



SOFIA BUSINESS SCHOOL

AUTUMN EDITION

8-10 November 2019

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Programme Outline

Day 1

8 November 2019 (Friday)

UniArt Gallery, New Bulgarian University

10:00 – 10:10

Welcome Address

Prof. Plamen Bochkov – Rector of New Bulgarian University

Ambassador Ilian Vassilev – Co-founder of Reform Union Club

10:15 - 11:30

Moderator: Boris Petrov

Boris Petrov PhD is macroeconomist, financial markets analyst and commercial banker; Chief Audit Officer at D Commerce Bank; He has served for 14 years at various positions at the Bulgarian National Bank in Research Division, Financial Market Analysis and Financial Stability. Boris is a frequent guest commentator at specialized TV channels and print media. Currently, he is Chief Audit Officer at D Commerce Bank.

Facebook Libra and the Denationalisation of Money

Keynote Speaker: Tito Titov

Tito Titov is the co-founder and CEO of WeiDex – a blockchain agnostic dApp ecosystem for exchanges. He is the youngest member of Cobden Partners (consultancy firm based in London). Since 2017 he has been actively reading, learning and coding in the blockchain sphere. He has a wide range of knowledge in the cryptocurrencies, crypto economics, blockchain and cryptography areas.

11:30 – 11:40 Coffee Break

11:40 – 13:00

Facebook Libra and the Denationalisation of Money (sequel)

Keynote Speaker: Gordon Kerr

Gordon Kerr is investment markets expert; Founder of Cobden Partners (consultancy firm based in London seeking to help nations whose banking systems have either collapsed or are in great difficulty).

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break / Lunch at the University restaurant

14:00 - 15:20

Digitalization of the New Industrial Models: Global and Local Aspects

Keynote Speaker: Evgeni Kanev

Evgeni Kanev is Managing Partner of Maconis LLC (investment and financial advisory company); Former Managing Director of the European operations of Tello Corporation (USA) and Former Corporate Finance Director at KPMG Bulgaria.

15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break

15:40 – 17:00 Discussion Session

17:00 – 18:00 Supper at the University restaurant

Day 2

9 November 2019 (Saturday)

UniArt Gallery, New Bulgarian University

10:00 – 13:00 – Morning session

Moderator: Prof. Antoni Slavinski

Prof. Antoni Slavinski is Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Honorary Professor of the New Bulgarian University. Former Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria (1999-2001). Former Chair of the Management board of the “ASTEL” in Bulgaria for over 10 years.

10:00 – 10:45

Digital Transformation in Defense

Keynote Speaker: Lieutenant general Atanas Zapryanov, Deputy Minister of Defense of Republic of Bulgaria

Lieutenant general Atanas Zapryanov held the position of Commandant of G. S. Rakovski National Defense Academy, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Bulgarian Army for resources, and a military representative of the Chief of General Staff at NATO military committees and the European Union (until 2010), he is former counselor to two political cabinets of the Minister of Defense (until 2013; 2015 - 2016) and former Deputy Minister of Defense (2016 - 2017). Lieutenant General Atanas Zapryanov (Ret.) has been awarded multiple times for excellent military service and high professional results. Also he was awarded For Military Merit Order, First Degree.

10:50 – 11:35

South East Europe Industrial SME Digital Transformation

Keynote Speaker: Peter Statev

Peter Statev has been entrepreneur for more than three decades, as well as a start-up mentor in the ICT sector. He is Chairman of Supervisory board of the first Bulgarian Science and Technology Park and member of Bulgarian National Innovation Council. Peter currently manages Smartcom Group – innovative technology companies active globally. Peter is the co-founder and Chairman of the “ICT cluster” foundation (the “*ICT Foundation*”), the first cluster initiative in SEE.

11:35 – 11:50 Coffee Break

11:50 – 12:35

The Energy Challenges in the Digital Transformation Age

Keynote Speaker: Sasho Donchev

Sasho Donchev is the founder and manager of the first Bulgarian private company for natural gas, founded in 1991. To this day his company has invested more than 320 million euro in new gas distribution network in the cities. Overgas is the first company to provide an energy alternative to people, at their own expense.

12:35 – 13:00 Discussion Session

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break / Lunch at the University restaurant

14:00 – 17:00 Afternoon session

Moderator: Associate professor dr. Vasil Garnizov

Associate professor dr. Vasil Garnizov is member of the Board of Trustees of the New Bulgarian University and associate professor at the Anthropology department. He is a Vice-Chair of the Association of Balkan Anthropology and the Head of the Central Coordination Unit within the Special Preparatory Programme of the European Union for Bulgaria. Former Deputy Minister of the Regional Development and Public Works of Republic of Bulgaria (1999 - 2001). He was a parliamentary expert on local government, regional development and public works, as well as the General Director of the National Center on Territorial Development and Housing Policy.

14:00 – 14:45

The Artificial Intelligence and Legal Services

Keynote Speaker: Irena Georgieva, PhD

Dr. Irena Georgieva, Attorney at law and Managing Partner at PPG Lawyers - Dr. Georgieva is an expert in public procurement, personal data, and other specific regulations. She has over 15 years of professional experience in advising clients on issues related to compliance of their business with various regulatory requirements. Dr. Georgieva is a frequent guest lecturer at national and international tribunals on regulatory legal issues.

14:50 – 15:35

Is Artificial Intelligence Intelligent?

Keynote Speaker: George Horozov

George Horozov is the managing Director of Rüschlikon Capital Management GmbH based in Zürich, which is specialized in corporate finance advisory, corporate governance and wealth management. Mr. Horozov has more than 20 years international banking and finance experience. He is Former Director, Head of Infrastructure Corporate and Project Finance with BSTDB in Thessaloniki and Principal Banker with EBRD in London. He is former Member of Boards of Directors of leading companies among which are pCloud AG, Alpha Pharm, Teleset Networks, SEAF Transbalkan Equity Fund, Balfin Group. He is a member of the Institute of Directors, London with a Certificate in Company Directorship.

15:35 – 15:50 Coffee Break

15:50 – 16:35

Smart Weapons and Defense Budgets

Keynote Speaker: Krasen Stanchev

Krasen Stanchev is the Chairman of the Board, Founder and Former Executive Director of the Institute for Market Economics (IME) - the first think tank for the independent and free market in Bulgaria (1993), former member and chairman of the Constitutional Assembly Committee (1990-1991), as well and one of the most cited Bulgarian observers.

16:35 – 17:00 Discussion Session

17:00 – 18:00 Supper at the University restaurant

Day 3

10 November 2019 (Sunday)

UniArt Gallery, New Bulgarian University

Moderator: Ilian Vassilev

Amb. Ilian Vassilev is Managing Partner of Innovative Energy Solutions (energy sector consultancy company); Member of the Board of the Centre for Balkan and Black Sea Studies; Honorary Chairman of the Bulgarian Economic Forum; Co-founder of the Reform Union Club and official coordinator of the Sofia Business School since its pilot edition.

10:00 – 11:20

The Impact of Transformative Change on CBs, Governments, Businesses and Individuals amid the Risk of a Looming Global Recession

Keynote Speaker: Rahim Taghizadegan

Rahim Taghizadegan is director of the academic research institute Scholarium (scholarium.at) in Vienna, Austria; Lecturer at several universities and faculty member at the International Academy of Philosophy in Liechtenstein; Education entrepreneur.

11:20 – 11:40 Coffee Break

11:40 – 13:00 Discussion session

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break / Lunch at the University restaurant

14:00 - 15:20

Digital Revolution – Transformation of Business Rules and Basic Concepts

Keynote Speaker: Stanimir Nikolov

Stanimir Nikolov is Chief Executive Office of EPAM Systems Bulgaria since 2014. He was Chair of the Board of the Bulgarian Outsourcing Association in 2017-2018. From 2007 to 2014 he was part of IBM Executive Management regarding business transformation and innovations in business processes, as well as executive director of the IBM Global Delivery Center in Sofia.

15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break

15:40 – 17:00

Conclusion Lecture

Dimitar Tsotsorkov

Dimitar Tsotsorkov is Chairman of the Board of Reform Union Club and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Asarel Medet, the largest and leading Bulgarian mining company for open pit mining and copper ore processing. Mr. Tsotsorkov is CEO of Asarel Investment and co-founder of “Lachezar Tsotsorkov” Foundation.

17:00 – 18:00 Supper at the University restaurant