

**FORM ICH-09**

**REQUEST BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO BE ACCREDITED TO PROVIDE  
ADVISORY SERVICES TO THE COMMITTEE**

**1. Name of the organization**

Please provide the full official name of the organization, in its original language as well as in French and/or English.

MID - MAKEDONSKO ISTRAZHUVACHKO DRUSHTVO

MRS- MACEDONIAN RESEARCH SOCIETY

**2. Address of the organization**

Please provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone or fax numbers, e-mail address, website, etc.. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled (see item 8).

Kej Dimitar Vlahov bb 1000 Skopje Republik of Macedonia

tel. 389 70311 502; 389 71330 192;

e- mail: mid\_contact@freemail.com.mk ; kvazar65@yahoo.com ;  
snezanamdamjanovska@gmail.com; gjore@kokino.org.mk

www.mid.org.mk ; www.kokino.org.mk

**3. Country or countries in which the organization is active**

Please identify the country(ies) in which the organization actively operates. If it operates entirely within one country, please indicate which country. If its activities are international, please indicate whether it operates globally or in one or more regions, and please list the primary countries in which it carries out activities

national

international (please specify: )

worldwide

Africa

Arab States

Asia & the Pacific

Europe & North America

Latin America & the Caribbean

Please list the primary country(ies) where it is active:

Republic of Macedonia

#### 4. Date of its founding or approximate duration of its existence

Please state when the organization came into existence.

2003

#### 5. Objectives of the organization

Please describe the objectives for which the organization was established, which should be "in conformity with the spirit of the Convention" (Criterion C). If the organization's primary objectives are other than safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, please explain how its safeguarding objectives relate to those larger objectives.

*Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information*

MID as NGO was established in 2003, but some members started conducting ethno-astronomical researches in Republic of Macedonia back in 1982 and are still active. From the beginning, primary objective of terrain researches was collecting from people all their beliefs, names, rituals and images related to stars, constellations, planets, Sun, Moon, comets, meteors. Also, myths about Earth and Cosmos creation and rules about world's functioning. Simultaneously, researches included collection of all "people's knowledge" about the atmosphere such clouds, rain, hail, thunder, wind, seasons, etc.

Knowledge and practices concerning nature and Universe in line with Paragraph 2, Article 2 of the Convention are form of manifestation of the intangible cultural heritage.

Researches 28 years ago started in different social system of former Yugoslavia, but even than, young researchers were organized in type of organization similar to nowadays NGOs. In 1984, manager of the researches, Mr. Gjore Cenev, with his study about ethno- astronomical knowledge of Macedonian people, presented on the VII National Convention of Yugoslavian Astronomers, raise the interest of scientific audience. Consequently, Declaration was made these types of researches to be organized for other nationalities living in former state. In coming years, our instructors were sent in Serbia, but also their researchers were made members of teams already working in Macedonia. In 1986, invited by Polish Academy of Science, Mr. Cenev, visited Poland and in town Bjaliistok conducted ethno- astronomical researches. Afterwards, already know social changes occurred in Eastern Europe countries including former state, due to what organizational establishment and research dynamics changed.

In 2003, in accordance with the laws of Republic of Macedonia MID was established as national NGO. Its membership consists of, beside the Manager of the ethno-astronomical researches, numerous volunteers that continued with researches and publishing results. Organization's objectives in time grow and now along with researches and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage there are other types of actions, which lead to discovery of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino. Today it's on UNESCO's Tentative list of the World Cultural Heritage. Entire cultural heritage is considered as basis for harmonization and development of the civic society in Macedonia.

## 6. The organization's activities in the field of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage

Items 6.a. to 6.c. are the primary place to establish that the NGO satisfies the criterion of having "proven competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding (as defined in Article 2.3 of the Convention) intangible cultural heritage belonging, inter alia, to one or more specific domains" (Criterion A).

### 6.a. Domain(s) in which the organization is active

Please check one or more boxes to indicate the primary domains in which the organization is most active. If its activities involve domains other than those listed, please check "other domains" and indicate which domains are concerned.

- oral traditions and expressions
- performing arts
- social practices, rituals and festive events
- knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- traditional craftsmanship
- other domains - please specify:

### 6.b. Primary safeguarding activities in which the organization is involved

Please check one or more boxes to indicate the organization's primary safeguarding activities. If its activities involve safeguarding measures not listed here, please check "other safeguarding measures" and specify which ones are concerned

- identification, documentation, research (including inventory-making)
- preservation, protection
- promotion, enhancement
- transmission, formal or non-formal education
- revitalization
- other safeguarding measures - please specify:

### 6.c. Description of the organization's activities

Organizations requesting accreditation should briefly describe their recent activities and their relevant experience in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Please provide information on the personnel and membership of the organization, describe their competence and expertise in the domain of intangible cultural heritage and explain how they acquired such competence. Documentation of such activities and competences may be submitted, if necessary, under item 8.c. below.

*Not to exceed 750 words; do not attach additional information*

As a result of the work performed by all our members, MID - Makedonskoto istrzhuvacko drushtvo, has great number of information and documented materials

linked with the knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe as intangible cultural heritage of Macedonian people. This is also result of visits and researches made in more than 140 villages on the territory of Republic of Macedonia and interviews with more than 2000 elderly inhabitants. Today MID's members are people that in the past, but even nowadays, are active and part of all actions related to collection, documentation, safeguarding and publication of obtained results. Recently following activities has been performed, relevant for the safeguarding and protection of the knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe as important part of the intangible cultural heritage of Macedonian people:

- The first Star Map of Macedonian people completed and published;
- In cooperation with the Planetarium at the Youth Cultural Centre from Skopje, financed by the Ministry of Culture of R. Macedonia, the book "Sky over Macedonia" by the author Mr. Gjore Cenev was published;
- In cooperation with the national television A1, documentary show "Stars over Macedonia" - 30 minutes in length was completed and broadcasted. The show was re-broadcasted on several occasions on the above-mentioned TV channel;
- 20 editions of the magazine "Vselena" ("Space") has been edited and published, each containing article from the ethno-astronomy field. This magazine was recognized and recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Macedonia to be used in primary and secondary schools as additional teaching tool;
- Publications of scientific papers and participation on international scientific conferences dedicated to the area of interest, especially at those committed to comparative analyzes made on the intangible cultural heritage of other nations;
- Introduction of specially designed syllabuses from the ethno- astronomy filed in the lectures organized at the only Planetarium in Macedonia, as important segment of the informal education of students and citizens in the country;
- In cooperation with the National Postal Services of Macedonia, series of post stamp has been designed, finalized and published all presenting people's images of star constellations. The stamps were published as part of the activities within the European serial of stamps dedicated to the astronomy and its contribution in the development of the culture, all part of the celebration of 2009 as International Year of Astronomy;
- Initializing activities related to the nomenclature of the Solar System objects' regions and landscape, as part of the International Astronomical Union's nomenclature, all linked with the names, gods and mythology found in Macedonian people's cosmogony;
- Initiating activities for including Star map of Macedonian people on UNESCO's Representative list of intangible cultural heritage;

MID's activities are performed within the allocated and organized teams, encompassing competent members for each of the above-mentioned activities. Mr. Gjore Cenev is one of our the most eminent member, active in the area of collection, documentation, safeguarding and publication of the entire knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe as important part of the intangible cultural heritage of Macedonia people. Mr. Cenev is physician and astronomer, who had organized all research activities in this domain, which have started in 1982. He is also the author of the first systematized and published Start map of Macedonian people, of the book "Sky over Macedonia", as well as the most of scientific papers where he has published and

analyzed all original information collected from the inhabitants of more than 140 villages, all related to the ethno-astronomy, cosmogony and ethno- meteorology of Macedonian people. In the research activates, as well as in the popularization of the ethno-astronomical data special contribution is provided by members Mr. Vancho Stojkoski and Mr. Marjan Nikolovski, who are at the same time lecturers at the Planetarium. In the analysis of the medieval old- Slavonic written materials special contribution is provided by Ms. PhD Katica Trajkova, and in the development of the documentary materials evident efforts are done by Mr. Ljupcho Ilievski, professional photographer. Great contribution in the international affirmation of the MID's work is due to the efforts done by Ms. Snezhana Damjanovska, B.A in English Language and Literature, as well as the journalists Ms. Lidija Janchovska and Ms. Valentina Atanasovska. In the international exchange of researchers, special contributions is provided by Mr. Blagoja Petrushevski. In addition, vast experience in terrain researcher is possessed by our members Mr. Dime Madzovski, Mr. Daniel Anastasov, Mr. Aco Tanevski, Ms. Elizabeta Nestorovska and twenty other ours members.

#### **7. Its experiences cooperating with communities, groups and intangible cultural heritage practitioners**

The Committee will evaluate whether NGOs requesting accreditation "cooperate in a spirit of mutual respect with communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage" (Criterion D). Please briefly describe such experiences here.

*Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information*

Members of MID - Makedonskoto Istrazhuvachko Drushtvo, in a role of individuals and organized within the association have established cooperation with great number of institutions, organizations and individuals working and having links with the collection, documentation, scientific study, publication and affirmation of the intangible cultural heritage. In that direction we can mention some of our experience, such as:

- researches in the ethno-astronomy filed have stared in cooperation with the Planetarium at the Youth Cultural Centre in Skopje;
- methodology for terrain researches has been defined with the support from the Folklore Institute "Marko Cepenkov" and Macedonian Ethnological Museum;
- researches has been carried out in cooperation with the local self-governments of more than 140 villages all over Republic of Macedonia;
- researches and documentation of the data have been performed in collaboration with about 2000 elderly inhabitants of Macedonian villages, as direct bearers and transferors of the knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe as part of the intangible cultural heritage of Macedonian people;
- exchange of researchers and methodology was performed with the Association of young researchers and Astronomical Association "Rugjer Boshkovikj" from Serbia;
- cooperation was established with PhD Dimitar Kolev and Ms. Veselina Koleva – researchers in the area of ethno-astronomy from Bulgaria;
- cooperation with the National Postal Service of Macedonia during the publication of the post stamp's serial;

## **8. Documentation of the operational capacities of the organization**

The Operational Directives (paragraph 94) require that an organization requesting accreditation shall submit documentation proving that it possesses the operational capacities listed under Criterion E. Such supporting documents may take various forms, in light of the diverse legal regimes in effect in different States. Submitted documents should be translated into French or English whenever possible if the originals are in another language. Please identify supporting documents clearly with the item (8.a, 8.b or 8.c) to which they refer.

### **8.a. Membership and personnel**

Proof of the participation of the membership of the organization, as requested under Criterion E (i), may take diverse forms such as a list of directors, list of personnel and statistical information on the quantity and categories of members; a complete membership roster usually need not be submitted.

*Please attach supporting documents.*

### **8.b. Recognized legal personality**

If the organization has a charter, articles of incorporation, by-laws or similar establishing document, a copy should be attached. If, under the applicable domestic law, the organization has a legal personality recognized through some means other than an establishing document (for instance, through a published notice in an official gazette or journal), please provide documentation showing how that legal personality was established.

*Please attach supporting documents.*

### **8.c. Duration of existence and activities**

If it is not already clearly indicated from the documentation provided for item 8.b, please submit documentation proving that the organization has existed for at least four years at the time it requests accreditation. Please provide documentation showing that it has carried out appropriate safeguarding activities during that time, including those described above in item 6.c. Supplementary materials such as books, CDs or DVDs, or similar publications cannot be taken into consideration and should not be submitted.

*Please attach supporting documents.*

## **9. Contact person for correspondence**

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this request. If an e-mail address cannot be provided, the information should include a fax number.

Snezana Mirchevska Damjanovska  
tel. 389 71311 502  
e-mail: snezanamdamjanovska@gmail.com

## 10. Signature

The application must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization requesting accreditation. Requests without a signature cannot be considered.

Name: Vanco Stojkoski

Title: President of MRS

Date: 29.06.2010

Signature:





**Makedonsko istraživačko društvo**

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**LIST OF THE MOST EMINENT MEMBERS OF MID – MACEDONIAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, THAT HAVE EXPERIENCE IN THE AREA OF INTEREST, MENTIONED IN THE APPLICATION FORM**

NO.	NAME AND SURNAME	EDUCATION	PROJECT/ ACTIVITIES
1	Gjore Cenev	B.A in physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>1982- present-</b> Leader of the research project „Ethno-astronomical analyses of the Macedonian people“. As part of this project activities, more than 140 villages on the territory of Republic of Macedonia has been visited and more then 2000 elderly inhabitants of the villages are been interviewed.</li><li>- <b>July 1986</b> -Upon the invitation of the Academy of Poland, team leader of the ethnoastronomical researches that were performed in the first half of July 1986.</li><li>- <b>1999-2000</b> Co-author of the 30 minutes documentary film, under the title „Stars above Macedonia“. This documentary was made in 2000, and was broadcasted on several occasions on the national TV station A1.</li><li>- <b>2002-</b> Author of the first developed “Sky map of the Macedonian people” that was also published in 2002.</li><li>- <b>2002-present</b> Leader of the research project „Archaeoastronomical analysis of the Kokino site“. The findings of this analysis have confirmed that existence of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino could be dated in 2000 B.C.. In 2004, American Space Agency, NASA, listed Megalithic Observatory Kokino on the 4<sup>th</sup> place on the List of World’s Ancient Observatories (<a href="http://www.ao_poster.pdf">www.ao_poster.pdf</a>). In 2009, this ancient observatory has been placed on the UNESCO’s temporary World Heritage List under the name- Archaeoastronomical site Kokino (<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5413/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5413/</a>).</li><li>- <b>2004-</b>Author of the first published book in the filed of ethnoastronomy</li></ul>





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NO.	NAME AND SURNAME	EDUCATION	PROJECT/ ACTIVITIES
			<p>and ethnometeorology in Republic of Macedonia. In this book, under the title „Sky above Macedonia“, that was published in 2004, all information gathered directly from the people are compiled and published.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2003-2005-</b> Author of around 15 texts from the ethnoastronomy filed, published in the monthly magazine “Universe”, published in the period 2003-2005.</li> <li>- <b>2008-2009</b> Author of the solution for the publication of the first post stamps containing themes from the Macedonian folk constellations, part of the European serial called “Astronomy”, dedicated to the celebration of 2009 as an International Year of the Astronomy.</li> <li>- Author of scientific papers and participants in many international scientific conferences held in Serbia, Bulgaria and Italy on the topics relevant to ethnoastronomy.</li> <li>- Author of great number scientific papers and participant on many international conferences held in Hungary, Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Italy, France and Spain on the topics of archaeoastronomy.</li> </ul>
2	PhD Katica Trajkova	PhD in Philological sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1986-present</b> Part of the team that has been performing ethnoastronomical terrain researches</li> <li>- Author of great number of scientific appears and participant on many international scientific conferences on the topic of Old Slavic and Church- Slavic language.</li> <li>- Author of the book „Lexicology of the Stanislav’s Prolog from the 13<sup>th</sup> century“ in relation to the lexicology related to the nature, sky, celestial objects and the Cosmos.</li> </ul>
3	Marjan Nikolovski	B.A in philosophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1982- present</b> Leader of the regional research teams that have been working in the ethnoastronomical filed.</li> </ul>



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NO.	NAME AND SURNAME	EDUCATION	PROJECT/ ACTIVITIES
			- <b>1986- present</b> Member of the team that worked on the popularization of the results of the ethnoastronomical researches among the Macedonian public.
4	<b>Vancho Stojkovski</b>	B.A. in radiological technology	- <b>1983- present</b> Member of the team that have been performing ethnoastronomical terrain researches. - <b>2002-present</b> Member of the team that worked on the archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino
5	<b>Blagoja Petrushev</b>	B.A in electro-engineering	- <b>1983- present</b> Member of the team that have been performing ethnoastronomical terrain researches. - <b>1984-present</b> Instructor for explaining methodology for performance of ethnoastronomical researches - <b>1984-</b> Direct participant in the researches performed on the territory of Serbia.
6	<b>Elizabeta Pavkovikj</b>	- MA in Ethnology - Assistant at the Institute of Ethnology at the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje	- <b>1983- present</b> Member of the team that performed ethnoastronomical terrain researches. - Author of scientific papers related to the ethnology as a scientific filed
7	<b>Ana Grozdanova</b>	B.A in Ethnology	- <b>1983- present</b> Member of the team that has been performing ethnoastronomical and ethnological terrain researches
8	<b>Daniel Anastasov</b>	Student	- <b>1983- present</b> Participant in the ethnoastronomical terrain researches. - <b>2002</b> Participant and member of the team that has been performing the archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino.



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9	Dime Madzovski	B.A in history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Participant in the performed ethnoastronomical terrain researches.</li> <li>- <b>2002</b> Member of the team that performed the archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino.</li> </ul>
10	Snezana Mirchevska Damjanovska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- B.A in English language and literature</li> <li>- MA in Sociology of education- final stage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2001</b> Developer of the professional terminology relevant in the filed of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy in order to enable greater international affirmation of the ethnoastronomical and archaeoastronomical researches performed in Macedonia.</li> <li>- <b>2004- present</b> Participant on several regional conferences held in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania on the topic of affirmation, conservation and popularization of the cultural heritage in the area of West Balkan</li> </ul>
11	Lidija Jančovska-Hristova	B.A in journalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2000</b> Author of the documentary TV broadcasting „Stars above Macedonia“, where the results from the ethnoastronomical researches performed in Macedonia were presented. This documentary was broadcasted on several other occasions on the national TV channel A1.</li> <li>- <b>2000- present</b> Author of several show and TV emissions related to the topics of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy.</li> </ul>
12	Valentina Atanasovska	B.A in journalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2000 –present</b> Author of several documentary emissions related to the topics of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy on the National Macedonian Radio Television.</li> </ul>
13	Aco Tanevski	B.A in art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Participant in the ethnoastronomical terrain researches</li> </ul>
14	Ljupco Ilievski	B.A in photography- Professional photographer and camera operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Responsible for the documentation of the researches in the filed of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy.</li> <li>- <b>2002</b> Member of the team that performed the archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino.</li> </ul>



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NO.	NAME AND SURNAME	EDUCATION	PROJECT/ ACTIVITIES
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Independent exhibition of photographs related to the performed researches on the Megalithic Observatory Kokino, such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- „Kokino –Sun Fortress“ – Kumanovo, 2007.</li> <li>- „Kokino- Mystic Whisper trough the Eternity“ – Skopje, 2009</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>2007</b> Author of the photographs used during the development of the post stamps serial, dedicated to the Megalithic Observatory Kokino</li> </ul>
15	<b>Nikola Cenev</b>	B.A in computer animations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2002</b> Member of the team that performed archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino.</li> <li>- <b>2000- present</b> Responsible for the technical support while developing scientific papers and presentations of MID's members for the presentation in front of the scientific and wider public</li> </ul>
16	<b>Chedomir Arsovski</b>	B.A in Geodesy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2002</b> Members of the team that performed archaeoastronomical analysis of the Megalithic Observatory Kokino</li> </ul>
17	<b>Robertino Ilievski</b>	B.A in biochemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Participants in the ethnoastronomical terrain researches</li> </ul>
18	<b>Shenera Asan</b>	B.A in philosophy and journalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2002</b> Author of several radio-broadcastings related to the filed of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy as part of the radio programs of the Macedonian National Radio, performed in Turkish language, as part of the efforts for wider popularization of the mentioned scientific filed among the entire population of Macedonia</li> </ul>
19	<b>Ljupco Stojkovski</b>	Graduated technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Participant in the ethnoastronomical terrain researches</li> </ul>
20	<b>Zoran Stefanovski</b>	Graduated technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1983- present</b> Technical support to the researches teams while performing researches in the filed of ethnoastronomy and archaeoastronomy</li> </ul>



