

E-NEWSLETTER ISSUE 11 • MARCH 2026

FROM TARATOR TO ABTS: FULBRIGHT CELEBRATES CROSS-CULTURAL CURIOSITY

Official Newsletter of the Bulgarian Fulbright Commission

What happens when a senior judge from Sofia City Court drives a pick-up truck to a Missouri rodeo? Or when a young math-whiz unleashes Dunavsko Horo on UPENN's Wharton school? Or when 120+ Fulbrighters get together to play bingo? The Fulbright program's mission of creating bridges between people is strengthened through sharing and celebrating local cultures and personal histories! Check out this edition of the Fulbright Bulgaria newsletter to find out more about Judge Evgeni Georgiev's inner hillbilly, to learn the secrets of admissions success from EducationUSA student Sara Ilieva, and to discover what Fulbright grantees and alums were up to at the 2026 Midterm Conference—it just might help you the next time you play Fulbright Bingo!



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From Missouri Hillbilly
to New York Yankee

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Math Competitions +
Folk Dancing = The
Synchrony of Success!

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Celebrating Cross-
Disciplinary Curiosity
and Classroom
Creativity: The
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Conference

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BULGARIAN GRANTEES

From Missouri Hillbilly to New York Yankee

Senior Judge Evgeni Georgiev of the Sofia City Court is a two-time Fulbright Scholar. A specialist in mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), he is widely recognized as Bulgaria's leading expert in the field. He is also the founder of the Fulbright Court Internship Program for Bulgarian law students, which has been creating new pathways for academic and professional exchange between Bulgaria and the United States for more than a decade. Throughout his career, the Fulbright exchange and its global network have played an instrumental role in his professional growth and international engagement.

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As a pioneer in court-connected Alternative Dispute Resolution, Mizzou Law offered not only expertise but intellectual generosity.

JUDGE EVGENI GEORGIEV
FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR TO THE
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI,
SCHOOL OF LAW
AY 2025-26



EDUCATION USA

Math Competitions + Folk Dancing = The Synchrony of Success!

For Sara Ilieva, Christmas came earlier this year! After two years as part of EducationUSA Bulgaria's community—first in our virtual cohort and later as a participant in the selective Opportunity Funds program—Sara received the news many students dream about: admission through the Early Decision round to the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

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EVENTS

Celebrating Cross-Disciplinary Curiosity and Classroom Creativity: The Fulbright Midterm Conference

Over two energizing winter days, U.S. Fulbright grantees from across Bulgaria gathered in Sofia for the Midterm Conference—a joyful pause to reflect, reconnect, and recharge at the halfway point of their grant journeys.

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