



MONTHLY MESSAGE OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR APRIL 2021

***Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors
in D-2482, Bulgaria,***

It seems even winter fell back after the harsher anti-epidemic measures in the district ...

As it has become traditional lately, I advise you to be especially careful with your own health and that of those around you and the keep up your tireless enthusiasm in selflessly helping your communities!



Today I want to draw your attention again to an important focus of our Rotary actions: ***maternal and child health care***.

There is a National Programme for Improvement of Maternal and Child Health in Bulgaria, as an element of the National Health Strategy. The positive aspect is that the Programme is synchronized with the European Strategy for Child Health, which allows the introduction of relevant European standards in Bulgaria. Our advantage today is to compare with the best. But this is exactly the reason for dissatisfaction: the birth rate in our country is lower and the infant mortality rate is higher than the average for the European Union. For many years, a key issue has become a priority in solving these problems: the creation of the lacking National Pediatric Hospital.

Maternal and child health care are a priority for the clubs in the district. According to my own survey from the end of 2018, the topic is first among the project with a district grant then (48% of the projects) and third among the project with global grant (14% of the projects).

With the topic so naturally adopted as especially close to us, I want to suggest some accents for ***possible Rotary activity*** :

- Increasing awareness among adolescents about various aspects of reproductive health
- Supporting the mechanism for data collection, assessment and analysis of the state of maternal and child health
- screening (classification after examination) of mothers and children
- Assistance in strengthening the material and technical base, including new medical equipment in the area of maternal and child health care
- promoting healthy living and prevention of abuse of tobacco products, alcohol and drugs among adolescents and youth

Beyond the leading topic, I am glad to announce that two election procedures have been completed successfully in the district, which allows me to announce the district governor-elect 2023-24 – Hristo Mihaylovski, member of RC Sofia, and district interact representative 2021-22 - Mariya Popova, member of IAC Sofia Centre. I wish strength and inspiration in the responsible district activities to our newly elected friends!

I would like to thank all the clubs who did not hesitate to nominate their permanent representative in the District Correspondent Network in a timely manner. The group of "correspondents" is to be activated, which will allow for a more complete flow of Rotary information in the district.

I also thank the Rotary, Rotaract and Interact clubs which host my continuous virtual Official visits! The energy with which you keep up your club activities and your willingness to serve your communities despite the current difficult conditions, are truly inspiring!

In fact, it could hardly be otherwise - with the capacity of Rotary to open opportunities !



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Iliyan Nikolov". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Arch. Iliyan Nikolov
District governor 2020-21

Watch a video of the address, published on the district website: www.rotary-bulgaria.org
- below the site header or : rotary-bulgaria.org/Дистрикт_губерньор_2020-2021/Месечни_послания