

Dear partners and friends,

It is a great pleasure for us to share with you current and recent activities of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza"!

In this issue you could find information about:



Current activities and initiatives



Recent activities



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On 27 April, the President of the National Council on Human Rights in Morocco Mr. Driss El Yazami had a meeting with the Executive Director of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza", Dr. Irina Alexieva. The possibilities for creation of joint training programmes in the fields of human rights and democratic development in Morocco were discussed. The event took place in the frame of Mr. El Yazami's two-day visit to Bulgaria at the invitation of the Vice President of the Republic Margarita Popova. For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/449-drisselyazamimarocconeeds>

Ms. Samira Merai, who is an alumna of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza", was appointed as the new Minister of Women, Family and Children of Tunisia. Ms. Merai graduated the Summer Academy for Development of Democracy in the Mediterranean Region, organized by the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" and bringing together young political and civic leaders from Bulgaria, Morocco and Tunisia. Samira Merai is a doctor, associated professor in pneumologie at the Medical Faculty in Tunisia, member of the Central Committee of the Afek Tounes political party. In 2012, she was elected as a vice-president of the Assembly on the issues related to legislation, relations with the government and the presidency of the Republic.

The 9th edition of the **Newsletter of the Association of Schools of Political Studies of the Council of Europe** is available on the Internet site of the Bulgarian School, in the Resources / Newsletter section, or on http://www.coe.int/t/dgap/sps/Newsletter/Newsletter_09.pdf (in English)



Recent activities

On 8 April, Class 2014 of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" donated an incubator to the neonatological ward of the hospital for active treatment "Hristo Botev" in Vraza. The equipment was purchased with the money fundraised at the Charity evening of the Class as part of the cause "Rehabilitation and care for prematurely born kids in Bulgaria". We wish the doctors at the hospital to better care about their youngest patients from Vratza and the region and to make their parents happier.

In April 2015, the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" took part at the annual partner's meeting of the Tunisian School of Politics. The four co-founders of TSoP - CEMI, BSoP, NIMD and DemoFinland met in Tunis to discuss the development of TSoP's training programmes and the implementation of the on-going projects, the priorities for the coming year and the overall development of the political situation in the country.

The fourth course of the National Program entitled "Bulgaria in the EU - Principles of Good Governance" was held from 26 to 29 March. On 28 March the Charity evening of the Class 2015 took place and over 12,000 BGN were raised for creation of a support network for people with oncologic diseases. For further information, please look at:

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/440-thefourthcourseofthenationalprogrambegan>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/448-msmeglenakunevaschengennationalprogram>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/446-mrhakanaltinaynationalprogram>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/442-thecharityeveningofclass2015>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/444-thenationalprogramgoverningskillsfinisheditschoolyear>

Representatives of the Citizen School for Political Studies in Morocco were on a working visit in Bulgaria from 24 to 28 March. During it, they exchanged experience with their Bulgarian colleagues about the multi-party dialogue and the practice of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" for including representatives of different political parties in the National Program. The visit was part of the project "Supporting the creation of multiparty dialogue in times of transition: experience sharing between Bulgaria and Morocco", which is funded by Robert Bosch Stiftung. For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/450-representativesofthecitizens>

The Executive Director of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza", Dr. Irina Alexieva was a moderator of the discussion about the dialogue among the stakeholders and the opportunities in front of the cooperation for development. The **conference for launching the European Year for Development 2015 in Bulgaria** was organized by the Diplomatic Institute and took place on 19 March at the Central Military Club. The event was addressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Daniel Mitov. For more information, please check our website.

Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" continues working on the project "Models and Good Practices for Legitimate Civic Representation", financed by the NGO Programme in Bulgaria under the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area. The goal is to support the dialogue and cooperation among decision makers, civic organizations and other stakeholders, and to propose good practices and models of effective consultative councils with legitimate civic participation. For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/projects/333-models-and-good-practices-for>



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