



Raise4Medals 3.0

Raise4Medals 3.0 is an initiative of the Committee for Extracurricular Activities in Informatics of the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians (UBM), which aims to raise funds for holding a national training camp in competitive programming in 2025.

[Link to contact people and account for donations](#) (at the end of the document).

A BIT OF HISTORY

Bulgaria is the founder of the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI). The first IOI was in 1989 and took place in Pravetz, a small town near Sofia. Still, up to this date, this competition is the most prestigious in the world for pupils in competitive programming and nearly 90 countries participate each year with a team of 4 students.

The preparation of students in Bulgaria starts as early as 4th grade at different private schools (or at extracurricular classes at public schools) across the country. There are three main national competitions and a National Olympiad in three rounds, where the students can test their knowledge against each other, solving interesting tasks and meeting other students with similar interests.

The top 4 students from (7-8 grade) and (9-12 grade) are selected with additional selection contests and they participate in many international competitions as the National team in Informatics of Bulgaria, trying to win medals. And they succeed!

- ☐ Bulgaria is in 4th place in the rankings by the [number of medals at IOI](#) (27 gold, 55 silver, and 45 bronze medals), 1st place by the [number of medals at EJOI](#) (4 gold, 19 silver, and 20 bronze medals) and 3rd place by the number of medals at EGOI.
- ☐ Bulgaria has two competitors in the top 10 of the [IOI Hall of Fame](#).

And here are the most recent achievements:

- ☐ **4 silver medals at the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) in 2024.**
- ☐ **3 gold (1st, 2nd and 4th place) and 1 silver medal at the Balkan Olympiad in Informatics (BOI) in 2024.**
- ☐ **1 silver and 3 bronze medals at the European Junior Olympiad in Informatics (EJOI) in 2024.**
- ☐ **2 silver and 2 bronze medals in the Junior Balkan Olympiad in Informatics (JBOI) in 2024.**
- ☐ **1 gold, 2 silver medals and 1 honourable mention at the European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics (EGOI) in 2024.**

CURRENT CHALLENGES

Each year the national teams of Bulgaria in competitive programming for pupils participate in several prestigious international competitions: such as the aforementioned IOI, BOI, EJOI, JBOI, and EGOI. They also participate in other regional international competitions and some years even at the Central European Olympiad in Informatics (CEOI).

The Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science (MES) funds some of the needed activities but some of them are underfunded or not funded at all. Examples of such activities are selection contests (partially funded by MES), daily money for the leaders and competitors during international competitions, and seminars for the teachers. Irreplaceable part of the preparation of our competitors are the **training camps for preparing the extended national teams**, and also **The National School Camp in Informatics**. Because of the lack of funding and the complicated epidemic situation, the organisation of such camps in the last few years before the campaign was impossible, and that decreased the motivation and the results of our competitors.



The programming school camps are as flight hours for the pilots.

BUDGET AND WHAT WILL WE USE IT FOR

The concrete goal of the campaign is to continue the initiative of fundraising for organising the National school camp. The camp's duration is 7 days and during that time students from 5th to 10th grade participate in lectures, individual training competitions, team training competitions, and other activities. Every student that wants can participate but for those that are among the top 5 in the national rankings for their grade, the participation is free and the next 5 have to pay a small participation fee. More details for some of the past camps can be found [here](#).

The needed money for organising the camp is at least 50 000 leva (around 25 000 euros).

If some money from the donations remain, they will be used to help the financing of the selection and training of the extended national teams, the participation in prestigious international competitions such as Romanian Master of Informatics (RMI) and CEOI.

FUNDING DETAILS

Fundings will be raised as donations to the "Georgi Chilikov" foundation. This is a foundation run by IMI-BAS (Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) with the main goal of discovering and developing young talents in the field of mathematics and informatics. You can read more about the foundation [here](#) (in Bulgarian).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 2023, for the first time since 2019, thanks to You, our sponsors, we held the full list of training camps! In 2024, again with Your help we organised all training camps and we even extended their duration and the number of participants. Full list with our past sponsors can be found [here](#).

All sponsors will be able to have image positioning during the camps and events (logo, advertisement materials, social media), and will also be given certificates

of appreciation for their support. Each organisation, supporting the initiative, will also be given the opportunity to:

- meet with the competitors personally and show them their work conditions, in the form of cooperative presentations, workshops, or even mentorship;
- set of problems, made by the committee, which can be used as internal cooperative quizzes and internal competitions.

TEAM

The selection and preparation of the Bulgarian competitors is done by a team, consisting of university teachers and scientists from BAS (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, very good school teachers, and people working at different companies in the IT sector. We have to note that students, who were previously competitors, and even pupils take part in this. The organisation that consists of those people is the Committee for Extracurricular Activities in Informatics of the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians (UBM) The „Georgi Chilikov“ foundation, which receives the donations, works in close cooperation with the UMB. This foundation is run by the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of BAS.

Teachers across Bulgaria: Emiliya Nikolova (Blagoevgrad), Juliya Dimitrova (Varna), Kinka Kirilova (Veliko Tarnovo), Galya Nedelcheva (Gabrovo), Zornitsa Dzhenkova (Gabrovo), Stoyan Kapralov (Gabrovo), Svetlana Boyadzhieva (Dobrich), Pavel Petrov (Pleven), Bistra Taneva (Plovdiv), Plamenka Hristova (Ruse), Desislava Ratcheva (Sofia), Krassimir Manev (Sofia), Petar Petrov (Sofia), Rumen Mihov (Sofia), Kolya Petrova (Haskovo), Biserka Yovcheva (Shumen), Dimitar Dobrev (Shumen) and many others.

Problem setters: Alexander Gatev, Alexander Georgiev, Boris Mihov, Viktor Kozhuharov, Dobrin Bashev, Evgenii Vassilev, Emil Indzhev, Emil Kelevedjiev, Encho Mishinev, Iliyan Yordanov, Kinka Kirilova, Martin Kopchev, Pavel Petrov, Pavlin Peev, Radoslav Dimitrov, Rusko Shikov and many others.

CONTACT PEOPLE AND ACCOUNT FOR DONATIONS

- **Iliyan Yordanov (IMI-BAS)**, bgrinformatics@gmail.com, +359 89 344 3886 - chairman of the Bulgarian National Committee in Informatics that organises the National Olympiad and competitions.
- **Rumen Mihov (Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics of Sofia University)**, rumenmihov03@gmail.com, +359 89 669 7834 - one of the main initiators of the **Raise4Medals** campaigns
- **Emil Kelevedjiev (IMI-BAS)**, keleved@gmail.com, +359 88 744 5037 - chairman of the Committee for Extracurricular Activities in Informatics of the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians.

Bank account for donations:

"Georgi Chilikov" Foundation

Address: Bulgaria, Sofia, "Acad. G. Bonchev" Str., block 8

IBAN: BG13 UNCR 7000 1520 3761 87

Purpose of money transfer: donation for the training of Bulgarian informatics competitors.