

## MIDDLE CLASS, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Conference organized by the Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge  
at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Konrad Adenauer Foundation

**November 4 - 5, 2015, Sofia, Bulgaria**

Sofia University, New Conference Room (North Wing, 2nd floor), 15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd.

### CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

12:30 – 13:00

Registration, Lyubka Ilieva

13:00 – 14:00

**OPENING**

**Greetings:**

**Rumiana Stoilova** Director of the Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge, BAS

**Marco Arndt** Head of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Office in Bulgaria

**Jörg Schenk** Embassy of FR Germany in Sofia

Representative of the President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Representative of the Minister of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education

**Zornica Rusinova** Deputy Minister of the Bulgarian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

#### SESSION 1

Moderator: **Irina Nedeva** (Bulgarian National Radio)

14:00-14:30

**Michael Gebel**, University of Bamberg, GERMANY:

*The concept of the 'middle class' in a life course perspective*

14:30-14:45

**Rumiana Stoilova** (ISSK-BAS) *Transitions of young people from the middle class to first work - challenges and opportunities (to be specified)*

14:45-15:00

**Pepka Boyadjieva, Krastinka Petkova** (ISSK-BAS),

**Valery Todorov** (Academy of the Ministry of Interior):

*The Social Construction of the Individual's Culture of Giving for Education*

15:00-15:15

**Ognyan Minchev** (IRIS) *(to be specified)*

15:15-16:00

Discussion

16:00-16:30

Coffee Break

#### SESSION 2

Moderators: **Boyan Znepolski** (Sofia University)

16:00-16:15

**Valentina Milenkova** (South-Western University):

*Traditions and Achievements in Studying Middle Class in Bulgarian Social Sciences*

16:15-16:45

**Jouko Nikula**, (University of Helsinki):

*Finland: Middle class and middle class jobs – the victims of the progress?*

16:45-17:00

**Petar Cholakov** (ISSK-BAS):

*The Ethnic Underclass: the Paper Tower of Roma Integration in Bulgaria*

17:00-17:15

**Stephan E. Nikolov, Albena Nakova, Galin Gornev** (ISSK-BAS):

*Role of Foundations in Science and Scientific Research on Social Mobility*

17:15-17:30

**Rumiana Zheleva** (ISSK-BAS):

*The Model of German Capitalism: Does it Exist? Can it be transferred?*

17:30-18:00

Discussion

18:00-18:15

Conclusion

Meeting over a glass of wine



**Thursday, November 5, 2015**

**SESSION 3**

Moderator: **Mariana Draganova** (ISSK-BAS)

**09:30-9:45**

**Martin Tabakov** (ISSK-BAS):

*Specific features of the middle class in Bulgaria.*

**9:45-10:00**

**Emilia Chengelova** (ISSK-BAS):

*Education and labour market in Bulgaria 2015: Imbalances and key challenges*

**10:00-10:15**

**Hristina Ambareva** (ISSK-BAS):

*Middle Class, Post-Materialism and Political Culture in Bulgaria*

**10:15-10:30**

**Julia Doncheva**, (University of Ruse "Angel Kanchev"):

*The Challenges to Young people that the European Programme "Erasmus+" Poses*

**10:30-10:45**

**Anna Varbanova/Martin J. Ivanov** (ISSK -BAS):

*Project „Training in ecopreneurship in three Bulgarian universities“ as an attempt for action research*

**10:45-11:00**

**Svetlana Stamenova** (ISSK-BAS):

*Development of the subjective middle class identification of some Central and Eastern European countries during the post-communist transition period (Case -studies based on cross-national data surveys)*

**11:00-11:15**

**Tsocho Zlatkov** (ISSK-BAS):

*Problems and myths about modern middle class*

**11:15-11:45**

Final Discussion: *The Middle Class in Europe and its Future*

Discussants: The Visiting Scientists **Michael Gebel** (Germany) and **Jouko Nikula** (Finland)

**12:00**

Light lunch

*English and Bulgarian are the conference languages.*

*Simultaneous translation Bulgarian-English-Bulgarian will be provided.*

Scientific committee: **Rumyana Stoilova, Marco Arndt, Tanya Nedelcheva, Pepka Boyadjieva, Svetla Koleva, Rumiana Zheleva, Albena Nakova, Mariana Draganova, Nadezhda Krandeva, Vladimir Vladov.**

Conference organizers: **Rumyana Zheleva, Nadezhda Krandeva, Vladimir Vladov, Albena Nakova, Lyubka Ilieva.**

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