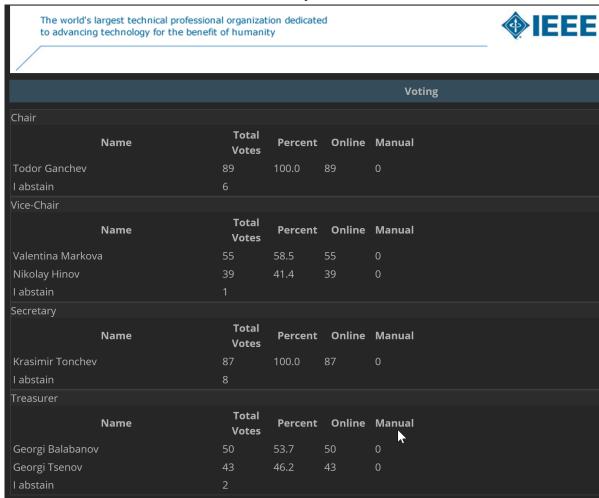


IEEE Bulgaria Section

Todor Ganchev

Section Vitality

The most recent IEEE Bulgaria Section elections took place during the period December 2024 – January 2025, with a voting deadline of January 5, 2025. There were six candidates for the four ExCom positions: chair (1), vice chair (2), treasurer (2) and secretary (1). The newly elected Executive Committee was announced on January 6, 2025, and entered service immediately. The distribution of votes and the election results were reported as follows:



In the IEEE Bulgaria section, there is no strictly established practice that the previous section's vice-chair shall become the new chair. All ExCom positions are subject to open nominations and elections, compliant with the highest standards of IEEE. Nevertheless, during the last elections, there was just one candidate for the Chair position, and he was the previous Vice-Chair, Todor Ganchev. My understanding of this phenomenon is that the Chair position is not very attractive due to the significant workload it requires, so few candidates volunteer. Whether this understanding is correct, we can see during the next elections for the IEEE Bulgaria Section ExCom members, which will take place in December 2026.

Meetings

The Executive Committee (ExCom) of the IEEE Bulgaria Section convenes monthly meetings online, typically on the second or third Friday of each month. An ExCom physical meeting is held yearly. In addition to the regular schedule, extra meetings are frequently organized in accordance with the planned activities. For example, in January 2025, three meetings were held, and in February 2025, two additional meetings were convened to support the annual section and chapter activities reporting campaign. Similarly, in September 2025, two meetings took place to facilitate the organization of elections in some chapters, necessitated by the expiration of volunteer mandates during the July-August 2025 period. On Oct. 1st, 2025, we opened the nomination campaign, which will end on Oct 26, 2025. From Nov. 1, 2025, we plan to start the voting campaign. The newly elected chapter chairs vice-chairs will enter starting from January and service



Membership

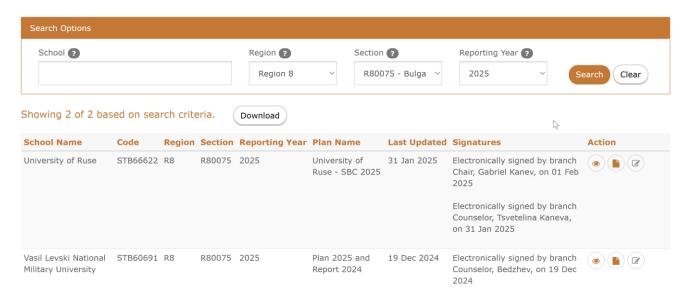
As part of the efforts to disseminate the Membership benefits and increase the recruitment of new members, the IEEE Bulgaria Section have signed agreements for joint activities with three other nationally represented professional associations:

- Union of Metrologists in Bulgaria (UMB),
- The John Atanasoff Society of Automatics and Informatics in Bulgaria (SAI),
- The Union of Electronics, Electrical & Communications Engineers in Bulgaria (CEEC).

Another important instrument for supporting the recruitment of new members is the 20 conferences, technically cosponsored by the IEEE Bulgaria Section and the events organized by the Chapters, Student Branches and Affinity Groups. An ExCom representative is addressing each conference, emphasizing the role of IEEE and the benefits of the IEEE Membership. Finally, during year 2025, the IEEE Bulgaria Section celebrates its 30 years of excellence, and therefore, the ExCom have organized joint commemoration events together with three of the major conferences co-sponsored by the IEEE Bulgaria Section. These events are held together with the opening of the conferences during October-November 2025 in Varna, Sofia and Rousse. Collectively, these efforts brought approximately ~9% membership increase.

Students

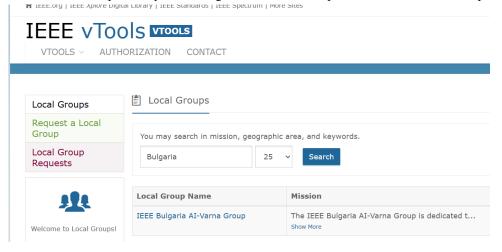
List of active Student Branches (SB) in the IEEE Bulgaria Section, which submitted reports and plans for the year 2025:



New Student Branches were not established or dissolved during the reporting period.

Local Group

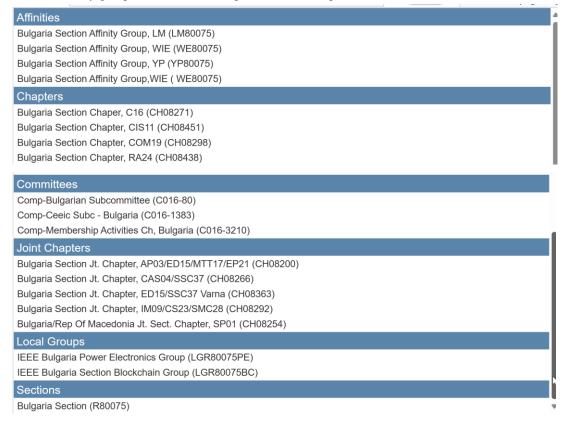
A new Local Group, namely IEEE Bulgaria AI-Varna Group, was established since the previous report.





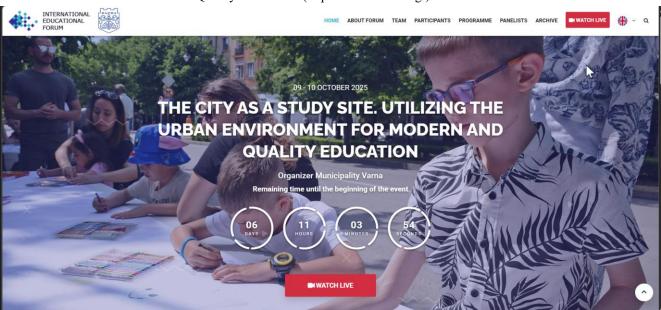
Affinity Groups, Committees, Chapters and Joint Chapters,

No new affinity groups, Committees, Chapters or Joint Chapters were established or dissolved.



Industry

The IEEE Bulgaria Section actively partners in the organization of public events with the IT industry in Varna, through active participation in the industry association named ICT-Cluster Varna. The IEEE Bulgaria Section also helped the Municipality of Varna with the organization of the international educational forum EDFOR-2025 "The City as a Study Site. Utilizing the Urban Environment for Modern and Quality Education" (https://edfor.varna.bg/).

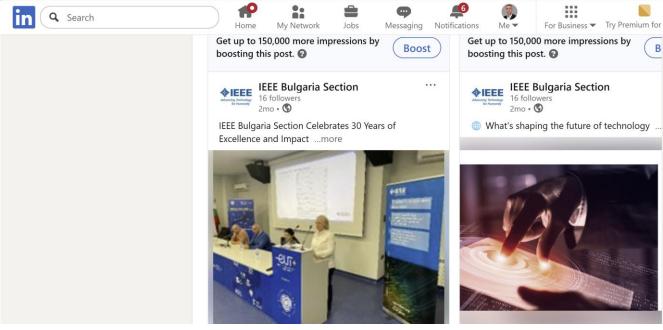


It is organized by the Municipality of Varna with the support of educational institutions ranging from kindergartens to universities, in cooperation with the IEEE Bulgaria Section and other partner associations. The IEEE Bulgarian Section traditionally supports this event, promoting the IEEE values, the IEEE educational resources and programs.

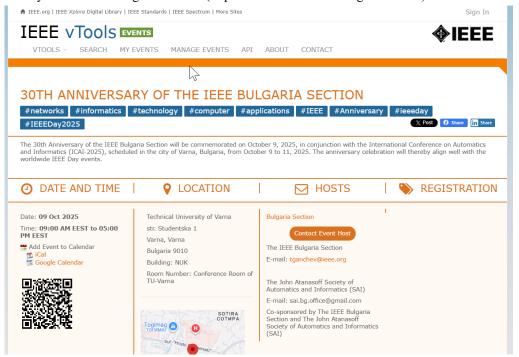


Publicity outreach

We prepared and submitted a commemorative publication to R8 News, entitled "IEEE Bulgaria Section Marks 30 Years of Excellence and Impact", and published related materials for publicity outreach through LinkedIn, Facebook and other social networks.



The IEEE Bulgaria Section participates in the annual IEEE Day 2025 with an event held on October 9, 2025, organized together with the ICAI-2025 conference in Varna. The International Conference on Automatics and Informatics 2025 (Conference Record #67591, http://icai-conf.org/) is co-organized with the Technical University of Varna and the Bulgarian Society of Automatics and Informatics. On the first day of this conference, a dedicated event will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the IEEE Bulgaria Section (https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/499730).





Planned activities

There are another eight conferences technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Bulgaria Section that will be held during the period October-December 2025. During three of these conferences, we will have a special session commemorating the 30 years since its establishment of the IEEE Bulgaria Section. As of the submission of the present periodic report, we are preparing for the 30th Anniversary of the IEEE Bulgaria Section, which will be commemorated on October 9, 2025, in conjunction with the ICAI-2025 to be held in Varna from October 9 to 11, 2025. The anniversary celebration aligns with the worldwide IEEE Day events. During the event, there will be three presentations (1) Prof. Todor Ganchev, Chair of IEEE Bulgaria Section, will deliver a talk on "The IEEE Bulgaria Section Today and Tomorrow"; (2) Assoc. Prof. Jordan Kolev, Chairman of the LMAG "30 years of the IEEE Bulgaria Section -- A success story".

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

The IEEE Bulgaria Section ExCom is grateful to the Leadership of IEEE Region 8 and the global IEEE Leadership for the guidance and energetic support of our initiatives focused on membership development and professional and technical activities of the IEEE Bulgaria Section. Special thanks we would like to express to:

- Mr. Marios Antoniou, who guided us on the preparation of the agreements with the three nationally represented professional associations.
- The R8 News Editor, as we expect our publication "IEEE Bulgaria Section Marks 30 Years of Excellence and Impact" to appear in its October issue.
- The IEEE Day 2025 Committee for the support of the event for the commemoration of the 30 years since the establishment of the IEEE Bulgaria Section.
- Mr. Peter Nagy for the excellent organization of the Budapest R8 meeting and the continued support after that.
- Prof. V. Piuri, R8 Past Director, for kindly agreeing to address the ICAI-2025 and EDFOR-2025 events during the opening ceremony, as these events are co-organized with the support of the IEEE Bulgaria Section.
- The volunteers and IEEE officers who helped with the preparation of the necessary documentation for the 20 conferences, which are technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Bulgaria Section.