

UNCAC Coalition Coordination Committee Elections

Candidate Nomination and Self-Nomination Form 2024

**** Nominations must be received by
Wednesday, 22 May 2024, end of the day ****

Please send applications and any questions regarding the elections or the role and responsibilities of CCC members to the Coalition’s Vienna Hub:

info@uncaccoalition.org

The list of members is available at <https://uncaccoalition.org/about-us/members-list/>.

The current list of CCC members is available at: <https://uncaccoalition.org/about-us/coordination-committee/>

Part I: To be completed by those self-nominating and those nominating another member

Nominated organization’s name¹: Center for the Study of Democracy (CSD)
Name of nominated organization’s representative: Dr. Maria Yordanova
Nominated organization’s e-mail: csd@csd.eu; maria.yordanova@csd.eu
Nominated organization’s website: www.csd.eu
Nominated organization’s country: Bulgaria
Name and organization of individual nominating (if this is not a self-nomination):
Which seat are you nominating for? <u>Europe Regional Seat 1</u>
The seats up for election are: (a) Americas Regional Seat; (b) Europe Regional Seat 1; (c) South Asia Regional Seat; (d) Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Seat 1; (e) International Member Organization Seat 1; (f) Individual member Seat

¹ In case of a nomination for individual member seat: name of the person and his/her email, as well as a website, if available.

Part II: To be completed by those self-nominating; if this is not a self-nomination, the UNCAC Coalition will follow up with the nominee to obtain the below information

Organization profile (200 words – leave empty for individual member seat)

Please provide a **200-word profile of the nominated organization, including link to its website**, for circulation to Ordinary Members:

The [Center for the Study of Democracy \(CSD\)](#) has extensive track record in the field of anti-corruption, including more than 50 specialised bi and multi-lingual publications (e.g. national and regional corruption assessment reports). In the early 2000s CSD set up and managed the Bulgarian anti-corruption initiative Coalition 2000, singled out as a national best practice by the World Bank in its Anti-Corruption in Transition series. CSD has designed a state-of-the-art Corruption Monitoring System (CMS), included in the UN Anti-Corruption Toolkit. The key findings of CSD's research and advocacy efforts are presented at annual anti-corruption policy forums and in the annual [Corruption Assessment Reports](#). CSD's efforts in the good governance domain have been scaled up through the [SELDI initiative](#), established in 2001, and currently joining the work of 40 of the leading anti-corruption think-tanks in the Balkans and the Black Sea Region. CSD was among the NGOs present at the signature of the UNCAC in Merida, Mexico in 2003. CSD is among the leading European NGOs working on anti-corruption in the EU-27. CSD has developed several important practical anti-corruption instruments, e.g. the Monitoring Anti-Corruption Policy Implementation (MACPI) and the State Capture Assessment Diagnostics (SCAD).

Organization experience (200 words – leave empty for individual member seat)

Please provide **an overview of the nominated organization's experience in the UNCAC Coalition and its UNCAC-related activities**, for circulation to Ordinary Members:

CSD has been engaged in UNCAC's implementation in Europe since its inception in 2003. At the 10th UNCAC CoSP in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2023 CSD participated in the different formats of the forum, presenting the most up-to-date data tools to combat corruption at the Academic Symposium, deliberating with other CSOs on common positions at the first Civil Society Forum, discussing with stakeholders at the Private Sector Forum.

On 16 June 2011, CSD became a member of the UNCAC Coalition. CSD held a [training](#) on Strengthening Civil Society Capacity on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and its Review Mechanism on 23 March 2011 in Sofia. CSD

annually provides information on its anti-corruption activities and its key findings in many of the areas monitored by the UNCAC review mechanism. In 2023 CSD cooperated with the Bulgarian Ministry of Justice for the 2nd UNCAC Review Cycle.

Please list your **top 3 priorities** for the Coalition what you would like to achieve as a CCC Member:

- Improved engagement by the governments in implementing UNCAC-review mechanisms;
- Cooperation with CSOs on core topics like public procurement, monitoring, and grand corruption and state capture;
- Promotion of gender transformative approaches to anti-corruption.

Profile of candidate (200 words)

Please provide a **200-word profile of the person who will represent the nominated organization and a photograph (submitted attached)** for circulation to Ordinary Members. In addition, you may also include a link to a video profiling the candidate and organization:

[Dr. Maria Yordanova](#) (hi res photo available at the link) joined the CSD in late 1998 and was Director of the Law Program until 2019. She has led CSD's law drafting efforts aimed at approximation of Bulgarian legislation to the *acquis communautaire*, and at establishing and supporting contacts between the Bulgarian legal community and government agencies. Other areas of Dr. Yordanova's specialization include promotion of the EU standards in human rights protection through introduction of the ombudsman institution in Bulgaria and development of the legal and strategic framework of anti-corruption for Bulgaria, including regional cooperation and UNCAC. She has coordinated projects in the area of human rights, justice, liberty and security. In the period 1999-2003 she was coordinator of the Judicial Reform Initiative for Bulgaria. Dr. Yordanova has led anti-corruption legal analysis and work across the EU-27, and has authored numerous anti-corruption publications in English, German and Bulgarian. Since 2008, she is CSD's representative in the Fundamental Rights Platform of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency and Member of the Board of Advisors of International Development Law Organization (IDLO). She is also Member of the Advisory Group to the Asia-Europe Foundation's Asia-Europe Democratization and Justice Series. Previously, she was Assistant Professor on Comparative Constitutional Law and Systems at the University of National and World Economy in Sofia and senior legal advisor at the United Bulgarian Bank Ltd.

Contributions you will make to the work of the Coalition (max 100 words)

Please provide a brief description of how you are planning to contribute to the work of the UNCAC Coalition, e.g. detailing specific issue expertise, experiences and perspectives you would like to bring to contribute, and how the work at your organization links to a role on the board of the Coalition.

We plan to enhance civil society organizations and activists' engagement and cooperation with governments, international organisations, and the private sector in strengthening the UNCAC. Our priorities will include cross-border collaboration on key issues such as whistle-blower protection, public procurement integrity, and beneficial ownership transparency, while applying gender-transformative approach to these issues. With Dr. Yordanova's strong legal background and expertise in harmonizing international legal principles with national legislation, we aim to contribute valuable insights and strategies to the UNCAC Coalition tools' effectiveness and the implementation of the UNCAC in general. Our ongoing projects and initiatives align with the Coalition's goals, positioning us to effectively support and advance its mission.

Part III: Declaration of Interests

Each candidate to the CCC shall fill out and submit this Declaration of Interest form no later than one week prior to the CCC election and submit it jointly with their candidacy. Once elected, CCC members commit to keep such declarations updated. To that effect, they will be required to explicitly confirm that their respective register is still current or to update it ahead of every in-person CCC meeting and any CCC meeting with agenda items where a conflict of interest may arise (i.e. decisions on contracts, consultancies, etc.).

The completed declarations will be published on the UNCAC Coalition website following explicit consent from the respective individual, in conformity with applicable GDPR provisions.

Name	Maria Yordanova
Date of election/ of appointment	Appointed member of the Center for the Study of Democracy on 16.12.1998.
Submitted/ last updated	22.05.2024

Name of your primary employer²	Center for the Study of Democracy
Name of any other employers or major clients³ over the past two years	None
Name of organisations on which Board or Board committees you currently serve	None
Name of any business(es), organization(s) or entities in which you have a significant financial investment or other vested financial interest⁴	None
Any interests of close relatives⁵ that may be relevant to the Coalition's work	None

² Wherever appropriate, please provide an adequate level of detail (such as the jurisdiction companies or organisations are registered in, possibly also the employer's website) so that the information provided here is sufficient to help document relevant interests.

³ Major clients are individuals or organisations that provided for 10% or more of the declaring individual's income over the past two years.

⁴ More than 10% ownership or controlling position, or investment of more than 5% of his/her total assets.

⁵ *Close relatives* includes mother, father, siblings, children, spouse, first degree cousins.

Any other interest you believe necessary to declare: relevant (non-) remunerated roles and positions, memberships, etc.	Remunerated position as Arbitrator in the Court of Arbitration with the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (since 2001)
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Please note: if in a discussion of the Coalition Coordination Committee (whether in person, teleconference, or otherwise), an unanticipated and undeclared interest arises, you must notify the Chair and comply with CCC's decision concerning your (non-)participation in the relevant CCC agenda item.

By submitting this form, you confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, the information in the form is current, complete and accurate. By submitting the form, you also acknowledge and pledge to comply with the Coalition's Ethical Guidelines and Policy on Conflicts of Interests, Gifts and Anti-Corruption and also consent to the publication of this document on the UNCAC Coalition website.

22.05.2024

Place, date



Signature