

Second Congress of the MCAA - Bulgaria Chapter - 2025 “*Research and Innovation during the Global Challenges*”, Sofia Bulgaria

hybrid event with the support of EURAXESS Bulgaria, MCAA and Sofia University

Meeting Date: June, 26 - 27th , 2025

Location: Conference hall at the UNITE Center of Excellence - Blvd "James Bourchier" 5 (Campus Lozenets of Sofia University) [map](#)

Commencement Time: June, 26th 2025, 9:30

Open to members and non-members of MCAA; Official languages: English and Bulgarian

Hybrid event – registration needed by June 23rd to obtain the link to connect (registration form [here](#))

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Time	Topic
<u>Thursday – 26 June</u>	
9:30 – 10:00	Coffee and registration
10:00 – 10:30	Opening and welcoming words by official guests: Assoc. Prof. Boyan Jekov , <i>National Contact Point for Horizon Europe, Ministry of Education and Science</i> Prof. DSci Ana Proykova , <i>Science Director of CoE - Sofia University, Head of HPC lab at SofiaTechPark</i>
10:30 – 12:00	Panel 1 – Present and recent MSCA Projects in Bulgaria <u>10:30 – 11:00</u> Dr. Vladimir Mitankin – What is semi-integrality and why is it important? – presentation of MSCA-PF Project at Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences <u>11:00 – 11:30</u> Dr. Consolato Rosmini – BIKE - Bimetallic catalyst knowledge-based development for energy applications – presentation of MSCA-ITN Project at Institute of Organic Chemistry with Center of Phytochemistry of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences <u>11:30 – 12:00</u> Prof. Zara Zheleva – Chemistry of PGMs: investigation of reaction mechanisms toward sustainable recycling – presentation of MSCA-RISE

	<p>Project at Institute of Catalysis of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences</p> <p><i>Chairperson: Anife Ahmedova</i></p>
<u>12:00 – 13:30</u>	<u>Networking Lunch</u>
13:30 – 15:00	<p>Panel 2 – MSCA Fellows present their research</p> <p><u>13:30 – 13:45</u></p> <p>Prof. Maya Dimitrova (Institute of Robotics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Social Cyber-Physical Systems – Ethical issues in using AI</p> <p><u>13:45 – 14:00</u></p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Atanas Kostadinov (Technical University Sofia – Plovdiv Branch) – AI application in HDLs (Hardware description languages)</p> <p><u>14:00 – 14:20</u></p> <p>Dr. Vasil Tsvetkov and Assoc. Prof. Nina Vlachkova (Institute of Robotics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Повишаване на когнитивните възможности на роботите чрез оптимизация на сензорната им система.</p> <p><u>14:20 – 14:40</u></p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Tanya Kadiyska (Medical University – Sofia) – Диагностични подходи при деца от аутистичния спектър</p> <p><u>14:40 – 15:00</u></p> <p>Prof. Stefka Fidanova (Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Mathematical modeling in disaster medicine</p> <p><i>Chairperson: Velislava Terzieva</i></p>
<u>15:00 – 15:30</u>	<u>Coffee break</u>
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Panel 3 – MSCA Fellows present their research</p> <p><u>15:30 – 15:45</u></p> <p>Dr. Pancho Dachkinov (Institute of Robotics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Implementation of Generative AI for Innovative Product Development</p>

	<p><u>15:45 – 16:15</u></p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Boris Grozdanoff & Prof. Eng. PhD Lidia Galabova (Institute for Philosophy and Sociology of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences & Technical University Sofia) – Artificial Knowledge and Knowledge Management</p> <p><u>16:15 – 16:35</u></p> <p>Dr. Viktor Senderov (École Normale Supérieure de Paris, France) – How Universal Probabilistic Programming Languages Democratize Modeling in Computational Biology</p> <p><u>16:35 – 17:00</u></p> <p>Dr. José David Núñez González (Applied Mathematics Department, University of the Basque Country, Spain) – Machine Learning Tools in Renewable Energies</p> <p><i>Chairperson: Maya Dimitrova</i></p>
<u>17:30 – 21:00</u>	<u>Social event</u> (for registered MCAA members) and continuation of discussion on the Bulgaria chapter's plan of activities
<u>Friday - 27 June</u>	
10:00 – 11:10	<p>Panel 4 – MSCA Fellows present their research</p> <p>10:00 – 10:20</p> <p>Prof. Anela Ivanova (Sofia University, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy) – Selection of vectors for targeted delivery of doxorubicin by molecular dynamics</p> <p>10:20 – 10:40</p> <p>Prof. Anife Ahmedova (Sofia University, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy) – Platinum based anticancer drugs – where we are on the way from bench to bedside</p> <p>10:40 – 10:55</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Velislava Terzieva (Institute of Institute of Biology and Immunology of Reproduction of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Immune response after infection and vaccination - new challenges</p>

	<p>launch new perspectives.</p> <p>10:55 – 11:10</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Lina Gergova (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) – Anthropological Study on Effects of Displacement due to New Reservoirs Construction in Bulgaria</p> <p><i>Chairperson: Viktor Senderov</i></p>
<u>11:10 – 11:40</u>	<u>Coffee break</u>
11:40 – 12:30	<p>Panel 5 – Presentation of Funding Opportunities – Part 1</p> <p>Information on 2025 MSCA Calls – Mrs Gabriella Tchouprenska, MSCA NCP Bulgaria</p> <p>With Q&A Session</p>
<u>12:30 – 14:00</u>	<u>Networking Lunch</u>
14:00 – 15:00	<p>Panel 6 – Presentation of Funding Opportunities – Part 2</p> <p>ERC funding opportunities for cutting-edge research – Prof. Zara Cherkezova-Zheleva, PhD, ERC Program Committee Member, Bulgaria and NCP</p> <p>With Q&A Session AND</p> <p>Hints and Tips on Writing Successful MSCA-PF Proposal – Viktor Senderov and Vladimir Mitankin</p>
<u>15:00 – 15:30</u>	<u>Coffee break</u>
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Panel 7 – Presentation of Mobility and Mentoring Opportunities for Researchers</p> <p>How Can I Amplify My Research Using EURAXESS Instruments? – Mrs Svetlana Dimitrova, EURAXESS Bulgaria</p> <p>Mentoring programs to be presented by Elisa Garcia</p>
17:00 – 17:30	closing the conference