History of Partnership

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP)\(^1\) approved a legislative strengthening partnership with the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia\(^2\) in 2006. The partnership has focused on improving the independence and effectiveness of the parliament, constituent relations, information technology, rules of procedure, staff structure, and strengthening committee operations. Since 2006, HDP encouraged development on these fronts through Congressional delegations and training programs for both members of parliament (MPs) and parliamentary staff. Additionally, HDP donated a $50,000 computer server suite to enhance the legislature’s internal information technology capacity.

HDP Engagement with the Assembly

- **MP and Regional Seminars:** Since 2006, MPs have participated in over a dozen seminars focused on issues including strengthening public integrity systems, gender mainstreaming, committee operations, and inter-parliamentary relations. MPs have participated in regional seminars on issues related to parliamentary oversight of the security sector, developing an inclusive and professional parliament, gender mainstreaming, and e-governance.
  - In August, 2021, parliamentarians from North Macedonia participated in a multilateral exchange focused on democratic resilience in the face of COVID-19 hosted by HDP in Garmisch, Germany.

- **Staff Delegations and Technical Assistance Consultancies (TACs):** HDP conducted staff delegations and technical assistance consultancies with the Assembly on issues including legislative budgeting and appropriations, citizen outreach, legislative research and analysis, oversight of security and intelligence, and improving public trust in government.

- **Staff Seminars:** HDP conducted over a dozen staff seminars with parliamentary staff on issues such as digital communications, committee operations, library and research services, legislative analysis, parliamentary budgeting, legislative-executive relations, and media relations.

HDP Congressional Delegations (CODELs)

- HDP led seven congressional delegation visits to North Macedonia.
  - November 2006
  - March 2008
  - February 2010
  - April 2012
  - May 2016
  - February 2018
  - August 2018

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\(^1\) At the time the partnership was initiated, the House Democracy Partnership was known as the House Democracy Assistance Commission (HDAC). The name was subsequently changed to reflect the nature of HDP as a partnership with partner countries.

\(^2\) In January 2019, Macedonia's parliament approved a constitutional amendment to change the country's name to the Republic of North Macedonia.