











**PROFILES OF ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS,
TAKING PART IN THE NATIONAL COORDINATION GROUP FOR LIFELONG LEARNING**



<i>№</i>	<i>Institution/ Organization</i>	<i>Logo</i>	<i>E-mails</i>	<i>Profile</i>
1.	Employment Agency /EA/		www.az.government.bg	<p>Employment Agency (EA) is an executive agency to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy implementing the state policy on employment promotion. The main functions of the agency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • registering of the job vacancies and of those actively seeking employment; • intermediation services for employment; • joint participation with the municipalities and employers in developing socially useful activities at local and national level; • participation in the development and implementation of programs and measures for employment and training aimed at specific groups of unemployed people who, for various reasons, are less adaptable to the labor market; • implementation, individually or jointly with other bodies or organizations, of projects and programs in the areas of employment, professional training and qualifications and social Integration, funded by the pre-accession EC funds or other international organizations (including such with the participation of Bulgarian resources); • protection and preservation of employment; • organization of qualification and motivational training for unemployed and employed; • brokering employment for the Bulgarian citizens abroad and foreigners in Bulgaria; • analysis of supply and demand in the labor market and forecasting of possible changes. <p>Territorial units of the Agency are "Regional Employment Service" and "Labor" Directorates.</p>



2.	Association of the Industrial Capital in Bulgaria / BICA /	 <p>АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА ИНДУСТРИАЛНИЯ КАПИТАЛ В БЪЛГАРИЯ</p>	www.bica-bg.org	<p>The Association of Industrial Capital in Bulgaria (BICA) is a nationally represented employers' organization in Bulgaria. Established in 1996, it has a serious influence in the business circles, social partnership area and in the public space at general. Association members are 60 branch chambers and associations and more than 6,600 enterprises, employing over 336,000 workers. BICA has a network of regional chambers in over 88 municipalities. BICA is the only member of Bulgaria CEEP – the European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing services of general interest (www.ceep.eu) – employers' organization, a social partner of the European Commission over the last fifty years. In 2011, a representative of BICA was elected as a Vice-President of CEEP.</p>
3.	Association "Parents"		www.roditeli.org	<p>The "Parents" Association was founded on June 19, 2001 as an association for public benefit established under Law for the Non-profit organizations. The main objective of the Foundation is to develop and promote leadership as a fundamental value in society and the family as the natural environment for the upbringing of children. The Foundation's activities are aimed at developing, implementing and disseminating regional and national policies on family values among children; Volunteering and charity; environmental education of children and development of sense of respect for the natural environment; mass children's sports and art activities; the development of child health, prevention of childhood diseases; Prevention of all forms of violence against children; Resistance to pornography, gambling and antisocial behavior in children; Support for gifted children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of ERA – the European parent association; • Member of working groups within the National Council for Child Protection; • Member of the Public Council for Safer Internet;




				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Advisory Education Board to Sofia Municipality; • Member of the Advisory Board "Children of Sofia“.
4.	Balkan Institute for Labour and Social Policy / BILSP /		www.bilsp.org	<p>The Balkan Institute for Labour and Social Policy (BILSP) is a non-governmental, voluntary, independent and non-political non-profit association, founded in September 2001.</p> <p>BILSP works in priority areas such as management of European funds and other international donor programs, corporate social responsibility, lifelong learning, labor market, human resources, industrial relations, social security and social protection, health and safety, labor law, social policy, social entrepreneurship, vocational training.</p> <p>BILSP has a wide national network - 15 associated partner organizations in 15 regions of Bulgaria.</p>
5.	Bulgarian Industrial Association /BIA/		www.bia-bg.com	<p>The Bulgarian Industrial Association (BIA) is a nationally represented employers' organization, established on April 25, 1980.</p> <p>The Association participates in the system of social dialogue at national and international level, where it defends the interests of the Bulgarian business during changes in the legislation and the administrative practices. The branch organizations – members of BIA are included in all existing sectoral collective contracts and agreements.</p> <p>BIA is a member of BUSINESSEUROPE – an organization of the European business of Confederate type where it represents the interests of the Bulgarian companies and employers at European level.</p> <p>The Association participates in the work of the International Organization of Employers (IOE), the International Labor Organization (ILO), the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Forum of employers' organizations from South East Europe (SEEEF). BIA is a founding member of the Union of Black Sea and Caspian confederations of entrepreneurs (UBCCE).</p> <p>BIA has signed cooperation agreements with more than 70 national employers' and business organizations of the most developed countries in Europe, Asia,</p>

6.	Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry /BCCI/		www.bcci.bg	<p>The Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (established in 1895) is a nationally represented employers' organization to support, promote, represent and protect the economic interests of its members, contributing to the development of international economic cooperation and assistance for European and International Integration of the Republic of Bulgaria.</p> <p>The Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and 28 Regional trade-industrial chambers are integrated into a single system of the Bulgarian chambers of commerce, whose members include about 53 000 traders, associations and others.</p> <p>A Board of branch organizations is established and functioning to BCCI. It was established on January 14, 1999. The main objectives of the Council and its activities are aimed at supporting the dialogue between the government institutions and the business, and leads to balancing the interests of the branch organizations on key issues related to the creation of a favorable climate for development of the Bulgarian business. Its members comprise 104 branch organizations.</p>
7.	Institute for Study of the Societies and Knowledge, BAS		www.issk-bas.org	<p>The Institute for Study of the Societies and Knowledge BAS (ISSK BAS) was established in July 2010 by the General Assembly of the Academy as the successor of the Institute for Philosophical Research, Institute of Sociology and the Center for Science Studies and History of Science.</p> <p>The mission of the institute as part of BAS is to ensure adequate knowledge about the social processes and to assist in optimizing the processes of policy development in the key socio-economic areas</p> <p>The Institute for Study of the Societies and Knowledge, BAS carries out complex theoretical and empirical, fundamental and applied, philosophical, sociological and scientometrical research of knowledge, values, people and society in accordance with the academic, national and European criteria and global trends in the development of science and trains specialists in the academic disciplines Philosophy, Sociology and Science Studies and their subdivisions. Priority are the researches and their analysis and rationalization, combined with the education (alone and jointly with the related university departments), promotion of ideas and products, continuation and further development of the analysis of classic and modern areas of the social</p>




				knowledge such as epistemology and history of philosophy, philosophy and sociology of the social structures and many others, that are important for the sustainable development of the Bulgarian society, social progress and the increase of the prosperity.
8.	Institute for Social Integration /ISI/	 <p>Институт за Социална Интеграция</p>	www.isi-bg.org	<p>The Institute for Social Integration (ISI) is a nongovernmental organization established in 2002. Its constitution includes leading experts - sociologists, political scientists, psychologists, lawyers, diplomats, economists, journalists. What unites them is the importance of the issues of integration and disintegration in our society, bridging the social and economic disruption, alienation and social vulnerability. The main directions of its work are: training, education, research and scientific research, monitoring, discussion forums and publishing. It supports the realization of democratic processes in the Bulgarian public and political space; it participates in the preparation and debate on the conducted policies.</p> <p>ISI is a member of the European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP) and the Foundation for European Progressive Education (FEPS), of the European network SOLIDAR.</p>
9.	Confederation of Labour "Podkrepa"		www.podkrepa.org	<p>The Confederation of Labour "Podkrepa" is a nationally represented organization of workers and employees in Bulgaria. Full members of "Podkrepa" are the national federations and the national unions and the union regional alliances.</p> <p>"Podkrepa" is the first member from Bulgaria in the International Confederation of Unions since 1991 and a full member of the European Confederation of Unions of December since 1995.</p>



10.	Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Bulgaria /CITUB/		www.knsb-bg.org	<p>The Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB) is a nationally represented organization of employees and is the largest public organization in Bulgaria. Its members are over 350 000 Bulgarian employees and it has its collective management bodies. The supreme governing body is the Congress.</p> <p>The Confederation represents and protects the rights and interests of Bulgarian workers both by respecting their rights and by providing individual counseling; it organizes training courses to assist employees in raising their professional qualification and adaptability on the Bulgarian and the European labor market; gives great importance to collective labor bargaining as a major tool for an effective protection of the rights and interests of employees.</p> <p>Nationally, there is a network of regional offices and municipal union councils. In their work they are supported by a trusted syndicate Bar.</p> <p>CITUB is a member of the European Trade Union Confederation and participates actively in the work of the Economic and Social Council.</p>
11.	Confederation of the Employers and the Industrialists in Bulgaria /CEIB/		www.ceibg.bg	<p>The Confederation of the Employers and the Industrialists in Bulgaria (CEIB) is a nationally represented employers' organization, which unites more than 10 500 companies, collective and individual members.</p> <p>CEIB mission is to be effective in improving the business climate in the country; to assist its members in sharing best business practices; to increase the competitiveness of the Bulgarian economy.</p> <p>CEIB has strong regional and branch structures: 66 regional offices throughout the country; unites 55 branch organizations in all sectors;</p> <p>CEIB a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).</p>



12.	Ministry of Agriculture and Food / MAF /	 <p>МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ЗЕМЕДЕЛИЕТО И ХРАНИТЕ НА РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ</p>	www.mzh.government. bg	<p>The Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) conducts the State policy on agricultural science and the sectoral vocational education and training. The Office coordinates the training of farmers, the activities of the Agricultural Academy, the National Advisory Service in agriculture and the related universities. Within the special jurisdiction of the institution is included the provision of conditions for the expression of the students' achievements and promotion of their results. The Ministry expresses opinions on the national educational requirements (NER) for acquisition of professional qualification and on the list of professions for vocational education and training.</p> <p>MAF coordinates the admission plan of the institutions from the system of vocational education and training, applies the system of delegated budgets, develops a formula for distribution of funds received under uniform expenditure standards and provides information on payment of the funds provided in the state budget, as well as within the national programs for development of the secondary education. In its competence falls also the development of motivated proposals for changes in the network of schools financed by its budget. MAF makes proposals to nominate its representatives in the Board and expert committees of NAVET. Along with other functions MAF conducts coordination between research organizations and related agricultural universities on innovation and excellence in agriculture, food and forestry.</p>
13.	Ministry of Economy and Energy / MEE /	 <p>МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ИКОНОМИКАТА И ЕНЕРЖИКАТА НА РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ</p>	www.mi.government.b g	<p>The Ministry of Economy and Energy (MEE) develops, organizes, coordinates and controls the implementation of the State policy in the field of economy, energy and tourism.</p> <p>MEE works towards a competitive low-carbon economy that will ensure growth and development of Bulgaria, aiming to encourage the investment, the innovation and the competitiveness.</p>


14	Ministry of Culture / MC /	 <p>РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА КУЛТУРАТА</p>	www.mc.government.bg	<p>The Ministry of Culture (MC) develops, organizes, coordinates and controls the implementation of the State policy in the field of culture.</p> <p>It determines the strategies, priorities and mechanisms for implementation of the State cultural policy in the field of community center work, the libraries, the Bulgarian literature, the cultural heritage, the museums and visual arts. It develops curricula, school programs, the state admission plan, the national examination programs for vocational training, programs and topics for admission to schools of arts and culture. It participates in the development and implementation of measures for protection of children gifted in arts.</p> <p>MC is responsible for ensuring high quality and efficiency of educational process in 23 secondary schools of arts and culture.</p>
15.	Ministry of Youth and Sports / MYS /	 <p>МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА МЛАДЕЖТА И СПОРТА</p>	mpes.government.bg	<p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports (MYS) conducts the overall State policy on youth, sports and social tourism.</p>
16.	Ministry of Education and Science / MES /	 <p>МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА</p>	www.mon.bg	<p>Ministry of Education and Science (MES) conducts the State policy in education and science. It develops concepts, strategies, programs and plans in line with national and European law on pre-school education, general education, vocational education and training, higher education and lifelong learning and is responsible for their implementation.</p> <p>Territorial units to the Minister of Education and Science, for management and control at the district level of the educational system, are 28 regional education inspectorates.</p> <p>MES is the national coordinator for adult learning and national support unit of the electronic platform for adult learning in Europe - EPAL.</p>

17.	Ministry of Defense / MD /		www.md.government.bg	<p>The Ministry of Defence (MoD) is responsible for conducting the State policy on defense. It implements the management and control on the implementation of State policy and State standards for education, training and qualification in the military academies in higher military schools and in military colleges.</p>
18.	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy / MLSP /		www.mlsp.government.bg	<p>The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MLSP) conducts the State policy in the labor market, in the protection of the national labor market, training of the workforce and the integration of disadvantaged groups in the labor market. Organizes and coordinates the development and implementation of the Employment Strategy and the national action plans for employment; organizes the Study for the needs of employers of workforce with certain qualifications; supports the National Classification of professions; develops programs and measures for employment and workforce training, methods to increase the effectiveness of adult education and other policy instruments.</p> <p>It coordinates and provides methodological guidance to the Employment Agency, the State enterprise "Bulgarian-German Vocational Training Centre" and the Human Resource Development Center and Regional Initiatives such the National Council for Promotion of Employment and the National Advisory Council on vocational training of the workforce;</p>
19.	National Agency for Vocational Education and Training to the Council of Ministers		www.navet.government.bg	<p>The National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NAVET) is a State authority for licensing of activities in the system of vocational education and training, as well as for the coordination of institutions related to vocational guidance, training and education.</p> <p>It develops and proposes to the Minister of Education and Science the list of professions for vocational education and training and the state educational requirements for acquiring qualification on professions. It maintains a register of vocational training centers and centers for information and guidance as well as about the issued and revoked licenses. It provides methodical support to the vocational training centers that perform validation of professional knowledge, skills and competencies.</p>

20.	National Institute for Education and Training in the education system /NIETES/		http://sido.niod.bg/dmz/	<p>The National Institute for Education and Training in the education system (NIETES) supports the implementation of Government policy in the field of secondary education through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • training for managerial staff in the Bulgarian schools; • developing, exploring, sharing and introducing innovations in school education • developing training programs and participation in international projects. <p>The Institute has developed a wide international network of partners and experts which it involves in activities aroused within various projects and tasks. Since its establishment in 2006 in the trainings of NIETES they took part more than 11,438 managers and 35,077 teachers.</p>
21.	National Youth Forum (NYF)		www.nmf.bg	<p>The National Youth Forum (NMF) is the largest formal platform of youth organizations in Bulgaria, uniting 35 non-governmental youth organizations. The mission of the National Youth Forum is to represent the interests of young people in Bulgaria and their needs, putting to the fore the significance and importance of youth organizations, their development and participation in social and socio-political processes and ensure effective structural dialogue through cooperation with relevant stakeholders and institutions, decision-makers in the youth policy.</p> <p>The main target group of the organization is young people, members of the National Youth Forum - more than 110 000 people.</p>
22.	National Network for Children (NNC)		www.nmd.bg	<p>The National Network for Children (NNC) was established in 2003 as a free alliance of NGOs. In 2006 it acquired the status of a non-governmental organization for public benefit. It is a grouping of civil society organizations and partners, working with and for children and families across the country. The promotion, protection and respect of children's rights are part of the key principles that unite the organization. Philosophy, values and way of working are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since 2007, the organization is responsible for the implementation in Bulgaria</p>

				<p>of the international program PROCOFIL to combat child abuse, co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France. Since 2009, the National Network for Children works on the project "I have a right" for better protection of children's rights in Bulgaria, funded by the OAK Foundation and UNICEF. The National Network for Children advocates for the rights and welfare of children putting together and developing a broader, socially significant network of organizations and supporters.</p>
23.	National Statistical Institute / NSI /		www.nsi.bg	<p>The National Statistical Institute (NSI) provides the statistical activities of the state by conducting periodical and one-time statistical surveys included in the National Statistical Programme. It provides a methodological guidance to the statistical authorities. The National Statistical Institute, the Bodies of Statistics and the Bulgarian National Bank are the source of official statistics in Bulgaria.</p>
24.	Sofia Municipality / SM /		www.sofia.bg	<p>Sofia Municipality (CO) is the largest municipality in Bulgaria with a population of 1,302,316 people. Its main activities in the field of education and training are aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision and control of compulsory schooling for children up to age 16; • Provision of funds for maintenance, construction, furniture and emergency repairs of municipal schools / incl. sports facilities and dormitories / kindergartens and servicing units; • Providing scholarships and special assistance for students on the basis of Ordinance on the terms and conditions for the protection of gifted children; • Analyzes and develops proposals related to management of pre-school and secondary education in municipal kindergartens and schools. • Provides methodological guidance of experts in regional administrations in the field of education. • Performs inspections and supervision in educational and childcare institutions on compliance with the regulations, the management of the provided facilities - municipal property and the student canteens.

25.	"Paideia" foundation		www.paideiafoundation.org	<p>The "Paideia" Foundation (1999) is an NGO in public benefit, established to promote the modernization of Bulgarian education.</p> <p>The Foundation works in several directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the quality of teaching social studies and civic education through: Developing curricula, training, educational and auxiliary literature in accordance with the state educational requirements and modern methods of teaching social studies and civic education; • Encourage the initiative and the existing resources at regional, local and school level and providing effective channels for exchange of experience, ideas and best educational practices through the establishment of a national school network "European lessons"; • Promoting the development and implementation of educational and training programs for teachers and managers in the field of education; • Monitoring and analysis of the course of modernization of Bulgarian education with special emphasis on the effective functioning of curricula, standards and management tools, as well as the options available for improving their own or attracted from various sources resource; • Attracting broad public support for the modernization of Bulgarian education. Special attention is paid to civic education.
26.	Center for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Quality of School Education / CMEQSE /		www.ckoko.bg	<p>The Center for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Quality of School Education / CMEQSE/ is a service unit of the Ministry of Education and Science, performing the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develops systems for quality control of the school education; develops and tests models and mechanisms for internal and external evaluation in school education; initiates proposals for different types of exams at national level and improves the legal framework for the conduction of inspection

				<p>activities related to improving the quality of school education;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participates in the organization of various tests at national level, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and REI; • studies and analyzes the systems for control of the quality of school education in the European Union and other countries in order to use the positive experiences and best practices; • prepares thematic studies on the quality of school education at national level; • conducts national and international studies of the quality of school education in the Republic of Bulgaria, processes and analyzes the data and publishes reports with the test results; • participates in the organization and conducts examinations for establishing the proficiency in Bulgarian.
28.	Human Resources Development Center /HRDC/	 <p>ЦЕНТЪР ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ НА ЧОВЕШКИТЕ РЕСУРСИ</p>	www.hrdc.bg	<p>The Human Resources Development Center (HRDC) organizes, consults, coordinates and carries out projects and studies in the field of education, vocational education and training, labor market and human resources in Bulgaria.</p> <p>The Centre is the National Agency for Bulgaria under the administration of the European program "Erasmus +" for 2014-2020.</p> <p>It carries out the activities on information and consultation, work-related to the Euroguidance center of Bulgaria in the field of vocational guidance. Through the National Europass Centre, it coordinates dissemination and implementation of the Europass initiative in Bulgaria. Coordinates and administers the national e-Twinning activities of the European Union. It coordinates in Bulgaria also the "study visits" and the initiative "European Language Label". Through the Bulgarian National Observatory (BNO) HRDC is a partner in the network for the exchange of expertise in the field of vocational education and training Refernet to the European Agency for professional developments CEDEFOP.</p>