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WHO ARE WE

Mission and vision

Analytica is a unique non-profit institution dedicated to strengthening democracy and good governance in North Macedonia, the broader South Eastern European region, and the European Union. It serves as both a public policy research organization and a "think tank," drawing upon North Macedonia's rich historical and geopolitical context to develop innovative solutions for contemporary challenges.

Analytica's mission is to promote deeper cooperation and understanding among the people of North Macedonia, the region, and the EU. It achieves this by:

Supporting individuals and institutions: Analytica empowers those working on critical issues by providing essential resources and expertise.

Convening leaders for dialogue: Analytica fosters high-level discussions on the most pressing themes to identify collaborative solutions.

Examining cooperative approaches: Analytica analyzes how cooperation can effectively address national, regional, and European policy challenges.

The organization prioritizes diversity within its operation, fostering a broad base of support from all levels of society – including the citizens themselves. Analytica values tolerance, dialogue, and inclusivity, believing that these principles are key to achieving lasting progress through continuous communication and embracing differences.

Analytica's work builds upon the rich philanthropic tradition in North Macedonia and Europe. Its unique niche lies in channeling and institutionalizing this tradition to serve strategic goals. This includes supporting North Macedonia and other regional countries in their integration with Euro-Atlantic structures and promoting European citizenship in the Western Balkans.

Firmly believing in the power of ideas, Analytica actively advocates for its vision of a North Macedonia and South Eastern Europe integrated within the EU – a region where freedom, a sense of shared identity, opportunity, prosperity, and a thriving civil society flourish.

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, 0,		Administration	

Research Programmes

Public Policy Analysis and Administration Programme



It produces analyses and reports that enhance policy and administrative capacities by providing effective solutions to policy issues and challenges in the area of public administration reform. Building up based on previous research in related areas (decentralization and EU integration) and prompted by the importance of the process of public administration reform for good governance,

Analytica conducts research, identifies problems, and devises solutions for better policy-making processes and public administration.

Foreign and Security Policy Programme

Encompasses the activities of Analytica which deal with contemporary security issues from a traditional non-traditional standpoint and looks into the issue of governance as an emerging phenomenon in the relationship



between governing institutions and citizens. Building on the extensive work of the Analytica community on this issue, the security and foreign policy programme attempts to bridge differences between the concepts of security and governance and to examine the contemporary security and political challenges from the aspects of both concepts. The aim is to develop more effective, empirical, field-based strategies for major security and governance programmes.

EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme



Integration into EU structures is a transformational source for North Macedonia and in the wider context of Southeast Europe as well as it is a major issue that shapes the reform agenda in the Western Balkan countries. The process of EU approximation entails numerous in-

depth reforms of various sectors such as the economy, youth, administration, the judiciary as well as

legislative harmonization. Analytica intends to contribute to the overall success of the EU approximation process by providing necessary tools, recommendations, analyses, and concrete steps such as active lobbying for integration home and abroad and taking up an active role in promoting European citizenship in the country. New resources can also help the policy-makers, experts, and others who are working on the issue of European integration and the Western Balkans to master new knowledge that can be useful in their work towards the European integration of North Macedonia and other countries of the Western Balkans. Access to relevant information can provide both the EU and the North Macedonian audience with new information and tools which can be applied in everyday life and contribute to an improved image of North Macedonia.

Energy and Infrastructure Programme



By signing the Energy Community Treaty, North Macedonia and the contracting parties from the region have turned another page in energy history. The new energy reforms demand investments in the energy sector, increasing energy efficiency and renewable sources of

energy. Analytica closely follows and analyses the developments of regional, national, and local energy policies. By conducting policy research, we draft medium and long-term recommendations for the challenges in the energy sector to the respective stakeholders, contribute to energy implementation, and initiate energy debate in the country and the region.

Empowering Youth Programme

This program equips young people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to tackle critical issues facing their generation. We explore topics like gender equality, cybersecurity, bullying (including cyberbullying), and multiculturalism, fostering a generation of inclusive and responsible leaders. Through workshops, discussions, and engaging activities, participants will develop: Critical thinking skills to analyze complex issues; Problem-solving abilities to find innovative solutions; Communication and collaboration skills to work effectively with others; Digital literacy to

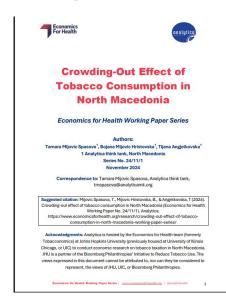


navigate the online world safely and responsibly; An understanding of diversity and inclusion to build a more just and equitable society. This program empowers young people to become active participants in shaping their future and creating positive change in their communities.

WHAT WE DO

Policy documents published in 2024

Crowding-Out Effect of Tobacco Consumption in North Macedonia



The working paper assesses the effect of tobacco spending on households budgets in North Macedonia. Households spent 13.2% of their budget on tobacco in 2022, an increase from 10.3% in 2018. The study finds that this expenditure is associated with a reduction in spending on beneficial goods and services, including food, clothing, health, housing, and communication. This is especially harmful in low-income households, where tobacco-spending crowds out spending on necessities like food, health, and housing. In middle-income households, tobacco expenditure is associated with a reduction in spending on furniture, education, and recreation, while in high-income households, it is associated with decreased spending on furniture and housing. On the other hand, tobacco spending increases spending on alcohol, entertainment, and dining out. The working paper concludes with policy

recommendations to strengthen tobacco control and raise tobacco taxes to reduce consumption and improve financial wellbeing of households.

Enhancing Public Health and Fiscal Stability in North Macedonia Through Tobacco Taxation: Tobacco Tax Modeling from North Macedonia

The policy paper assesses the impact of accelerating tobacco tax increases from 2024 to 2026 relative to the current excise calendar. Specifically, the researchers consider the effect of increasing excise taxes by 16% annually. This would increase cigarette prices by 12.88% and 13.15% in 2025 and 2026, respectively. As a result, tax revenues would rise from EUR 244,729,628 in 2024 to EUR 304,306,236 by 2026 with a consistent year-on-year growth of around 11.5%. Cigarette consumption, meanwhile, would decrease by 3.16% from 2024 to 2025, and 3.32% from 2025 to 2026. Similarly, smoking prevalence would decrease from 48.40% in 2024 to 47.28% in 2026. The findings suggest that the public health benefits of this reduction would accumulate over time, as 2,333 smokers would avoid premature death in 2025 and 2,462 smokers would avoid premature death in 2026. The policy brief concludes with recommendations for



policy makers to boost excise taxes to reap the fiscal and public health benefits, in addition to supporting North Macedonia's EU integration.

Handbook for recognizing and preventing cyber-violence and acquiring skills for applying cyber security measures



This Handbook was developed as part of the Project "Strengthening capacity of young people and teachers to apply cyber security measures and develop effective school programs to prevent cyber violence" and it was implemented by think tank Analytica Skopje, and financially supported by the Embassy of Canada in Serbia, North Macedonia and Montenegro. The aim of this Handbook is to empower young people and teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely navigate the digital and online world, understand cyber security measures and develop impactful school programs to prevent cyberviolence and ensure a safe cyber environment for students. This Handbook was developed using a multi-method methodology aimed at diagnosing primary data, experiences, perspectives and insights related to cyber security and cyber violence. The Handbook development process involved a combination of quantitative and

qualitative research methods to provide a solid evidence-based foundation for the Handbook's content.

HTP and e-cigarette use in North Macedonia – an exploratory study

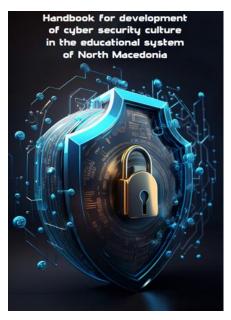
This study aims to offer a better understanding of heated tobacco products (HTP) and e-cigarette use among a targeted group of tobacco and nicotine users in North Macedonia. It also aims to inform the design of future research on this topic. The study used survey with employed quota sampling, a non-probability sampling method in which researchers relied on a convenience sample involving individual users of manufactured cigarettes, HTP, or electronic cigarettes aged 18 and older. Such method does not allow for valid statistical inferences with respect to the whole population of North Macedonia nor does it provide prevalence estimates. Nevertheless, it provides important insights into the habits of nicotine users in North Macedonia and suggests several policy interventions: a) The HTPs and electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are more popular among younger population of North Macedonia while older cigarette smokers are



less likely to abandon their manufactured cigarettes and switch to these products. b) HTP and e-cigarette users revealed that one of the main reasons for their preference for these products over cigarettes is their unrestricted use in public places. Another reason is flavoring which is not allowed for manufactured cigarettes. Banning flavors and banning vaping in public places are a common practice across many European countries. c) Despite their substantial tax advantage, the prices of HTPs are higher compared to manufactured cigarettes. E-cigarette liquid also enjoys a substantial tax advantage over manufactured

cigarettes. Nevertheless, those using both manufactured cigarettes and the new products (HTPs and ecigarettes) spend more on their habit compared to those using a single product. d) The dual users of manufactured cigarette and e-cigarette report the highest average monthly spending of MKD 5034 on their nicotine addiction. This represents 12% and 22% of the average and minimum monthly wage in North Macedonia, respectively.

Handbook for development of cyber security culture in the educational system of North Macedonia

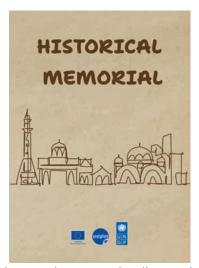


The Handbook is intended for a wide group of stakeholders in North Macedonia who work in the field of cyber security of students, prevention of cyber violence of students, digitalization and educational policies, to be informed about the multidimensional aspects of cyber security. The purpose of this Handbook is to provide teachers and young people in schools in North Macedonia with means and resources to improve their capacities in the field of cyber security and opposing cyber violence. Through various modules and activities, the Handbook aims to increase the knowledge and skills of the participants on the safe use of the Internet and other digital technologies. At the same time, it strives to develop effective school programs for the prevention of cyber-bullying and the creation of a safe school environment. The Handbook includes application of a research method, a focus group method from conducted training and a method of information synthesis. Initially, the research and

analysis is based on the identification of students and teaching staff, with a focus on their understanding and application of cyber security measures.

Historical memorial

This memorial aims to highlight the cultural and historical landmarks of the cities of Gostivar, Skopje and Strumica. The memorial was made within the framework of the project "Youth activism for multiculturalism - to nurture, to act", which was made possible by the regional project "EU Support to Confidence Building in the Western Balkans", which is financed by the European Union and conducted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and is implemented by Analytica Skopje. The memorial contains the photographs taken by the young participants during the field workshops with a brief overview of the cultural, historical and national significance of the objects, persons and other landmarks. At the same time, this memorial aims to promote intercultural dialogue, social cohesion and understanding between different communities. This



publication is proof that each of these cities has its own unique mark and history that is worth telling and

remembering. Skopje, as the capital, is known for its multiculturalism and history of international solidarity. Gostivar, with its symbols like the Clock-Tower and its rich ethnic and cultural heritage, is a place where diversities are nurtured and celebrated. Strumica, on the other hand, is known for its legends and natural beauties, as well as for significant historical and cultural events and landmarks. It is our wish that this memorial be an incentive for young people to explore and respect their cultural heritage, to be proud of their history and to carry that pride with them, as a foundation for building the future. Let this memorial be an inspiration and a guide for all of you who want to know more about the wealth of our country.

Policy briefs published in 2024

Crowding-Out Effect of Tobacco Consumption in North Macedonia

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policy recommendations to strengthen tobacco control and raise tobacco taxes to reduce consumption and improve financial wellbeing of households.

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Infographics published in 2024

INFOGRAPHIC: "Youth Activism for Sustainable Rivers: Protection and Conservation of the Biodiversity of the Treska River"

The Treska River is a natural treasure that requires immediate action to protect and improve its ecological condition, as well as the health of the local population. To ensure clean water and a healthy environment, the following measures are necessary: 1. Strengthening wastewater treatment infrastructure; 2. Upgrading waste management systems; 3. Modernizing municipal services; 4. Promoting sustainable agricultural practices; 5. Raising public awareness and increasing citizen involvement; 6. Implementing stricter regulations; 7. Establishing an effective monitoring system.



INFOGRAPHIC: "Pollution and Its Consequences for the Treska River"



The Treska River, our natural treasure, is facing serious threats due to irresponsible human behavior, illegal waste dumping, and the discharge of untreated industrial and municipal wastewater. These activities significantly reduce the river's natural ability to self-purify. If uncontrolled pollution continues at the current rate, there is a risk that the Treska River will permanently lose its ecological balance. This will have catastrophic consequences, especially for endemic species that can only be found in its waters. Let's take responsibility for nature! Every step we take toward protection means life for the river and for future generations.

INFOGRAPHIC: Our Scientific (laboratory) Analyses Reveal Alarming Results!

Based on bacteriological parameters, the water of the Treska River has been classified as Class IV, indicating severe contamination with fecal matter. The presence of pathogenic microorganisms poses a direct threat to the ecosystem and public health.

What does this mean?

Class IV water is unsuitable for drinking, recreational activities, and maintaining a healthy ecosystem. The contamination negatively affects fish populations, plant life, and the people who rely on the river. What can we do?

- ✓ Urgently implement wastewater treatment measures.
- ✓ Educate and raise awareness among citizens about the river's environmental importance and
- ✓ Monitor and control polluters by strictly enforcing environmental laws.



INFOGRAPHIC: Women Enrich the Multicultural World with Their Perspectives!



This initiative highlights the crucial role of women in building and enhancing multicultural societies. Explore inspiring photographs of various cultural sites, including sculptures, buildings, and historical landmarks, captured by young people as they document and explore their heritage. These images stand as proof of their dedication and the significance of women's perspectives in shaping a multicultural world. As part of the regional project "EU Support for Confidence-Building in the Western Balkans", young people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds have come together to explore and document the richness of our cultural heritage. This activity is

part of the regional project "EU Support for Confidence-Building in the Western Balkans", funded by the European Union and implemented by the UNDP.

INFOGRAPHIC: Multiculturalism Is Not Black and White – Youth Create the Colors!

As part of the regional project "EU Support for Confidence-Building in the Western Balkans," young leaders from different ethnic groups have come together to create a multicultural world. Through collaboration, they break stereotypes and prove that they can work together to build a world based on tolerance, respect, and understanding. We are proud of the young people who demonstrate that the future is in their hands and that, through joint efforts, they can achieve great things.



INFOGRAPHIC: World No Tobacco Day - Advocacy for Stronger Tobacco Control



rates and build a healthier future.

On World No Tobacco Day, Analytica highlighted the urgent need for stronger tobacco control in North Macedonia, where nearly 50% of adults smoke and the average smoking initiation age is just 13.5 years. Our research shows that 12.4% of students have used tobacco products, with higher risks among boys and those influenced by smoking peers or parents. To protect public health, Analytica advocates for stricter enforcement of the Law on Protection from Smoking, increased tobacco excise duties, reduced youth access to cigarettes, parental education on smoking harms, and the integration of health topics into school curricula. Together, we can reduce smoking

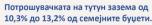
INFOGRAPHIC: Health Economics



Health Economics Households with low income, due to increased tobacco expenses, reduce spending on food, health, and housing

Tobacco consumption accounts for approximately 10.3% to 13.2% of household budgets.







INFOGRAPHIC: Cyber security

намалуваат потрошувачката за храна,

здравје и домување.

According to a recent study conducted by Analytica, which included 500 students, 43.2% reported that educational workshops on cyber security are either not held or are very rare in their schools. Additionally, 39.8% of students stated they are unaware if such workshops are conducted. With the continuous advancement of technology and digitalization, we face various challenges and dangers. It is essential to take proactive measures to improve cyber security awareness among young people. Protecting students' cyber security should be a priority for everyone! Education and awareness are key. This research was conducted within the project "Strengthening the capacity of young people and teachers to apply cyber security measures and



Canada

CFLI/FCIL

analytica 🔀

develop effective school programs to prevent cyberbullying," supported by the Embassy of Canada to Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro.



INFOGRAPHIC: Cyber security

A significant portion of students (65.5%) have expressed the need for additional education in cyber security. They believe they lack sufficient knowledge to protect themselves from hacking attacks and personal data breaches. With the growing challenges in the digital environment, it's essential to be prepared and informed about safeguarding our information.

Two new mobile applications are available to help prevent cyberbullying and enhance cybersecurity



Anaytica developed two new mobile applications are available to help prevent cyberbullying and enhance cybersecurity:

- **BezbedenInternet**: Designed to improve cybersecurity awareness, this app provides users with practical advice and tools to protect against online threats.
- **CyberBullying**: Aimed at addressing cyberbullying, this app offers mechanisms for reporting offensive content and access to resources supporting victims.
- Both applications are available for download on the Google Play Store.

PROJECTS

ACCELERATING PROGRESS ON EFFECTIVE TOBACCO TAX POLICIES IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES



Analytica together with Development Solutions Associates (Albania), Banja Luka University (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Center for Political Courage (Kosovo), Institute for Socio-Economic Analyzes (Montenegro), and the Institute for Economic Sciences (Serbia), works on a project funded by Bloomberg (USA) and implemented through the Chicago Illinois University (UIC). The theme of the project is "Accelerating Progress of effective tobacco

tax policies in Low- and middle-income countries." Research and dissemination activities aim to produce high-quality and accessible research and policy outputs for both government policymakers and civil society. Research is focusing on gaps in research on economic and fiscal aspects of national tobacco taxation policy critical to informing effective tax policy. Research topics include the costs and benefits of tobacco to government budgets, labor impacts, illicit trade, tax compliance of the tobacco industry, including tax evasion and avoidance, and tobacco tax impacts on inequality. Activities within the project:

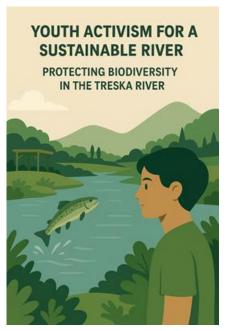
- Capacity building of think tanks in select countries/regions to provide support to governments and civil society based on an evidence-based policy aimed at effective tobacco taxation policies.
- Support through the organization of workshops for senior representatives of decision-makers to raise awareness and build technical capacities for tobacco taxation policies.
- Developing and disseminating resources (policy papers) for the taxation of tobacco to build and share knowledge and raise the taxation profile of tobacco in tobacco control policy (by expanding the



tobacco control platform, providing information and resource center).

YOUTH ACTIVISM FOR A SUSTAINABLE RIVER: PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE TRESKA RIVER

Project Goals: The primary goal is to protect the water and biodiversity of the Treska River while empowering youth and citizens through citizen science. Key Results: Threats & Impacts Documented: Identifying and documenting threats from anthropogenic, ecological, and infrastructural sources, Monitoring & Protection Program: Developing a program for river monitoring and protection, to be adopted by the local community and authorities. Youth & NGO Training: Training 15 young people and 5



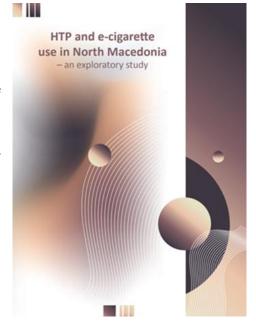
local NGO representatives in citizen science for river biodiversity preservation. Thematic Quay Development: Creating an informative and educational space along the Treska River. Field Techniques Training: Training 30 young people in field data collection, sample analysis, and environmental measurement. Fish Stock Increase: Boosting the population of river trout (Salmo macedonicus) in the Treska River. Public Awareness: Informing and engaging the local community about the importance of river ecosystem protection.

Why This Matters: North Macedonia is facing an ecological crisis, with severe air pollution, poor waste management, declining water quality, deforestation, and threatened biodiversity. This project aims to make a significant impact on the preservation of our natural resources, especially focusing on the Treska River and the beautiful Matka Canyon. By developing monitoring programs, training youth and NGOs, enhancing the river quay, increasing fish populations,

and raising public awareness, we aim to improve the condition of the Treska River and promote sustainable development and nature protection. The project is supported by the Embassy of Canada to Serbia, North Macedonia and Montenegro.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF HEATED TOBACCO USAGE PATTERNS AND IMPACTS IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Analytica have been collaborating with the World Bank on a groundbreaking project: "Quantitative Analysis of Heated Tobacco Usage Patterns and Impacts in North Macedonia." The study contains a comprehensive quantitative analysis of heated tobacco usage patterns and their impacts within the context of North Macedonia. This project is not merely an observational study; it is a strategic endeavor aimed at unraveling the complexities of new tobacco consumption trends and their implications. With the rising popularity of heated tobacco products, understanding the dynamics, prevalence, associated factors influencing their usage in the local population is crucial. In North Macedonia, the tobacco consumption landscape is witnessing a shift with the introduction of heated tobacco products. This trend, while not entirely understood, represents a critical area of study due to its potential impact on public health and societal behavior.



Project Background: North Macedonia ranks high globally in smoking prevalence, with a rate of 48.4% in 2019, far above the EU average. Recent years have seen a rise in the use of heated tobacco products, despite their higher cost compared to traditional cigarettes.

Study Objectives: Determine intensity of heated tobacco product use across diverse demographics in North Macedonia. Investigate patterns of dual use (with cigarettes) or poly use (with other tobacco products) among heated tobacco users. Identify the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of heated tobacco product users. Understand the motivations for using heated tobacco products, including health considerations and smoking cessation attempts. Assess the impact of marketing and media on the popularity and perception of heated tobacco products.

Methodology: Analytica conducted an extensive and in-depth survey research. This includes a comprehensive survey to investigate the intensity, dual use, or poly use of heated tobacco products, as well as policy-related questions to understand motivations behind using these products. This project is supported by the World Bank.

YOUTH ACTIVISM FOR MULTICULTURALISM - TO NURTURE, TO ACT!

The general goal of the project is to promote inter-ethnic and inter-cultural dialogue between young people from three cities of the Republic of North Macedonia, through cultural initiatives and activities for reconciliation and social cohesion. Specific objectives of the project are: S.C. 1. Strengthening efforts for intercultural and interethnic understanding and respect among young people in the Republic of North Macedonia, S.C.2. Promoting diversity among young people through cultural exchange



and the art of photography; S.C.3. Strengthening the sense of common belonging of young people in the community, the sense of self-respect and respect for diversity and S.C.4. Promoting the cultural-historical



significance of women through photographic revival of the life and works of prominent Macedonian women excluded from the cultural heritage. Directly involved participants (target group) are 18 young people of different ethnic, religious and gender affiliations from the City of Skopje, the Municipality of Gostivar and the Municipality of Strumica. The second target group is the civic organizations from the three cities that work with young people, and the final

beneficiaries of this project are all the citizens of the involved regions. The project is guided by the principles of inclusiveness and participation and it will include an equal number of male and female participants. This activity is made possible by the regional project "Support from the EU for building confidence in the Western Balkans", which is financed by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

DEVELOPMENT OF CYBER SECURITY CULTURE IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF NORTH MACEDONIA



This year, we successfully realized the project "Development of Cybersecurity Culture in the Educational System of North Macedonia," supported by the Open Society Foundation - Macedonia. Our initiative focuses on fostering a robust cybersecurity culture among students and educators, enabling them to apply cybersecurity measures effectively and to combat cyberbullying comprehensively. As digital transformation advances, it is essential to ensure that young individuals are well-equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge for safe digital interactions. By improving awareness and cybersecurity practices, we aim to create a secure online environment and mitigate associated risks. The project actively involves students

from three secondary schools located in diverse municipalities, each representing different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. This involvement not only supports the digitalization process within society but also modernizes educational practices related to digital safety. We are thankful for the ongoing support from the Open Society Foundation - Macedonia. Together, we are making significant strides towards creating a safer digital space for our youth.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND TEACHERS TO APPLY CYBER SECURITY MEASURES AND DEVELOP EFFECTIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMS TO PREVENT CYBERBULLYING

The overall goal of the project is to strengthen capacity of young people and teachers about the application of cyber security measures and to develop effective school curricula for prevention of cyberbullying. Long-term expected results: 1.Improved knowledge and skills of teachers from schools in the country for application of programs and content in the area of cyber security in schools by creating a network of teacher trainers and peer educators, 2.Reduction of the presence of cyber bullying among young people and improvement of the existing



curricula at all levels of education (primary and secondary) in order for them to respond to the latest challenges of the digital age, 3. Prepared one-year program for working with students on cyber security, submitted to each of the 5 schools for its further integration into the annual program 4. Strengthening the skills of 500 students for safe use of the Internet through peer education, 5. Improved cooperation and transfer of knowledge between educational institutions for creating policies in the field of cyber security and 6.Creation of education mobile application for Android contain cyber security education resources, designed for teachers and students

EVENTS AND TEAM DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

ORGANIZED EVENTS

High level event: "Economic policies for better health and a better future"



Analytica presented the results of our latest research on the financial and health impact of smoking. Participants of the panel discussion: Tamara Mijovic, Executive Director of Analytica Think Tank,Dr. Marija Andonovska, Director of the Institute of Public Health of the Republic of North Macedonia, Bojana Mijovic Hristovska, Program Director at Analytics Think Tank, Ana Chernishova, Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP MK, Prof. Dr. Elena Kosevska, Institute of Public

the Republic of North Macedonia , Prof. Dr. Katerina Stavric, Center for Family Medicine - Faculty of Medicine Skopje , Nadezhda Shopova Trajkovska, Assistant Director of the Excise Sector, Customs Administration/Drejtoria e Doganave and Prof. Trenovski Borce. Representatives of the UN organizations with whose assistance and cooperation Analitika organized the conference – WHO North Macedonia, UNICEF MK and UNFPA North Macedonia – also gave brief





presentations, and they addressed the importance of coordinated policies for the protection of children and youth and the promotion of public health. Key recommendations:Increasing excise taxes on cigarettes as a measure to reduce smoking, Strengthening the implementation of the Law on Protection from Smoking, Raising awareness through educational campaigns, especially among children and youth, Introducing programs to support smoking cessation and

promoting health policies. The event is part of the international project "Advancing Tobacco Tax Policies", supported by Johns Hopkins University and Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Field event: stocking of Treska River



Within the framework of the project "Youth Activism for a Sustainable River - Protection and Promotion of the Biodiversity of the Treska River", the Treska River was stocked with 100 kilograms of Macedonian endemic trout (Salmo macedonikus). The activity was carried out in cooperation with the association "Ribar 2011", with the aim of increasing the population of this unique fish species in the river's course, including the Matka, Sv. Petka and Kozjak reservoirs. The stocking was attended by young activists and recreational fishermen, who actively participated in the process and learned about the importance of protecting endemic species in preserving biodiversity. This activity is of particular importance

because the Macedonian trout, due to the deterioration of the natural environment in which it lives, is included in the "red list" of critically endangered species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The event highlighted that without such interventions there is a real danger of losing this

unique species, which is a natural treasure and symbol of the Treska River, forever. This action, as part of the project's broader efforts, further raised awareness of the need to protect ecological resources and involve the community in promoting sustainable practices for nature conservation. The project is supported by the Embassy of Canada to Serbia, North Macedonia and Montenegro.



Field workshop with young people on application on civil science



Within the project – Youth activism for sustainable river – protection and promotion on biodiversity on the river TRESKA, it was realized

field workshop with young dedicated people, application on civil science. This workshop implies actively inclusion on collecting, citizens in analyzing interpretation on scientific data, with goal of solving



ecological challenges and protection on life environment. The

young participants acquired practical knowledge for collection data on field, documentation and taking pictures on the changes in life environment, and use on mobile applications and digital tools for processing and sharing the data. Additionally, they were presented with the methods on advocacy, with accent on that how to apply the data for raising the public awareness and the impact on the creation on ecological policies, encouraging sustainable solutions. The environmental expert held the workshop, but special accent was placed on peer education on which they were previously trained in the frames of the project. The participants not only strengthened their knowledge and skills, but also were encouraged to be active engines on positive changes in their own communities.

Working meeting with the ministry of environment and physical planning



A working meeting was held between the Analytica project team and representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, from the Water Sector. The meeting presented the results and recommendations from our latest research "WATER PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY: ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRESA RIVER". The existing Flood Risk Management and Protection Plan in the Treska River Basin was also discussed, as well as the new Water Quality Regulation, which is expected to enter

into force in 2026. The purpose of this Regulation is to harmonize national regulations with European standards for the protection of water resources. During the meeting, future cooperation between our project team and the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning was agreed upon with the aim of improving the management and protection of water resources from pollution. Joint engagement will encourage activities for the prevention and control of watercourse pollution, in order to achieve compliance with European standards and ensure sustainable development of aquatic ecosystems.

Two-day training for 15 young people and 5 representatives from non-governmental organizations on the topic "Application of citizen science in biodiversity conservation"



Within the framework of the project "Youth Activism for a Sustainable River - Protection and Promotion of the Biodiversity of the Treska



River", the Analitika team held a two-day training for 15 young people and 5 representatives from non-governmental organizations on the topic "Application of Citizen Science in

Biodiversity Conservation". Our expert Maja Hristovska, together with the Analytica team and expert chemists, enabled participants to learn the basics of citizen science – from collecting and analyzing data, to interpreting the results and using them to support decisions in natural resource management. In addition to gaining knowledge about the importance of biodiversity and citizen science, the participants also developed practical plans and projects for biodiversity conservation in their communities. This training prepared them to be active participants in the sustainable development of their communities

Eco – action - preserving the biodiversity of the Treska River

As part of our efforts to protect the precious biodiversity of the Treska



and increase River environmental awareness. we organized an eco-action that includes: Installing 5 waste bins, Installation of 3 educational boards with key information about the river's biodiversity, sustainable fishing practices, and ways to report illegal activities such as fishing and littering. This activity was carried out in



collaboration with dedicated young volunteers from Analitika and activists from the association "RIBAR 2011" Skopje, who are dedicated to preserving our environment. We believe that this small step is part of a much larger movement towards a cleaner, healthier Treska River and Matka Canyon, areas of immense natural beauty and ecological significance. The biodiversity of this region, especially species threatened by human activities, must be preserved for future generations.

Final event: "Youth power for unity: building a multicultural future"



We have successfully completed the event "Youth Power for Unity: Building a Multicultural Future " in Skopje. Analytica is deeply grateful to all the children who put their utmost effort into the project activities! They participated in trainings by professional photographers on the basics of photography, and then had the task of documenting the cultural heritage in their communities. The result? An incredible exhibition of photographs that showcase the

treasures of

cultural heritage and customs across the republic. This activity not only allowed the children to acquire new skills, but also to learn about the cultural differences and similarities between ethnic communities. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our partners Initiative for Civic Integration IGI and Organization Na Zeni - Strumica for their tireless support throughout the entire



project. This activity is part of the regional project "EU Support for Confidence Building in the Western Balkans", which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Landscaping of the pedestrian path, from the Matka dam to the end of the kayak trail



Analitika participated in the action organized by our partner association "RIBAR 2011" and successfully completed the landscaping of the pedestrian path, which extends from the Matka Dam to the end of the kayak trail. This activity included a

thorough cleaning of the pedestrian path, including the removal of solid waste and

mowing of neglected lawns. This activity was organized by the dedicated members of the association "RIBAR 2011" Skopje and a group of enthusiastic young activists who are directly involved in the project activities. The association "RIBAR 2011" played a key role in the realization of this



initiative, demonstrating the power of the community and youth engagement in environmental protection. The project is supported by the Embassy of Canada in Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

Field workshop: Photography opportunities - women enrich the multicultural world with their perspectives!







This initiative highlights the significant role of women in building and enriching a multicultural society. The young people were researching and documenting inspiring photographs of diverse cultural locations, such

as sculptures, buildings, and historical sites. These photographs are a testament to their dedication and the importance of the female perspective in creating a multicultural world. Within the framework of the regional project "EU Support for Confidence Building in the Western Balkans", young people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds have united to explore and document the wealth of our cultural heritage.

Field workshops in Skopje, Strumica and Gostivar



The trained young people, together with local coordinators in period from May 15 - June 15 implemented additional activity which was initiated from the young leaders from the three municipalities. The youth leaders from Municipality Strumica organized field workshop with their own peers coordinated from the local coordinator. The visit included tour of the Museum in Strumica. The young leaders from Skopje organized visit of the Museum on Macedonian fight for independence and visited a few significant settings and exhibitions. The young leaders from Gostivar organized visited

significant cultural monuments. Through these workshops 30 young people were included and they had the opportunity to acquire new knowledge and develop understanding for cultural differences and intercultural dialogue, in the frames of the project "Youth" activism for multiculturalism - yes everything nurture , yes everything act ". This activity is supported by the regional project "Support" from EU for building trust on Western Balkans " and realized by UNDP Skopje office.

Workshop: Development of a culture of cyber security in the education system of North Macedonia

Teachers from schools in the Municipality of Karposh strengthened their knowledge of cyberbullying prevention and cyber security through trainings from April 15th to 17th, thereby contributing to better protection of students. The Analitika team held trainings in ten (10) primary schools in the Municipality of Karposh. The trainings were conducted by Maja Hristovska and Ana Dionisieva, who presented the educational tool "Safe Internet". There is a great need in all schools in the country to strengthen the capacities of teaching staff and professional services for the prevention of cyber violence and cyber security.



Three-day camp for 18 young people in Mavrovo



In the period from 31.03-02.04.2024, Analitika together with the Organization Na Zeni - Strumica and IGI held a three-day camp for 18 young people from the City of Skopje, the Municipality of Strumica and the Municipality of Gostivar. It was within the framework of the project "Youth Activism for Multiculturalism - to nurture, to act!" supported by the regional project "EU Support for Confidence Building in the Western Balkans", which is

funded by the European

Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). During the camp, young people from different ethnic and gender backgrounds learned about the application of human rights, cultural differences and similarities, intercultural dialogue, as well as the basic concepts of photography. The training was interactive, and young people had the opportunity to exchange their knowledge and cultural values, and to develop proposals and models for strengthening intercultural and interethnic dialogue. The youth camp was led by experts in multicultural dialogue and photography.



High level event: Digitalization and cyber security: the present and future of students



Analytica held an event "Digitalization and Cybersecurity: The Present and Future of Students." Maja Hristovska from Analitika presented the results and recommendations from our research with 320 students from 3 high schools in the country. At the same time, Ana Dionisieva presented the mobile application for cybersecurity, which offers tools and educational materials for young people, teachers and parents. Our deepest gratitude goes to the students and professors from SUGS "Shaip Yusuf"

SUGS "Georgi Dimitrov" SUGS "Nikola Karev"-Skopje for the successful cooperation. The event also featured

forum theater with student participation, highlighting the importance of raising awareness and fostering a safe online environment for our youth. The project is supported by the Open Society Foundation - Macedonia.



Final conference: Prevention of cyber bulling for youth



"Strengthening capacity of young people and teachers to apply cyber security measures and develop effective school programs to prevent cyberbullying", supported from Embassy of Canada to Serbia, North Macedonia and Montenegro.

The Analytica team - Maja Hristovska presented the results and the recommendations from the research with 500 students from primary and secondary schools in the country. At the same time, expert Giljman Osmani Musliji presented the mobile application, produced by Analytica, for cyber security which offers tools and educational materials for young people, professors and parents. The event was part from the project

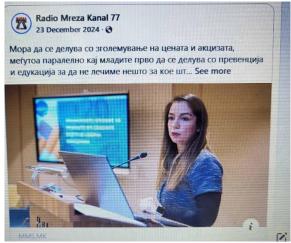


TEAM MEMBERS' ADVOCACY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Interview - Early Smoking Initiation Among Youth: Insights from Tamara Mijović

Spasova on the Tobacco Challenge

How does smoking affect the health and budget of households in Macedonia? What can we do to reduce this harmful habit, especially among young people? In an interview for MMS Radio Mreza Kanal 77, Tamara Mijović Spasova shared key findings from our latest research and proposed measures to improve the country's health and economic prospects. International Conference on Tobacco Taxation and Public Health.



Final event of the regional UNDP Project



Analytica team member Maja Hristovska presented the activities carried out within the framework of our successfully completed project "Youth Activism for Multiculturalism - to nurture, to act!", funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). We are proud of the youth and their dedication to promoting inclusiveness and multiculturalism in our society!

TV Debate on Economic Measures for Tobacco Control – Argument+ on TV 24

In the Argument+ on Television 24, our Tamara Mijovic Spasova and Prof. Dr. Katerina Stavric discussed economic policies and measures to reduce smoking.



Rebranding to Economics for Health!



Our partners at Tobacconomics are rebranding to Economics for Health! This new name reflects their commitment to high-quality economic research on a range of topics impacting publichealth

including tobacco & alcohol consumption, air & other environmental

pollution, opioids, and more. We are excited to continue working together to inform policies that lead to Healthier People, Stronger Economies. Check out the website to learn more: EconomicsforHealth.org

Regional media meeting and workshop "Improving Cooperation between Journalists and Researchers in the Western Balkans"



Analytica team, Trenovski Borce and Kristijan Kozeski, together with journalists Irena Cachkova from TV Telma and Tanja Popova from AlfaTV, participated in the regional media meeting and workshop "Improving Cooperation between Journalists and Researchers in the Western Balkans" held in Albania from October 22 to 24, 2024. This event was aimed at strengthening the partnership between journalists and

researchers, especially in the field of fiscal and health policies, with a special focus on tobacco control, as a key challenge for the Western Balkan countries in the context of European integration. During the event, Trenovski Borce presented our latest analysis on the Crowding Out Effect of Tobacco Consumption in North Macedonia and more on how the cost of cigarettes affects the budget of the Macedonian family. Through meaningful discussions and knowledge exchange, the workshop highlighted the consequences of tobacco use on poverty, public health, and government finances.

Global Conference on Tobacco Taxation Research



October 15 to 17, 2024, in Istanbul. During the conference, North Macedonia was highlighted as the country with the highest overall score in tobacco control measures, according to the Cigarette Tax Scorecard, within the consortium of over 20 countries worldwide actively working on tobacco taxation. This achievement gives us even more motivation to continue working diligently, as we have done over the past eight years.

Analytica team, Borce Trenovski and Kristijan Kozheski, presented the results of Analytica's latest scientific studies: Enhancing Public Health and Fiscal Stability through Tobacco Taxation - The Case of North Macedonia, and The Crowding-Out Effect of Tobacco Consumption in North Macedonia, at the Annual Global Meeting on Tobacco Tax Research, held from

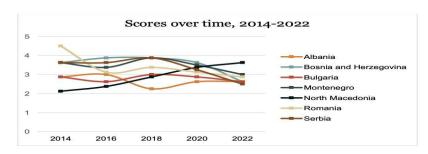


VIDEO: "Youth Power for Unity: Building a Multicultural Future



Analytica produced a new video from the regional project "EU Support for Confidence Building in the Western Balkans", which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The video showcases the creative processes of learning and collaboration, as well as the exhibition "Youth Power for Unity: Building a Multicultural Future," where their photographs were presented. This video showed that young people can be drivers of positive change and promoters of cultural diversity in our country.

North Macedonia leads the region with the most effective cigarette tax policies



A proud moment for North Macedonia! In the latest Cigarette Tax Scorecard, the average score in Southeastern Europe is just 2.84 out of 5 points for cigarette tax policies. However, Macedonia stands out with the most effective tax policies in

the region! Key findings: North Macedonia leads the region in cigarette tax policies, The region has the best result in the cigarette tax structure component with an average of 4.14 points. Despite these efforts, cigarettes are not becoming less available over time, with 6 countries scoring 0 points in availability.

Conference on Health Tax Reforms

Members of our research team for the project "Tobacco Taxation in Eastern Europe," including prof. Biljana Tashevska, recently participated in two key events in Vienna from June 24 to 27, 2024. Conference on Health Tax Reforms - On June 24 and 25, our college attended the Conference on health tax reforms - challenges and lessons learned, organized by The World Bank, The Vienna Institute for International



Economic Studies (wiiw), and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. During the two-day event, participants analyzed the best ways to use tax policies to reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol, and sugar-sweetened beverages in the Western Balkans through presentations and discussions. The Analytica team presented their research findings on the topic "Economics of Tobacco farming in North Macedonia". This important conference brought together representatives from ministries, relevant institutions in health and finance, as well as international research and civil society organizations.

Health Taxation Workshop



From June 25 to 26, our team participated in the Health Taxation Workshop at The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw). This gathering provided an opportunity for partners to present the latest research in the field of #tobaccotaxation policies and to exchange experiences. Representatives of the Analytica team shared their extensive experiences related to research in the field of improving tax policies as the best way to

reduce the use of tobacco products while simultaneously increasing revenue and improving public health.



VIDEO: Cyber bullying and prevention - Forum the theater with talented students!

The students on creative way it expressed own opinion for cyber bullying and prevention. Analytica produced short video from the forum theater with our talented students! The students expressed their opinion regarding cyber bullying and prevention on creative way.

VIDEO: Multimedia theatrical performance for Cyber security

Analytica produced video from multimedia theatrical performance with students. The video shows the creativity and dedication towards raising awareness for cyber security in young people lives.





Таа смета дека "алармантно е ако се земат во предвид резултатите од истражувањата на млади лица од 13 до 15 години, тоа покажа дека 12,5% од младината консумира цигари, а просечна возраст на почнување со пушење е 13,5 години. Просечната цена на цигарите во Македонија е од 1,8 до 2,25 долари по кутија, а во ЕУ цената е 5,3 долари по кутија. Ова ги прави цигарите во Македонија многу достапни".



ткішмі (Видео) Мијовиќ Христовска: Ако се зголеми акцизата за цигарите за 30%, ќе се слеат...

INTERVIEW: Crucial aspects of tobacco use, tobacco excise, and effective strategies for tobacco control

Bojana Mijovic Hristovska had a compelling discussion on TV24, national television, about Analytica efforts in reducing tobacco use among adults and youth. Shedding light on crucial aspects of tobacco use, tobacco excise, and effective strategies for tobacco control.

INTERVIEW on Smoking in Indoor Public Spaces and Enforcement of the Law on Protection from Smoking in North Macedonia

In an engaging interview, Tamara Mijović Spasova shared her views on smoking in indoor public spaces and the enforcement of the Law on Protection from Smoking in North Macedonia. Drawing on the analyses



conducted by the think tank Analytica, she discussed the current situation, key statistics, and personal experiences.

The interview explores whether smoking regulations are properly respected or largely ignored, highlighting the need for stronger implementation and public awareness.

VIDEO: Youth activism for sustainable rivers: Protection and preservation on biodiversity of the TRESKA River

Analytica produced video with young students containing the parts of the workshop for applied citizen's science and filed workshop for cleaning the Matka dam and placing informative boards and waste bins. It indicates the actions for raising awareness of the youth for importance of their actions for preserving the nature and involvement of youth in these actions.

Internship Programme





In 2024 Analytica did not have any interns from home or abroad.

MEDIA COVERAGE

In 2024 Analytica continued its work of significant media presence with its products, expertise, events, advocacy efforts, etc. Furthermore it contributed with interviews, comments on current affairs as well as promotion of its activities and policy documents. All the links to what Analytica's members said in the media can be found here

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 - %D0%B7%D0%B4%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%B0-
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 - %D0%BD%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B0%D0%BD-%D0%B2%D0%BE-
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 - %D0%B7%D0%B4%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%B0-
 - %D0%B8%D0%B4%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%B0-
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FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

Name	of the organization: Assoc	iation for policy resear	ch Analytica					
Addre	ss: Emil Zola 10b/10, Skop	oje, North Macedonia						
Balanc	e of Expenditures and Rev	venues for the period 0	1.01.2024 - 31.	12.2024				
No.	Description	escription		Amount in MKD				
I	Expenditures							
1	Spent materials					57,027.00		
2	Expenses for royalties	S			5,6	620,866.00		
3	Rent				10	56,240.00		
4	Costs for utilities					8,871.00		
5	Other services				2,3	180,234.00		
6	Salaries				80	804,180.00		
7	Bank services and cor	nmission			4	47,318.00		
8	Personal income tax		35,012.00					
9	Exchange Rates differ	ence						
Total e	expenses				8,90	8,901,176.00		
II Reve	enues							
13	Donations				11,	11,036,845.00		
14	Interest rate					0.00		
Total I	ncome				11,	,036,845.00		
15	Balance of Revenues	and Expenditures for 2	024 (income - ε	xpenses)	2,135,669.00			
16	Transfer of surplus from previous years (year 2023)		2,643,802.00					
17	Surplus of revenues for the next year 2024		4,779,471.00					
	Person responsible for the Balance Sheet Signature							
	Signature :							
		Tamara Mijovic Spasova						

Name of the organization: Association for policy research Analytica Skopje

Address: Emil Zola 10b/10, Skopje, North Macedonia

