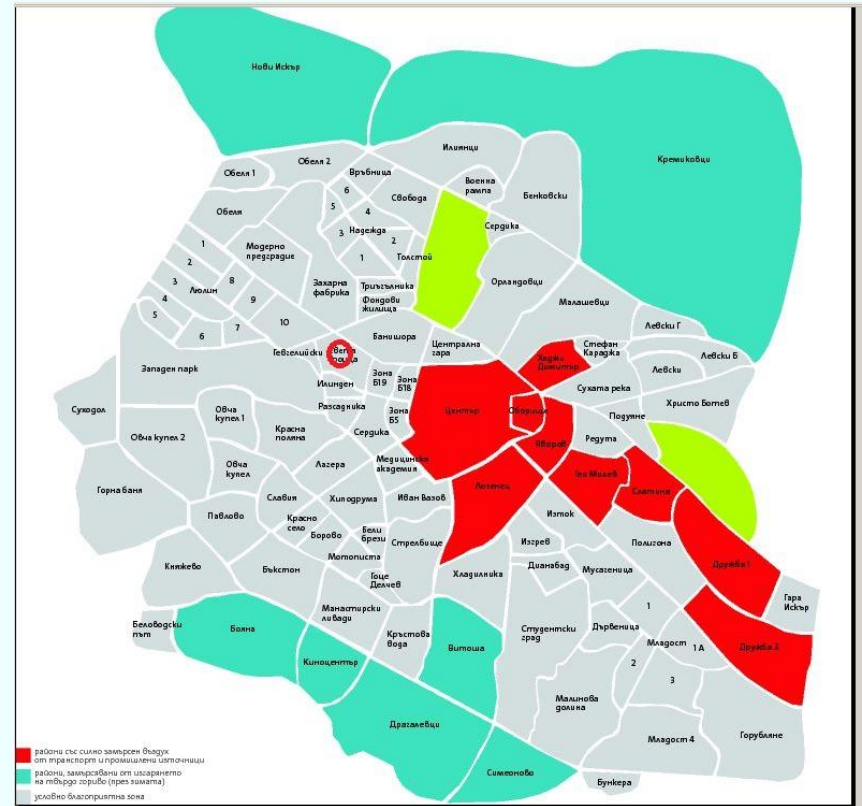# EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISADVANTAGED GROUPS
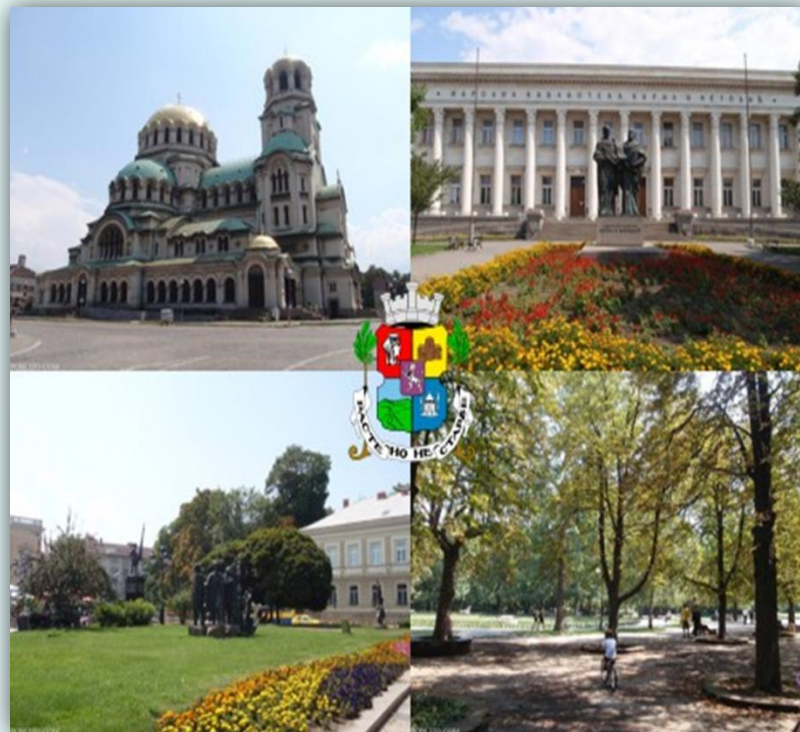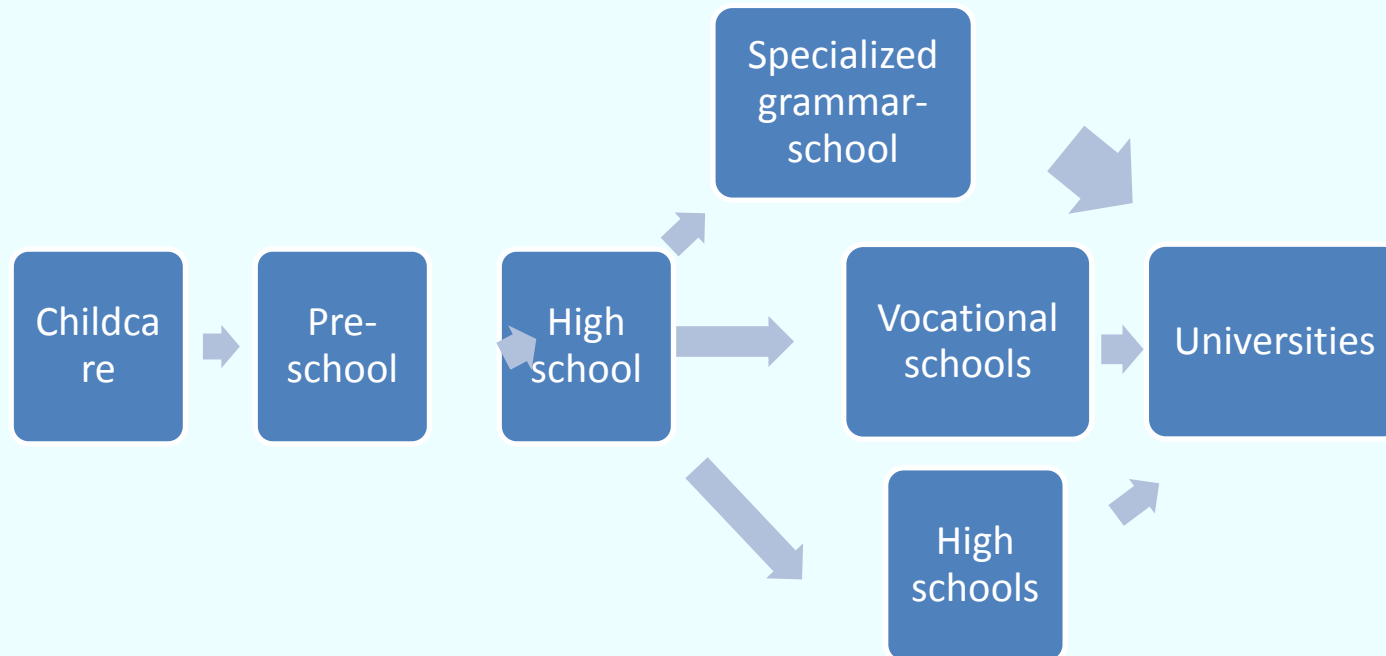

Developed by Ludmila Panayotova

Where I came from

I live and work in Sofia. I'm a head teacher responsible for the educational activity in the Vocational School of audio, video and telecommunications "Aleksandur Stepanovich Popov"

Educational system in Bulgaria

In our school we have 600 students aged between 13 to 19 years. In the school work 90 people, 60 of them are teachers

Director

Head teacher

Guidance counselor

Class teachers

Parents

Students

Head teacher in the educational activity

➢ Coordination of different departments for better conditions for disadvantaged youth.

➢ Working on commissions for delinquency prevention.

➢ Working with parents, class teachers and students to reduce the number of absenteeism.

- Creating the proper conditions for qualification of class teachers

- To be in touch with the parents on daily basis

- Creating better conditions for development of the students with their involvement in extra-curricular forms of training

➢ In this age the young people form their identities, interests, and professional orientation..

➢ They feel a strong need for self-affirmation and trust.

➢ Financial problems of the parents

➢ The number of children with separated parents, who are not interested in their development, is increasing.

➢ The number of abandoned children from their parents is also increasing.

➢ The domestic violence is growing.

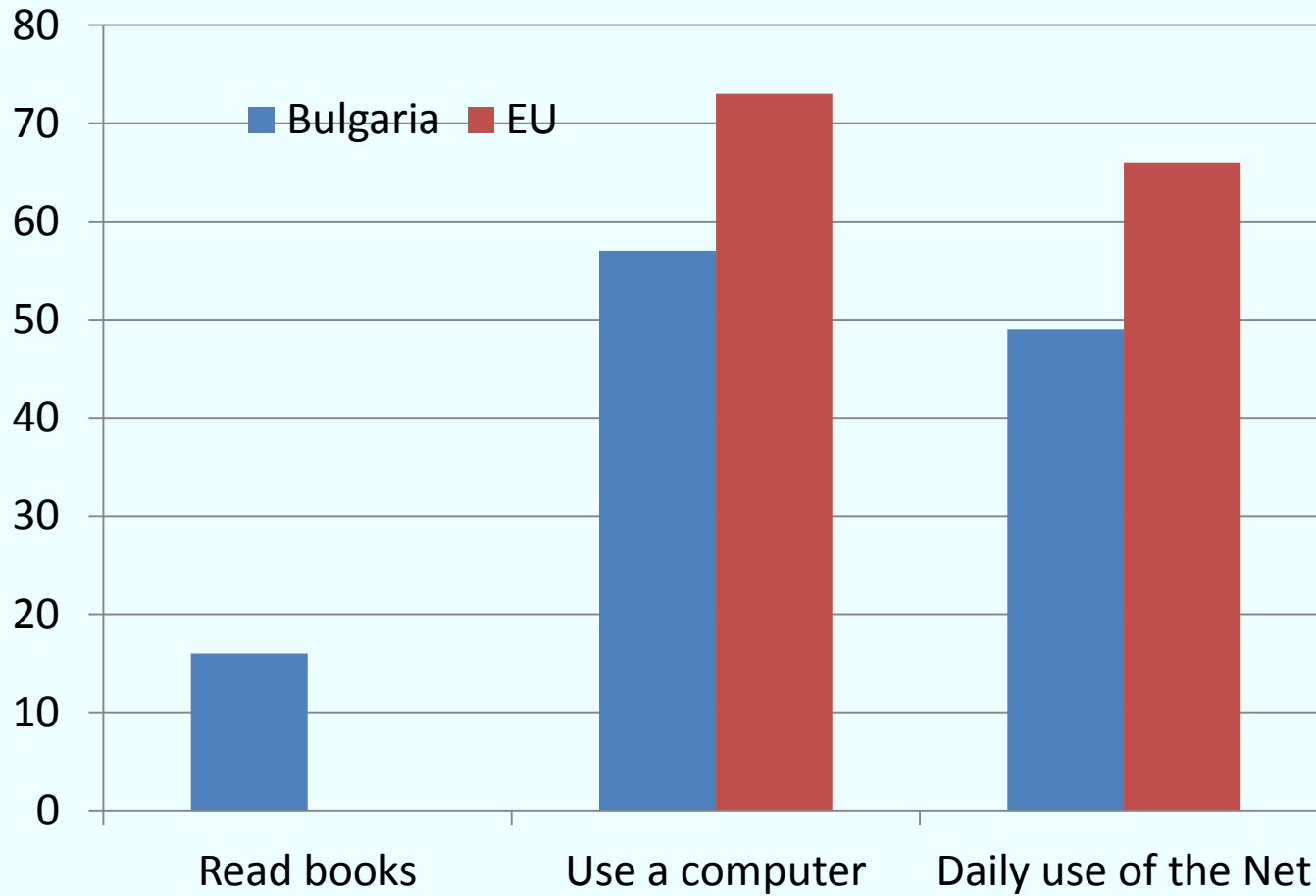➢ The number of children of immigrants is growing too.

➢Interest in books decreases.
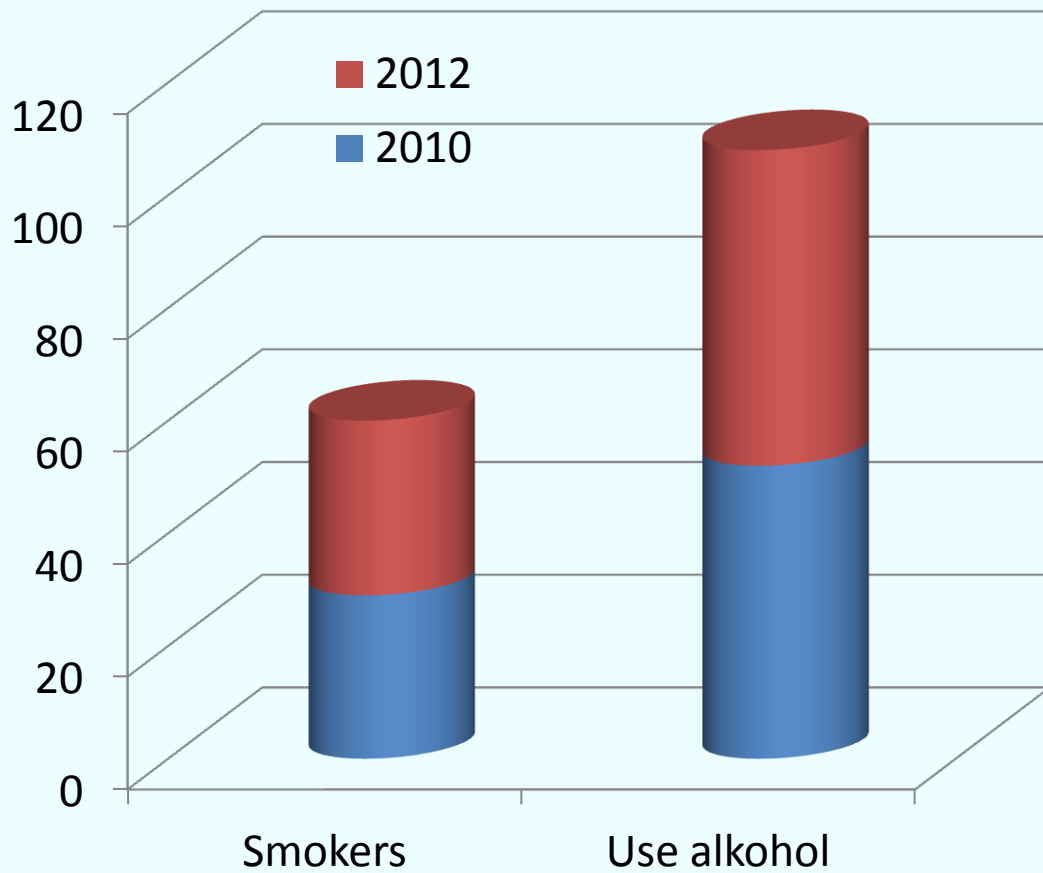
➢Books read only 16% of the students.

Graphics

The above mentioned leads to more difficult access to public services and information for the young people

- From gypsy origins
- Young people with low financial capacity
- Children of immigrants
- Children without parents

- ➤ Most students do not eat healthily
- ➤ A large percentage of young people do not eat breakfast and do not eat hot lunch
- ➤ Consequences: Emerging of diseases typical for people that are 40 - 50 years old.

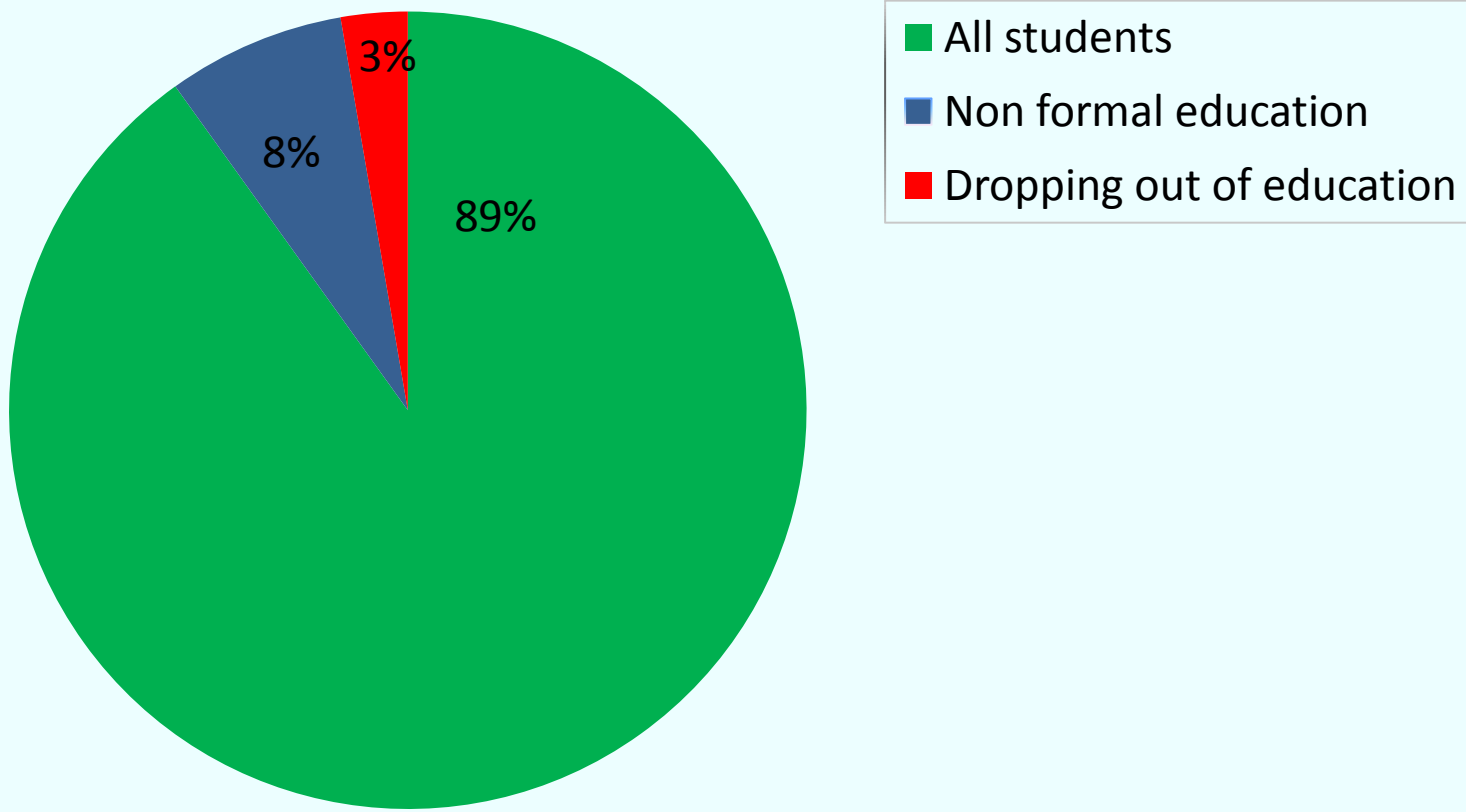We work with psychologists and health workers to prevent drinking of alcohol and smoking

Civil activity

➢ The youth organizations are not perceived as an environment for civil expression.

➢ Young people think about the civil initiative as "something pointless and a waste of time".

Graphics

Movement of students

- All students
- Non formal education
- Dropping out of education

3%

8%

89%

Main problems in school

Prevention

1 Reconciliation of learning with work to improve the financial situation of the family.

1 ✓ Scholarships for social assistance to disadvantaged children

2 Child is mistreated and he is afraid of his classmates.

2 ✓ Seeking help from psychologists and NGOs.

3 Difficulties to cope with the material and losing interest in learning.

3 ✓ Additional work with the student to absorb the missed learning material

4 Susceptible to the influence of the street.

4 ✓ Work with committees for prevention and pedagogue

✓ Aggression towards classmates

✓ Little interest in learning

Aggression

Violate school rules during class

✓ Destroying school equipment

✓ Not in good condition due to physical fatigue

Prevention

1

Additional work with the student to absorb the missed learning material

2

Active work with parents for family support

3

Continuous training of teachers to work in class using interactive method.

4

Qualifying class teachers to deal more effectively with the problems of young people in puberty.

Other forms of prevention

✓ Different scholarships for social assistance to disadvantaged children and for children with excellent results in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

✓ Social support for students from the school board

- Implementation of informal education if needed.
- Administrative penalties for students with antisocial behavior
- Social sanctions to parents - stopping child benefits or imposing a fine for allowing prolonged unexcused absence of student teaching hours.

- ➢ Psychologists to work with the children and the parents
- ➢ Work with the Committee on Delinquency Prevention
- ➢ Seeking support from non-governmental organizations

Extra-curricular activities in the school

- Media club
- Bike club
- Eco club
- Club "Bulgarians"
- Informatics club
- Photo club
- Sports clubs
- Radio club
- Club "Junior Technician"

Non-governmental organizations in Bulgaria

- "Parents" Association;

- Foundation "Animus Association".

- Centre for Inclusive Education

- "Child and space" - Problems of Children

- "Civil Movement TODAY - Society of the victims" - social services.

- "European Youth Alternatives" - Ethnic matters and social services

"Parents" Association

➢ Member of European parent association;

➢ Member of the working groups of the National Council for Child Protection;

➢ Member of the Public Council for Safer Internet;

➢ Member of the Advisory Council on Education of Sofia Municipality;

➢ Member of the Advisory Board of "Children of Sofia";

Mission

➢ To encourage parents to be the best parents as they can be, and to support the children to become as best adults as they can become.

Conclusion

Globalization of Education

- Coordination of policies or general educational policy.

- Sticking to the common principles, starting with the principles of democracy and human rights and finishing with the main principles of educational systems and the implementation of educational reforms.

- The young persons to be mobile within the global educational space.

- Implementation of freedom of movement of trainers, trainee, educational ideas and capital (knowledge and resources) within the international community.