



ИКОНОМИЧЕСКИ
И СОЦИАЛЕН
СЪВЕТ



DECLARATION

20 Years Economic and Social Council of Bulgaria

Sofia

December 2023

The Economic and Social Council, in its 20-year history, promotes and advocates for the direct participation of organised civil society in decision-making processes, and contributes to the economic and social development, as well as to the consolidation of democracy in Bulgaria.

The ESC is an example of how dialogue and cooperation can be the key to achieving balanced positions and creating successful policies, and has proven that diversity of ideas is a strength, not a weakness.

The ESC presents and defends before the Bulgarian institutions and before the partners at European and international level the consensus opinion of organised civil society on the topics relevant to the economic and social development of Bulgaria.

The Council participates in the implementation of all important reforms for the country and contributes to the consolidation of Bulgaria as an active member of the European Union and NATO. It works to build a sustainable and competitive economy, to accelerate the transition to a greener, more social and more digital Bulgaria and to prepare for accession to the Eurozone and the Schengen area, and for OECD membership.

Through its opinions, resolutions and analyses, the ESC is involved in the process of policy-making for overcoming the demographic crisis and territorial cohesion, sustainable growth of the economy and cooperation with institutions, development and balancing of the labour market and stimulating employment, combating inequalities and social protection, modernising education systems, health care, the pension system, etc.

The Economic and Social Council of the Republic of Bulgaria is aware of its important role in finding quick and sustainable solutions to the challenges and crises facing modern society: blazing pandemics and wars, economic, political and social crises, and problems of lack of trust in government, institutions and sources of information.

Democratisation of governance processes requires a further step in the process of institutionalising the consultative function of organised civil society.

The Economic and Social Council will continue to uphold democratic values, to work for the economic and social prosperity of Bulgaria, and be an example of agreement and constructive dialogue in our society.