

**The old bazaar of Skopje –  
The connection between the old and  
the new – economy, trade, culture and  
tradition**



# 10<sup>th</sup> EUSAIR Forum

Georgioupolis, Crete

6-7 May 2025



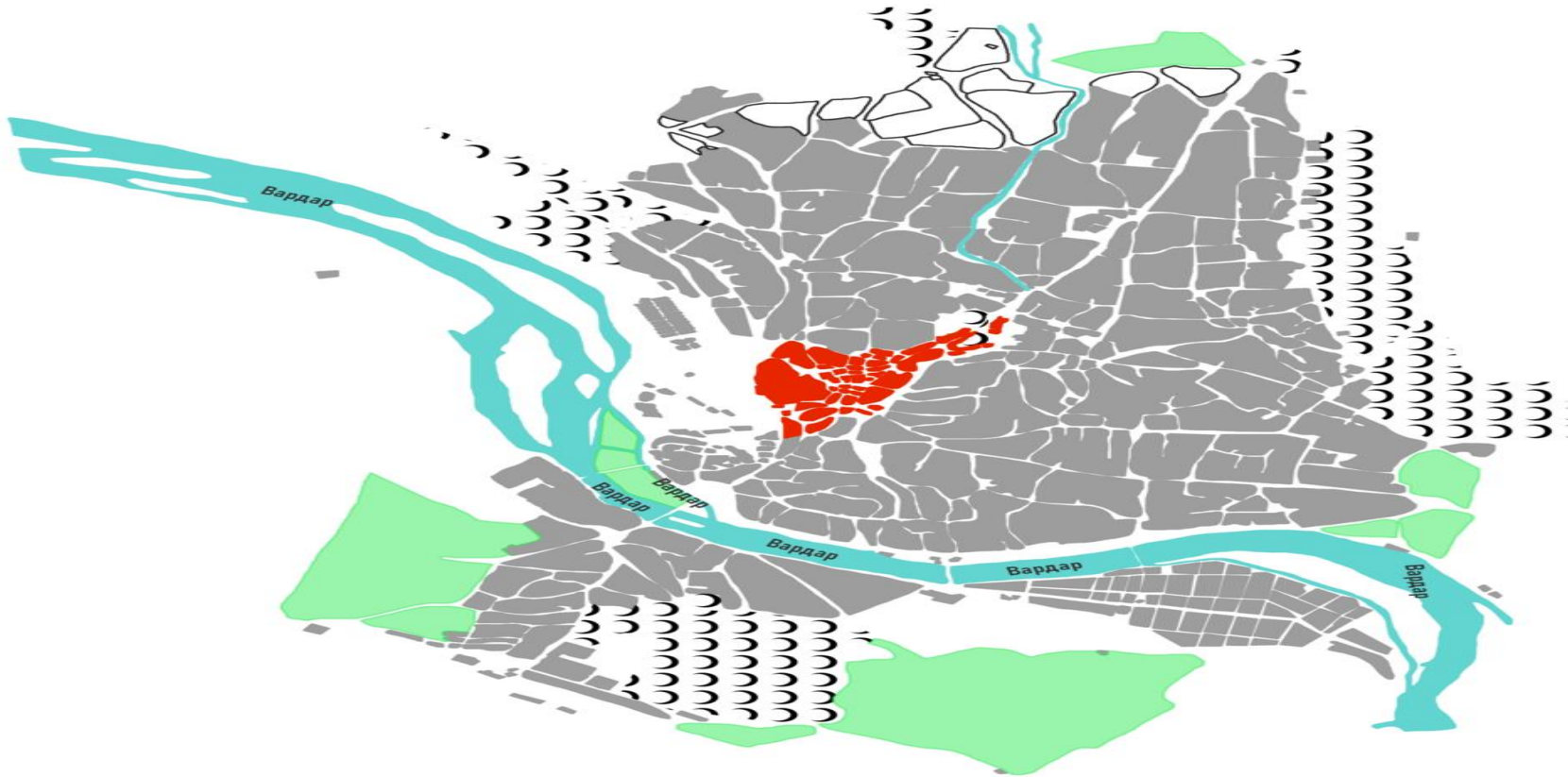
## The old bazaar of Skopje – the connection between the old and the new – economy, trade, culture and tradition

- ❖ With the adoption of the Law on the Old Skopje Bazaar of 2008, the Old Skopje Bazaar itself was declared a cultural heritage of special importance and has been under the permanent protection of the state ever since.
- ❖ The Old Skopje Bazaar is rebuilt and the revitalization of the space is enabled, and above all, the old urban units are preserved.
- ❖ Today it is one of the biggest oriental bazaars in the Balkans with many historical monuments from the monumental architecture.





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With a red one is the territory of the old in Skopje

As in many cities of the former Ottoman Empire, the Old Bazaar is the old trading and market district and is now a cultural-historical part and one of the city's most famous sights.

It is located in the area between the Stone Bridge (Kamen Most) in the southwest and the Bit-Pazar, today's market, in the northwest.

The district is bordered by the Vardar and Serava rivers.

The first documented information about the existence of the trading district of the Old Bazaar dates back to the 12th century.

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❖ With a law of October 13, 2008, the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia declared the Old Bazaar a cultural asset of particular importance to the state and the bazaar has been under permanent state protection ever since.

❖ At the beginning of 2010, a five-year program of revitalization of the bazaar began, with the aim of renewing the objects in its framework, giving support to the crafts, as well as affirming intensive economic and cultural development, which we have achieved during our time could at least partially confirm and confirm the tour.

❖ This part of the city is really worth a longer stay, the cultures of the past are so diverse and interesting.





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Skopje of 1594

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**Bazaar –time of the earthquake**





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Exhibition,  
Performances  
& Concerts ...





- The old bazaar of Skopje – the connection between the old and the new – economy, trade, culture and tradition





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*Even nowadays the trade is a big economic potential of the Old Skopje Bazaar.*





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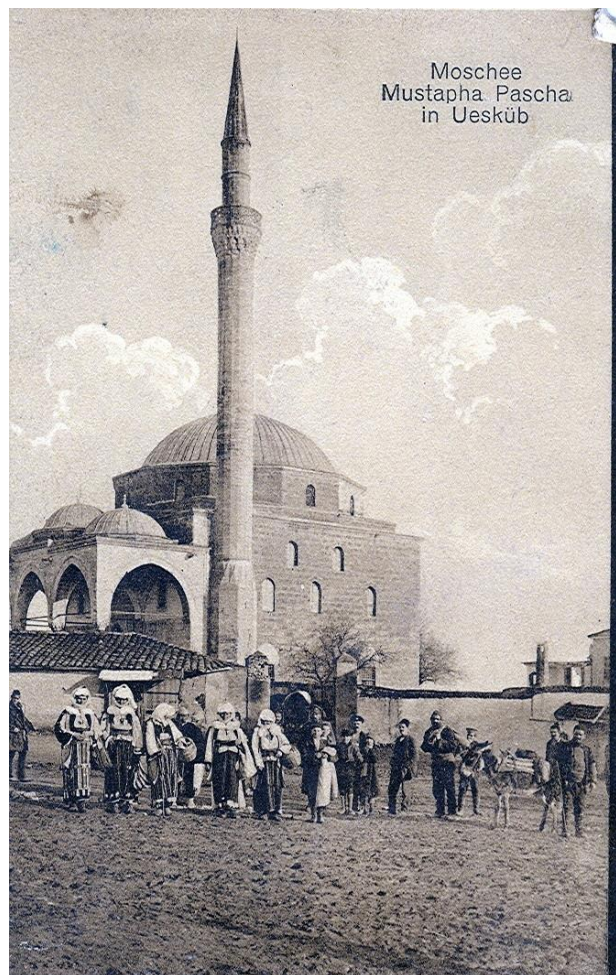


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## The old bazaar of Skopje – the connection between the old and the new – economy, trade, culture and tradition

- *The trade in Skopje was quite developed. It had great influence in the development of the Old Skopje Bazaar in which there were other traders such as Venetians, Dubrovnikans etc.*
- *The trade was the second economic activity in the Bazaar. In the past, through this activity the town was in connection with all major shopping centres in the Balkan and beyond.*
- *Trading mainly occurred in the complex of the Bazaar and primarily in the covered bazaar, in the warehouses (storages) where the wholesale occurred and also in the other commercial stores i.e. shops. In the past, merchants were the main mediators in the introduction of various influences in the culture, fashion and more.*
- *Even nowadays the trade is a big economic potential of the Old Skopje Bazaar.*



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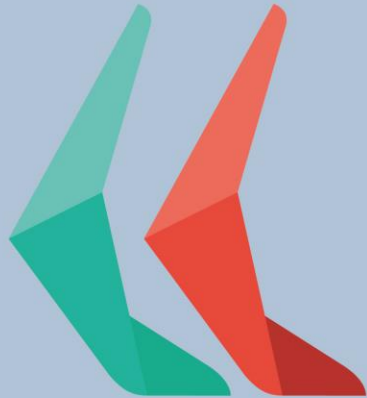
- Mr Afet Jashari,
  - State Advisor for the protection of the intangible cultural heritage  
Ministry of culture and tourism, North Macedonia.
  - “Old Skopje bazar -the historical connections of the old with new for  
economy, trade, culture and tradition”



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# Thank you