

Ivan Stancioff

*President of the National Advisory Board of the Diplomatic Institute
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria*

Ivan Stancioff was born on 1 April 1929 in Sofia. His parents Ivan Dimitroff Stancioff and Marion Mitchell Stancioff were close to the Royal Court. Because of their anti-Nazi stance the family was forced to emigrate in 1943 and settle first in the United States and then in 1971 in the United Kingdom.

Ivan Stancioff graduated the Georgetown University in Washington DC. Served in US Army (the Bulgarian company of NATO in Greece). From 1961 to 1970, he worked for IBM World Trade Corporation in New York, Brazil and Paris in marketing, research, sales and management positions. He was Vice President International for both - ITEL Corp. and Storage Technology Corp., London.

In 1980 he sets up his own IT Company - Cresta Marketing S.A. in Geneva.

In 1990 following the political and economic reforms in Central and Eastern Europe he returned to Bulgaria for the first time in 47 years and was actively involved in the Union of Democratic Forces campaign.

In 1991 Ivan Stancioff was appointed Ambassador of Bulgaria to the United Kingdom and the first Bulgarian Ambassador to the Irish Republic. When presenting his credential letters to Queen Elizabeth he was dressed in the official ambassadorial costume of his grandfather Dimitar Yanev Stancioff (1863-1940), who was also Ambassador to the United Kingdom (1908 and 1922-1924), Minister of Foreign Affairs (1906) and Prime Minister of Bulgaria (1907).

In 1994 Ivan Stancioff was appointed Ambassador at Large and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria. In January 1999 he was appointed an adviser of the Bulgarian President Peter Stoyanov on Foreign Affairs. (Ivan Stancioff was also appointed advisor by the Bulgarian President Parvanov in his Advisory Council on European Integration)

In 1995 Ivan Stancioff returned to his private business as Executive Director of Cresta Marketing S.A. with offices in Sofia, Varna, London and Geneva. (The company successfully consulted UniCredito Italiano deal for the privatization of Bulbank). Cresta Company was involved in bringing foreign investments to Bulgaria and to the region focusing on infrastructure development, public private partnerships and privatization. Ivan Stancioff was partner and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Stancioff, Sevlievski & Co.; Chairman of the Farmington Bulgaria Fund, the first venture capital investment fund aimed at the newly established Bulgarian stock market. The Fund is listed on the Dublin Stock Exchange.

Ivan Stancioff is the Bulgarian representative of the Business Advisory Council of the Southeast European Co-operative Initiative (SECI), which is supported by US, Austria, Italy and Switzerland governments. SECI was launched in 1996 as strategy to help the Southeast European region to come out of the crisis provoked by the collapse of the former Communist regimes. The objective is to facilitate cross-border trade contacts, reduce crime, develop the regional infrastructure and ensure the post-war development of the region. SECI develops its initiatives in cooperation with the UN, the World Bank and the Stability Pact.

Other Board memberships: Supervisory Board of Bulbank (2001); Cresta Marketing S.A.(1980). Founder and Chairman of the Karin Dom Foundation Varna (1994), Founder and Director of IMIR-Sofia (1993); Founder of Friends of Bulgaria, London (1991); Founder and Chairman of the British Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce, London (1993); New Bulgarian University (1995-1999); American University (Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, Board of Trustees

(1993-2001); International Maritime Organization - President of the General Assembly (1993-95); Bulgarian-American Enterprise Fund - Advisory Board (1997-99); Gavroche Foundation, Varna (1996); Founding member of the Balkan Political Club (2001); Founding member of Atlantic Club-Sofia and Bulgarian Antarctic Institute (1991).

From 1 July 2010 Ivan Stancioff is President of the National Advisory Board of the Diplomatic Institute

to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria

Awards: Commander of the Legion of Honor, France (1995); Grand Cross of the Order of Rio Branco, Brazil (2002), Good Conduct Medal, USA Army (1956).

Traveller.

He speaks Bulgarian, English, French, German, Italian, Portugal, Greek, and Spanish.