

## **Thematic meeting at Struga**

On 03 July 2008, a thematic meeting was held in Struga on the topic *Through friendship to better life in Struga*. 35 participants, representatives of the Commission for interethnic relations, students and teachers from secondary schools in Struga, participated in the thematic meeting. Facilitator was Safet Balazhi.

The aim of the thematic meeting was to identify priorities for overcoming multiethnic conflicts in the municipality of Struga. In the past period, a big intolerance was noticed between students from Macedonian and Albanian ethnic groups in Struga.

As result of the thematic meeting, participants identified joint activities in order to help in establishing understanding between the students from different ethnic groups. The organization of following activities came out as recommendation of the meeting with joint consensus: sport activities with mixed ethnic groups, cultural activities, art exhibitions, theatre visits, folklore events, joint project tasks, workshops for conflict management and trainings for teachers. These activities are to be organized by the secondary schools and by the Local self government in Struga jointly.

Proposed activities should help in establishing understanding between the students from Macedonian and Albanian ethnic groups.