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Velichko ANDREEVSKI

**CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF "THE WHITE CANE" – 15
OCTOBER, WORLD DAY FOR BLIND
PEOPLE**

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- Within the celebration of **15 October – World day of “The White Cane”** of blind people, this year, in organization of Association of Blind People of the Republic of Macedonia, supported by the Association of Disabled People Organizations, several events and activities have happened. The continuous strivings of civilized human race has been emphasized for more dignified life for all, including the blind ones, too.

Besides the fact that the “The White Cane”, as a symbol for blind from ancient times for recognition and coping the blind people with space, in the contemporary traffic jam does not lose its meaning. It is a noticeable signal in everyday behavior of a human being as an element of culture and ethics. The international Day of “The White Cane” was a motive, through a wide range of activities, to suggest imperative solution of a great number of problems the blind people are facing in present conditions of the transition of society with its professional and state institutions; establishing standards for people with developmental disabilities worldwide.

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It is very important to point out that in the frames of celebration of the International day of "White cane" – 15 October, the Association of Blind People of the Republic of Macedonia delivered "**PROCLAMATION TO THE PUBLIC**" under the motto: "*Help us to be with you and not near you*". It states: "It is known that blind people, besides their severe disabilities, successfully educate themselves and acquire the highest academic titles, qualify for various professions and jobs, work in a great number of vocations, as workers and intellectuals; top pedagogues, writers, musicians, journalists, lawyers, translators and interpreters. Dear fellow townsmen! Along with state organs and institutions (governmental and non-governmental) and the Association for Blind People of the Republic of Macedonia, we hope that you will fight for revoking all forms of discrimination of blind and other people with severe disabilities; provide them with better conditions for complete and richer lives, complete participation and equal conditions, active participation at work and socially useful ones.

The blind, as well as other disabled people expect the reform process that is in progress in our country to be a new step in improving this category of citizen's rights and development of modern forms of care for disabled people. The conditions for a successful prevention and effective eye diseases and injury treatment should be created with the development of contemporary health care, social policy and economics.

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