

## **Bulgaria Section**

# Valentina Markova

## Section Vitality

The last elections were held at the end of 2020. After the standard procedure, including the notification of the section members, nomination procedure, and election by vTools voting system, the following board was elected:

- Chair: Valentina Markova, former Treasurer
- Vice Chair: Kiril Alexiev, former Chair
- Secretary: Vladimir Jotsov, former Secretary
- Treasurer: Todor Ganchev, new member of ExCom

Section ExCom meetings was held twice in 2021. The first meeting was in January via Zoom, immediately after the election of the new leadership. The second took place in mid-October (8-10). For next year we decided to have three meetings at the beginning of the year, in May-June and at the end of the year October / November.

Bulgaria Section was technical co-sponsor of several conferences, where the IEEE membership has been promoted for the attendees.

### Students

We have three Student Branches. Unfortunately, only one is active this year. Section Ex com members make strong efforts to attract students, but in the current situation we do not achieve significant success.

### **Affinity Groups**

Due to the reduced activity of the Young Professionals, we plan to organize their raising to a new chair in the hope of increasing their activity.

#### Chapters

Due to Covid -19, pandemic chapter activities were mainly online. In our ExCom meetings, we invited the chapters to present their activities and encourage them to share the difficulties they face. We try to be as useful as we can.

#### Industry

Due to Covid-19, the partnership with the industry is almost inactive.

#### Activities since the last report

This year we organized two-days ExCom meeting, where we discuss all problems related to organizing the scientific events, current pandemic situation and membership renewal. We took part in organization of 10 IEEE conference. We work in close collaboration with the Bulgarian Federation of Technical Unions, Union of Automatics and Informatics and Union of Metrology.

### How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities

There are no special challenges other than those related to the current crisis related to COVID-19