

Dear Governor and Vice-governor, Dear Mr.Malak, Mr.Bisev,
Respected representatives of the banking sector, companies, investors and colleagues,

I am glad to be with you today. I promise to be short and not too boring.

Big thanks to the Erste group and Sparkasse Bank for organizing this nice event.

Welcome to Macedonia, to all you who travelled. I know that sometimes it takes a while to get here, but it is definitively worth it. As most of you have noticed, our country is known by beautiful nature, kind people, nice food, excellent wines, successful banking sector, and monuments (recently).

We are in the wave of change now. There is great energy inside in the country, and also from our strategic partners EU and USA, for the country to implement the reform agenda and foster our integration in NATO and the EU.

At the Ministry of Finance, we have four years action plan, which we promoted last week (PFM strategy) for reforms of all important elements of public finance system. It will help us to greatly improve the management and efficiency of public finances, an area on which I am happy to note we have made quite a progress in the last few months.

The Ministry has a good cooperation with the banking sector, and we view it as one of the key pillars in supporting our aim of reigniting economic growth and improve living standards in Macedonia.

One of our goals as a Ministry is to support the development of the domestic market of state securities. In this regard, I must note that foreign investors are also present in this market, and that the number of investors and of the amounts invested has been growing considerably in the recent period. This reflects the successful cooperation between the Ministry and the banking sector, and in particular the Erste Group. We strongly believe that our cooperation and partnership with the banking sector in this and other cases will lead to the further development of primary and secondary markets for government securities, and of capital markets in general.

Our agenda is to get Macedonia back on the right track, the one towards EU. In this path we expect and look forward to a significant role of the banking sector.

Thank you for your time. I wish you a nice and delicious breakfast and pleasant stay in Macedonia.