

Dr. Milen Vrabevski - Founding Chairman

Dr. Milen Vrabevski established the Bulgarian Memory Foundation in 2007 - the year of Bulgaria's official accession to the European Union. As chairman of the Foundation's board Dr. Vrabevski shapes its mission and priorities direction, governs and monitors the conduct of all projects and initiatives, and ensures that the organization's performance matches his vision to work for national prosperity, democracy, innovative education and European perspective.

In addition to his Foundation work, Dr. Vrabevski is a member of the President of Bulgaria's Council on Spirituality, Culture and National Identity and proud member of Clinton Global Initiative, since 2012.

Dr. Milen Vrabevski has been awarded with the Citizen's Prize of the European Parliament in 2013 for his initiative "Strong national identity - strong European identity".



Bulgarian Memory Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 2007 to support initiatives for sustainable development of Bulgarian civic society and to work in the modern sense for realization of the national priorities and the values of European citizenship and intercultural dialog - pluralism, tolerance, autonomy and consent.

The program priorities of the Foundation are focused in the following fields:

- Strengthening the sense of national identity and European solidarity through initiatives for preservation and celebration of Bulgaria's cultural and historical heritage, part of the foundations of the European civilization;
- Development of knowledge economy and realization of young people in Bulgaria an EU;
- Resolving the demographic crisis in Bulgaria and sustainable regional development;
- Reintegration of the Bulgarian communities from the historic diaspora and development of educational perspectives for young people from EU neighboring countries - Ukraine, Moldova, Serbia and Republic of Macedonia.

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BULGARIAN MEMORY FOUNDATION

STRONG NATIONAL IDENTITY
STRONG EUROPEAN IDENTITY





OUR PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES



PROJECT COUNTRIES

ROUTE TO HIGHER EDUCATION, launched in 2010, supports educational initiatives for students from small, remote communities in South-West Bulgaria, where Muslims and Christians live together. In 2015-2016 the project offers preparatory courses for entry into higher education for near 1000 students in 15 secondary schools in remote settlements from the region. The program is supported by parallel initiatives of the Foundation for civic competences and women's rights, as well as professional orientation, including series of open lectures and meetings with successful professionals and personalities from across the social spectrum.

The long-term strategy of the project aims to cover more students and schools each year. As a direct result for the period 2010-2015 nearly 1300 young people acquired good preparation for high school entry and additional knowledge to their common culture and civic competences, as well as good confidence and self-esteem of capable, complete and competitive young citizens.

More than 70% of the participants in the project enter the universities in Varna, Sofia, Plovdiv and Blagoevgrad. The average results are motivating, supported by the sincere appreciation of the local communities and student's families, and acknowledgment of education as the highest social investment.

STRONG NATIONAL IDENTITY - STRONG EUROPEAN IDENTITY, launched in 2007, promotes the European cultural identity among young people in Bulgaria and from the historic diaspora in Moldova, Ukraine, Serbia and Republic of Macedonia. From 2007 to 2015 the project included nearly 4000 young people as ambassadors of the European values and common cultural heritage, related to democracy, tolerance and intercultural dialogue. It also aims to promote the European perspective for education professional development and cultural diversity, which unite the European citizens and foster the spirit of European future.

Student essay contests are held twice a year in more than 100 schools in Bulgaria, Ukraine, Moldova, Serbia and Macedonia. Based on pre-selection, nearly 500 students from Bulgaria and EU neighbor countries participate in a program featuring educational seminars, national celebrations and cultural events. Bulgarian Memory Foundation organizes official visits to Bulgarian and European parliaments and the European commission for the most active and talented young people.

The initiative has been sponsored by Dr. Milen Vrabevski since he established the Foundation in 2007 and involves our youngest citizens to the spiritual values of Europe's identity and solidarity with the variety of national and cultural backgrounds.

- Bulgaria Our mission is to celebrate the cultural integration of EU citizens and to promote the common European values among the young people in Bulgaria and from the Bulgarian historic diaspora in EU neighbor countries.
- Macedonia
- Ukraine
- Moldova
- Serbia

