



Basic information	
2025/2021(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
2023 and 2024 Commission reports on North Macedonia Subject 8.20 Enlargement of the Union 8.20.01 Candidate countries Geographical area Republic of North Macedonia	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	<div style="border: 1px solid red; display: inline-block; padding: 2px;">AFET</div> Foreign Affairs		WAITZ Thomas (Greens /EFA)	18/11/2024

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/01/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/06/2025	Vote in committee		
27/06/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0118/2025	
08/07/2025	Debate in Parliament		
09/07/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0157/2025	Summary
09/07/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2025/2021(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/10/01785

Documentation gateway

European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE769.915	05/03/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE771.966	28/03/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0118/2025	27/06/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0157/2025	09/07/2025	Summary

European Commission			
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2025)09-26	26/09/2025	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
REUTEN Thijs	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	16/01/2026	Council of Europe Pace
REUTEN Thijs	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	09/07/2025	Mr Ljupcho Georgievski
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	08/07/2025	Mr Ljupcho Georgievski
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	08/07/2025	Minority representative
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	07/07/2025	The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Bulgaria to the EU
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	02/07/2025	Mr. Zulfi Ismaili Ambassador, Head of the Mission of North Macedonia to the EU
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	25/06/2025	The Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the European Union
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	14/05/2025	Delegation from the Assembly of North Macedonia
REUTEN Thijs	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	14/05/2025	Mission of North-Macedonia to the EU
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	12/05/2025	Ministry for European Affairs of the Republic of North Macedonia
TÂNGER CORRÊA António	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	23/04/2025	National Assembly of North-Macedonia (Members of the National Parliament)
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	23/04/2025	EU-North Macedonia JPC Delegation
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	23/04/2025	Member of the Macedonian Assembly
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	09/04/2025	Ministry of Foreign Affairs

WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	02/04/2025	EIB Vice President
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/03/2025	Directorate-General for Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	20/03/2025	Mission of North Macedonia to the EU
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	19/03/2025	The Liberal Democratic Party from North Macedonia
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	19/03/2025	The Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the European Union
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	18/03/2025	Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the EU
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	17/03/2025	Directorate-General for Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	04/03/2025	Mr. Zulfi Ismaili Ambassador, Head of the Mission of North Macedonia to the EU
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	28/02/2025	U.S. Embassy to the Republic of North Macedonia
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	27/02/2025	The Liberal Democratic Party from North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	26/02/2025	Local civil society activists
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	26/02/2025	Metamorphosis Foundation for Internet and Society Institute for Democracy Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC) Center for Civil Communications The Helsinki Committee for Human Rights Coalition All for fair trials European Policy Institute
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	26/02/2025	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	26/02/2025	Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	26/02/2025	Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN)
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Ministry of European Affairs
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	VLEN Coalition
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity VMRO
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Social Democratic Union of Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Democratic Union of Integration DUI
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	25/02/2025	Romalitico
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	24/02/2025	The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation Organisation of Women Sveti Nikole Roma Women's Rights Initiative of Shuto Orizari ESE Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women Research in Action Coalition Margins
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	24/02/2025	Researcher on historical commission North Macedonia and Bulgaria
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	24/02/2025	Democratic Renewal of Macedonia

WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	23/02/2025	Macedonian Ecological Society
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	23/02/2025	Director Mavrovo national park
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	22/02/2025	Ekosvest
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	19/02/2025	DG ENEST
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	19/02/2025	Civil Servants Parliament North Macedonia
REUTEN Thijs	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	04/02/2025	Mission of North-Macedonia to the EU
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	04/02/2025	Mr. Orhan Murtezani, Minister of European affairs of North Macedonia
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	28/01/2025	The Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the European Union
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	22/01/2025	Members of the Macedonian Assembly
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	21/01/2025	EU-North Macedonia JPC Delegation
BARNA Dan	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	20/01/2025	Delegation from the Assembly of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	14/01/2025	DG NEAR
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	02/12/2024	Botschaft Österreich in Nordmazedonien
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	02/12/2024	Minister North Macedonia
TONIN Matej	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	02/12/2024	Mr. Timcho Mucunski, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign trade of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	18/11/2024	President of The Assembly of The Republic of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	13/11/2024	The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	07/11/2024	Deputy Prime Minister of North Macedonia
WAITZ Thomas	Rapporteur	AFET	17/10/2024	Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	Date	Interest representatives
STURDZA Șerban Dimitrie	02/07/2025	Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the European Union

2023 and 2024 Commission reports on North Macedonia

2025/2021(INI) - 09/07/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 461 votes to 121, with 107 abstentions, a resolution on the Commission's 2023 and 2024 reports on North Macedonia.

Parliament reaffirmed its **full support** for North Macedonia's strong and continued commitment to EU membership and for the transformations needed to fulfil the accession criteria. It welcomed the country's commitment to European integration and encouraged continued efforts to advance EU-aligned reforms.

Members called for **swift progress in the accession negotiations**, while stressing the importance of adopting the constitutional amendments. They called on the European Council to make clear, publicly and unequivocally, that the Council intends to take a swift and unconditional positive decision to enter the next phase of accession negotiations with North Macedonia once the conditions set out in its conclusions of 18 July 2022 have been met.

Accession negotiations should follow **a clear path** and be based solely on merit and compliance with the accession criteria (Copenhagen criteria), which require **deep reforms** in fundamental areas, as well as stable institutions that guarantee democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and respect for and protection of minorities. Members welcomed the new Western Balkans Facility for Reforms and Growth, which will provide EUR 750 million in grants and loans to North Macedonia once it has fulfilled the conditions set out in its reform agenda.

Functioning of democratic institutions

While North Macedonia's democratic institutions are functioning satisfactorily, **political polarisation** remains a major obstacle to necessary reforms. Parliament urged the political parties represented in the country's parliament to work together to reach an agreement on these reforms. It also called on the Assembly of North Macedonia to improve the planning, coordination, and quality of its legislative work through adequate consultation procedures and parliamentary oversight.

Members believe that **comprehensive electoral reform** remains necessary and that the financing of political parties and election campaigns must be better regulated. They called for the continued **modernisation of a merit-based public administration** and called on the North Macedonian authorities to refrain from opaque and politicised dismissals and appointments to positions within independent bodies and agencies.

Media and civil society

Parliament called for further reforms to move towards an **independent and resilient media landscape**, including reforming the legal framework governing online and offline media to fully align with the EU Media Freedom Act, addressing persistent problems of transparency of media ownership and media concentration. The authorities are encouraged to adopt a legal framework that effectively protects journalists, human rights defenders, environmental activists and other stakeholders against SLAPP lawsuits.

Members reiterated their call for a comprehensive reform of the rules governing public funding and political party advertising in the media. They encouraged North Macedonia to continue its efforts to **combat hate speech** in all its forms against all groups and to improve the legal framework to combat disinformation and foreign interference.

Fundamental rights

While congratulating North Macedonia for ratifying most international human rights instruments, Members are concerned about their level of implementation, the lack of progress on **gender equality**, the rise of anti-gender movements, as well as their growing influence, which have a negative impact on legislative processes.

The Macedonian authorities are particularly invited to:

- fully implement the Istanbul Convention, strengthen formal government structures to promote gender equality and improve the status and rights of women at all levels;
- ensure the full and effective implementation of the existing legal framework for the protection of victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence;
- establish a national body responsible for coordinating all policies relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- take concrete measures to recognise and integrate national communities and minorities into its Constitution;
- align the country's legislation with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- support and advance the rights of LGBTIQ+ people;
- strengthen migration management and intensify efforts in the fight against human trafficking.

Rule of law

Noting the country's deteriorating anti-corruption record, Parliament urged the strengthening of the **anti-corruption** framework and the ensuring of effective accountability, particularly in high-level corruption cases. Furthermore, the perceived level of trust in the **judicial system** remains very low. Members called for addressing the severe shortage of judges and prosecutors and for strengthening **the independence and transparency** of judicial bodies. They called for the strengthening of the Judicial Council and the Prosecutors' Council and the allocation of the necessary funds. Furthermore, all necessary measures must be put in place to effectively combat organised crime.

Socioeconomic reforms

Parliament recommended that North Macedonia continue to pursue steps to improve the business climate and infrastructure, strengthen education and digital infrastructure, and enhance social protection systems and their connection to employment initiatives. They encouraged labour market activation strategies for youth, the long-term unemployed, the low-skilled, women, people with disabilities, and Roma.