



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

03/07/2013 - 24/10/2018 Sofia, Bulgaria

PH.D. IN ECONOMICS AND INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (FEBA) **Website** www.uni-sofia.bg

Thesis The role of institutions for the development of the renewable energy sector in selected European countries

26/09/2013 - 25/06/2014

CERTIFICATE IN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT Center for Economic Strategy and Competitiveness Economic Development Certificate Program affiliated with the Michael Porter's Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness (Harvard Business School)

Website <http://economicstrategy.org/> **Field of study** economic growth and development, political science and social policy.

09/2004 - 03/2011 Essen, Germany

GERMAN DEGREE "DIPLOM", EQUIVALENT TO MASTER University of Duisburg Essen

Field of study Business Administration, incl. Erasmus funded exchange student at University of Skövde (Sweden) **Website** www.uni-due.de

WORK EXPERIENCE

23/03/2019 - CURRENT Sofia, Bulgaria

CHIEF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN ENERGY ECONOMICS UNIVERSITY OF SOFIA "ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI", FEBA

- Director of master program [Energy markets and services](#)
- Deputy-director of the [Net-Zero Lab](#)
- Team member and scientific secretary of the Department of Industrial Economics & Management
- Organizer and scholar in the international [Marine Renewable Energy Academy](#)

24/01/2024 - current Remotely, Brussels

EXTERNAL CONSULTANT COWI A/S for European Commission - DG REGIO (client)

Provision of consultancy services for the project "Delivering the European Green Deal under PO2 - Cohesion for Communities in Transition (C4T)," specifically focused on authoring publishable Knowledge Pieces relevant to managing authorities and policymakers.

01/01/2023 - current Sofia, Bulgaria

JustWind4All PROJECT COORDINATOR FOR BULGARIA APPLIED RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS FUND (ARC FUND)

Coordinating all activities and deliverables to WPs of the Horizon2020-funded project "[JW4A](#)"

15/06/2023 - 15/11/2023 Remotely, Cyprus

TECHNICAL ADVISOR/ PROVIDER OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

Provision of technical assistance to a member state under the Jaspers/ Just Transition Mechanism; Design of auctions for hybrid renewable energy projects (behind-the-meter storage and renewable energy installations), incl. evaluation

01/09/2021 - 31/08/2024 Sofia, Bulgaria

PROJECT COORDINATOR BLACK SEA ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER

Coordinating all activities and deliverables to WPs of the H2020-funded project "[Simple and Smart EnergyCommunities](#)" (completed in 2024) and LIFE-funded [POWER-E-COM](#)

28/10/2020 - 01/03/2024 Sofia, Bulgaria

RESEARCH FELLOW CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY

Involves in the projects:

- Establishment of the Black Sea Renewable Energy Coalition ([link](#))
- Assessment of Offshore Wind Technical & Economic Potential in the Bulgarian EEZ ([link](#))
- Development of Legislative Framework for Offshore Renewable Energy in Bulgaria ([link](#))
- Modelling for the Bulgarian Roadmap for Climate Neutrality (decarbonisation scenarios). Related publications: [here](#)
- Development of Assessment Framework for the Just Transition Territorial Plans of 5 Eastern European Countries ([link](#)) and Index for Stakeholder Engagement in Place-based Policies ([DUST project](#))
- Accelerated lignite exit in Bulgaria, Romania and Greece ([link](#)).

31/12/2020 - 30/12/2023 Sofia, Bulgaria

VISITING FELLOW EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN POLICY

- Expert consultation and assistance for the ECFR team in formulating the national business case for the European Green Deal in Bulgaria;
- Conducting research on the socio-economic implications of climate and energy policies in the country;
- Developing sociological surveys to gauge stakeholders' perspectives on climate and energy transition policies;
- Disseminating research findings to public administration, local businesses, NGOs, and political parties;

27/05/2020 – 26/05/2021

NATIONAL EXPERT, CO-AUTHOR OF 2020 EDITION OF THE WORLD ENERGY TRILEMMA INDEX WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

Responsible for the Trilemma and Issues Monitor national output for Bulgaria ([link](#))

01/04/2019 – 31/12/2019 Sofia, Bulgaria

PROJECT-BASED RESEARCHER NATIONAL PROGRAM "YOUNG SCIENTISTS AND POSTDOCTORAL CANDIDATES"

Independent research in the field of socio-political acceptance of renewable energy technologies in Bulgaria, financed by the Ministry of Education of Republic of Bulgaria/ National Program "Young Scientists and Postdoctoral candidates"

01/01/2020 – CURRENT Sofia, Bulgaria

PART-TIME PROJECT-BASED RESEARCHER BULGARIAN NATIONAL SCIENCE FUND

Project "Scientific methodology and mathematical models for planning the development of the national energy system"

26/11/2017 – 21/12/2017 Sofia, Bulgaria

PHD FELLOW SHAPE ENERGY PLATFORM

PhD fellowship for MEDEAS project under the supervision of Davide Natalini (Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge). Tasks:

- Review of effective decarbonization policies implemented in countries with characteristics similar to Bulgaria;
- Ex-ante evaluation of social effects and barriers related to possible decarbonization policies for Bulgaria;
- Report and presentation of research results at the project consortium meeting in February 2018.

01/10/2016 – 31/07/2017 Karlsruhe, Germany

RESEARCH ASSISTANT EIFER-EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH (POLICY ANALYSIS AND ENERGY MARKET STUDIES GROUP)

Carrying out research in the field of energy regulation, legal framework and policy development in various EU countries,:

- cross-country energy system analysis (particularly Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, Denmark);
 - analysis of existing business models, profitability and regulation in terms of self-consumption and energy communities;
 - analysis of energy storage regulation and market deployment;
 - efficiency assessment of current RES-E support mechanisms and monitoring the effects of auctions' introduction in European countries;
 - reports on the wholesale electricity markets functioning;
 - energy policy analysis and legislative proposals summary at national and EU level;
- Preparing economic and sensitivity analysis assessing profitability of renewable energy technologies (photovoltaics, geothermal);
- Economic evaluation of potential geothermal energy projects in the Balkans;
- State of the art of micro grids regulation and development in various EU countries;
- Presentation of results in front of clients or institute's stakeholders.

01/05/2016 – 31/07/2016 Karlsruhe, Germany

GUEST RESEARCHER EIFER-EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH (POLICY ANALYSIS AND ENERGY MARKET STUDIES GROUP)

04/11/2013 – 30/09/2016 Sofia, Bulgaria

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR BULGARIAN PHOTOVOLTAIC ASSOCIATION

18/08/2010 – 31/12/2010 Sofia, Bulgaria

PROJECT-BASED STRATEGIC PLANNING ASSISTANT BULGARTRANGAZ EOD (BULGARIAN GAS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATOR)

01/05/2013 – 09/2013 Sofia, Bulgaria

INDUSTRY ANALYST, CO-AUTHOR OF SECTORAL ANALYSIS BULGARIAN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION

08/2011 – 05/2013 Munich, Germany

ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD ADVANZ INVEST SE

21/05/2008 – 20/12/2008 Sofia, Bulgaria

INTERN IN STRATEGY AND OPERATIONS AREA DELOITTE BULGARIA OOD

● CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROJECTS

- EU-funded projects (Horizon, LIFE): [TWIN4ECO](#), [JustWind4All \(focus on wind and airborne energy\)](#), [DUST](#), [POWER-E-COM](#), [SHAREs](#), MEDEAs, PVGrid, NanophoSolar
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI) of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action: [BLUECEE](#)
- Privately funded: [ESG Academy of Sofia University](#); [Conducting capacity building for Bulgarian media professionals](#) on energy prices' increase in Europe; [Marine Renewable Energy Academy](#); [Net-Zero Lab](#)

● LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **BULGARIAN**, Other language(s):

	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction
ENGLISH	C2	C2	C1	C1
GERMAN	C2	C2	C1	C2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

PLEXOS® for Academic purposes | Pathway Explorer | Power BI Power App | Stata (Statistical analysis)
Gretl | AnyLogic| Adobe Photoshop| Microsoft Office Package| Social Media| Moodle |
IBM Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) – Utilizator Independente

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES

DATE	TITLE	ORGANISATION
May 2024 – Today	Representing FEBA in JP Energy System Integration and JP Energy Efficiency in Industrial Processes	European Energy Research Alliance (EERA)
June 2023 – Today	Member of the Academic Sounding Board; Co-author of Knowledge Pieces	Cohesion for Transition Community of Practice (DG Regio, European Commission)
October 2022 – Today	Member of the Steering Committee, Co-Author of Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the European Wind Industry	European Technology and Innovation Platform (ETIP) Wind
01/07/2022 – 30/09/2023	Appointed Deputy Chairperson	Energy Transition Commission to the Advisory Council on European Green Deal under the umbrella of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, responsible for the modelling work for the National Climate Neutrality Roadmap
November 2021 – Today	Member of the Working Group	Just Transition Platform Working Groups on Stakeholder Engagement and Equal Opportunities (DG Regio, European Commission)
Since June 2024 2021 – Today	Member of the Board Member, National Expert, Co-Author of 2020 Edition of the World Energy Trilemma Index	Bulgarian Committee of World Energy Council

PUBLICATIONS

[Implementing renewable energy investments with Cohesion Policy to enable sustainability transitions](#) – 2024

Trifonova, M.; Topaloglou, L. (2024): Implementing renewable energy investments with Cohesion Policy to enable sustainability transitions. C4T Community of Practice, Brussels.

[Shaping Future Cohesion Policy for Sustainability Transitions. Preliminary Insights from the Cohesion for Transitions \(C4T\) Community of Practice](#) – 2024

Trifonova, M., et al. (2024): Sustainability transitions contribution to the future of Cohesion Policy. C4T Community of Practice, Brussels.

[Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda 2025-2027](#) – 2023

ETIP Wind Publication

[Winds of Change: Offshore Renewable Energy for a More Secure and Resilient Central and Eastern Europe](#) – 2023

Trifonova, M.; Catuti, M.; Mikulčić, H.; Smolen, M. (2023): Winds of Change: Offshore Renewable Energy for a More Secure and Resilient Central and Eastern Europe. ISBN: 978-954-477-483-7. Sofia: CSD, 2023.

[Back to the Drawing Board: The Contours of Bulgaria's Climate Neutrality Roadmap](#) – 2023

Vladimirov M.; Trifonova, M.; Tsoleva, K. (2023): Back to the Drawing Board: The Contours of Bulgaria's Climate Neutrality Roadmap. ISBN: 978-954-477-469-1. Sofia: CSD, 2023

[Towards a Just Transition in Bulgaria. Unlocking the Green Transformation Potential of Stara Zagora, Pernik and Kyustendil](#) – 2022

Trifonova T., Primova, R., Vladimirov M. (2022): Towards a Just Transition in Bulgaria. Unlocking the Green Transformation Potential of Stara Zagora, Pernik and Kyustendil. ISBN: 978-954-477-449-3. Sofia: CSD, 2022

[The Energy Security and Innovation Nexus. Towards a New Regulatory Framework for Offshore Wind Energy Development in Bulgaria](#) – 2022

Center for the Study of Democracy (CSD). 2022-08-30 | Report

[Public Acceptance and Willingness to Pay for Renewable Energy in Bulgaria](#) – 2022

Published in: IFAC PapersOnLine 55-11 (2022) 138-143. Available at [link](#)

[Overview of legal and regulatory framework](#) – 2022

Report D3.1, SHAREs Project

[Handbook of identified barriers and enablers](#) – 2022

Report D3.2, SHAREs Project

[Wind Power Generation in Bulgaria. Assessment of the Black Sea Offshore Potential](#)

Trifonova, M.; Vladimirov M. (2021). Wind Power Generation in Bulgaria. Assessment of the Black Sea Offshore Potential. Sofia: CSD. ISBN: 9789544774288.

Switching the Gears of Decarbonisation. Policy Action for a Low-Carbon Transformation of the Bulgarian Economy

Trifonova T., Primova, R., Vladimirov M., Rangelova K., (2021): Switching the Gears of Decarbonisation. Policy Action for a Low-Carbon Transformation of the Bulgarian Economy. Sofia: CSD. ISBN: 978-954-477-440-0

Territorial Just Transition Plans. Guidelines for a Comparative Evaluation Framework

Trifonova T., Primova, R., Vladimirov M., Rangelova K., (2021): Territorial Just Transition Plans. Guidelines for a Comparative Evaluation Framework. Sofia: CSD. ISBN: 978-954-477-429-5. Available at [link](#)

Social acceptance of renewable energy sources in Bulgaria - 2021

a report presenting the results of national representative survey as well as 2 focus groups

Accelerating the Energy Transition in Bulgaria: A Roadmap to 2050

Vladimirov M., Primova R., Trifonova T. (2021): Accelerating the Energy Transition in Bulgaria: *A Roadmap to 2050*. Sofia: CSD, 2021.

Renewable Energy Sector Development in Bulgaria-an Institutional Analysis - 2019

published in: Chobanov, G. et al. (eds.) Annual of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Volume 17, Sofia. ISSN 1311 8420

Available at [link](#).

The Concept of the Institutions in the Energy Transition Research - 2019

published in: Young Researchers. Conference Proceedings 2 018, Vol. 1, P. 552 563. St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, Sofia

Development of the Renewable Energy Sector in Europe - 2017

published in: Wolfgang Breh & Heike Kull (eds.) Ideen und Innovationen für die Energie von morgen