



His Excellency

H.E. Pajo Avirovikj

Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary Permanent
Representative to the United
Nations

Pajo Avirovikj was appointed Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations in May 2011.

Until his appointment, Mr. Avirovikj was his country's Ambassador to Israel from September 2009, prior to which he served as Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy from June 2008. From May to June 2008, he was Head of the Embassy's Liaison Office.

Between June 2006 and May 2008, Mr. Avirovikj held the position of State Counsellor and Director for Public Diplomacy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, having served as Head of Sector for Bilateral Relations with European Countries from January to May 2006. He was Deputy Head of Sector for the coordi-

nation of the Minister's Cabinet Affairs between May 2005 and January 2006.

In addition to serving as Minister Counsellor at his country's Embassy in Paris from February 2001 to April 2005, Mr.

"Peace is most definitely a process. It is our privilege to be addressed by Ambassador Avirovikj and his remarks should provide unique insight and perspective to one possible avenue for implementing this process" Associate Vice President for UVU International Affairs & Diplomacy Rusty Butler.

Avirovikj was Director of the Department for European Countries between 1998 and 2001, and Head of the Division for Western Europe from 1997 to 1998.

An award-winning author and journalist, Mr. Avirovikj studied at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris, France, and holds a master's degree in oriental philology from the University of Belgrade in Serbia, having earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Sarajevo in Bosnia and

Herzegovina.

Born in Skopje in 1966, Mr. Avirovikj is married.

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WHO WE ARE

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the International community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT

Macedonia

THE FLAG OF MACEDONIA



HISTORY

The national flag of the Republic of Macedonia depicts a stylized yellow sun on a red field, with eight broadening rays extending from the center to the edge of the field. It was created by Pr. Miroslav Grcev and was adopted on October 5, 1995 after a one-year blockade imposed by Greece in

MEANING

Red and yellow have always been considered the main colors representing Macedonia, probably because of the colors of the historical coat of arms of Macedonia.

Information gathered from:

- Alexander the Great, a member of the Angread Dynasty and a pivotal fixture in ancient history, hails from the land of Macedonia.
- Macedonia is one of the successor states of the former Yugoslavia and gained independence in 1991. It became a member of the United Nations in 1993, but due to a dispute with Greece over its name, it was admitted into the UN under the provisional reference of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).



- The Macedonian Stonehenge (above) Kokino—is the only discovered megalithic observatory in the Balkans. Built on the volcano rocks, it was used to conduct research on the sun and moon dating back to as long as 4000 years ago.
- The democratic government faced a 2001 rebellion by ethnic Albanians, who make up 25 percent of the population.
- The country's name derives from the Greek Μακεδονία (*Makedonia*). The name is originally believed to have meant either "highlanders" or "the tall



ones," possibly referring to the physical characteristics of the ancient Macedonians and/or their mountainous land.

- The Macedonian language is closely related to and mutually intelligible with standard Bulgarian. They also use the Cyrillic script.
- Ajvar is the national sauce/condiment of Macedonia and is made from sweet red bell peppers.
- Back in September of 2002 a golden mask was excavated from the Samoil Fortress and dates back to the 5th century B.C.

Information gathered from: Wikipedia.org, www.ishtarsgate.com, www.exploringmacedonia.com, http://.travel.nationalgeographic.com, http://lifestyle.iloveindia.com, www.interestingfunfacts.com

