

## **Congratulations from the ISSP on the occasion of the Agency for Social Analyses' (ASA) 25 years anniversary**

The Agency for Social Analyses (ASA) is an independent, non-profit and public policy oriented Bulgarian Think Tank, established in 1994, specialized in training and social research. ASA analyses qualitative research and conducts quantitative surveys on behalf of private and public bodies at national and cross-national levels. ASA's work is directed to the whole spectrum of socio-political issues and monitors changes and trends of the most actual ethnic, social and political issues in Bulgarian society.

ASA inspires an open dialogue between social scientists, researchers, trade unions, opinion leaders and policy makers and works in cooperation with leading Bulgarian and foreign research, education and computing organizations, experts, social and political scientists.

From its very beginning in 1994, having fulfilled the methodological and funding requirements to run Bulgaria's ISSP appropriately and with a long-term perspective, ASA became a highly welcomed member of the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), which, back then, was a relatively small project of about 20 members. ASA directly followed one of ISSP's member institutions, the Institute for Trade Union and Social Research, which was one of the institutes in Eastern Europe which joined the ISSP shortly after the breakdown of the Socialist system in 1991. ASA thus was one of the Eastern European pioneers in international social science collaboration representing Bulgaria in the global ISSP. To get ASA in the programme was an important step for the ISSP to survey global attitudes beyond the Western world.

Nowadays, the ISSP has grown to about 50 members around the globe and ASA is one of its senior members, well integrated in all international networks, highly respected for its deep commitment to the ISSP, its committees and working groups. With the 2018 ISSP study on religion, ASA has restarted running ISSP surveys after an unfortunate gap in membership of some years resulting from missing funds due to the economic crises in Europe. The ISSP Secretariat in the name of the whole ISSP has the pleasure to congratulate the Agency for Social Analyses for 25 years of opinion research and survey based social monitoring.

Warm regards from GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences

Prof. Dr. Christof Wolf  
President of GESIS and ISSP Secretary

Dr. Evi Scholz  
German ISSP

