BEST FOUNDATION HOSTS LAST TOURNAMENT OF THE 2025-2026 SEASON

On 7-8 November 2026, the BEST Foundation will hold its annual Fall West Tournament in public speaking, speech and debate for high school students in Western Bulgaria. The tournament will take place in Blagoevgrad, kindly hosted by the Foreign Language High School 'Akademik Lyudmil Stoyanov'. Students will compete in five disciplines: World Schools Style Debate, Poetry and Prose Interpretation, Duo Interpretation and Original Oratory.

Following numerous successful tournaments and events, and a summer filled with diligent preparation by our management team, the BEST Foundation is delighted to welcome hundreds of students, teachers and other members of the community to its first tournament of the 2026-2027 season. This weekend is sure to be filled with great enthusiasm, impressive performances and unforgettable moments.

Once again this year, the tournaments are being organised with the support of the US Embassy in Sofia, the 'America for Bulgaria' Foundation, the Foe Example Foundation, the Lachezar Tsotsorkov Foundation, the Bulgarian Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange, and MSD Bulgaria.

The BEST Foundation is grateful for the opportunity to maintain a community of judges and official guests who are an essential part of the success of our tournaments. Without their assistance and dedication, the participants would not have the vital resources to improve their critical thinking and public speaking skills. Several distinguished alumni and professionals were part of our panel of judges last year, including Angela Rodel, Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission.

Vanya Zlateva, Executive Director of the BEST Foundation, shared her thoughts on the impact of BEST: "BEST is a place where insecurity turns into confidence. Confidence creates new ideas and new ideas shape the future leaders."

The Fall West Tournament will be the first tournament of the season. The second tournament will take place in the coastal city of Varna on 28-29 November. Meanwhile, the BEST Foundation will continue to organise online events for students interested in improving their public speaking and debating skills.

About The BEST Foundation:

BEST stands for Bulgarian English Speech and Debate Tournaments. Established in 2013, BEST provides the English-language learners of Bulgaria an opportunity to come together and pursue personal growth through English language speech and debate. BEST aims to empower students to think critically, express themselves creatively, and create a dynamic community that truly cares about the success and the future of Bulgaria. BEST is proud to provide a platform for English-language speech and debate for students across the country.

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