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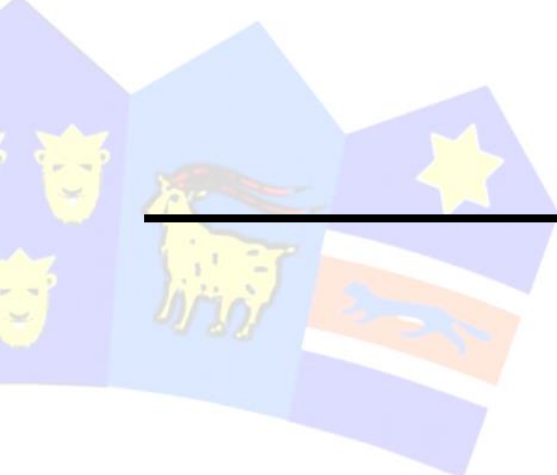
***Negotiating chapters 23.  
Fundamentals Cluster***

***Skopje, April 25, 2023***

***Kristian Turkalj, PhD***

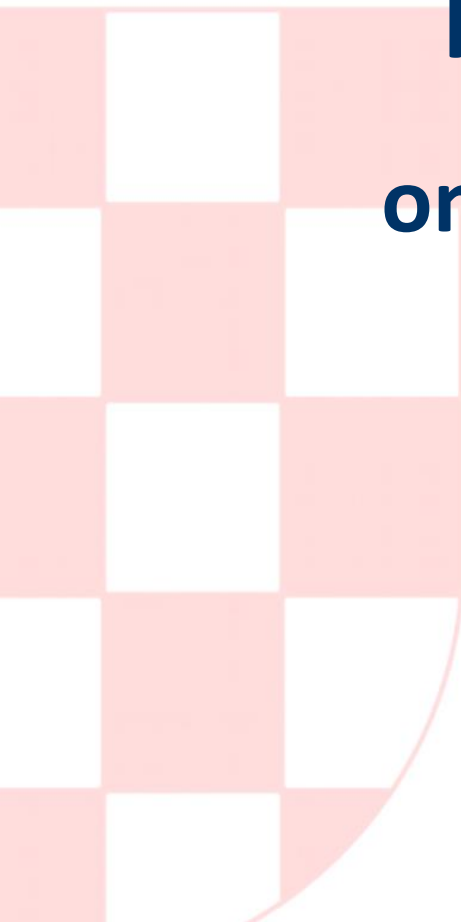
***Member of the negotiation team***





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## **Importance of Chapter 23. on overall pace of negotiation**

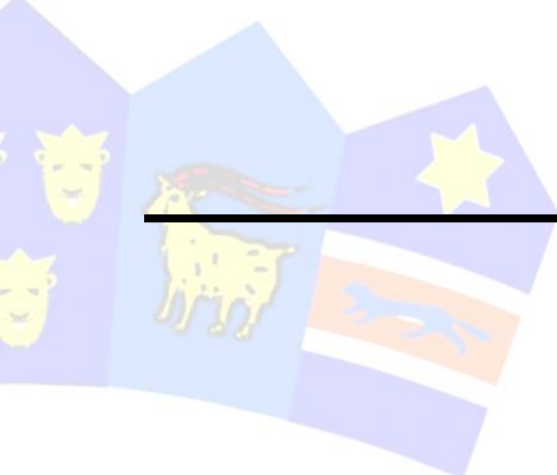


# IMPORTANCE OF CHAPTER 23. ON OVERALL PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS

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- Negotiations on the fundamentals' cluster **will be opened first and closed last**
- Progress under the fundamentals' cluster **will determine the overall pace of negotiations**
- In case of where progress under the fundamentals' cluster **significantly lags behind** progress in other areas EU can withhold its recommendations to open and/or close other negotiating clusters and chapters
- Implementation of **judicial reform and combating corruption** will determine the pace of negotiations

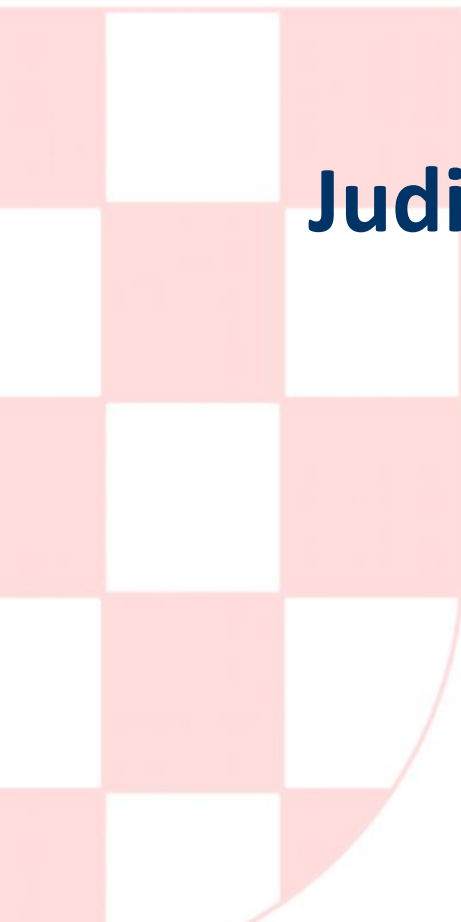




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## **Scope of Chapter 23.**

# **Judiciary and Fundamental Rights**



# 4 Key areas - Chapter 23.

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**I. Judiciary**

**II. Fight against corruption**

**III. Fundamental rights**

**IV. Rights of EU citizens'**



# JUDICIARY

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**1. Independence and impartiality**

**2. Accountability**

**3. Professionalism and competence**

**4. Quality of justice**

**5. Efficiency**



# NAGOTIATING PROCEDURES

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- **The Commission** closely monitor progress and regularly inform the Council
- **Candidate country** is required to provide regularly information on progress in meeting the requirements for membership
- **Progress** is measured against established criteria (the Copenhagen criteria and SAA criteria)
- **The Council (all 27 MS)**, acting by unanimity, decides on the opening and closure of the fundamentals' cluster, as well as on interim benchmarks



# WHAT IS ACQUIS?

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**The acquis** is constantly evolving and includes in particular:

- the content, principles, **values** and political objectives of the Treaties on which the Union is founded;
- **the acts** adopted by the institutions pursuant to the Treaties, as well as the **case law of the Court of Justice** of the European Union;
- any other acts, legally binding or not, adopted within the Union framework, such as inter
- institutional agreements, resolutions, statements, recommendations, guidelines;
- **international agreements** concluded by the Union, by the Union jointly with its Member States, and those concluded by the Member States among themselves with regard to Union activities





# EU EXPECTATIONS

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In the coming year EU expects from Macedonia particularly:

- **Finish implementing the judicial reform strategy**
- **Adoption of a new law on civil procedure**
- **Preparation of the new strategy on judicial reform (for 2023-2027);**
- **step up implementation of the human resources strategies for the judiciary and public prosecution network,**
- **Digitalization of the judicial system - fully functional ACCMIS**



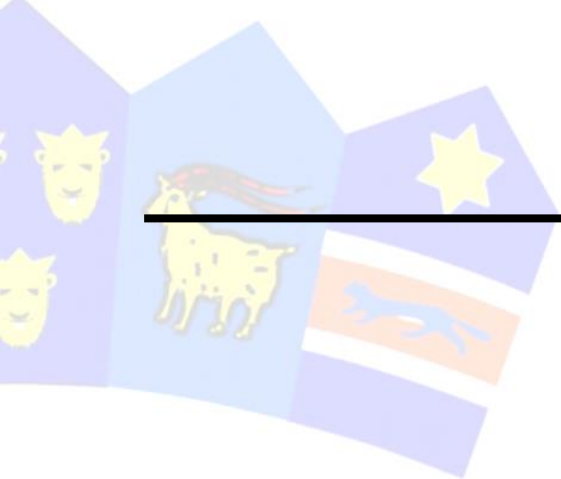
# Conclusion

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## ◆ Key elements for successful Chapter 23 negotiations:

1. Consensus
2. Sincere commitment to reforms
3. Administrative capacity to carry out reforms
4. Communication skills
5. Reliable and comparable statistical data on reform implementation
6. Success depends on internal and external factors





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

