

Skopje,  
25 February 2026

**Subject:** Invitation to the Regional Ministerial Conference “Leading Change: People-Centered Paths to Demographic Resilience”, 7-8 May 2026

Your Excellency,

We are honored to invite you to the Regional Ministerial Conference, “Leading Change: People-Centered Paths to Demographic Resilience”, jointly organized by the Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth of the Republic of North Macedonia, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The Conference will take place on 7-8 May 2026 in Skopje under the distinguished auspices of the Prime Minister of the Republic of North Macedonia, H.E. Hristijan Mickoski.

Across the region, the demographic landscape is undergoing profound transformations with far-reaching social, economic, and political consequences. As populations age and, in many cases, shrink, countries in Eastern and Southeastern Europe face mounting challenges regarding the sustainability of social protection, healthcare systems, workforces, and infrastructure. Conversely, in Central Asia – where fertility rates remain higher and populations are growing – there is a critical window to harness a “demographic dividend” through strategic investments in human capital.

Five years after the 2021 Ministerial Conference in Sofia, this event comes at a pivotal juncture, as policymakers are being tested as never before to ensure that individuals and countries can thrive amid shifting demographics. Success requires the political will and expertise to project and understand population trends, adapt systems, and harness emerging opportunities in a way that is comprehensive, evidence-based, and firmly centered on people’s rights and needs.

The Government of North Macedonia has prioritized responding to demographic shifts and is championing people-centered approaches rooted in evidence.

UNFPA, the United Nations lead agency on population issues, supports countries in the region with strengthening their capacity to understand and anticipate the population dynamics they are experiencing, and ensure they have the skills, tools, political will and public support to manage them.

The Conference will bring together Ministers and other high-level government representatives, policymakers, experts and other relevant stakeholders, and will provide space to showcase

achievements, and exchange experiences and sound policy advice, but also to reflect critically on existing gaps and challenges. It intends to mobilize political support and commitments for charting a path for sustainable development in the region, through comprehensive policy actions, grounded in evidence and based on human rights.

It would be a distinct honor to have your esteemed presence and contribution at this gathering of regional leaders.

Please accept Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

We will follow up with your office to confirm your active engagement as a potential speaker representing your country at the conference.

Please be advised that all travel-related costs, including airfare and accommodation, are the responsibility of the participants.

*For further details, please visit the official [conference website](#).*

*RSVP: [conference.registration@mtsp.gov.mk](mailto:conference.registration@mtsp.gov.mk) by 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2026.*

Sincerely,

*(Signature)*



Mr. Fatmir Limani

Minister of Social Policy,  
Demography and Youth,  
Republic of North Macedonia