

Dear Lilia,

The Russian ISSP team congratulates colleagues from the Agency for Social Analyses (Bulgaria) and personally its leader Lilia Dimova on the 25th anniversary of its participation in the ISSP. Bulgaria is the most important European country, which has gone, like Russia, through the post-Soviet transformation. Like every post-Soviet country, Bulgaria has both common and unique features of the transformation process, associated with its culture, history, geographical location. And if we have any knowledge about this process in Bulgaria, it is largely due to the research of the Agency, headed by Lilia Dimova. We, Russian researchers, used the ISSP data on various topics to analyze changes in behavior, values, social institutions of the Russian society in comparison with other post-Soviet countries, including Bulgaria.

We know from our own experience that teams from post-Soviet countries often have difficulty with finding for participation in the ISSP. And we would like to emphasize that, to our opinion, despite this difficulty, all these 25 years Lilia Dimova has been a very active and effective representative of Bulgaria in the overall ISSP team.

We wish Lilia and her team prosperity, successful projects and we hope that our creative and friendly cooperation will last for many years.

Warmest regards,

Prof. Lyudmila A. Khakhulina

Academic Supervisor and Archive Council Chair

Deputy Director of the Levada Center.

and

Dr. Olga Karaeva,

Levada-Center, Russia