



Improving governance and higher quality delivery of government services in Macedonia through open data.

Introduction

In September 10th 2014 at the GEM Club in Skopje, we were very pleased to welcome colleagues from [Metamorphosis](#), [Open Knowledge](#), Partnership for Open Data and the UK Embassy in Skopje for the launch of **The Open Data Civil Society Network Project in Macedonia**. The following day, the first [Open Data Meet-up](#) in Skopje was held, in which participants had the opportunity to share experiences, challenges and ideas about the use of open data from around the world in a variety of different fields.



Lucy Chambers from Open Knowledge and School of Data. Charles Edmund Garrett, UK Ambassador to Macedonia. Bardhyl Jashari, Director of Metamorphosis

With participants from a wide variety of Macedonian CSOs and government institutes, including: [BIRN](#), [FOSM](#), [Institute for Democracy Societas Civilis - Skopje](#), [Macedonian Media Institute](#), [The Media Fact Checking Service](#), [Parliamentary Institute of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia](#) and [Transparency International](#), the event was covered by [Radio MOF](#), [Telma](#) and [Portalb](#).

Government representatives from the [Ministry of Information Society and Administration](#) were also present.

We were very pleased to welcome **Charles Edmund Garrett, UK Ambassador to Macedonia**, who gave the opening address.



Workshop discussing the challenges that Macedonian CSOs, media and citizens face when working with open data.



Irena Bojadjeva from [Ministry of Information Society and Administration](#), presents findings on data availability in Macedonia.



Katelyn Rogers from [Open Knowledge](#) and Daniela Mattern from [Open Knowledge and Partnership for Open Data](#)

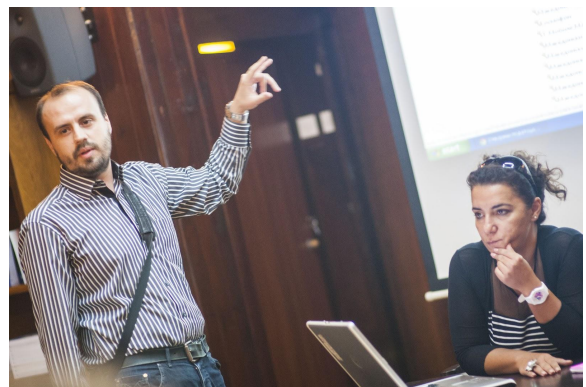
After presenting more details of the collaboration between Open Knowledge and Metamorphosis, attendees were invited to discuss the challenges faced by CSOs, media and citizens when working with open data in Macedonia.

We also explored the concept of building an open data pipeline, and worked in teams to discuss the challenges, and explored solutions along the whole length of the pipeline.

We hope this launch event will provide real momentum to our 24 month Open Data Civil Society Network Project, and thank all the participants and our funders for the generous help and support.



Andrej Anchevski from [BTKRSH](#) and Blagoj Petrushev from [Free Software - Macedonia](#).



Dejan Zdravkovski and Gordana Gjorcheska from [Re-active](#), who worked on the [Open Data Portal for the Macedonian Government](#).