Solomon Passy

Dr.

Solomon Isaac Passy

д-р Соломон Исак Паси

Archive of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria (ACB)

Personal details

Born	22 December 1956 [Plovdiv](#)
Citizenship	[Bulgaria](#)
Nationality	[Bulgarian](#)
Political party	Former: Green Party and [UDF](#) ([EPP](#)) (1989-1991), [NMSS](#) ([ALDE](#)) (2001-2013)
Religion	Secular with Sephardic Jewish, Christian Orthodox and Arabic roots

Solomon Isaac Passy ([Bulgarian](#): Соломон Исак Паси) (born December 22, 1956) is a Bulgarian scientist, statesman, and innovator, author of the Theory of i-Democracy (informed Democracy) (in 2007)**,** TEDx Speaker (in 2017), founder (in 1990) and President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, [Foreign Minister](#) in the Government of King Simeon II (2001-2005), Chairman-in-Office of the [Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe](#) (OSCE) in 2004. He represented Bulgaria at UN Security Council (2002-2003) and was its Chairman (September 2002 and

December 2003), and was nominated by the Bulgarian government for Secretary General of NATO (2008).

As Foreign Minister he negotiated and signed Bulgaria's accessions to NATO (2004) and EU (2007) - projects which he himself initiated as Member of Parliament back in 1990.

Dr. Passy served as Chairman of the Parliamentary Committees onForeign Affairs (2005-2009) and Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security (2001). He was a Member of Parliament in three legislations (1990-1991, 2001-2005, 2005–2009) and the first non-NATO Vice-President of the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA), Paris (1996-1999) and Chair of the Transparency and Accountability Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of OSCE (2006-2009).

In the 1980s Solomon Passy was active in anti-establishment and pro-democratic movements. In 1980-1994 he is a Ph.D. Computer Scientist at Sofia University / Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Passy and his wife Gergana authored (2008-2014) the project for the EU UniversalUSB Charger for GSM Cell Phones and he is a pioneer of Bulgaria's Antarctic presence and membership in the Antarctic Treaty as well as Bulgaria's space law.

Summary

Solomon Passy was born in Plovdiv. He is the son of the Bulgarian philosopher Prof. Isaac Passy and Dr. Lily Passy - physician, inventor and endocrinologist. He is amathematician and holds a Ph.D. (1985) in Mathematical Logic and Computer Science from Sofia University. In the 1980s he was involved in the anti-establishment movements opposing the communist regime in Bulgaria. In 1990, Passy became the founding President and CEO of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria (ACB), the unique NGO ever operating on Warsaw Pact territory vocally advocating its dissolution, and the accession of New Europe to NATO and the EU. Solomon is also the co-founder of the Green Partyand its spokesman (1989-1991), the Union of Democratic Forces (1989), the Club for Support of Glasnost and Perestroika of Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev (1989), as well as of the National Movement Simeon II, established by King Simeon II in 2001.

Atlantic & European Integration

In **August 1990** Dr. Passy MP appealed to the Grand National Assembly and drafted the Parliamentary Bill (Link)for Bulgaria's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact and **accession to NATO**.

This is apparently the first registered parliamentary motion in Europe in that regard which triggered the trans-Atlantic discussions on NATO's enlargement eastwards. Beginning in August 1990 Solomon and his team founded the ACB among whose VIP distinguished founders were President Zhelev and H.M. King Simeon II. ACB was succeeded by dozens of other Atlantic NGO's in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa. The logo of the Atlantic Club – the NATO compass rose encircled by the 12 EU stars – became the symbol of unity of the Euro-Atlantic area adopted by number of the emerging Atlantic NGO's.

In November 1990 theACB Founders led by Dr. Passy madethe first ever visit of East European parliamentary delegation to NATO HQ by invitation of NATO SG **Manfred Wörner** and the US

[Permanent Representative to NATO](#) **Ambassador William Taft IV**.The two leaders blessed the Bulgarian idea to establish ACB on a Warsaw Pact territory [1]. Subsequently, the Bulgarian know-how was endorsed in a joint statement by US Secretary of State James Baker and the Foreign Minister of Germany Hans-Dietrich Genscher in May 1991 who advocated the creation of Atlantic councils in other Warsaw Pact countries [2].

The political weight of Solomon Passy was skyrocketed in June 1991 by NATO SG Manfred Wörner who agreed in Sofia to be "kidnapped" by his friend Solomon Passy in his East German car Trabant—a story well covered by CNN ([Link1](#) and [Link2](#)) and the Bulgarian print media ([Link](#), in Bulgarian). This Trabant is currently an exhibit at the National Museum of Military History (Sofia, [Link](#)). Manfred Wörner became a supporter of ACB and personally endorsed in 1992 ACB's accession as first CEE member of ATA. ACB erected the Manfred Woerner monument in the South Park, Sofia, which was inaugurated by his successor Javier Solana in 1996.[5]

Solomon worked over Bulgaria's membership in NATO **for 14 years.** The happy ending of his Atlantic saga was on April 2, 2004 when Foreign Minister Solomon Passy - after negotiating and signing the NATO Accession Documents - raised the Bulgarian flag over NATO's HQ. His emotions shown on CNN became the symbol of NATO's 2004 Big Bang enlargement eastward ([Link1](#) and [Link2](#)).

Dr. Passy MP is co-author of Prof. Lyubomir Ivanov of the bill for **Bulgaria's membership in the EU**, adopted by the Grand National Assembly in December 1990. He worked over the EU project for 17 years and the crown of his efforts was the EU Accession Treaty of Bulgaria which Minister Passy negotiated and signed on April 25, 2005 ([Link](#)). As an added valueto his efforts the **Bulgarian Cyrillic alphabet** became *the third official EU alphabet* and is currently available on the European € banknotes ([Link](#)).

In 1990–1991 Dr. Passy MP was among the driving forces behind Bulgaria's participation in the US-led coalition that liberated **Kuwait** from Saddam Hussein's occupation. This was the first in series of US-Bulgarian defense alliances following the fall of the Berlin Wall, and Dr. Passy was in one way or another involved in the creation of all of them. In May 1994, on behalf of Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and All Russia, Metropolitan Kirill of Smolensk and Kaliningrad, Chairman of Department for External Church Affairs of Moscow Patriarchate (and future Patriarch Kirill), delivered a speech, sponsored by the ACB.

Following a 1999 vision of the ACB, Minister Passy proposed in 2003 the construction of joint **US-Bulgarian defense facilities in Bulgaria** – a project he ratified in 2006 as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Parliamentary Committee.

Global Affairs

In 2001—after successful campaign led by Minister Passy—Bulgaria was elected for rotational member of the **UN Security Council (2002-2003)**. Solomon represented his country on UNSC and chaired the latter for two months (September 2002 and December 2003). This period, immediately after 9/11, was crucial for a new global definition of security and world threats and

Bulgaria's responsible performance on UNSC was among the factors for the 2002 invitation by President Bush to Bulgaria to join NATO.

In 2004—after the successful campaign led by him— Bulgaria was elected to chair OSCE and Minister Passy became the **OSCE Chairman-in-Office**. At this position he launched a major vision for reforms in OSCE refocusing the activities of OSCE to the east of the Black Sea. This approach was proven visionary in 2008-2014 after the de facto annexations of South Ossetia, Abkhazia and Crimea.

Among Solomon's achievements at OSCE are the solution of the frozen conflict in **Ajaria (Georgia)** – maybe the only one resolved frozen conflict ever in the history of OSCE, and the accession of **Mongolia** to OSCE family which eventually led to Mongolia's orbiting in NATO's partnerships' framework.

The OSCE Berlin Conference on Antisemitism (April 2004) hosted by Solomon Passy in partnership with Joschka Fischer and Colin Powell warned the world for upcoming global threats which the radical terrorism tragically proved true in the following decades. Ever since, the commitment to address and respond to anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and other biases has been part of the OSCE's work in the human dimension of security and strongly influenced the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, which is Europe's largest annual human rights and democracy conference.

While Passy was part of King Simeon's Government constructive and pragmatic relations with Russia were formedin spite of progress with NATO and EU memberships and construction of US-BG defense facilities, following 45 years of de facto Soviet occupation of Bulgaria. Bilateral relations with China and India were refreshed and the Bulgarian diplomatic network with the Arab countries restored.

See also: Dr. Solomon Passy and China, Dr. Solomon Passy: Central Asia, Caucasus and Post-Soviet Space (as CiO of the OSCE – 2004) , and Memorandum about Relationships between the Holy See and the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria.

Mediation & Diplomatic Breakthroughs

Minister Passy masterminded the **negotiation strategy and architected the EU-US-BG negotiating Troika with Libya's dictator col. Gaddafi** for the successful release (July 2007) of six Bulgarian medics taken by him as hostages in 1999.

Dr. Passy MP undertook on behalf of the Western Allies successful mediating missions in **North Korea** (July–August 2007) which eventually contributed to the destruction of the cooling tower for heavy water at the Yongbyon Nuclear Scientific Research Center (North Korea) - agreed during the Six-Party talks in September 27–30, 2007 - and to Summit meeting between **North and South Korea**.

Dr Passy successfully mediated with **Iran** for the release of US citizens collaborators of George Soros detained in Iran in May 2007. Before that he had two official visits to Iran both as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs.

In 2007 Solomon assumed **one-year** assignment as an **advisor to the Macedonian Government on NATO accession**. This duty was successfully fulfilled in 2008 when the Bucharest Summit of NATO conditionally agreed on Macedonia's membership in NATO, pending on resolving the bilateral dispute with Greece. (The latter was far beyond the mandate of Passy).

In 2008 the government of Bulgaria nominated Solomon for **Secretary General of NATO**. His name was on the final list discussed at NATO Strasbourg-Kehl Summit (April 2009).

Globalization of Bulgaria

ACB, founded by Dr. Passy, is the only pro-Atlantic NGO to have ever operated on Warsaw Pact territory and the first non-NATO NGO ever invited to join the [Atlantic Treaty Association](), back in 1992. Dr. Passy is the first non-NATO Vice-President of ATA (1996-1999). Bulgaria is the first non-NATO member state to host an ATA General Assembly (1997), organized by ACB.

Dr. Passy and ACB were the driving forces initiating (November 1994, [Vatican City]()) the first ever Papal visit to Bulgaria of **His Holiness (currently Saint) Pope John Paul II**([Link]()). The visit was materialized in 2002 under the lead of Minister Passy and the Pope announced in Sofia that – contrary to wide spread allegations – Bulgaria was innocent in the 1981 attempt for assassination of the Pope ([Link1]() and [Link2]()).

Dr Passy co-chaired the host committee of ACB-Tibetan Friendship Society for the first and only visit to Bulgaria of **His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet** in October 1991 ([Link1](), [Link2](), and [Link3]()).

Promoting religious tolerance worldwide, Dr. Passy's ACB hosted **His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew** in 1993 ([Link]()) drawing together the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Vatican, which eventually made the Bulgarian visit of Pope John Paul II possible.

In 1999 Solomon was invited to co-chair of the Host Committee for **President Bill Clinton's visit to Bulgaria** -- the first ever US Presidential visit to Bulgaria ([Link1](), [Link2](), and[Link3]()).

In 1993 Solomon and ACB become among the main driving forces, which established the Bulgarian Antarctic Institute and the annual **Antarctic Expedition** as part of the national Antarctic Program. These efforts led to the Bulgarian accession as the 28th Consultative Party to the [Antarctic Treaty]() in 1998.

Dr. Passy is strong supporter of the Bulgarian accession to OECD, the Euro Zone of the EU, the European Space Agency, and the globalization of Bulgaria in general. Under his leadership ACB co-founded the Bulgarian Aero-Space agency in 1993.

International Campaigns of Dr. Passy

A. SUCCESSFUL ONES

- 1990—2007 Membership of Bulgaria in the EU
- 1990—2004 Membership of Bulgaria in NATO
- 2008—2014 A small Bulgarian team lead by Solomon and Gergana Passy authored the project for an EU legislation standardizing all GSM chargers in EU to a USB format. This policy saves dozens of millions of tons of CO_2 emissions and electronic waste annually.
- 1994—2002 Visit of Pope (currently Saint) John Paul II to Bulgaria& disproving the defaming myth for Bulgaria's participation in the 1981attempt for assassination of the Pope
- 2001 Bulgaria's rotational membership of UN Security Council (2002-2003)
- 2004 Bulgaria's Chairmanship of OSCE
- 2001-2007 Release of six Bulgarian medics & one Palestinian doctor, hostages of the Libyan dictator col. Qaddafi since 1999 & creation of US-EU-BG negotiating troika with Libya
- 2004 Accession of Mongolia to OSCE family which eventually led to Mongolia's orbiting in NATO's partnerships' framework.
- 1993-1998 Bulgaria's becomes 28th Consultative Party to the Antarctic Treaty
- 1997 Bulgaria becomes the first non-NATO country to host an ATA General Assembly
- 1996 Bulgaria becomes the first non-NATO country to provide Vice President to ATA, namely Dr Solomon Passy
- 1991-1992 Bulgaria, becomes the first non-NATO member of ATA
- 1986 and 1988 Dr Passy assists his colleague Prof Lyubomir Ivanov, who leads two successful international campaigns against the plans of communist regime to host Winter Olympics (1992 and 1994)– expected to devastateVitosha Mountain

B. IN PROGRESS, WITH PARTIAL OR NO SUCCESS

- 2007--today: promotes membership of Bulgaria in OECD
- 2008-2009The Bulgarian Government nominates Solomon Passy(Member of Parliament) for Secretary General of NATO. The campaign led by the Foreign Ministry keeps Solomon in the final list.
- 2007--2008 In 2007 Solomon assumed one-year assignment as an advisor to the Macedonian Government on NATO accession. This duty was successfully fulfilled in 2008 when the Bucharest Summit of NATO conditionally agreed on Macedonia's membership

in NATO, pending on resolving the bilateral dispute with Greece (the latter being beyond the mandate of Passy).

- 2006 Dr Passy runs for President of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. As a result he is appointed for Chairman of the OSCE PA Transparency and Accountability Committee (2006--2009).
- 2005 Dr. Passy negotiated and signed the EU Accession Treaty of Bulgaria according to which Bulgaria will have to join both Shengen and Euro Zone of EU. Ten years after Bulgaria joined EU these two are still in the pipeline.
- 1993—todayBulgaria's full integration within the European Space Agency.

Futuristic Visions

In April 2008, during his visit to Cuba, Dr Passy launched the idea for **Cuba's membership in NATO**, which, after President Obama restored the US-Cuban relations in 2016, is one step closer to being accomplished.

In 2007 Solomon visited China by invitation of the Chinese Parliament and launched the idea for creation of **NATO-China Council** and membership of **China in OSCE**. The latter Solomon perceived as a natural continuation of his efforts which brought Mongolia to OSCE and thus transformed the entire Northern border of China into OSCE border. Nowadays the China-OSCE frontier (including with Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Mongolia) is maybe the largest contact line worldwide between two geopolitical realms.

In 2004 Minster Passy explored the idea for OSCE summit in Moscow, which to yield a **visit of Pope John Paul II to Moscow** and boost ecumenism in the Christian world, perceived by Solomon as a step of unification of religions, as a catalizer of globalization. The first meeting between a Pope and a Russian Patriarch was materialized twelve years later, in 2016 in Cuba.

After his visit to **North Korea** in 2007 Dr. Passy explored with EU leaders possible EU engagement with democratization of North Korea as a complimentary effort to 6-Party Talks for North Korea, as well as NATO's involvement to guarantee peace with South Korea.

Innovations: EU & Global

In 2008-2014 Solomon and Gergana Passy (Bulgarian EU Minister, Deputy Foreign Minister & MP 2001–2009; currently Bulgarian EU Digital Champion) (Link), led small Bulgarian team which spearheaded the EU legislation, standardizing the GSM mobile chargers to a USB format on the entire EU territory. This new EU policy annually saves dozens of millions of tons of CO_2 emissions and electronic waste and the USB plugs are available today even on the airplanes. (More at: Link1, Link2, Link3, Link4, Link5, and Link6).

Currently the Passys promote global access to**Internet as a universal human right.**

Under Dr. Passy's leadership ACB drafted the **first bill for Bulgaria's Space Law** in 2013(Link, in Bulgarian).

Dr Passy—starting in 1993—contributed to the establishment of the Bulgarian Antarctic program; he visited Antarctica four times and **Peak Passy on Livingstone Island**, South Shetland Islands, was named after him. This is a continuation of the family tradition (Direct ancestors of Solomon Passy):

- An **Eliezer Kalev** (1815 -1889) **Street** in Plovdiv is named after the great-grandfather of Solomon's father, who saved the lives of Bulgarian independence rebels after the April Uprising (1876) against the Ottoman Empire.
- An Auditorium in Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" is named after Solomon's father **Prof. Isaac Passy** (1928-2010) in recognition of his academic achievements and contribution to introduce (1950s – 1989) West European philosophy & culture thus breaking the iron walls entrenching communist Bulgaria.

In 2004 following the suggestion of Dr. Passy President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan blessed a pilot project partially replacing poppy crops fields **with Bulgarian roses.** The first drops of Bulgarian Rose oil *"Made in Afghanistan"* appeared at the Berlin Green Week Trade Fair 2011 (Link)

Solomon has two flights as a co-pilot of F-16 (Link), experiencing the excellence of Nine-G environment.

The iSOSu app for smart devices whose production was triggered by Solomon and Gergana is intended to offer support to victims of emergencies and criminality worldwide.Link

In-house Foreign Ministry

Despite his key priorities – memberships in NATO and EU, performance at UNSC and OSCE, the Papal visit and the release of 6 Bulgarian medics – hostages of the Libyan dictator – Minister Passy established in the Foreign Ministry:

- The State Cultural Institute (2005) – one of the biggest open-air collection of Bulgarian sculptures, with the support of the Belgian philantropist Hugo Vouten
- The Diplomatic Institute (2004) at the Foreign Ministry, which is the first Bulgarian diplomatic training institution after the formation of MFA in 1878.
- The figure of the European Minister, a position first held by Meglena Kuneva, previously Deputy to Minister Passy and afterwards the first BG EU Commissioner. The second EU Minister became Gergana Grancharova, currently Gergana Passy.

During his tenure two new Embassies, six Consulates and eight Honorary Consulates were opened.

Scientific

Solomon holds a **PhD (1985) and M.Sc. (1979) in Mathematical Logic & Computer Sciences** from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", co-author of the Modal Logic with Nominals ([Link](#)).

He is the author of a dozen of publications in leading international journals on mathematical logic and computer sciences. The Combinatory Dynamic Logic (Modal Logic with Nominals) was developed in Bulgaria by Dr. Solomon Passy and Prof. Tinko Tinchev in cooperation with Prof. George Gargov, Prof. Valentin Goranko, and Prof. Dimitar Vakarelov. It provides the enriched modal language with names (nominals), which accommodates the correct environment to study the **necessary truths** in the universe of **possible worlds**and thus offers an adequate solution to the problem of formalizing modalities (including necessity, possibility, obligation), raised by Aristotle 25 centuries ago andproperly addressedby Saul Kripke in the 1950s-1960s.

According to Dr. Anton Zinoviev *"Today this is one of those Bulgarian mathematical achievements that are cited most often in the international scientific publications"*. ([Link](#)) Solomon's scientific publications in world ICT journals from 1980-90s are still highly influential in their field and have approximately 700 references ([Google Scholar profile](#)).

In 2007 during an enlightening visit to Lhasa (Tibet) Dr. Passy launched the **Theory of i-Democracy** ([Link](#)): a computerized simulator replacing elections and manned governments by optimizational algorithms guaranteeing sustainable increase of quality of life. In April 2017 he was a TEDx Speaker at Dijon SciencePo University France on this topic.

Today Solomon is a frequent commentator on international affairs, defence and security, and innovations for national and world media.

NGOs

Dr. Solomon Passy has been active in the development of civil society in Bulgaria since 1980s.

He was leading or pro-acrive in the foundation of:
-   ACB in 1990
-   NATO Infocenter in Sofia
-   Bulgarian Euro-Atlantic Youth Club
-   PanEuropa Bulgaria
-   Digital National Alliance
-   Atlantic Digital Network

He is a Member of ICD Board and a network participant inELN. In the 1990s he and Prof. Lyubomir Ivanov were the founders of Manfred Woerner Foundation-Bulgaria.

The Berlin Wall Era

In the 1980s Solomon was an activist of various anti-establishment opposition, underground and ecological movements challenging communist regime defending freedom & human rights, including in defence of the oppressed Turkish minority in Bulgaria. In act of solidarity with them Solomon assumed the Turkish pseudonym **Syuleyman Tehlikeli**, which he used in mathematical papers and graphics art that was practiced by Solomon in the 1980s Link.

His first lesson of realpolitik was apparently his attendance at the Solidarity Tradeunion Congress in Gdansk in the fall of 1981. In May 1987 Dr. Passy was the co-host of the first ever public opposition happening in Sofia University, which is described by Google as *"A cornerstone of the manifestation of youth subcultures in Bulgaria – hippies, metalheads, rockers"* and that *"Students facilitated the beginning of open public resistance against totalitarianism in Bulgaria"* Link. He assisted Dr.Lyubomir Ivanov's eco-campaign (in 1986/1988 respectively)to save Vitosha Mountain from expected devastation as a result of the bid for Winter Olympics in 1992/ 1994 planned to be held there by the communist regime in Bulgaria. His efforts and vision in communist Bulgaria were crowned with success in 1990-1991 when - as MP in the Grand National Assembly - he co-authored and signed the first ever democratic Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria and tabled the bill for abolishment of death penalty in Bulgaria.

Awards
International State Awards

Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity (Grand Cross), Italy, 2006

Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic (Grand Cross), Spain, 2006

Order of Leopold II (Grand Cross), Belgium, 2004

Order of Civil Merit (Grand Cross), Spain, 2003

Order of Prince Henry (Grand Cross), Portugal, 2002

Precious Awards

- Badge of Honor "Bulgaria-NATO" 1st Degree (2014), awarded by the Minister of Defense of Bulgaria
- Honorific Bulgarians Award (along with his wife Gergana), for their idea for a common USB charger for the GSM in EU (2010)
- Doctor Honoris Causa of the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" in Blagoevgrad (2005)
- Honorary citizen of the State of Texas (2004)
- Honorary citizen of the town of Nedelino (2003)
- Event of the Year, about the invitation for the accession of Bulgaria to NATO (2002)

Boardships

- Board of Directors, American Chamber of Commerce in Bulgaria (2011–present)
- Board of Trustees, AUBG, American University in Bulgaria (2006-2015)
- Board of Trustees, Member of the Burgas Free University (2006–present)
- Advisory Board of Iman Foundation
- Network participant in European Leaders Network

Personal

Solomon and Gergana Passy have four children. The Passy's own a consulting business Passy Experience Ltd., serving governmental and corporate clients in international relations and from various sectors of business: pharmaceuticals, agriculture, nuclear energy, heavy industries, defence. Solomon is a partner in a start-up company developing **iSOSu mobile application for the Indian market**.

Dr. Passy is a descendant of a Jewish family with Morrocan roots (Passy comes from El-Phasi = from Fez in Morroco) and Christian Orthodox family of Thracian refugees from the Rhodope Mountain and Aegian Sea.