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Theme: “Heads of State: Ancestry, Coats of Arms, and Flags”



COAT OF ARMS AND STANDARD OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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Summary (in English)

With the new President of the Republic of Macedonia, Georgi Ivanov in 2009, the question of the presidential insignia arose. The task for designing the presidential insignia was given to the Macedonian Heraldic Society (MHS). For the design of the Standard, as well of the Coat of Arms of office of the President, the initial approach was to find a Coat of Arms connected to Macedonia, but outside the Illyrian armorials. Two Coats of Arms were chosen from the European armories, one attributed to Alexander the Great and the other attributed to the King of Macedonia. The first is Sable a griffin Or, and the other is Gules, three fesses embattled Argent. The synthesized Coat of Arms was Gules, three fesses sable, a griffon or. This project was not adopted.

Then a design based on the State flag was used on a Spanish shield. The blazon is: Gyronny of 16 Or and Gules, a bezant fimbriated Gules. Under the shield, two branches of Macedonian Oak Or with eight leafs and eight fruits in saltire all Or.

Although the Coat of arms is in use, the Standard is not. The article describes the process and presents the working designs and proposals for the coat of arms and standard of the office of the President of the Republic of Macedonia.

CV: Dr Jovan Jonovski, MTh, was born in Skopje, Macedonia in 1971 where he graduated Physics at the Faculty of natural sciences and mathematics. He studies theology in Budapest, London and Novi Sad, Serbia where he defends his master thesis. In 2014 he becomes master of History and in 2018 Doctor of Humanities at Institute of National History in Skopje with the thesis “The sun and the lion as symbols in the heraldry and vexillology of Macedonia”

J. Jonovski is president and chief herald of the Macedonian Heraldic and associated member of the International Academy of Heraldry, member of the International Commission on Order of Chivalry, member of the Commission for orders and medals of the President of the Republic of Macedonia (2009–2019).

Author of the section “Coat of Arms of Macedonia” at the Museum of Macedonia in Skopje.

Author of the book “Symbols of Macedonia” dedicated to the symbols, semiotics as well as heraldry, vexillology, phaleristics and himnology in general and those connected to Macedonia.

J. Jonovski received the Laureate of Federation (FIAV) in Ljubljana 2019 for outstanding original contribution to the science of vexillology.

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