



CURRICULUM VITAE

ZHELYU ZHELEV, PhD, DSc

Personal: Born on 3 March 1935 in Vesselinovo, small village in Northeast Bulgaria. Married, one daughter.

Professional career and qualifications:

1958	Diploma for higher studies in philosophy from Sofia University.
1961-1964	Student with a fellowship at Sofia University.
1964-1972	Fellowship in Sofia University - withdrawn for dissent from the communist dogma. Banished from the capital Sofia and forced to live in the countryside because of his dissertation work: "Philosophical definition of the matter and the contemporary natural science" where he criticised the Lenin's definition of the matter.
1972-1974	Research Fellow at the Institute for Amateur Art in Sofia. Prepares a second defence of Ph.D. degree.
1974	Ph.D. degree for a thesis on dialectics (The Modal Categories).
1975-1989	Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Culture.
1987	D.Sc. degree for the monograph "Relational Theory of the Personality"

Political career:

1988	Main originator and co-founder of the Club for Glasnost and Perestroika – reason to be undertaken new repressive measures against him.
1989	Fired from the Institute for Culture for his dissident activities.
7 Dec. 1989	Co-founder of the Union of Democratic Forces (Union of all opposition parties and movements). Elected the first Chairman of the UDF's Coordinating

June 1990	Council; Elected member of the Grand National Assembly. Elected Chairman of the UDF Parliamentary Group.
1 August 1990	Elected President of the Republic of Bulgaria by the Grand National Assembly.
19 January 1992	Re-elected President for a five-year term by direct popular vote under the newly adopted Constitution of Bulgaria.
18 October 1994	Elected patron of the Liberal International at its congress in Reykjavik, Island
Since January 1997	President of "Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev" Foundation.
March 1997	Elected Honorary Chairman of Party "Liberal-Democratic Alternative"
2001	Initiator, founding member and first President of the Balkan Political Club.
2004	Re-elected President of the Balkan Political Club
2004	Special envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to South Ossetia
2005	Elected fellow of World Academy of Art and Science
2010	Special envoy of the President to the XIII Summit of OIF
2011	Special envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Tunisia

Principal publications:

Monographs:

Amateur art in the context of the scientific and technical revolution (1976); The Modal Categories (1978); Physical Culture and Sports in the Urbanized Society (1979); "Fascism" – the most famous book of the author. He finished the research in 1967 under initial title "The Totalitarian State". Because of the Communist censorship he succeed to publish it with great difficulty in 1982 under the title "Fascism". Shortly after this first edition the book is suppressed and stopped for distribution. In a fitting manner it was published after the Velvet revolution in 1989. Since then it has been edited on more than 10 languages. (Second edition -1990)

Man and His Personalities (1991); The Relational Theory of the Personality (1993);

Recent political writings: "Intelligentsia and Politics", Articles essays, speeches and interviews (1995); Bulgaria's new foreign Policy and NATO (1995); Presidential Addresses to the Nation and to Parliament (1996); Bulgaria's new foreign Policy and NATO (1995); "In the big policy"(1998); "Political Speeches" (2003); Interviews (2004); "Despite All", (2006) second updated edition in 2010;

“Totalitarian twins”, memorial edition
on occasion the 30th anniversary from the first publication
of “Fascism” (2012).

Awards and Distinctions: Honorary Doctor of: Graceland College, Iowa, USA (1993); University of Maine, USA (1993); University of Tel Aviv (1993); Hacettepe University of Ankara (1994); University of Seoul (1995); American University in Blagoevgrad (1996); Slavic University in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan (2002); South-Western University “Neophyte Rilski” in Blagoevgrad (2004); Veliko Tarnovo University “Cyril and Metodius” (2006); Elected Honorary Chairman of International Academy for Art and Science and observer for the Caspian, South Caucasian and Black Sea Region (September 2007)
Catherine Medici Award (1991) of the International Academy Medici;
Transition Award shared with Yitzhak Rabin /posthumously/, presented in Crans Montana (1996).
The highest state distinctions of France, Spain, Portugal and Venezuela.
Honorary Member of Rotary Club - New York.
On 7 March 2005 President Zhelev was awarded the highest Bulgarian state order Stara planina ,1st degree and medal ribbon as recognition of his significant contribution to establishing and consolidating democracy in Bulgaria.
Under Decree No.3, 21.12.2009, of the President of Republic of Macedonia Mr. George Ivanov, decorated with Order "September 8". The solemn ceremony was held on 15.01.2010 in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

Foreign languages: Russian, French, English