

Republic of Macedonia Chapter

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(Chapter Chair, since April 2012)



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- Facts about Republic of Macedonia

- Location: South east Europe
- Capital: Skopje
- Surface: ~ 25000 km²
- Inhabitants: ~2 million



- Membership status: Compared to 2012, an increase of 73% in 2013

Number of IEEE Communications Society Members from R. Macedonia	Year 2013	Year 2012
Senior Member	11	4
Member	20	15
Graduate Student Member	22	11
Student Member	6	4
Total	59	34

Chapter activities in years of 2012 and 2013

- Establishment and maintenance of Chapter web page:
 - <http://chapters.comsoc.org/macedonia>

- Establishment and maintenance of Chapter Facebook profile

- ComSoc Macedonia Student Achievement Award**
 - Established first time in 2012
 - The price is awarded for research results in telecommunications to one student (preference to IEEE journal or conference publications)
 - Student must be enrolled as a Bachelor or a Master student in Telecommunications and Communications Technologies at any University in the Republic of Macedonia.

- 2012 award winner: Elena Boskovska - second place won at regional student competition in telecommunications (“Elektrijada 2012”, Kranevo, Bulgaria)

Activities to increase membership

- ❑ Web-page and Facebook announcements for IEEE membership discounts
- ❑ Active advertisement of IEEE and ComSoc among students at Macedonian Universities, explanation of student membership benefits (several volunteers involved)
- ❑ Problems with membership:
 - most of the non-student members are involved with academia (university professors)
 - insufficient motivation of industry to join (IEEE membership fee steadily grows in each consecutive year, industry does not invest too much in innovation and research)
 - insufficient motivation of students to join (do not see any immediate benefit. for example, the basic telecommunications literature is widely available on the internet – free of charge!)

Immediate plans

- ❑ Invitation of a ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer (DL)
 - Contact has already been initiated with 2 DLs with expertise in cooperative communications and green communications
 - DL Tour would involve Macedonia (Skopje), Serbia (Novi Sad and Belgrade), Greece (Athens) and Turkey (Ankara)
 - Planned for Autumn 2013

- ❑ A high profile researcher (lecturer), prof. Ian Akyldiz (Georgia Tech, USA) will give a lecture at the University of Skopje on 24 June 2013. Stay and lecture co-organized and paid by the ComSoc Macedonia Chapter