's liberation. Members of the group have at various times raised claims against the Greek state for property abandoned or confiscated because of wartime collaboration and war crimes, among others.

Kathimerini skriver:

A tactless presidential host?

By T. Economopoulos

President Karolos Papoulias reacted in the correct and responsible manner when he decided to cancel Tuesday's scheduled meeting with his Albanian counterpart Alfred Moisiu in the southern Albanian town of Saranda after some 150 demonstrators from an Albanian minority group staged an aggressive rally outside the Greek Consulate where Papoulias was staying.

It is an established diplomatic assumption that governments hosting foreign leaders take all measures necessary to ensure their visitors are safe and enjoy the respect that they deserve.

Papoulias is a very level-headed and cautious politician with a wealth of diplomatic experience, having served as foreign minister for many years. So it is hard to believe that he would have acted impulsively, undermining his influence and our country's foreign policy, which he represents.

But even if one thought that Papoulias acted hastily, the subsequent events would have proved them wrong, as the behavior of Albania's president and the political leaders hosting Papoulias was downright provocative, and instead of apologizing for the ostensibly unforeseen events and seeking Papoulias's forgiveness, they criticized the visiting leader for his reaction.

Actually, it appears that the rally was probably planned and had been allowed to go ahead with the tolerance (and perhaps even the guidance) of the Tirana administration.

Der har efterfølgende været et møde, måske et reparationsmøde, måske et møde hvor Grækerne præciserede deres krav til Albanerne? - mellem den Albanske UM, Besnik Mustafaj, og den Græske Ambassadør, Pantelis Carcabassis. Det var sidstnævnte der havde bedt om mødet.

Den Græske Regering vil lukke sagen og fjerne uoverensstemmelserne. Kathimerini skriver:

Athens moved yesterday to close the book on a diplomatic spat that arose with Albania earlier this week and said that Greece wishes to improve ties with its northern neighbor.

On Tuesday, President Karolos Papoulias cut his trip to Albania short when 150 demonstrators prevented him from holding a meeting with his local counterpart in Saranda.

Greece said that the local authorities failed to properly provide security for the meeting, while Albania claimed that Papoulias's decision to leave was hasty and unprecedented.

The Foreign Ministry's spokesman Giorgos Koumoutsakos said that the incident is considered closed.

"Athens wishes to strengthen bilateral relations and hopes that Albania desires the same," Koumoutsakos said.

The protesters were Albanian Chams who are demanding compensation for family homes lost when thousands of the minority were expelled from Greece after World War II, accused of collaboration with the Nazis.

Græsk kommentar om forholdet mellem Præsident og Regering. Kathimerini skriver:

President with a view

By Stavros Lygeros

Ending the diplomatic spat with Tirana caused by the cutting short of a visit by President Karolos Papoulias to Albania will take time. Everything seems to indicate that the behavior of the Albanian president does not reflect the stand of the Berisha government which, contrary to the 1990s, now wants to build a partnership with Greece.

Prime Minister Sali Berisha was probably taken aback by developments. Besides, it's an open secret that his relations with President Alfred Moisiu are far from ideal.

The old anti-Greek hysteria was absent this time, and the government made efforts to ease the tension. That happened even though the claims of Albanian Chams have been adopted by the Albanian government since the early 1990s.

It should be remembered that the Albanian Chams fled to Albania in 1944 not only because they collaborated with the occupation forces and formed their own government in the Thesprotia region but also because their armed groups committed mass killings to wipe out Greeks from the region. That was why the court in Ioannina found them guilty in absentia and their properties were seized by the Greek state.

The Berisha government urged Athens not to make too much of the incident or cancel Costas Karamanlis's planned visit. Greece said it considers the affair closed. In any case, the message has been sent. Moisiu's refusal to remove the protesters or transfer the meeting left Papoulias with no choice but to cancel the visit — particularly in light of reports that Albanian Chams were planning to catch international attention by staging an attack in front of the media.

The incident showed that Papoulias wants to have a say in foreign policy. His intention has been underscored by past remarks on Cyprus, Greek-Turkish ties and the FYROM name dispute. Meanwhile, the government watches him warily.

PM Sali Berisha's aktiviteter: [Billederne i denne sektion kan som regel forstørres ved at klikke på dem (mens man er på nettet)]

PM Berisha har bl.a. været på besøg hos PM Berlusconi for at gøre sine hoser grønne:



Se under: [Grækenland](#).

Parlamentsvalget i 2005 [Præsidenten vælges af Parlamentet for 5 år, næste gang i 2007]: Se nærmere i: <http://bjoerna.net/sidste-nyt/265.htm>

IMF-besøg. IMF har udsendt flg.:

An IMF staff visit was in Tirana during October 17-21, 2005, to discuss with the authorities the fiscal outcome of 2005 and the 2006 budget, and the broad priorities of a possible future agreement between the IMF and the government of Albania. There was agreement on key parameters of next year's budget and its underlying macroeconomic and fiscal policy assumptions, including the principles of a conservative fiscal platform and the implementation of an ambitious tax administration reform agenda. An IMF staff visit, led by Mr. Istvan Székely, the new mission chief for Albania, was in Tirana during October 17-21, 2005. The purpose of the visit was to discuss with the authorities the fiscal outcome of 2005 and the 2006 budget, and to reach broad agreement on key fiscal parameters for next year. The overall priorities of a possible future agreement between the IMF and the government of Albania were also touched on, in particular financial sector reform, revenue administration, public debt management, and other growth-enhancing structural reforms. These discussions are expected to continue during an IMF mission to Tirana planned for November 8-21, 2005. The mission met with the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Finance and Economy, the Central Bank of Albania Governor, advisers to the Prime Minister and other senior government officials, representatives of the donor and diplomatic community, and private sector representatives. The IMF representatives and the government were in agreement on the key parameters of the 2006 budget and the underlying macroeconomic and fiscal policy assumptions. In particular, there was agreement on the principles of a conservative fiscal platform and on the priorities of the government for the coming fiscal year, including the implementation of an ambitious tax administration reform agenda based on the technical assistance report prepared by the IMF's Fiscal Affairs Department earlier this year. Overall, the mission noted the government's strong commitment to swiftly implement necessary key measures, including its ambitious action plan for resolving the problems in the energy sector. If agreement is reached in November on a future 3-year arrangement, and it is approved by the Executive Board of the IMF, there will be regular reviews during the tenure of the program. In particular, the first review would take place in six months. Depending on the outcome of this review, further fiscal policy and budget measures could be then contemplated by the authorities in consultation with IMF staff.

Albanske-Græske relationer. Græske skoler i Albanien. ADN skrev 15.10.:

Back from a visit in Athens, the leader of the Union for Human Rights Party, Vangjel Dule, greeted the declaration of Minister Mustafaj in favor of opening Greek schools in Albania and promised opening of Albanian schools in the neighbouring country. The stance of the new Albanian government towards opening Greek schools in the areas inhabited by minorities will be followed by the opening of a number of schools in Albanian in Greece.



El-generator i sving i Tirana under strømudfald. September 2005. Foto: Bjørn Andersen

El-forsyningen. KESH, Det nationale (og statslige) el-selskab har foreskrevet drastiske begrænsninger i el-forsyningen. Den tørre sommer og det tørre efterår har gjort det vanskeligere at opretholde strømforsyningen. ADN skriver i Oktober/November:

Meantime, the KESH director declared lately that the last energy tender should not be considered as a total failure. The possible failure of the consecutive tender for the purchase of imported energy, the sharp drop of water level in the principal electricity production schemes as well as the increasing demand for domestic consumption in the next two months will seriously worsen Albania's energy crisis, experts said.

Ruli: Energy crisis has also affected other Balkan countries, hence it is actually impossible to provide necessary electricity supply from them. Albania's energy situation has aggravated significantly over the last days, the Minister of Economy, Commerce and Energy, Genc Ruli, has declared. Speaking at Wednesday's meeting of the parliamentary Energy Committee, Ruli said that the country's electricity supply was only sufficient for the ongoing month, adding that energy sources had not yet been made available for November.

The Socialist deputy commented that the government was too late in its efforts to import electricity from neighboring countries. The former director of Albania's Power Corporation (KESH), Andis Harasani, has blamed the right-wing government for the ongoing energy crisis. At an interview with the local media, the actual Socialist deputy commented that the government was too late in its efforts to import electricity from neighboring countries.

Albanian authorities imposed electricity cuts for up to 20 hours a day across the country because of a severe shortage of water for power stations. "Albania is obliged to adopt such a measure as a serious drought has affected hydroelectric power stations," national electricity distribution company KESH said in a statement on Wednesday.

An integrated market for electricity and gas across 34 European Countries

The Energy Community Treaty that was signed in Athens on 25 October represents the achievement of the largest internal market for electricity and gas in the world, with effectively 34 participating parties: the 25 European Union Member States and Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Bulgaria, and UNMIK Kosovo. Negotiations with Turkey are ongoing. Moldova, Ukraine and Norway have applied to join, but for the moment are observers. The signing of the treaty is the conclusion of the Athens process which started in 2002 when the European Commission brought forward proposals for the creation of a regional electricity market in South East Europe.

Why is the Commission spearheading this process and this treaty?

Firstly, improving the balance between energy supply and demand is crucial to improve and sustain economic development in South Eastern Europe. This requires a strong legal commitment by the countries of the region towards market oriented reforms, regional integration and sustainable development, and investment security. This will offer significant advantages both in terms of improved utilisation of existing supply and production capacities, but also in fostering more cooperation and integration in the region, which would result in economic growth, stability and investment.

Secondly, the security of supply of the European Union is based on diversifying supply of gas and electricity and in being politically able to counter threats to energy disruption in the European Union. By connecting this strategic area with the internal energy market, we assist in assuring both the European Union's security of supply and that of the region.

Thirdly, the destruction of the energy infrastructure in the region during the wars of the 1990s and the economic fall-out following the break up of the East-West divide have had tremendous and bad effects on the security of private citizens in this region. Mortality rates have increased, woods have been deforested and established patterns of trade disrupted, impoverishing the local population. The citizens of this part of Europe deserve a higher standard of energy infrastructure.

The Energy Community Treaty

The Energy Community Treaty was consciously modelled on the European Coal and Steel Community that is the basis of the European Union. The Treaty seeks to allow the partners of post-war South East Europe to agree on one area of policy and then to develop in common a shared outlook. The Energy Community Treaty is a key element of the EU strategy in South East Europe and an effective pre-accession tool as it aims to extend the benefits of the Internal Energy market before the partners of the region may become members of the European Union. Likewise, it asks not for commitments to do things in the future, but for each of the partners to do things now.

The European Union is in the process of rapidly completing the internal electricity and gas markets. There are strong arguments for extending the internal electricity and gas markets outside the borders of the European Union, but the creation of a level playing field and equivalent environmental and safety standards is a central element for a wider European electricity and gas market to function effectively. The process of inclusion of such countries goes considerably beyond simple questions of open trade between the European Union and its neighbours under more general international trade obligations. It involves the active creation of a real integrated market, free of any barriers. Practically, in South East Europe that means creating a local regional market and designing it so that it seamlessly will fit into the general framework of the European Union's Internal Energy Market.

The reason why the Energy Community Treaty has three operational parts:

Firstly, the treaty will extend the application of the energy, environmental, renewables, competition and other parts of the *acquis communautaire* (legislation and rules decided at EU level). This will create a level playing field, though there will have to be credible, effective and policed transition dates.

Secondly, the treaty will create regional mechanisms that extend into the European Union to allow for deeper integration of local energy markets. This will for example mean enabling regulation allowing for accelerated infrastructure development, in particular for gas pipelines (especially new connections to the Caspian Sea and the Middle East).

Given that the idea of a common energy market is central to the Energy Community, there is agreement to work toward common policies for external trade, mutual assistance and the removal of internal energy market barriers.

The Athens Process

The European Commission brought forward proposals for the creation of a regional electricity market in South East Europe (SEE) in March 2002 with the aim of eventually creating a regional electricity market. By November 2002, a Memorandum of Understanding ("The Athens Memorandum") was signed at the Athens Ministerial by all the parties with the Commission and the Stability Pact acting as sponsors. The Commission also agreed on a common strategy paper with all international donors active on a regional basis. The approach was extended to gas in 2003. The Athens Process resulted in the Energy Community Treaty of 2005, which takes previous political commitments and makes them legal ones.

The Athens Process and the Energy Community Treaty provide that the partners will: implement electricity and gas tariff reform plans;

implement all necessary technical standards, such as grid codes, accounting systems and information exchange for the operation of the grid;

implement effective third party access to infrastructure;

create National Regulatory Authorities and transmission system operators;

develop local solutions to pressing problems of regulation, energy poverty and social equity;

and implement the gas and electricity directives.

To guide this process, the following market development coordination and validation structure has been put in place by the Energy Community Treaty:

The Ministerial Council, which takes place every six months with the participation of the Ministers of Energy of the member countries and the Commissioner for Energy, in order to take the strategic decisions and give directions to the Treaty or to formally adopt or endorse secondary legislation. The Presidency of this Council rotates on a six monthly basis.

The Permanent High Level Group, which is composed of representatives of the Ministers of Energy of the Member Partners of the Energy Community Treaty and the European Commission. The group is convened, when necessary, on the initiative of either the Commission or the country holding the Presidency at the time, in order to prepare the Ministerial Council and to ensure the follow – up of its decisions. The Commission co-chairs this group along with the President in Office.

The Treaty Secretariat – The Secretariat will have its seat in Vienna and will be the central co-ordinating body for the Treaty, having an important initiating role in developing the Treaty and in making use of the secondary law provisions of the Treaty. It will also be responsible for co-ordinating international donors, in validating work and in proposing technical, legal and regulatory developments.

The Energy Community Regulatory Board in Athens – This Board, which will have its base in Athens, will consider issues of regulatory co-operation and may develop into a regulatory decision making body and/or a dispute settlement mechanism. The European Commission considers its role as central to the operation of the enlarged market and thinks that its first supranational regulatory body could develop into a model for other parts of the world.

The Electricity and Gas Forum

The Forum comprises representatives of the European Commission, governments, regulators and transmission system operators of the countries of South East Europe, the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER), the European Transmission System Operators (ETSO), the Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission for Electricity (UCTE), representatives of donors, electricity producing companies, and consumers. The Forum is co-chaired by the European Commission and a representative of the president in office. It meets in Athens.

The Gas Forum will perform the same role in the gas sector and a similar process is envisaged for oil.

With respect to issues of the Regional Gas Market in South East Europe, these will be dealt under the Gas Forum. It is expected to start work in December 2005. It will create a regional plan for the creation of a gas market.

This regional plan will have the following objectives:

to implement national gas market reform in all signatory countries

to implement international best practice in the wholesale gas markets and to facilitate cross-border trade

to create regional and national gas markets, in part to reduce the environmental impact of existing thermal plants; and,

to secure supplies for the region and the EU through the creation of a seamless integrated market between Vienna and Ankara.

The European Commission's role

In support of the process, the Commission will be providing impartial secretariat support and will help to build the mechanisms necessary for the smooth operation of the Regional Energy Market Development. In addition, the Commission intends to:

Undertake a benchmarking exercise annually to verify conformity to the Electricity Directive and its derivative legislation, norms and standards, and will also consult relevant bodies with regard to technical standards;

The Commission has undertaken an electricity infrastructure prioritization exercise (in cooperation with World Bank) and will do the same in gas. The identification and prioritization of projects will have a regional focus and was conducted by the Commission in conjunction with the Permanent High Level Group and the donors; and

Promote dialogue between donors and recipients, in its role as coordinator of donors (as mandated by the Istanbul Conclusions of the Stability Pact 2001).

The International Donors Group

Supporting this process are the regional level donors. The Athens Donors are chaired by the European Commission following the Istanbul Conference of the Stability Pact in 2001, and the present members are:

International Donors

The European Commission

The World Bank

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The European Investment Bank (EIB)

USA – The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Canada – The Canadian Agency for International Development (CIDA)

International Energy Agency (IEA)

Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and Greece. The UK is associated through the work of the EBRD.

The Commission co-ordinates its own state and regional initiatives at the multinational and bilateral level. Amongst the European Union Member States, Germany, France, Italy and Greece are actively working with the Commission. The adhering countries and the donor community work together with responsible organizations such as the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER), the European Transmission System Operators (ETSO), the Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission for Electricity (UCTE), and the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA) to achieve our common objective. The Donors have agreed on a strategy paper on the regional electricity market in South East Europe and its integration into the European Union Internal Electricity Market, on 15 November, 2002. It provides the road-map for developing the electricity market in South East Europe.

The World Bank has announced a special fund for the development of the Energy Community Treaty with an initial value of \$ 1 billion, which may be replenished. The World Bank is working on a similar fund for gas.

Elektricitetsproduktion og -forbrug

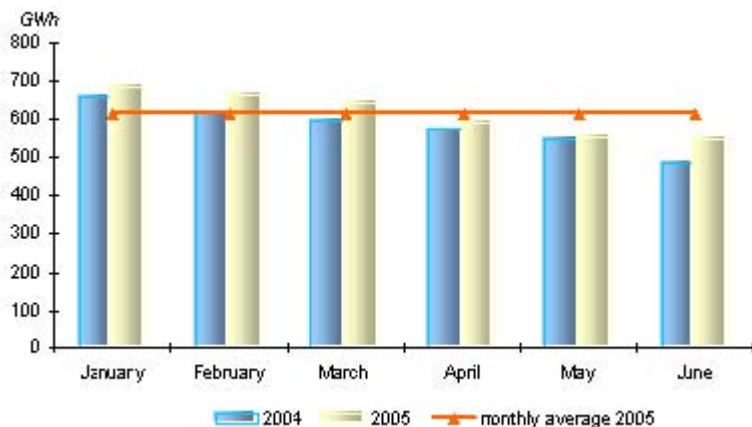
Electrical energy supplied during the first half-year 2005 increased by 6.5 percent compared with the same period of the previous year. The quantity supplied was 3,671 GWh. The domestic production during this period covered 88.8 percent of the electrical energy supplied. This quantity produced increased with 4 percent compared with the first half-year 2004. This increase was a consequence of a higher production of HEC and TEC. The monthly average of the domestic production was 543 GWh. Import of electric power (including exchanges) covered 11.2 percent of the electrical energy supplied. Compared with the respective half-year of the previous year it indicated an increase of 31.4 percent. The monthly average of the imported electric power reached 68.7 GWh. Losses in network decreased with 3.3 percent compared with the respective period of 2004. This losses make up 33.3 percent of the electric energy used in the first half-year. Losses caused by distribution are 86.8 percent of the total losses in network. The use of electric power by domestic users slightly increased with 0.9 percent. The domestic use constitute 51.2 percent of the total uses for the first half-year.

The domestic production of electric power during the first half-year was 3,259 GWh. The quantity produced rose with 4 percent compared with the first half-year of 2004 and 13.4 percent compared with the same period in 2003. Despite this, the domestic production covered 85.8 percent of the total electrical energy supply, differently from the same period of 2004, where the production consisted in 90.9 percent of the electrical energy supplied.

HEC continues to perform an important role in domestic production of electric power. The quantity produced by them reached the quantity of 3,220 GWh, composing so 98.8 percent of the total production in country. The deficiency created from the lack of production from local HEC is compensated with the production doubled by HEC Smokthina.

TEC during this period produced 38.4 GWh that compose 1.2 percent of the domestic quantity produced. Compared with the first half-year of 2004 the quantity produced by them rose with 1.8 percent.

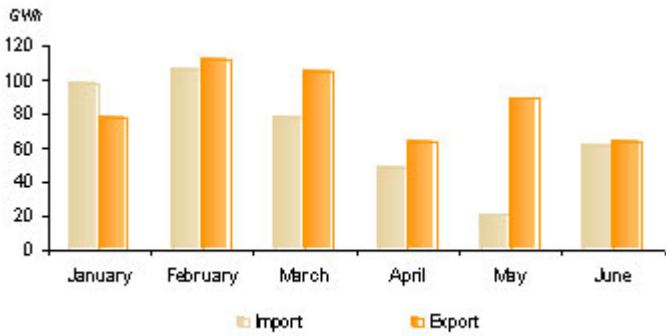
TOTAL SUPPLY WITH ELECTRICAL ENERGY



Import of electric power (included exchanges) showed an increase with 31.4 percent compared with the respective period of 2004. This import is fully covered from the exchange process of the energy. This quantity is 412 GWh composing so 11.2 percent of the total supply with electrical energy. The monthly average supply of this flux was 68.6 GWh.

Export of electric power (included exchanges) is doubled compared with the first half of 2004 achieving the quantity of 512 GWh. The quantity exported consists of 13.9 percent of the quantity supplied and is fully considered as outflow from the energy exchanged. The exported monthly average quantity is 56.8 GWh.

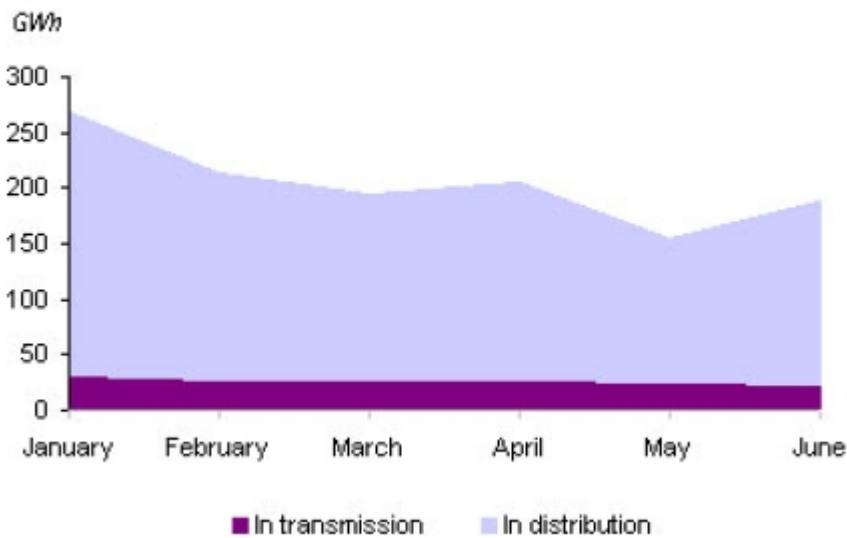
IMPORTI AND EXPORTI OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY



Losses in network decreased with 3.3 percent compared with the same period of the previous year. The quantity lost composed 33.3 percent of the total electric power supply. Losses in distribution are still an important component of the total loss in network, covering so 86.8 percent of it. . As in the previous year January was the month, which indicated the highest losses. The daily average of losses is 6.7 GWh or 36.8 percent lower than the first half-year of 2004.

LOSSES IN NETWORK OF ELECTRIC POWER

LOSSES IN NETWORK OF ELECTRIC POWER

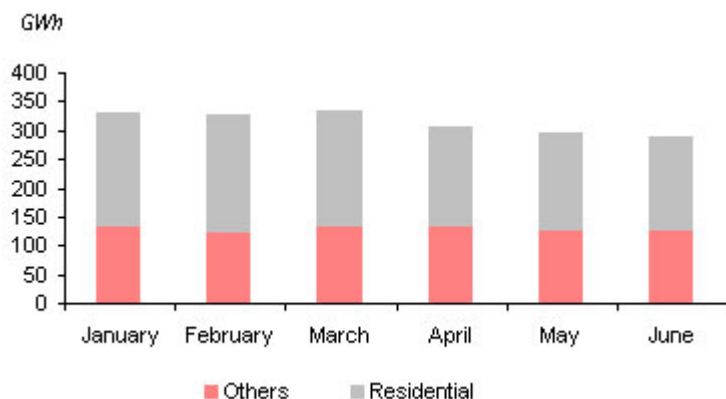


Use of electric power by domestic users indicated a slight increase with 0.9 percent compared with the first half-year in 2004. The quantity used was 1,880 GWh and make up 51.2 percent of the total supply. The daily average use for this period is 20.3 GWh or 7.4 percent higher than the first half-year of 2004.

The residential sector continues to be the main consumer of electric power. In the first half of 2005 household consume composed 58.9 percent of the quantity used by domestic users.

During this period the quantity consumed by the households decreased with 3.4 percent compared with the respective period of the previous year and 4.5 percent compared with the first half-year in 2003. The monthly average quantity of household consumption in the first half of 2005 is 184 GWh and the daily average is 6.1 GWh. The monthly average of the quantity consumed by households in the first half-year of 2004 was 191 GWh and daily average was 6.3 GWh.

USE OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY FROM USERS



SERBIEN og MONTENEGRO. SERBIEN (alene)

Det Amerikanske UM har Juli 2004 offentliggjort en 'Background Note' om Serbien - Montenegro: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5388.htm> ... Det Engelske Udenrigsministeriums 'Country Advice' til rejsende kan findes på adressen: <http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket%2FXcelerate%2FShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029390590&a=KCountryAdvice&aid=1013618386622> ... En biografi over tidligere Forbundspræsident Kostunica kan læses på [Serbiske Politikere](#) ... Mht ICTYs sag mod tidligere Præsident Milosevic, se (evt.) under ICTY ovenfor.

Præsidentvalg i Serbien. Boris Tadic blev i Juni 2004 valgt som Præsident. Seneste Parlamentsvalg: 031228.

Kosovo / Kosóva:

MONTENEGRO (alene)

Præsidentvalg 030511: Filip Vujanovic blev valgt. Seneste Parlamentsvalg 021020.

MAKEDONIEN

Det Engelske Udenrigsministeriums 'Country Advice' til rejsende kan findes på adressen: <http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket%2FXcelerate%2FShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029390590&a=KCountryAdvice&aid=1013618386622> ... Det Amerikanske UM har Maj 2004 offentliggjort en 'Background Note' om Makedonien: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/26759.htm>

Der er omkring 25 % etniske Albanere i Makedonien. Folketælling afholdtes 021101-021105.

Præsidentvalg i Maj 2004: Branko Crvenkovski - hidtidig PM - blev valgt (efter Boris Trajkovski som omkom ved en flyulykke). **Seneste Parlamentsvalg fandt sted 020915.** Der kan henvises til flg. OSCE/ODIHR-oversigtsside: http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/field_activities/skopje2002/.

Folkeafstemningen 041107 om decentralisering (= imødekomme af Makedonien-Albanske interesser): Folkeafstemningen "faldt". Stemmedeltagelsen var kun omkring 26 %. Hvis afstemningen skulle have kunnet udvirke en ændring af decentraliseringslovgivningen, skulle deltagelsen have været mindst 50%, og desuden skulle der have været flertal mod lovgivningen. Det var ventet at stemmedeltagelsen ville have været noget større, selv om både Regeringspartierne og den Albanske minoritet anbefalede at man blev hjemme. Man kan nu gå videre i overensstemmelse med Ohrid-aftalerne.

Jernbanetransport. Verdensbanken skriver i September:

Washington, September 15, 2005 - The World Bank today approved a EUR15 million for the Railways Reform project for FYR Macedonia. This project

will facilitate the government's efforts to reform Macedonian Railways and improve its productivity and effectiveness.

FYR Macedonia's strategic location puts it at the center of international routes linking Turkey, Greece, and Bulgaria to the rest of Europe. Efficient and effective operation of the roads and railways, which link FYR Macedonia to the region, will become increasingly important to realizing the country's growth potential.

Macedonian Railways, which operates the country's railways, is one of the largest loss-making companies among public sector enterprises. Total debt at the end of year 2004 was €143 million (3.3% of GDP). It is estimated that if the railways are not subject to major reforms, the cost to the government will increase by another €100 million to cover operating losses over the next ten years.

The Government recognizes that an efficient transport sector would contribute to economic growth and has partnered with the World Bank in a project that will help to progressively transform the country's railways into an economically viable entity, prepare for privatization, and establish regulatory competence for a multiple operator market. The reform should lead to focused management and better accountability and, with labor restructuring, streamlined operational and financial performance, and targeted investments, the railways are expected to show a marked improvement in performance.

The Railways Reform project has four main components. The first component will provide for the technical assistance needed to complete the first phase of restructuring, including separation of operations from infrastructure and preparing for the privatization of Macedonian Railways and establishing a regulatory framework.

The second component will provide a variety of employment services to retrenched staff, such as social and financial counseling, one-on-one consultation with the retrenched staff to determine the most appropriate training needs; and facilitating staff training by providing a voucher to interested retrenched staff to be used for the training of his/her choice in selected institutions. The third and the fourth component will include procurement, installation, remanufacturing and retrofitting of locomotives, wagons, track maintenance and other equipment needed for the normal functioning of the company.

FYR Macedonia joined the World Bank in 1994. Since then, commitments to the country total more than US\$650 million.

GRÆKENLAND

Seneste Parlamentsvalg 040307. Olympiade 13.-29. August (se Græsk side: <http://www.athens2004.com/athens2004/> og Dansk side: <http://www.dif.dk/index/ol-3/ol-ol2004.htm>).

Aktuelle Græske problemområder:

- Delingen af Cypern. Relationerne til Tyrkiet herom.
- Tyrkiet's evt. optagelse i EU. Grækerne er ambivalente.
- Makedonien. Den Græske Regering kan ikke acceptere at Makedonien officielt kaldes sådan.
- Albanien: Cam-problemet - se nedenfor.
- Nogle hundredetusinde Albanere bor og arbejder i Grækenland. En del har boet i Grækenland i generationer og er Græske Statsborgere. Mange er Albanske Arbejdere med arbejdstilladelse osv. Mange er imidlertid kommet illegalt til Grækenland; en del af dem er kriminelle.

Den Græske Præsident - Karolos Papoulias - har været på et besøg der blev kortere end aftalt. En Albansk demonstration ved det Græske Konsulat i Saranda blev taget ilde op og har givet anledning til at den Græske Præsident returnerede til Athen uden at mødes med Præsident Moisiu. Se under: [Albanien](#).

Græske skoler i Albanien. ADN skrev 15.10.:

Back from a visit in Athens, the leader of the Union for Human Rights Party, Vangjel Dule, greeted the declaration of Minister Mustafaj in favor of opening Greek schools in Albania and promised opening of Albanian schools in the neighbouring country. The stance of the new Albanian government towards opening Greek schools in the areas inhabited by minorities will be followed by the opening of a number of schools in Albanian in Greece.

Trafikulykke med Albansk deltagelse. Kathimerini skriver:

6 die in single Halkidiki crash

On a weekend that saw heavier traffic conditions on the country's highways due to Friday's national holiday, six people were killed in a single car accident in Halkidiki, northern Greece.

Police said that early yesterday morning a vehicle carrying five people was involved in a head on collision with another car in Nea Moudania.

The five people in the one car were all Albanian nationals, while the driver of the second car was Greek.

Police are conducting an investigation into the causes of the accident.

In a separate accident that occurred nearby in Halkidiki on Saturday, a 45-year-old woman was killed when the vehicle she was driving veered into the opposite lane and hit an oncoming car.

The driver of the other vehicle was slightly injured.

Traffic authorities estimate that some 300,000 Athenians left the city over the weekend, taking advantage of the long weekend.

ATA skrev 5.10. om **menneskesmugling fra Albanien til Grækenland**: Three citizens carrying clandestines toward Qafebote, boarding point with Greece were stopped on Tuesday In the national roadway Sarande-Gjirokaster, at a place called Kraneja Bridge. Official sources of the Fight against Trafficking Office in Sarande, told ATA on Wednesday the citizens arrested were Bilbil Sula, aged 35, Dilaver Bega, aged 49, and Gramoz Kuçuku, aged 50. ... Der var ca. 10 Mennesker i hver bil.

Kathimerini har en anden historie om menneskesmugling:

Police said on Saturday that they had arrested two Greeks and an Albanian national in Orestiada, close to the Greek-Turkish border, who were transporting 15 illegal immigrants, all from Pakistan. The men were transporting the migrants via three cars for a fee, police said.

Energisk Albansk Røver i Attica dræbt i skudveksling med Politiet. Kathimerini skriver:

A 25-year-old Albanian, killed in Ambelokipi on Wednesday in a police shootout, had taken part in more than 40 armed robberies and two attempted homicides in Attica over the past two years, officers said yesterday.

Festim Likai (also known as Christo Gouma) had headed a gang that has netted more than 300,000 euros from raids on banks and stores, according to police. The 4,100 euros found in Likai's pockets after Wednesday's shootout were the proceeds of a raid earlier that day on a bank in Brahami, officers said.

Using Likai's fingerprints, police determined his participation in 18 bank robberies, 20 store raids and four car heists (twice Likai fired at the drivers, without injuring them).

Police traced Likai from information gleaned following the arrests of a 21-year-old Albanian in Parga and an 18-year-old in Athens earlier this week.

Police said they fired at Likai in self-defense after he shot at them four times upon leaving his apartment.

Kriminaliteten i Attica. Kathimerini skriver:

Siren sounds over police presence

Greece's most crime-ridden area, Attica, is experiencing severe police shortages due to red tape and a lack of trained personnel, leaving the force short by some 4,000 officers, according to figures seen by Sunday's Kathimerini.

The Attica Police Department (APD) should be operating with a minimum of 19,716 staff, a government study has decreed, so that the force can meet its policing duties. Instead, there are 16,814 officers currently serving in the area and almost 1,000 more have been assigned to a number of other duties or forces, leaving the APD suffering a staff shortage of around 20 percent.

The lack of personnel in Attica is a particularly sensitive issue, as almost 90 percent of the crimes reported each year in Greece take place in and around Athens.

Meanwhile, more than a year on from the Olympics, the number of officers on the streets has dropped and figures suggest that criminals have been taking advantage.

Since the center of the capital is the most crime-ridden area of the city, police chiefs are attempting to make up for the lack of officers by drafting in personnel from police stations in the suburbs. This, in turn, is leaving the outer areas of Attica very weak in terms of police presence and capabilities, sources told Sunday's Kathimerini.

The shortage in police numbers is mainly being put down to a slow intake of new recruits and the bureaucratic obstacles of the current system, which means that officers are often called in to perform other duties.

Some 1,800 officers, for example, are involved in carrying out tasks such as taking noise recordings at nightclubs and chasing up violations of building regulations. Police chiefs argue that these jobs could be handled by local authority officials.

2' Verdenskrig. Forholdet til Italien og Tyskland. Kathimerini skriver:

Early 1941, a time of grim realization.

Greater sacrifices than in the war with Italy were looming for Greece with an overwhelming and far deadlier enemy on a second front

By early 1941, it had become apparent that Greece's defeat of Italian troops on the Albanian front would not put an end to Greece's participation in World War II. German troops began to concentrate in Bulgaria, massing on the border with Greece, and it was clear that an invasion of Greece was imminent.

This was a time of grim realization in Greece, realization that the sacrifices in the war against Italy would soon be overwhelmed by the demands of a war against an overwhelming and far deadlier enemy on a second front.

Georgios Angelou Vlachos, the publisher who founded Kathimerini in 1919, summed up many of the feelings and arguments of his countrymen when he addressed an open letter to Adolf Hitler on the front page of Kathimerini on March 8, 1941. Vlachos pointed out at length how hard Greece had tried to stay out of the war, trying to heal its wounds from continual conflict abroad and domestic divisions. He stressed that even when — unprovoked — an Italian submarine sank a Greek cruiser, the Elli, in the port of Tinos on August 15, 1940, Greece turned the other cheek, so as to avoid war. But the Italian ultimatum on October 28, 1940, forced Greece to take a stand, and it turned to its only ally, Britain, for assistance. Even then, the Greeks limited Britain's assistance, Vlachos argued, so as not to provoke Germany into a response.

And yet, he noted, the Germans prepared to invade a Greece that was exhausted but still ready to stand and fight. After arguing as to why it would not make sense for Germany to attack Greece, Vlachos ended his letter with the solemn assertion that Greece would fight in Thrace as it had fought in Epirus and, "This land that taught the world how to live will now teach it how to die." The words were prophetic. The German invasion and occupation, which ended in the fall of 1944, sowed death through hostilities and starvation across the country. It left a nation divided between left- and right-wing forces and led to the devastating civil war in 1946-49. It took Greece many years to heal the wounds from this conflagration. Below is Vlachos's letter, which offers precious insight into the thoughts and fears, and desperate heroism, that beset Athens as the storm clouds gathered.

TYRKIET

UMs rejsevejledning: <http://www.um.dk/da/menu/Borgerservice/FoerRejsen/Rejsevejledninger/RejsevejledningTyrkiet.htm>.

Seneste Parlamentsvalg blev holdt 021103. Det blev i December 2004 aftalt (med EUs Regeringschefer) at der i Oktober 2005 skal indledes forhandlinger om **optagelse af Tyrkiet i EU**.

LANDE UDEN FOR BALKAN OG ØSTLIGE MIDDELHAV. NATO-LANDE

ITALIEN

Mother Teresa. I anledning af saligkåringen ('beatificeringen') 031019 har Vatikanet etableret en internetside: http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20031019_index_madre-teresa_en.html

USA



Forslag om en Scanderbeg-resolution. Flg. er modtaget fra Albanian American Civic League:

CONGRESSMEN ROHRBACHER AND LANTOS INTRODUCE CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE 600TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF GJERG CASTRIOTI SCANDERBEG

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28, 2005—Today, at the urging of the Albanian American Civic League, House International Relations Committee Member Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) and Tom Lantos (D-CA), the Committee's Ranking Democrat, introduced a Congressional Resolution honoring the 600th anniversary of the birth of Gjergj Castrioti (Scanderbeg)—the fifteenth century Albanian statesman, diplomat, and military genius who is a national hero to Albanians in the Balkans and throughout the world.

With the help of several Albanian professors, Civic League President Joe DioGuardi and Balkan Affairs Adviser Shirley Cloyes DioGuardi provided the research to convince Rohrabacher and Lantos to introduce a Congressional Resolution commemorating on October 28, 2005, the many achievements (listed in the resolution) of Gjergj Castrioti Scanderbeg. The Resolution concludes with the House of Representatives urging the Bush administration to "work with its European partners to accelerate the integration of Albania and a free Kosova into the European Union, in recognition of the great contributions and sacrifice made by Gjergj Castrioti and the Albanian people in saving Western Europe from Ottoman domination." This follows an account of Scanderbeg's life and the occupation that the Albanian people endured for 425 years after Scanderbeg's death, ending on November 28, 1912, with the raising of the Albanian flag by Ismail Qemali over a free Albania, including Kosova and the Albanian lands of Macedonia, Montenegro, Presheva, and Chameria.

Joe DioGuardi stated that, "Castrioti is the leading figure of the many great historical heroes of the Albanian people. Albanians can rightly be proud of their illustrious history and heritage, beginning in modern times with Gjergj Castrioti and continuing into the 21st century with Blessed Mother Teresa." DioGuardi added that, "In between, to name just two other great figures, we cannot forget the wisdom, courage, and love of the Albanian national cause of Ismail Qemali and Bishop and Prime Minister Fan Noli. We must continue to honor these heroes and their prodigious efforts to free all Albanians, if we are to keep faith (besa) with the Albanian people today and in future generations."

According to Shirley Cloyes DioGuardi, "the introduction of a Congressional Resolution honoring Scanderbeg is an important contribution to educating America about the role that Albanians have played in shaping Western history. Scanderbeg's struggle against Ottoman occupation and oppression for twenty-seven years safeguarded Western Europe and laid the groundwork for its development into a body of free and democratic states." Cloyes added that, "On the eve of Kosova's final status talks, the Rohrabacher-Lantos Resolution is also a timely and important reminder that resolving the Albanian national cause, which Scanderbeg founded, is essential to bringing lasting peace to a whole, undivided, and unified Europe."

109th CONGRESS H.RES. 522 1st SESSION

Honoring the 600th anniversary of the birth of Gjergj Castrioti (Scanderbeg), statesman, diplomat, and military genius, for his role in saving Western Europe from Ottoman occupation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROHRBACHER (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following resolution;

which was referred to the Committee on International Relations on October 28, 2005

RESOLUTION

Whereas six hundred years ago, in 1405 AD, in the White Castle of Kruja (formerly Croya), Albania, Gjergj Castrioti was born;

Whereas at the age of 17 his father reluctantly left him with the Ottoman Turkish Sultan as a condition of peace;

Whereas Castrioti excelled in studying history and classical languages and at an early age reached the rank of General in the Ottoman Turkish Army;

Whereas Castrioti's military genius and unique leadership qualities were praised by Sultan Murad, who called him Iskander Bey (now Scanderbeg), after Alexander the Great;

Whereas, while being away from his native Albanian lands, Castrioti never forgot his Albanian heritage and people;

Whereas on October 28, 1443, after much soul-searching and in utmost secrecy, Castrioti finally decided to return home and liberate the Albanian people from Ottoman domination;

Whereas the Battle of Nish on November 10, 1443, between Ottoman troops and the Hungarian Army (led by another freedom-fighter, Janos Hunyadi), gave Scanderbeg the perfect opportunity to accomplish his plan of return;

Whereas on November 28, 1443, Scanderbeg returned to his native town of Kruja and raised again his flag with the double-headed eagle over the White Castle there to the enthusiastic celebration of his people, an historical moment vividly described by the American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his lengthy epic poem, "Scanderbeg";

Whereas Scanderbeg thereafter successfully defended the Albanian people against countless attacks by the Ottoman Empire, the largest army of the period, including in 1450 the onslaught of more than 150,000 Ottoman troops led by Sultan Murad, who was ultimately defeated by vastly outnumbered Albanian foot soldiers and cavalry led by Scanderbeg at the Castle of Kruja in a bloody Homeric struggle;

Whereas Murad's son, Sultan Mehmed, conquered Constantinople in 1453, thus ending the Byzantine period, but was unable in 1466 and 1467 to conquer Albania, even though he commanded the largest army of the time, including up to 300,000 foot soldiers and horsemen;

Whereas, during 1460 and 1461, Gjergj Castrioti Scanderbeg brought his army to southern Italy for the second time to defend his ally, King Alphonse of Naples, against the invasion of the Lombards of southern France;

Whereas Gjergj Castrioti united the Albanian people and established a free state of Albania, which endured for 25 years;

Whereas according to Major General James Wolfe, commander of the British army at Quebec, "Scanderbeg... excels all officers, ancient and modern, in the conduct of a small defensive army...."; and, according to noted British historian Edward Gibbon, "the enthusiasm of chivalry and religion has ranked the Albanian prince with the names of Alexander the Great and Pyrrhus";

Whereas Scanderbeg died at the town of Lyssus (now Lezha), Albania, on January 17, 1468, and Albanians resisted Ottoman occupation for another 20 years, after which the Ottomans overran Albania, forcing tens of thousands of Albanians to flee across the Adriatic Sea to the Kingdom of Naples for asylum, where their progeny still live today;

Whereas the nation of Albania under Scanderbeg prevented the invasion of Rome and all of Italy by the Ottoman Empire, thus effectively paving the way for the Italian Renaissance;

Whereas statues of Scanderbeg mounted on his stallion with sword in hand today grace the capitals of Italy, Austria, Hungary, Albania, and Kosova; Whereas Albania, including Kosova, became free again on November 28, 1912, after 425 years of Turkish Ottoman occupation, and today modern Albania and Turkey are both staunch allies of the United States of America; and

Whereas the Republic of Albania today is resolute in joining NATO and the European Union as promptly as possible: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives —

(1) commemorates on this day of October 28, 2005, the achievements of Gjergj Castrioti Scanderbeg;

(2) commends Albanians everywhere for paying tribute to and honoring their valiant leader, hero, and son, Gjergj Castrioti; and

(3) urges the United States government to work with its European partners to speed up the integration of Albania and a free Kosova into the European Union in recognition of the great contribution and sacrifice made by Gjergj Castrioti and the Albanian people in saving Western Europe from Ottoman domination.

ENGLAND

TYSKLAND

FRANKRIG

DANMARK (NORGE, SVERIGE)

Ugerapport fra Dansk KFOR. Hærens Operative Kommando - se under: [Kosova](#).

LANDE UDEN FOR BALKAN OG ØSTLIGE MIDDELHAV. IKKE NATO-LANDE

RUSLAND

UMs Rejsevejledning: <http://www.um.dk/da/menu/Borgerservice/FoerRejsen/Rejsevejledninger/RejsevejledningRusland.htm>

KINA

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