

Dear Friends,

As we step into 2025, Bulgaria is truly soaring! From villages reclaiming their place as cultural and economic centers to satellites redefining the region's global standing, this month's stories showcase the ambition and creativity that make Bulgaria shine.

The whole country has landed on *The New York Times*'s "52 Places to Go in 2025" list, and we're uncovering hidden gems across Bulgaria that prove why it deserves this spotlight. From breathtaking destinations to inspiring initiatives, 2025 promises to be a year full of progress, innovation, and action.

Let's dive into this month's highlights and see how Bulgaria is reaching new heights in 2025!

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

Global recognition, local heroes



Bulgaria: A Star Destination in 2025 – Discover 52 Reasons Why!

Bulgaria is one of *The New York Times*'s 52 Places to Go in 2025, and we're celebrating with "52 Ways to Fall in Love with Bulgaria," a yearlong series of stunning nature, unforgettable adventures, and unique events like Concerts at the Station—celebrating the romance and sustainability of train travel.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Photo: Diyana Mechkarska

Gergana Kabaivanova, A Champion for Bulgarian Traditions and Rural Entrepreneurs

Gergana and Pendara.bg are helping small-town Bulgaria become a destination for travelers and locals alike. By promoting authentic foods and rural tourism, they're not just preserving traditions—they're making small-town Bulgaria hip again. Through their work, Bulgaria's villages and towns are reclaiming their role as cultural and economic centers.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Opening doors to opportunity



Let's GO: Empowering Nonprofits through Social Entrepreneurship

The Bulgarian Center for Not-for-Profit Law's (BCNL) Let's GO program proves that social entrepreneurship changes lives. Take *The Cookies Workshop*, for example: a social enterprise in Kazanlak that employs people with disabilities, giving them the opportunity for dignified, meaningful work. Just ask their happy clients if they've tasted anything better than their madeleines or gingerbread cookies!

With Let's GO: This Isn't Just Business, BCNL helps nonprofits create sustainable ventures that champion their causes and empower communities. It's about fostering innovation, building independence, and creating lasting impact.

Applications are open **until February 20**.

[EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITY](#)

SHOUTOUT!



Source: EnduroSat

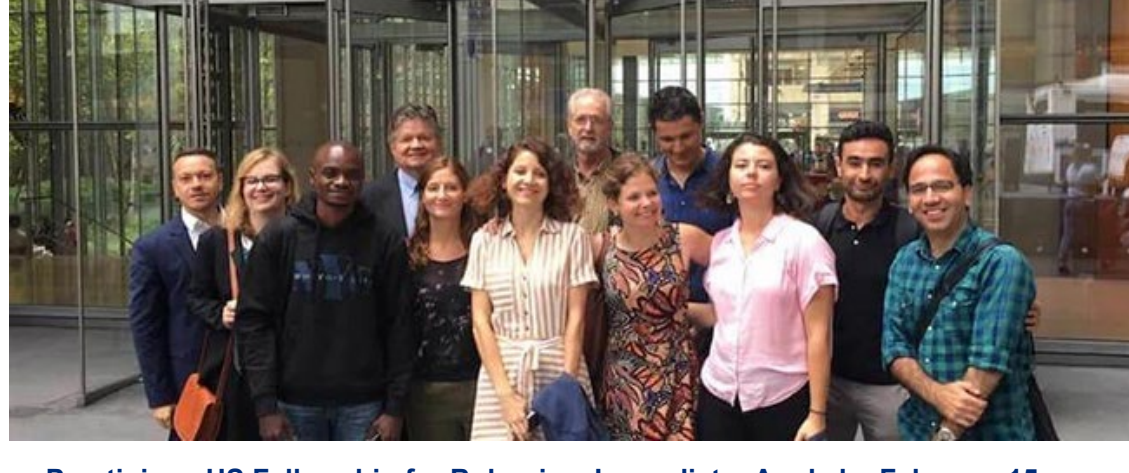
Raycho Raychev and EnduroSat Launch the Balkans into the Future

Raycho Raychev and his team at EnduroSat, longtime partners of the America for Bulgaria Foundation, have once again propelled Bulgaria onto the global innovation stage. With the launch of the **Balkan-1** satellite, they are redefining what the region stands for—turning it into a symbol of ambition and progress.

This groundbreaking NanoSat, equipped with a cutting-edge multispectral camera and AI-powered processing, will provide critical data for maritime surveillance, humanitarian aid, and environmental monitoring. The Balkan-1 satellite is a major step in making space data universally accessible and positioning the Balkans as a hub for technological innovation.

Here's to bold ideas, visionary leadership, and a brighter future for the Balkans —congratulations to Raycho and the EnduroSat team!

Seize the chance!



Prestigious US Fellowship for Bulgarian Journalists: Apply by February 15

Are you a Bulgarian journalist passionate about free expression and eager to gain global perspectives? The **WPI Fellowship** is your chance to learn in the US alongside peers from around the world. This unique opportunity allows you to sharpen your skills, exchange ideas, and bring fresh insights back home to Bulgaria.

[Apply by February 15](#) to take the next step in your career and join this prestigious program.



Bring Your Vision to Life: Dimitrovgrad Museum Seeks Innovative Proposals

The Dimitrovgrad Museum is calling for innovative proposals to showcase its rich history and legacy. This is your chance to create something meaningful that brings new life to a corner of Bulgaria's cultural heritage. [Submit your proposal](#) by **February 7** to make your vision a reality.

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Sending warmest regards,

Your friends at the America for Bulgaria Foundation

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