

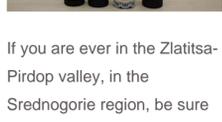
Dear reader,

This newsletter is a great way to receive news about the America for Bulgaria Foundation and its programs. The General Data Protection Regulation comes into effect on Friday and requires that you OPT IN to keep receiving it. If you do nothing, **we will remove you from our mailing list.**

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## Many Reasons for Optimism

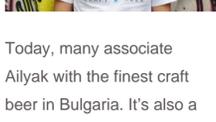
**Help Thy Neighbors: Teach Them Business Skills**



If you are ever in the Zlatitsa-Pirdop valley, in the Srednogorie region, be sure to stay at Pavlina and Grigor's family guesthouse, buy a delicious pretzel from Maria's bakery, and gift yourself a T-shirt embroidered by Boryana, a talented local artist.

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**The Beer Brewer Who Works for a Better Bulgaria**



Today, many associate Ailyak with the finest craft beer in Bulgaria. It's also a Bulgarian colloquialism: an "ailyak" is a "free man, unencumbered by existential problems." Georgi Hristov's life embodies the feel-good ailyak lifestyle—at least in his photos on Facebook.

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**Can You Touch the Past? It Turns Out You Can.**



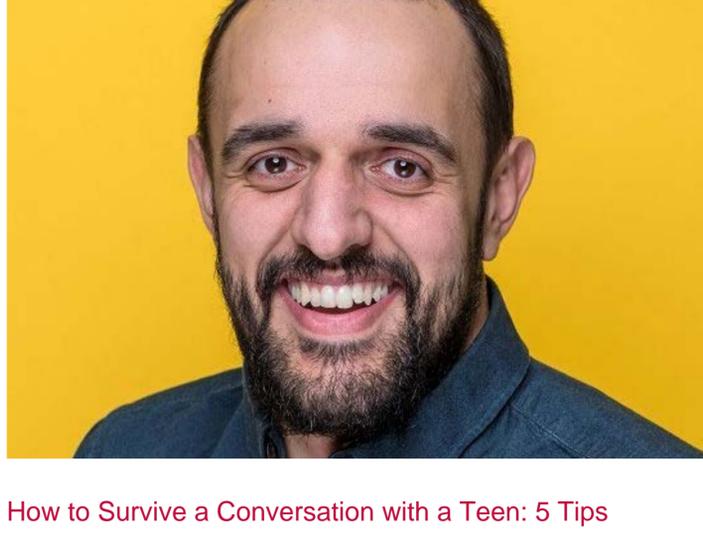
Vesela Hristova teaches history at the German Language School in Burgas. Instead of asking her students to memorize boring facts about communism from their history textbooks, she sent them on a mission of discovery.

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## Tell a Friend

You like our stories? Share them with your friends.

 [Share on Facebook](#)



## How to Survive a Conversation with a Teen: 5 Tips

Misho Stefanov has spent 15 years interacting with adolescents—as director of The Bridge Youth Festival, the lead singer of a rock band, a mountain guide, (briefly) a boxing gym manager, and, most recently, founder of the Mini Machines educational project, supported by ABF. We asked him about the secret to success in communicating with the world's most misunderstood human beings—as not only has he survived, but teens also seem to kind of like him.

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## May at a Glance



**Cyrillic Alphabet Pop Quiz: Did You Know?**

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**Ivan Stoyanov: Running a School Is Not Just a Job**

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**Why Is Graduation in America Called "Commencement"?**

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**Working with the BEST: Teaching in a Bulgarian Classroom**

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**Do Astronauts Get Jet Lag? Richard Linnehan Answers**

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**Here's How an ABF Program Makes Dreams Come True**

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## Lessons from History



### American Colleges—in Style since the 19th Century!

Ambitious Bulgarian parents have faced the daunting task of finding the best school for their children—one providing high-quality education that meets current social and economic needs—ever since the 19th century. The first American high schools outside the United States, known as "colleges," opened their doors in the mid-1800s.

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### Bulgarian Donors in History: The Professor from Sliven

Stefan Panaretov made a lasting contribution to education, both as an educator during the Bulgarian Revival period and a diplomat and public figure in independent Bulgaria. Originally from Sliven, he graduated from a Bulgarian school in Constantinople (present-day Istanbul) and then from Robert College, where he later taught Bulgarian.



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## Save the Date

**26 MAY  
27 MAY**  
Blagoevgrad



### Celebrate Children's Day at the Biggest Children's Fair in Bulgaria

 Multigenre  
Over 60 cultural and educational activities for children will be available in this year's edition of the...

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**01 JUN  
03 JUN**  
Plovdiv



### Start the Summer with Kapana Fest

 Multigenre  
Before we all head to the shore, let us celebrate the beginning of summer on the narrow, cobblestone str...

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**04 JUN  
10 AUG**  
Sofia



### Experience an Exciting Science Holiday at Muzeiko

 Education  
Children's Science Center Muzeiko has an exciting science summer program for 7-11-year-olds featuring sc...

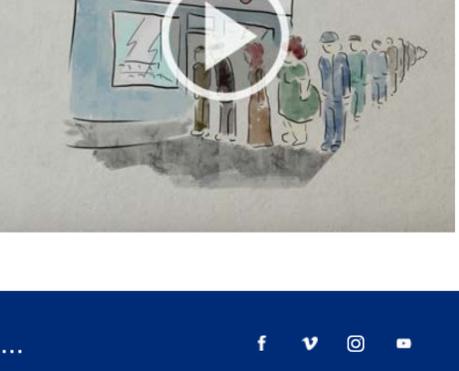
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Go to the ABF event calendar [click here](#).

## The 6 Most Persistent Myths about Communism

There are a number of widespread myths about Bulgarian history between 1944 and 1989 such as that life was more peaceful and affordable and all Bulgarians were equal. This video from Sofia Platform disproves the persistent myths. (Press CC for subtitles.)

[Watch the Video](#) 



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