

**OSCE
Human Dimension Implementation Meeting,
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Intervention made by:

**Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia
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Internally displaced persons

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This year, the Republic of Macedonia had celebrated 5 years of the signing and implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement that brought an end to the conflict in the country and ensured peace.

5 years after this conflict there is a portion of the population that is not able to live or feel any of the benefits of this Agreement and the peace. These are the internally displaced persons coming from all communities. 5 years after the ending of the conflict they still live in a state of flux. They are not able to return to their homes, to their properties, and for majority of them to their workplaces on their properties, in one word, they are not able to return in a normal mode of living. Many new children have been born in this situation and many of the elderly have passed away. These people are completely relying on the assistance of the state and on the involvement of the state to resolve their situation and bring their refugee like situation to an end.

The absurdity of their situation is at best described when analyzing the violations of human rights that they have encountered precisely in the state which is praised for a successful resolution of a conflict situation and meeting the highest standards of the rights of the communities living in Macedonia at equal level.

The number of internally displaced persons in Macedonia is not known nor a proper record is kept at any of the institutions including the international and humanitarian

organizations present in the country, though it is believed that is higher than 2000 persons.

The internally displaced people belonging to all communities in Macedonia have also initiated process through courts for indemnification of the lost in their lives; sadly, 5 years on, some of these proceedings have not commenced and the majority of them have not been concluded.

We would like to urge and we would like to believe that this particular portion of the population shall be adequately treated and taken care of by the new government.

We would like to also urge the OSCE, EU and the UN agencies to provide support to the government to resolve this particular problem.