



Dear Readers,

This fall we celebrate thirty years from the founding of the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG), a small liberal arts institution, just shy of 6,000 graduates, that has had an outsized impact on this part of the world. The university's origin story is as remarkable as the accomplishments of its alumni.

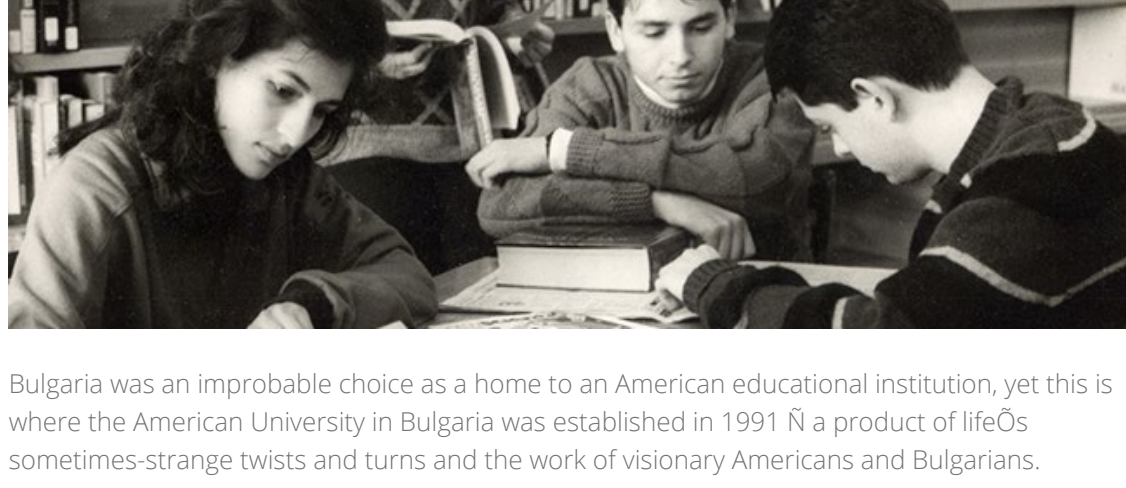
AUBG may be the most visible example of US-Bulgaria cooperation in the field of education, but it isn't the only one. The meeting of the two educational traditions has given rise to a number of successful educational initiatives including a spelling bee spinoff that's just as exciting as the original competition.

Finally, find out who the man behind the Young Medics for Bulgaria Foundation is and why he has made it his mission to keep young physicians in Bulgaria.

Happy reading!

Our subject line was inspired by the book [The American University: Where?](#) by Robert Phillips Jr.

The Power of an Idea



Bulgaria was an improbable choice as a home to an American educational institution, yet this is where the American University in Bulgaria was established in 1991. A product of life's sometimes-strange twists and turns and the work of visionary Americans and Bulgarians.

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Whether they are working to illuminate corruption or resolve international conflicts, preparing their countries' economies for the digital future, or helping governments deal with public health crises, AUBG graduates are leaving a profound mark on their communities and the world at large.

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Telerik Academy School's foundations were laid twenty years ago by three AUBG graduates and a friend from Sofia University working out of an apartment. Today, the academy is the leading provider of free digital education to youth in Bulgaria.

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In Focus



Dr. Dinko Mladenov may communicate through interpreters, but he speaks eloquently about the need to keep young medics in Bulgaria. In the face of adversity, he, too, chose to stay in Bulgaria.

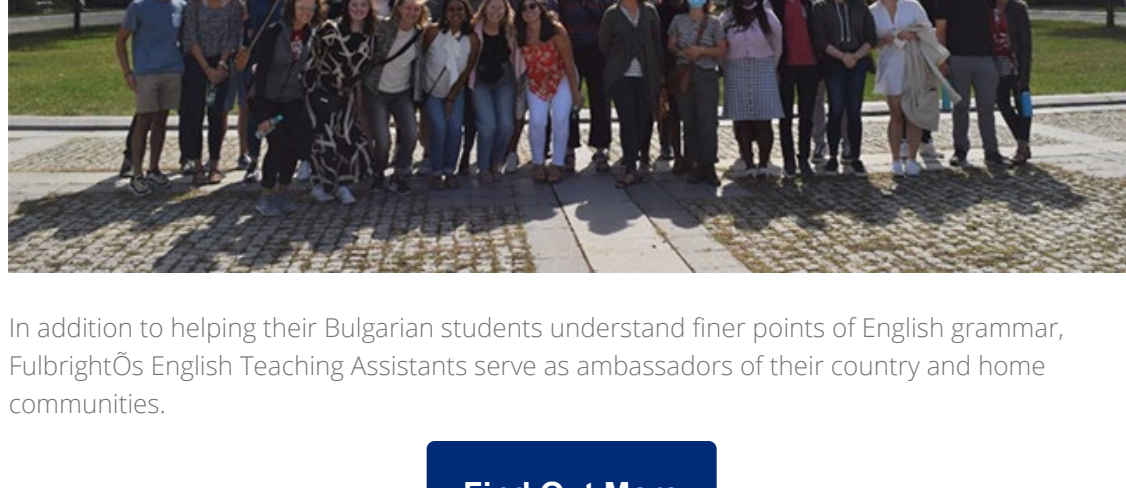
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Cultural Medley



Find out how a quintessentially American sport like spelling gained a large following in Bulgaria and learn a few little-known tidbits about the competition's dramatic history in the United States!

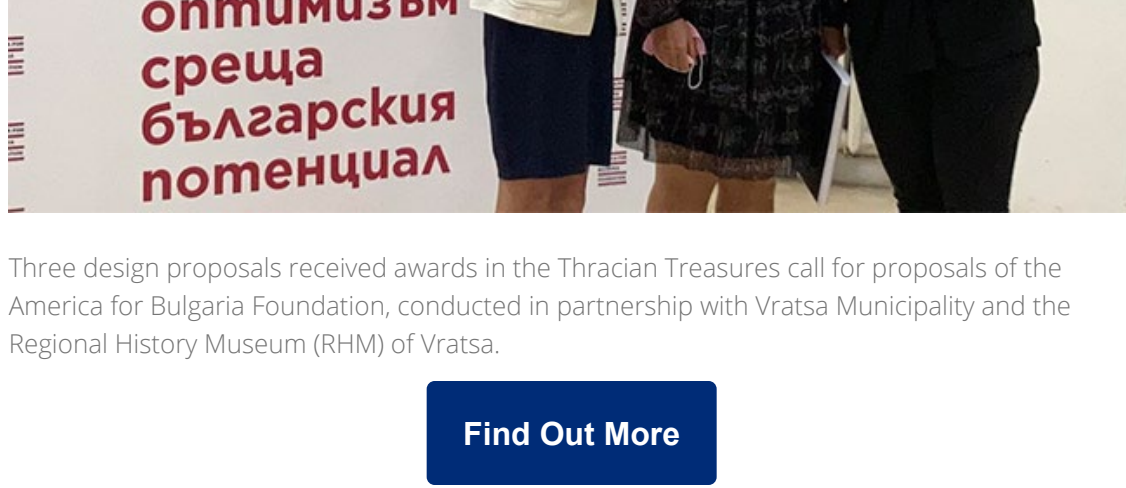
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In addition to helping their Bulgarian students understand finer points of English grammar, Fulbright's English Teaching Assistants serve as ambassadors of their country and home communities.

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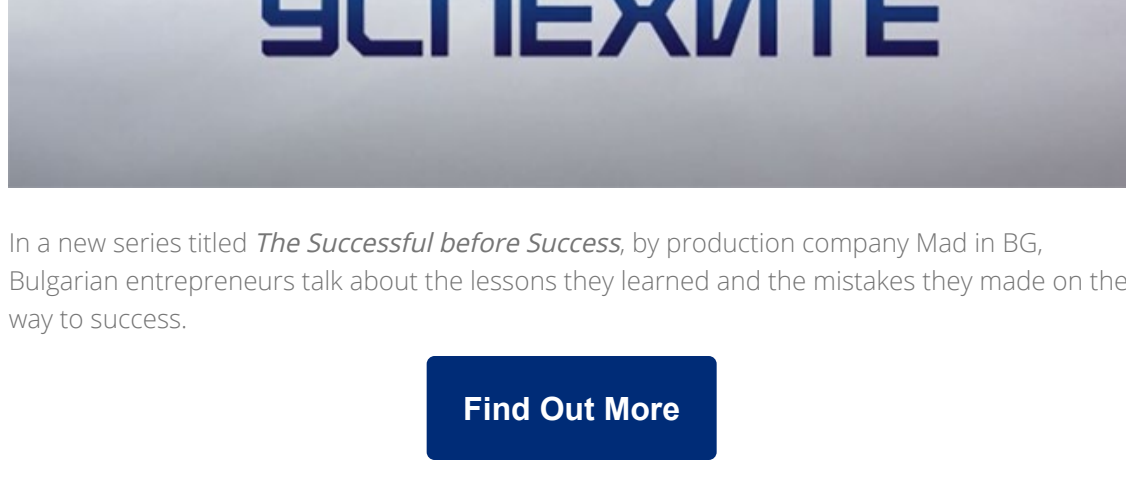
Ancient Treasures Come to Life



Three design proposals received awards in the Thracian Treasures call for proposals of the America for Bulgaria Foundation, conducted in partnership with Vratsa Municipality and the Regional History Museum (RHM) of Vratsa.

[Find Out More](#)

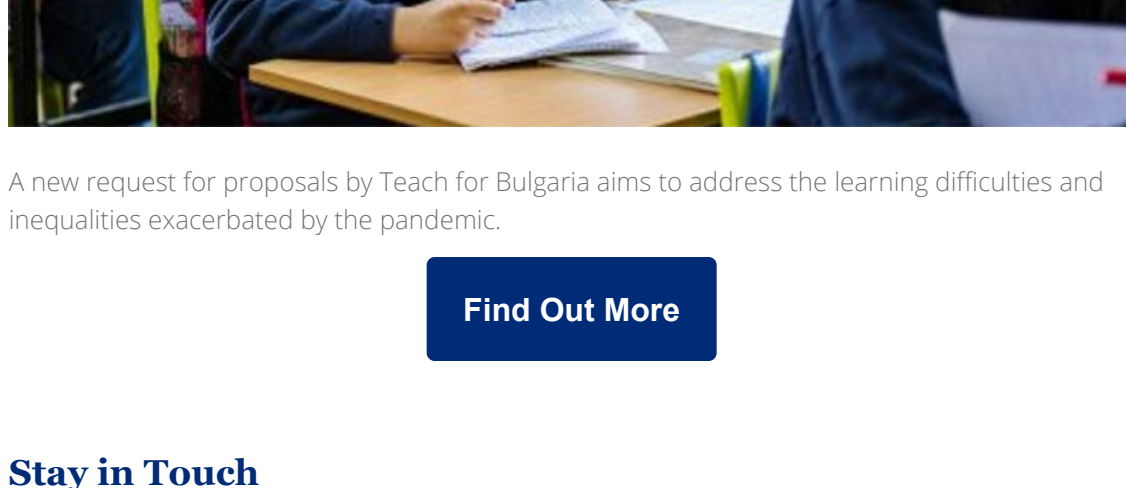
Life Lessons



In a new series titled *The Successful before Success*, by production company Mad in BG, Bulgarian entrepreneurs talk about the lessons they learned and the mistakes they made on the way to success.

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Apply!



A new request for proposals by Teach for Bulgaria aims to address the learning difficulties and inequalities exacerbated by the pandemic.

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Stay safe,

Your friends at the America for Bulgaria Foundation

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