



“Our precious fatherland shall require worthy individuals to lead it along the path of prosperity, so that we may be equal to the other European nations.” --- Vasil Levski

Dear Friends,

In the 19th century, revolutionaries like Vasil Levski worked to build a strong, independent Bulgaria where anyone—regardless of background, ethnicity, or religion—could live freely as long as they followed the law. For them, freedom meant, above all, independence from arbitrary power and the opportunity for every Bulgarian citizen to develop their full potential. They envisioned a Bulgaria where representatives are elected by the people’s will through free and fair elections.

Their successors today—the worthy individuals Levski spoke of—are civil society organizations and active citizens. Who are they, you might ask?

They don’t seek recognition; they’re too busy working to improve the lives of those around them. Motivated by a commitment to the common good, not by fame or material gain, they dedicate themselves to making Bulgaria a better place. If you look closely, you’ll see them:

They maintain the gazebos, fountains, and public spaces in your town or village and keep pathways to Bulgaria’s natural wonders clean and accessible for all. They ensure that the elderly are not forgotten, traditions are preserved, and children without parents are not left to grow up alone.

Others support teachers in their crucial mission to prepare the next generation for success in honorable professions.

Some civil society organizations hold those in power accountable, making sure that public funds are spent wisely—on the best providers, not just those with the best connections.

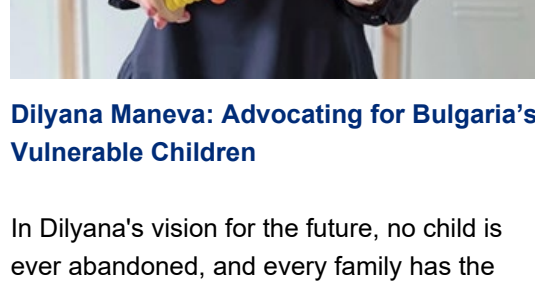
Still others preserve the memory of the past or pursue justice for wrongs yet unresolved.

And some harness the power of words, drawing public attention to issues that truly matter.

These are today’s civic heroes, and Bulgaria is a better place because of them.

Be the first to read the latest stories and discover new opportunities by [subscribing to this newsletter](#).

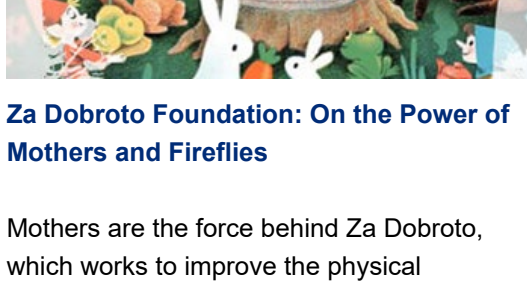
## Stepping up when others can’t (or won’t)



**Dilyana Maneva: Advocating for Bulgaria’s Vulnerable Children**

In Dilyana’s vision for the future, no child is ever abandoned, and every family has the support they need to raise healthy, happy, and thriving offspring.

[Find Out More](#)

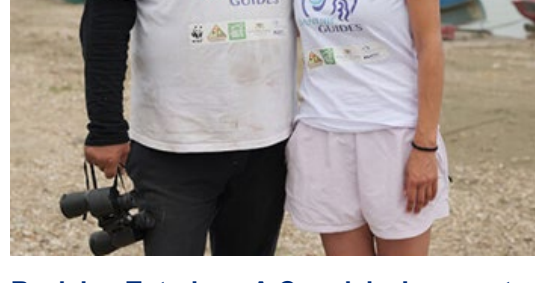


**Za Dobroto Foundation: On the Power of Mothers and Fireflies**

Mothers are the force behind Za Dobroto, which works to improve the physical environment in children’s hospitals and overhaul pediatric care in Bulgaria.

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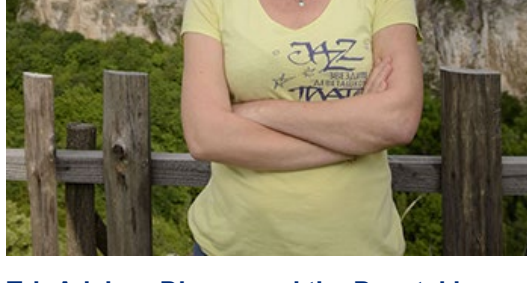
## Breathing new life into forgotten landscapes



**Reviving Tutrakan: A Couple’s Journey to Reconnect People with Nature**

Kristian and Lidia are helping to transform Tutrakan through sustainable tourism, blending local traditions and conservation to revitalize the area.

[Find Out More](#)



**TripAdvisor Discovered the Devetaki Plateau Thanks to Iva’s Efforts**

Once a semi-derelict region, the Devetaki Plateau today has a vibrant community of entrepreneurs, new residents, and a calendar of exciting events.

[Find Out More](#)

## Unearthing forgotten histories



**Stella Goes in Search of Sunken Villages, Forgotten Stories**

Stella Kamenova’s Lost Underwater project uncovers the stories of Bulgaria’s sunken villages, blending memories of displacement with hope, history, and community.

[Find Out More](#)



**The Past Is Now a Video Call Away Thanks to Belene.Camp**

Anyone with an internet connection can go back in time and have a technology-mediated conversation with a survivor of a communist-era labor camp in Bulgaria.

[Find Out More](#)

## Harnessing community strength for progress



**AGORA: Uniting Communities to Solve Local Problems Together**

Over the past two decades, the AGORA Platform has empowered communities across Bulgaria to take charge of their lives through work on public-benefit projects.

[Find Out More](#)

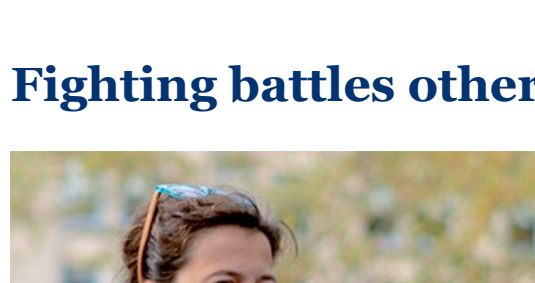


**June First Association: Modern Knights Wield Kindness, Not Spears**

For a quarter century, the June First Association has supported those in Byala Slatina who need help the most, fostering resilience and community solidarity.

[Find Out More](#)

## Fighting battles others don't see



**Iva: Iva Lazarova, Occupation: Public Environment Developer**

Learn what a public environment developer is and why it is a cause rather than a job through the story of Iva Lazarova and the Institute for Public Environment Development.

[Find Out More](#)

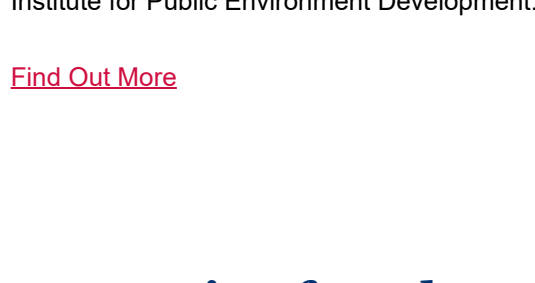


**Did You Know Nonprofits Are Taking the Lead in Online Safety?**

Civil society organizations like the Bulgarian Center for Not-for-Profit Law are tackling the new challenges of online safety and digital access in today’s rapidly evolving digital world.

[Find Out More](#)

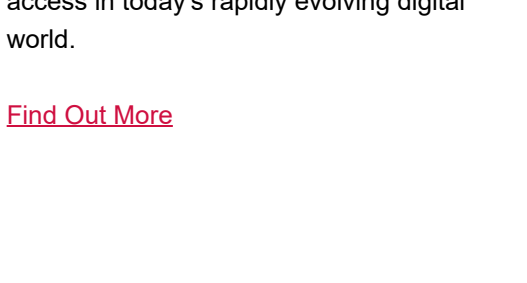
## Innovating for a better tomorrow



**Not at Home with Digital Learning? Rozalina Has a Solution**

Rozalina and her team are helping students learn better by bringing digital resources like Khan Academy to Bulgaria, making quality education more accessible.

[Find Out More](#)

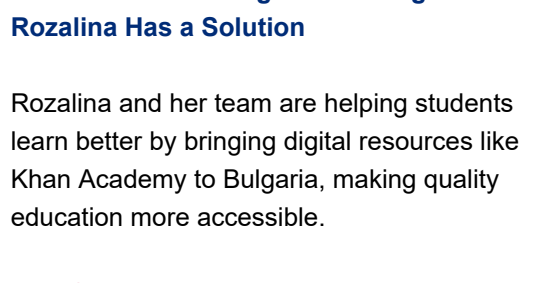


**Bulgaria’s Spelling Bee: Inspiring Kids to Learn English and Shine**

The Bulgarian National English Spelling Bee helps students improve their English skills while boosting their confidence and sparking a love for learning.

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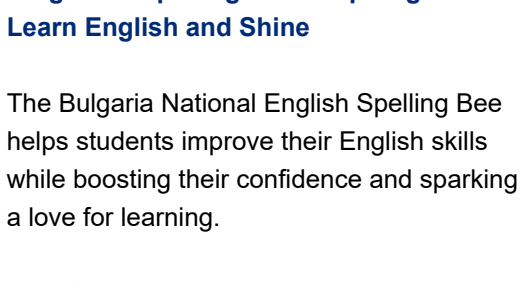
## Bringing hidden truths to light



**Meet Bulgaria’s Diehard Truth Seekers from For the Truth Network**

Spas Spasov and *Za istinata’s* journalists ask tough questions, giving citizens rare insights into what the government is really doing with public funds.

[Find Out More](#)

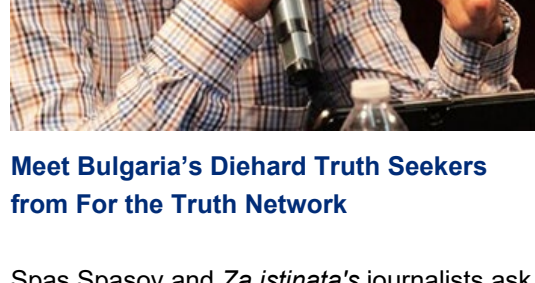


**You Have a Question for Government? Stephan Helps You Get Answers**

Governments prefer to keep certain information under wraps. It is Stephan Angelov’s job to ensure they are not successful and keep you in the know.

[Find Out More](#)

## Stepping in when most tune out



**At the Helm of IME, Bulgaria’s Trusted Voice on Economic & Policy Reform**

For 30 years, Svetla Kostadinova and IME have pushed for fairer policies in Bulgaria to lower taxes, control living costs, and ensure better use of taxpayer money.

[Find Out More](#)



**Bilyana and BLI Make the Rule of Law Relevant for Everyday Bulgarians**

Bilyana from the Bulgarian Institute for Legal Initiatives helps ordinary Bulgarians improve their lives by making legal and civic issues more accessible.

[Find Out More](#)

## Stay in Touch

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Sending warmest regards,

Your friends at the America for Bulgaria Foundation

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