## **VECER ON LINE**

## THE REPORT OF THE HERITAGE OF ECONOMIC FREEDOM PRESENTED IN SKOPJE

## Miller: Macedonia's progress for 10 years is fascinating, I have not seen anywhere until now

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Macedonia is an independent state for 25 years, but progress in economic freedom he scored in the last 10 years has been fantastic, said Ambassador and Director of the Center for Trade and Economics at the US Heritage Foundation, Terry Miller, who is also one of the authors of the recently published report on economic freedom in the world.



This report ranked Macedonia at 31st in the world and 18th in Europe, which qualified for the category of economically free countries mainly, iskachuvakji for 16 seats. Miller and his

associate Anthony Kim part of the report on Macedonia commented this afternoon in Skopje in the presence of the leader of VMRO-DPMNE Nikola Gruevski, Vice PM for Economic Affairs Vladimir Pesevski, several ministers, Governor Dimitar Bogov, representatives of chambers of commerce ... Here come as he said, not to praise and thank us for this fascinating progress that Macedonia and launched before all the countries of Southeast Europe.

- I was pleased to attend the presentation of the Heritage Foundation that prezerntirashe its latest report on economic freedom where Macedonia has new progress and 46th is now 31st in a year, and for the past 10 years the growth is 46 seats. 10 years ago we were at 78th, Macedonia is now 31 in the world. For 10 years we have growth in the rankings of the index of economic freedom Heritage Foundation from 78 to 31 place behind Germany, the Czech Republic and Austria, said Gruevski.



He added that this is a huge leap due to the mniogu work and effort of the Government and ministers, to all who raobtele of creating a better business environment, create better economic freedoms, to make regformi.

Miller, however, explained that the Heritage ranks of Macedonia in 2002, and moving the leaves arise from 2006-2007. Since 2006 progress has been on for 47 seats.

- The ranking of Macedonia on 31 seats Index of Economic Freedom of the Heritage Foundation, and the progress of 10 points in just ten years is phenomenal and something that I have not seen elsewhere. You should be proud of it, he said, adding that Macedonia this year for the first time broke the barrier of 70 points, and won 70.7 of the economically unfree where it was before, into the group of mostly free countries, along with Germany and the UK.



Miller believes that the trend of graphic progress looks dramatically. That is an increase of ten points in the last ten years, which he says has not seen anywhere in the world.

The report placed Macedonia as sweeping economically free country in the region, about 15 seats more than the nearest competitor next door. The report assesses four Heritage criteria with three indexes, or evaluation is based on 12 parameters. Among other things, assess how countries have managed to control its debt, to provide competitive low taxes and regulations to enable business development and whether taking them pochituvaaat property rights and the rule of law. In all these categories of Macedonia has made significant progress and came very close to wining 30 countries worldwide.



- This year received 70.7 points, category mostly free countries. Switzerland, which is the fourth country in the index is ten points ahead of Macedonia, and you climb to 10 points in the last few years, and only the sky is the limit. When you have a country whose population is dedicated to the reforms you can do almost everything said Miller.

The individual assessment criteria poziotivna he particularly emphasized the tax policy with a flat tax, but said that the change of this system would be one of the risks in these reports to gain a lower position.

His collaborations Kim argued that such a move leaves Heritage possible, and as an example pointed to his country, the United States.

Also, the deterioration in the ranking is possible by changing the policy of attracting foreign investment through which increased employment.

After all 12 criteria which determine the level of economic freedom, Macedonia is above the world average, but there is room for improvement.

Best score in the report of "Heritage" is to lower taxes - 91.9 points, scoring above average we have when it comes to debt, which means that the competent carefully manage public finances. That public debt Miller commented that the most important thing is he Pokey operational investments.

- You can be Estonia if you want it, or Switzerland. You now have the time that you can use, as well as the enthusiasm of the good progress. Good policies that you implement them last year really paid since 2017 and you are in this place. It is something that should really be proud of and should continue this positive point is the comment of Anthony Kim.

According to Finance Minister Kiril Minovski ranking of Macedonia is indicative of reforms and commitment.

- This year, the competition of 186 countries, Macedonia ranks 31st position thus Compared to last year we have improved ranking by 16 places, while in comparison with 2006 have improved by 47 places. In this way, Macedonia is a leader in the region in index of economic freedom, as sweeping economic freest country in the region, fifteen places over the nearest competitor next door and many more developed European economies on the list is indicative of our commitment to the reform process, he said, deoak added this ranking means a lot to Macedonia because the index values the important indicators for investors and business, such as ownership rights, the integrity of the government tax burden, business freedom, freedom of trade, freedom of investment ...

S.Vu.