

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 lecture by Prof. James Robinson “Why nations succeed or fail? Implications for Bulgaria” is to take place on 20th March 2014, at 18:00 pm, at the Central Military Club. Please find more information at <https://www.facebook.com/events/221596568035871/>



Recent activities

The 4th course from the National Program 2013/2014 entitled “Bulgaria in the European Union - Principles of Good Governance” was held from 12th to 16th March at the RIU hotel in Pravets. During the course, the **Charity Evening of Class 2014** also took place. To follow the most interesting moments throughout the course, please visit

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/326-the-fourth-course-of-the-national-program-began>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/327-yousef-laraaj-bulgaria-and-morocco-can-work-together-for-improving-citizen-participation>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/327-yousef-laraaj-bulgaria-and-morocco-can-work-together-for-improving-citizen-participation>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/329-igor-kogut-we-are-pessimistic-about-the-possible-future-scenarios-on-ukraine>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/331-the-national-program-2013-2014-is-now-closed>

<http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/330-the-charity-night-of-year-2014-gathered-15-000-lv->

The director of the Citizen School for Political Studies in Morocco (CSPS), Mr. Youssef Laaraj, was a guest-lecturer during the final module of this-year's National Program of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" (BSoP). This is the first visit of a representative of the Moroccan school to Bulgaria and it was made in the context of the Strategic partnership agreement signed between BSoP and CSPS in December 2013. During his visit, Mr. Laaraj had meetings with BSoP's team and moderators, who presented the methods used in their work for training of young political and civic leaders. Youssef Laaraj had discussions with current participants in the Program, as well as with alumni of BSoP. The directors of BSoP and CSPS, Ms. Irina Alexieva and Mr. Youssef Laaraj, had a meeting with the ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco in Bulgaria, H.E. Mrs. Latifa Akharbash. During the meeting, the possibilities for cooperation between non-governmental organizations from both countries were discussed as a mean for the exchange of experience and development of the civil society. Ambassador Akharbash stated her full support for the joint initiatives of both schools and expressed her conviction that they will contribute to the rapprochement of the two countries. The Citizen School for Political Studies in Morocco was established in 2013 and is a member of the Network of Schools of Political Studies under the auspice of the Council of Europe.

The Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" started working on a 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 of the project 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. More information could be found at the Internet site of the School or at the special project website, which will be available soon.

On 21st February 2014 a **debate among Alumni of the Bulgarian School of Politics** took place. The topic was **"The new "others"- an open debate about the state policy towards refugees in Bulgaria"**. The guest lecturers were Mr. Nikolay Chirpanliev - President of the State Agency for Refugees with the Council of Ministers, and Mr. Shteryu Nozharov, PhD - a lecturer on European Union Law at the University of National and World's Economy. Both lecturers are BSoP's alumni.

A **special training for women politicians** was organized by the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" from 10th to 14th February 2014. It was within the project **"More Women in European Politics - More Women in 2014 Project"**, implemented by Balkan Assist. For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/325-training-governing-skills-for-women-political-leaders-ended>



Please join our Facebook page where we publish regular updates on our activities and initiate discussions on different topics!