**NORTH MACEDONIA**

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*Europe is a home for all of us, a home to every individual with human values, developed consciousness and equality in the world of diversity. Our persistence and work will help us make our key to our kingdom of cubes thus finding our values. Why not trying? Why just dreaming? We are the Europeans of the future. That is what we are. Europe is in my whole being and I am Europe.*

When I think of that glorious and wealthy Europe, I feel like I am putting on colorful mosaic glasses, like I am entering into the car, driving me to a new, very different and distant world. The so long-wished Europe, being a mixture of so many contrasting nations, races, colors and before all, values. People from all over the world have settled on this very continent and in their suitcases they have brought their own values, culture and tradition and have done a remarkable thing - shared their values, their culture and their tradition among each other. However, in order things to function well, there should be order, love, culture, to have respect for and accept all those values by all the Europeans something known as European identity, something new and interesting.

Europe is one big family and there must be rules and regulations and values and there must be order and respect as the main key to whether the Family will be complex, where each member should have his/her own key hammered with values that opens every door. Without it, the members of the community will not know what to do, how to behave, who to listen to and respect. So, one can say that a functional family is a family founded on a consideration of already set values and is a starting point for everything: from setting the pathway - to the final destination. There are many atypes of families: traditional ones that strictly obey rules and democratic families where opinions of every member of the family, from the eldest to the youngest, are taken into consideration by commonly set rules.

Macedonia is a country which would like to be a part of this big European family and therefore is in a process of adjustment and acceptance of European rules with an aspiration to become democratic. All the countries in Europe make one big community comprised of different ages and with unique beauty. Macedonia is still learning the rules and conditions that should be fulfilled, in order to become mature and wiser, behave like an adult and join the family. Macedonia is a teenager, confused and upset, with its own profound and rich culture and tradition but the everlasting teenagers’ problem is that no one seems to take them seriously. We have great ideas and thoughts though, but they are rarely taken into consideration. And when no one pays attention to our ideas and thoughts and our wishes we feel rejected.

I am a young rebel as well. I am walking the path of life, towards the door of maturity. I need a key of my own, a key to be hammered and made by my own wish, a key that will be my reflection to open the big European door. I will not make it of copper, silver or gold, I will make it of humanity. It will be a humanity - woven key, with awareness for the protection of the nature, respect for every human being, for the world without prejudice. And, when we finally cross that door, when we step to the doorstep of maturity, we change ourselves, we adjust to be accepted. Nevertheless, we should not forget who we are, we should not forget what makes us unique. We should try to manage to keep our traditional values, we should not forget our roots. We should be proud of ourselves and yet develop at the same time.

Life is a tower made of cubes constantly built up by new ones in different colors each with its own value. Each cube has its own place and is unique by itself. Thus, piling the cubes up one of top of the other, we build a castle, kingdom and there on the throne of that kingdom, we sit. The strongest and most important cube is mutual respect and understanding. By building bridges between our castles we create our mighty kingdom. If we succeed to understand this value and apply it in our everyday life, then, it means we are ready to step on the carpet called Europe. Many people walk on that carpet and everyone makes different steps. However it should be pleasant and comfortable for everyone. Walking on it we walk into the future filled with peace, prosperity, love, where harmony makes people closer, where everyone has freedom to fly through the sky with his/her wings, where every human being is accepted as he/she is, shows respect and gives help when needed.

No matter how far it seems to be, no matter how impossible it is, we, people, have the power to make the future our present day. It is necessary to respect our values and the values of the others different from us. It depends on us as a community as a family as people as Europeans. We need to create a society, a home for everyone, a place without boundaries and limitations. It will be a home for human values we possess.

Europe is a home for all of us, a home to every individual with human values, developed consciousness and equality in the world of diversity. The opportunity is at hand, we just have to lift and stand on our tip-toes so that we can reach what seems to be unreachable. What we really need is an open mind without any barriers, mind that will be our driving force when everything becomes possible. Our persistence and work will help us make our key to our kingdom of cubes thus finding our values. Why not trying? Why just dreaming? We are the Europeans of the future. That is what we are. Europe is in my whole being and I am Europe.