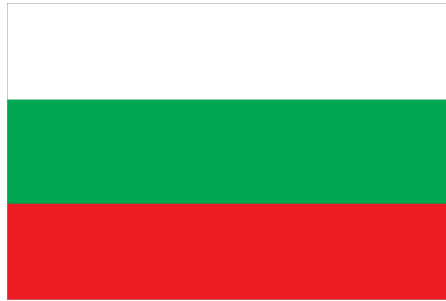




BULGARIA



INTRODUCTION

The Bulgars, a Central Asian Turkic tribe, merged with the local Slavic inhabitants in the late 7th century to form the first Bulgarian state. Northern Bulgaria attained autonomy in 1878 and all of Bulgaria became independent from the Ottoman Empire in 1908. Bulgaria fell within the Soviet sphere of influence and became a People's Republic in 1946. Communist domination ended in 1990, when Bulgaria held its first multiparty election since World War II.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Rumen RADEV

Head of Government

Interim Prime Minister Stefan YANEV

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Sofia

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly or Narodno Sabranie (240 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 110,879 sq km
 Land: 108,489 sq km
 Water: 2,390 sq km

Climate

temperate; cold, damp winters; hot, dry summers

Natural Resources

bauxite, copper, lead, zinc, coal, timber, arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

upper-middle-income EU economy; improving living standards and very robust economic growth; coal-based infrastructure; legacy structural vulnerabilities and widespread corruption; increasing Russian economic relations, particularly through energy trade

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$155.1 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$22,400 (2020 est.)

Industries - electricity, gas, water, food, beverages, tobacco, machinery and equipment, automotive parts, base metals, chemical products, coke, refined petroleum, nuclear fuel

Agricultural products - wheat, maize, sunflower seed, milk, barley, rapeseed, potatoes, grapes, tomatoes, watermelons

Exports \$39.27 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, packaged medicines, copper, wheat, electricity (2019)

partners: Germany 16%, Romania 8%, Italy 7%, Turkey 7%, Greece 6% (2019)

Imports \$38.07 billion (2020 est.)

crude petroleum, copper, cars, packaged medicines, refined petroleum (2019)

partners: Germany 11%, Russia 9%, Italy 7%, Romania 7%, Turkey 7% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

6.9 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

-0.67% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Bulgarian 76.9%,
 Turkish 8%, Romani 4.4%,
 other 10.7% (2011 est.)

Language

Bulgarian (official) 76.8%, Turkish 8.2%, Romani 3.8%, other 0.7%, unspecified 10.5% (2011 est.)

Religion

Eastern Orthodox 59.4%, Muslim 7.8%, other (including Catholic, Protestant, Armenian Apostolic Orthodox, and Jewish) 1.7%, none 3.7%, unspecified 27.4% (2011 est.)

