

Atlantic Club of Bulgaria

An Overview

Last updated: March 26, 2018/ 16:00

The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria emerged in August 1990 following a parliamentary speech of [Dr. Solomon Passy MP](#), which triggered the process of [Bulgaria's accession to NATO](#) and discussions on dissolution of the Warsaw Pact.

Thus ACB became not only the first, but the only NGO formed in the Warsaw Pact with the aim to bring about its disbanding and NATO's and EU's enlargement to the east. In 1992 ACB joined the [Atlantic Treaty Association](#) as its first member from a non-NATO country.

As European advocacy think-tank, ACB has hosted in public events hundreds of Heads of States, Governments and international organizations, including UN, NATO, SHAPE, EU, OSCE, UNESCO, as well as Nobel winners and world opinion leaders. In 1994–2002 ACB was driving force behind the historic visit to Bulgaria of [Pope John Paul II](#) and in 1991 – of the [XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet](#).

In 2001–2005 ACB's Honorary President Dr. Passy in his capacity as Foreign Minister in the Government of H.M. Simeon II negotiated and signed the Accession Treaties of Bulgaria with both, NATO and the EU, and raised the Bulgarian flag over NATO HQ in Brussels.

ACB's leaders launched and implemented (1999–2006) the project for US-BG joint military bases in Bulgaria. In recognition of ACB's achievements its legendary car Trabant which drove [Dr. Manfred Wörner in 1991](#) and was blessed by the Pope John Paul II is currently exhibited at the [National Military History Museum in Sofia](#).

Today ACB – itself a political innovation – is devoted to applying innovations to reform global security, international relations and democratic governance.

ACB currently promotes enhanced NATO's military presence in the Black Sea Region, cyber war capacities, common EU defense, NATO's post-Brexit globalization and establishment of NATO-China Council, and first and foremost — NATO's image.

In parallel, ACB and its innovative cluster of NGOs [Atlantic Digital Net](#) (including i.a. [PanEuropa](#), [Digital National Alliance](#), [Summer Work and Travel Alumni](#), [Manfred Wörner Foundation](#), [Singularity University BG](#), and since recently the [Sofia Security Forum](#)) are responsible for: the [EU standard USB GSM charger](#) (saving millions of tons of CO2 emissions), the free Wi-Fi [#WiFi4EU](#) initiative, the [counter soil degradation EU policy initiative](#), the [Bulgarian Space Law](#), NATO sponsored [projects](#) in [Telemedicine](#) and [Genotoxic Detector](#) (joint with Bulgaria's Academy of Sciences' Laboratory for Molecular Genetics) as well as the smart [iSOSu emergency APP](#) (in partnership with Asadel Technologies, India).

Since early 1990's ACB promotes Bulgaria's sustainable presence at Antarctica. [The Atlantic Club Ridge](#) and [Passy Peak](#) on Livingston Island, Antarctica, were named to commemorate ACB's contribution to the National Antarctic Campaign which eventually led to Bulgaria's recognition as a Consultative Party to the Antarctic Treaty in 1998.

A dream project of ADN/ACB is “Happiness through i-Democracy”, outlined in Dr. Passy's [TEDx Talk at Dijon SciencePo University](#) – it suggests big data analytics to rationalize global political management and bring people closer and faster to what they define as Happiness.