



# AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN BULGARIA

## Summary of Minutes of Meeting

**Subject: AmCham Digital Working Group Meeting**

**Date: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Venue: American Corner Sofia, Sofia City Library**

**Participants:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Position</b>
Proletina Girova	Apis Europe JSC	Legal Adviser, European Projects
Mincho Gogov	Apis Europe JSC	Sales Director
Radoy Stoyanov	BulPros Consulting JSC	Head of Consulting and Implementation Services
Plamen Zhechev	Cisco Systems Bulgaria	Enterprise and Public Sector Manager, Working Group co-Chair
Milka Ivanova	Djingov, Gouginski, Kyutchukov, & Velichkov	Senior Associate
Luben Todev	Dobrev & Lyutskanov Law Firm	Lawyer
Ivaylo Stoyanov	Hewlett-Packard Enterprise	Public Sector Account Manager
Radoslav Rizov	Microsoft Bulgaria	Account Executive Public Sector
Vihren Slavchev	Mnemonic	CEO
Nikolay Cvetanov	Penkov, Markov & Partners	Partner
Lora Georgieva	Penkov, Markov & Partners	Jurist
Svetlin Adrianov	Penkov, Markov & Partners	Partner
Vasilena Goranova	Penkov, Markov & Partners	Attorney at Law
Mira Gateva	V+O Communication Bulgaria	Account Manager

### **Main points of discussion:**

At the meeting Plamen Zhechev, co-Chair, presented provisional definition of the mission, priority areas and action plan for the work of the Digital Working Group.

The mission of the Digital Working Group is to promote and support the digital transformation in Bulgaria both in the public and private sector with focus on eGovernance, data protection, cyber security and transposition of EU directives to the Bulgarian legislation.

Another concern of the Digital Working Group is the educational reform in Bulgaria, how to implement more digital technologies in the educational process and increase the digital skills of young people.

### **Key priority areas of the Digital Working Group:**

1. Digital government transformation and e-Government
2. Digital education, skills and jobs

3. Regulatory
4. Digital technologies and innovations

**Members suggest the following initiatives/issues to be undertaken/discussed by the Digital Working Group:**

- Review the digital agenda of Bulgaria and identify areas for improvement where AmCham can be instrumental
- Convey a survey among the AmCham outsourcing and ICT companies to inquire what are the specific skills that are required for this sector
- Insert digital technologies into the educational process to address specific needs of the companies operating in the sector
- Transfer of best practices to Bulgaria in the sphere of digital transformation
- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture regarding the digital skills gap
- ICT and outsourcing companies to have access to schools and university and be allowed to do carrier counseling/orientation
- Monitoring the transposition of the European directives on cyber security, data protection and digital single market; activities to be presided by Iva Todorova
- Promote digital technologies among the AmCham members and a wider audience;
- Promote digital transformation to help companies address public needs while maintaining their operations
- Analyze the Strategy for development of eGovernance in Bulgaria
- Lack of a comprehensive strategy and a more systematic approach to the elaboration of strategic documents for improvement of the educational curricula, to be done in partnership with the business and supported by the institutions
- Organize a FinTech event
- Organize a Cyber Security event
- Discuss how AmCham can initiate/participate in a project for increasing digital skills and literacy of young people, similar to Junior Achievement's „FIQ“ Project in the financial sector
- School and university teachers to attend training courses at leading ICT and outsourcing companies

**Next steps to be taken:**

AmCham members are invited to sign up for the task forces under the different priority areas of the Digital Working Group and support the suggested action points/propose alternative actions for their completion at [iva@amcham.bg](mailto:iva@amcham.bg) by July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. For reference, please review the presentation [HERE](#).

Proletina Gigova, Mincho Gogov and Svetlin Adrianov volunteer to assist the process by contacting law companies, list to be provided by Iva Pavlova.