

## **BACKGROUND OF THE CREATED NEW IZIIS' EDUCATION CURRICULA**

As an internationally very active member of the “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” University – Skopje in the scientific fields related to development and enhancement of modern technology for control and mitigation of seismic risk through improvement of structural systems of engineering structures, IZIIS has continuously been committed to education of staff from the home country and abroad for the highest academic degree of master and doctor of technical sciences already for 40 years, i.e., since 1965.

Today, the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology ((ZIIS) can rightfully be proud of the fact that the first post-graduate studies leading to the master degree in Republic of Macedonia, i.e., at the “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” University were successfully organized and realized by this institute.

Today, IZIIS represents an internationally highly reputed public scientific institution that continuously and successfully educates scientific staff to the degree of master and doctor of technical sciences in the field of earthquake engineering, which is a specific and multi-disciplinary scientific field integrating a long series of other scientific disciplines as are structural engineering with static and seismic design, engineering seismology, static and seismic design of high-rises, static and seismic design of engineering structures, specific seismic problems in geotechnics, ecology in seismic regions and alike.

The IZIIS' educational activity has so far successfully and thoroughly covered the stated related and specific scientific disciplines integrated into a wider modern and up-to-date interdisciplinary scientific field defined as earthquake engineering.

However, the acceptance of the Bologna Declaration by Republic of Macedonia also imposed the need for adequate harmonization of the IZIIS' curricula.

These were the reasons for the preparation of the present: “New IZIIS education Curricula including Post-graduate (master) Studies, Doctoral Studies and Post-doctoral Studies”.

In fact, the New IZIIS Education Curricula is presently officially offered by the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, enabling the following:

1. Introducing of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) in the educational programme of IZIIS;

2. Complete compliance of the curricula with the provisions contained in the Bologna Declaration;
3. Harmonization of the curricula with the modern needs for education of staff to the highest academic degrees in the scientific field that IZIIS has been dealing with permanently and very successfully for a long period of its existence (more than 40 years); and,
4. Providing of more adequate and optimized conditions for successful internationalization of the modern educational activity of IZIIS using all the technical-technological and other advantages of the modern times.

In fact, the New IZIIS' education curricula will enable fulfillment of the main goals set out by Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje that are of interest for both the University and IZIIS.

Finally, it is important to note that the same IZIIS' education curricula has already been accepted by the Politechnical University in Tirana (FIN-UPT), Albania where master and doctoral studies are going to be held in future by professors from both IZIIS and the Civil Engineering Faculty in Tirana. The diplomas to be issued will be signed by the rectors of both universities.

The present New IZIIS Education Curricula is based on the actual needs in modern civil engineering, particularly in seismically active regions where the interest in structural engineering, earthquake engineering, engineering seismology and related scientific fields is increasing.