

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**



## Current activities and initiatives

The application process for the National Program 2015/2016 is ongoing. You could find more information about the Program on <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/programs/national-program/information-national> The set of application documents is available on <http://schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/programs/national-program/application-process-nat> The submission deadline has been extended until **16 August**. For more information, please contact Martina Kostova, Program Coordinator at BSoP at [mkostova@schoolofpolitics.org](mailto:mkostova@schoolofpolitics.org)

Take a look at the **new materials on philanthropy and the new inspiring story of a School's alumnus** published on the Internet site of the **Philanthropist Club** on [http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club\\_na\\_filantropa/](http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club_na_filantropa/) (in Bulgarian). There you could learn more about the next generation donors and how to better define your focus as givers. In "Your stories" section you could read about the children from the small village of Bazan who initiated a campaign to restore the school in their village. The cause has been supported by our alumnus from Class of 2012 Ms Vasilena Tsankova-Borisova, who shared the story on [http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club\\_na\\_filantropa/PDF/Children\\_of\\_Bazan\\_Vasilena\\_2012.pdf](http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club_na_filantropa/PDF/Children_of_Bazan_Vasilena_2012.pdf) (in Bulgarian).

**Four inspiring stories of School's alumni working on philanthropic causes have been published on the website of Global Givers - an initiative of Bolder Giving.** You could find them, along with other inspirational stories of Bulgarian philanthropists on <http://www.globalgivers.org/#!bulgaria-stories/c1k3h>



## Recent activities

The Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" started working on three new partnership projects financed by the NGO Programme under the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2009-2014. The Association "New Road - Hairedin" is the lead partner for the project "Encouraging Civic Participation of Young Roma", which aim is to support more active involvement of the Roma community in the public policies development and decision-making processes by creating conditions for young Roma to publicly discuss their problems and seek solutions for them. For more information, please visit

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/projects/467-encouragingcivicparticipationofyoungroma>

The other project, with the leading partner Platform AGORA - Active Communities for Development Alternatives, entitled "Life Changing Challenges" aims to improve the knowledge and skills of local leaders for developing public policies at local level, to help them create a mechanism for solving local problems and through this, to increase civic participation in decision making processes. More information about the project is available on

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/projects/470-lifechangingchallenges>

The third project entitled "Collaborative Action for Enhancing Public Awareness and Motivating Local Governments and Communities for Response and Adaptation to Climate Change" is with the leading partner Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation. Its goal is to increase the awareness and improve the capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change through: analysis of local conditions and causes of emergencies in the settlements; study and analysis of the working mechanisms to inform and educate people; activities to increase the role of the media. For more information, please visit

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/projects/475-collaborativeactionforenhancing>

Two alumni of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" participated in **the Second International Alumni Seminar of the Network of Schools of Political Studies under the auspices of the Council of Europe**. The event was on 25 and 26 June in Sarajevo. The topic for this year was "Defending freedom and human dignity against internal and external threats". The main conclusions from the seminar and the proposals from the discussions will be included in this year's World Forum for Democracy organized by the Council of Europe, which topic is "Freedom vs control: the democratic response". For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/473-bsopalumniparticipatedsaraevo>

On 17 June at the Grand Hotel Sofia Dr. Helge Jörgens delivered a public lecture on the topic "**The German Energy Model - a Possibility for Bulgaria**". Dr. Jörgens visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Sofia. For more information about the event as well as a full record of the lecture, please visit the subsite of the initiative on <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/Helge-Jorgens/index-en.html> or the following link <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/469-drhelgejorgensen>



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