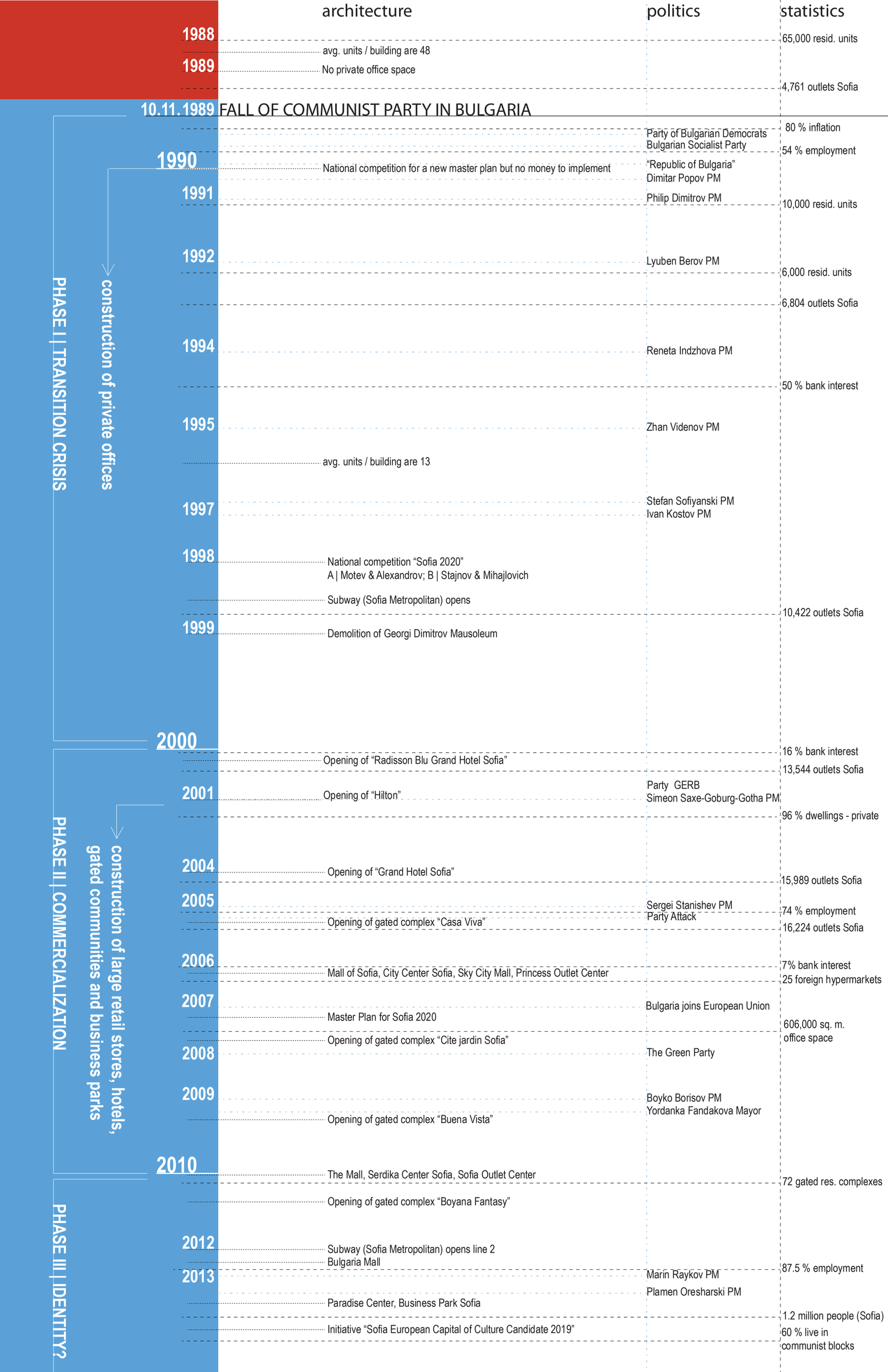
POST-SOCIALIST BATTENBERG SQUARE

CLASH OF GENERATIONS AND A SEARCH FOR NEW IDENTITY

Zhanina Boyadzhieva
GSD Cultural Ecology


architecture
politics
statistics
1988
avg. units / building are 48
65,000 resid. units
1989
No private office space
4,761 outlets Sofia
10.11.1989 FALL OF COMMUNIST PARTY IN BULGARIA
Party of Bulgarian Democrats
Bulgarian Socialist Party
80 % inflation
54 % employment
1990
National competition for a new master plan but no money to implement
"Republic of Bulgaria"
Dimitar Popov PM
1991
Philip Dimitrov PM
10,000 resid. units
1992
Lyuben Berov PM
6,000 resid. units
6,804 outlets Sofia
1994
Reneta Indzhova PM
50 % bank interest
1995
Zhan Videnov PM
avg. units / building are 13
1997
Stefan Sofiyanski PM
Ivan Kostov PM
1998
National competition "Sofia 2020"
A | Motev & Alexandrov; B | Stajnov & Mihajlovich
Subway (Sofia Metropolitan) opens
10,422 outlets Sofia
1999
Demolition of Georgi Dimitrov Mausoleum
PHASE I | TRANSITION CRISIS
construction of private offices
2000
16 % bank interest
Opening of "Radisson Blu Grand Hotel Sofia"
13,544 outlets Sofia
2001
Party GERB
Simeon Saxe-Goburg-Gotha PM
Opening of "Hilton"
96 % dwellings - private
2004
Opening of "Grand Hotel Sofia"
15,989 outlets Sofia
2005
Sergei Stanishev PM
Party Attack
74 % employment
Opening of gated complex "Casa Viva"
16,224 outlets Sofia
2006
7% bank interest
Mall of Sofia, City Center Sofia, Sky City Mall, Princess Outlet Center
25 foreign hypermarkets
2007
Bulgaria joins European Union
Master Plan for Sofia 2020
606,000 sq. m. office space
Opening of gated complex "Cite jardin Sofia"
2008
The Green Party
2009
Boyko Borisov PM
Yordanka Fandakova Mayor
Opening of gated complex "Buena Vista"
PHASE II | COMMERCIALIZATION
construction of large retail stores, hotels, gated communities and business parks
2010
The Mall, Serdika Center Sofia, Sofia Outlet Center
72 gated res. complexes
Opening of gated complex "Boyana Fantasy"
2012
Subway (Sofia Metropolitan) opens line 2
Bulgaria Mall
2013
Marin Raykov PM
87.5 % employment
Plamen Oresharski PM
Paradise Center, Business Park Sofia
1.2 million people (Sofia)
Initiative "Sofia European Capital of Culture Candidate 2019"
60 % live in communist blocks
PHASE III | IDENTITY?

PHASE I | Destruction of Communist marks (1990s)

PHASE I | Installations against Communism (1990)

LOSTBULGARIA.COM

PHASE I | Destruction of Mausoleum (1999)

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PHASE I | Inflation period (1990s)

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PHASE I | Inflation period (1990s)

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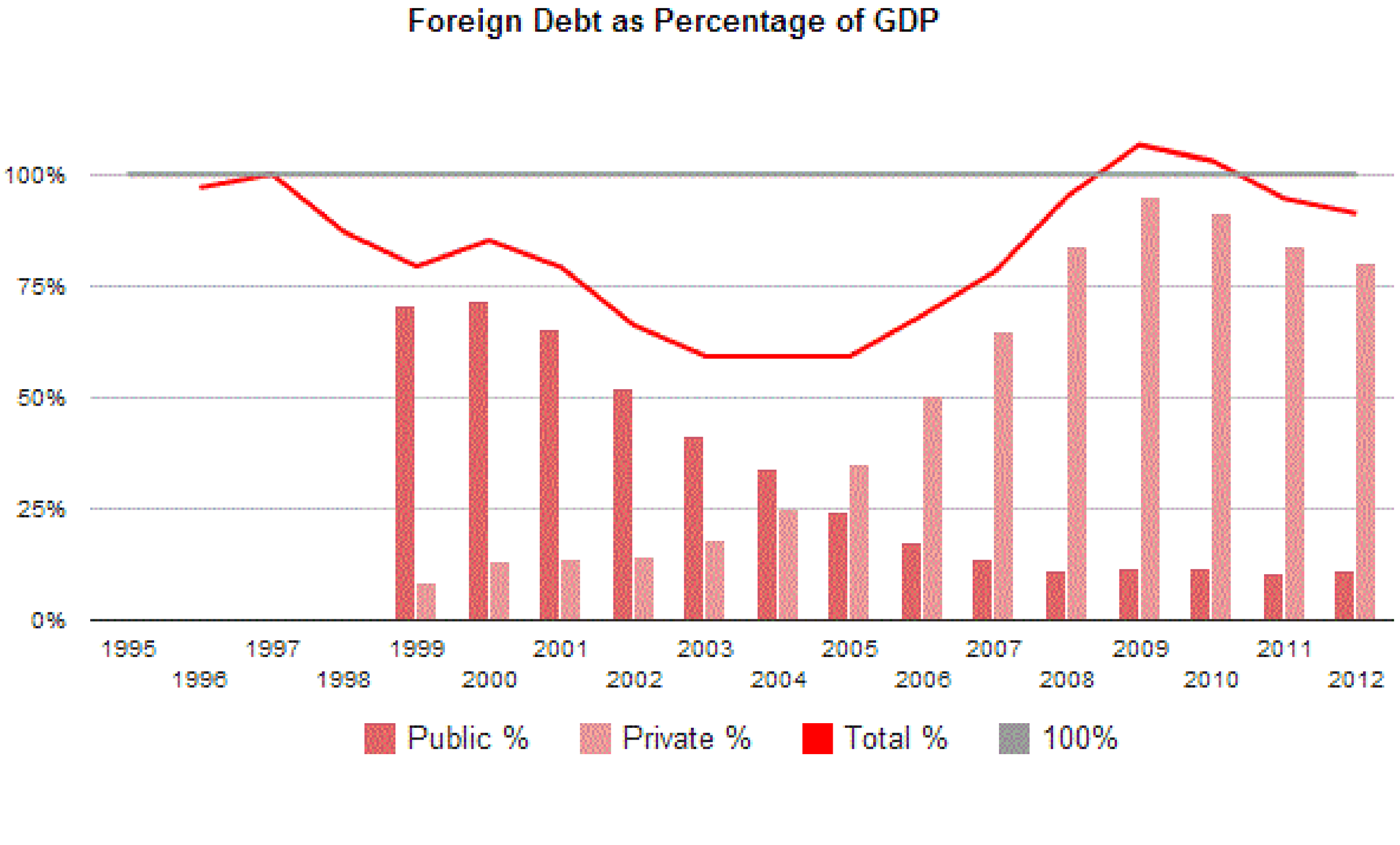
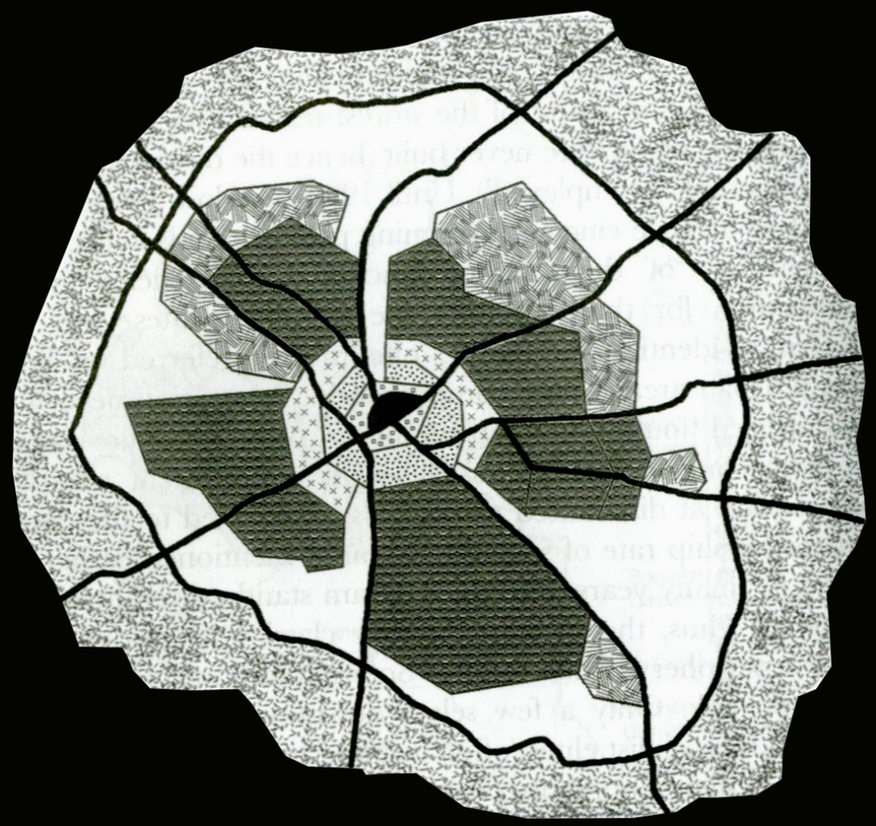
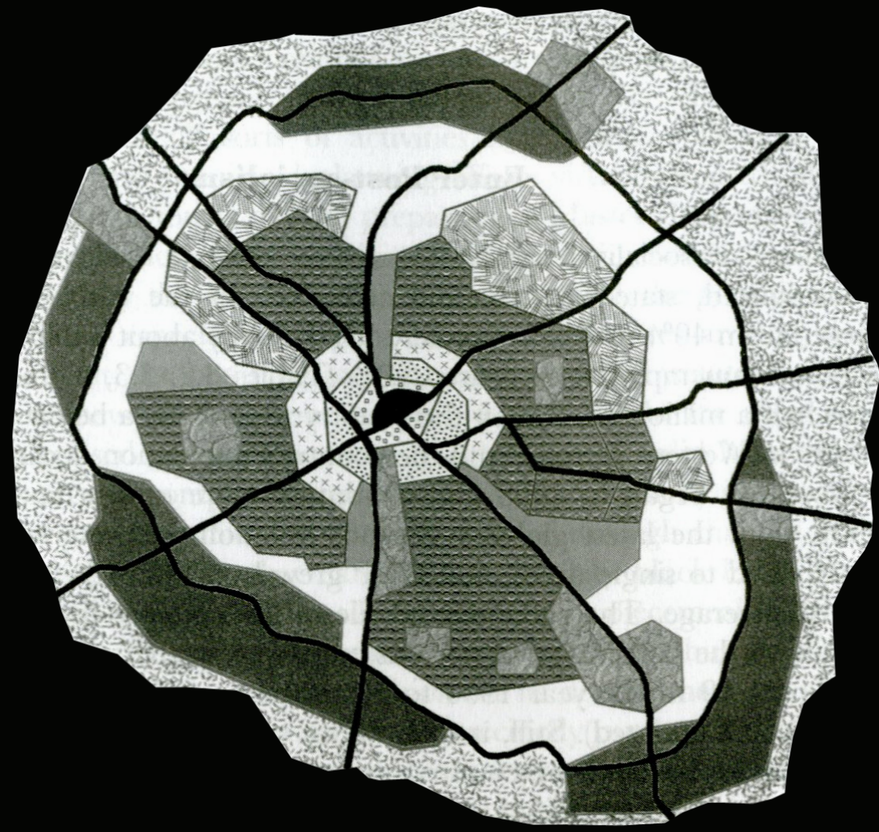

Foreign Debt as Percentage of GDP
100%
75%
50%
25%
0%
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
Public %
Private %
Total %
100%

PHASE II | Socialist vs. Post-Socialist Sofia



- Historic core
- Capitalist-era downtown
- 1950s neighborhoods
- 1960s neighborhoods
- Socialist mass housing (1960-1989)
- Greenbelts
- Industrial Zones
- Countryside



- Historic core
- Partially gentrifying downtown
- Partially gentrifying neighborhoods
- 1960s neighborhoods
- Partially deteriorating socialist mass housing
- Shrinking greenbelts
- Deteriorating industrial zones / brownfields
- New post-socialist urban residential
- New post-socialist upscale residential suburbs
- New commercial nodes
- Countryside

PHASE II | Space of Privatization

1. **1867** | Saint Sunday (Sveta Nedelya) Church (originally 10th century)
2. **1880-1882** | National Art Gallery 1946 (Battenberg Palace)
3. **1884-1886** | National Assembly
4. **1882-1912** | Alexander Nevsky Cathedral
5. **1878 |** St. Cyril and Methodius Library
6. **1904-1906** | Ivan Vazov National Theater
7. **1905** | National Archaeological Museum Sofia (Mosque - 1474)
8. **1924-1934** | Sofia University
9. **1934-1939** | National Bulgarian Bank
10. **1947** | Ministries
11. **1950s** | Largo
12. **1950s** | Sheraton Hotel (Previous “Balkan”)
13. **1955** | Central Department Store (TZUM)
14. **2005** | Grand Hotel Sofia

PHASE II | Space of Privatization (Banks, Hotels, Corporations)

PHASE II | Corruption in Bulgaria (2008-09)

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Bulgarian corruption troubling EU

By Doreen Carvajal and Stephen Castle
Published: Wednesday, October 15, 2008

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SOFIA — Politics is played to the death in Bulgaria, where the lives of politicians can be as cheap as spent bullets and murky business groups wage a murderous struggle for their cut of everything from real estate deals to millions in European aid.

During a furious political season last year, the home of the chairwoman of a municipal electoral committee was set on fire and the garages of mayors were firebombed. The mayor of a golf resort town in central Bulgaria was shot and killed with seven bullets - the same number that killed the wealthy city council chairman in the outwardly idyllic Black Sea port of Nessebar.

"Other countries have the mafia," said Atanas Atanasov, a member of Parliament and a former counterintelligence chief who is a magnet for leaked documents exposing corruption. "In Bulgaria, the mafia has the country."

By almost any measure, Bulgaria is considered the most corrupt country in the 27-member European Union. Since it joined last year, it has emerged as a cautionary tale for Western nations confronting the stark reality and heavy costs of drawing fragile post-Communist nations into their orbit, away from the influence of Russia.

The United States helped Bulgaria into NATO, has rotated troops through for joint exercises since 2004 and has tried to encourage commerce, education and democracy. It has just announced that it will invest more than $90 million in the next two to three years in facilities and equipment for joint military exercises in Bulgaria.

The EU, eager to improve the lives of the 7.5 million Bulgarians, dangled €11 billion, or nearly $15 billion, in aid. Far from halting crime and violence, the money effectively spread the corruption. Once Bulgaria's shady business types realized how much EU money was at stake, said many of Sofia's anti-corruption reformers, they moved from buying off politicians directly into politics.

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Bulgaria Most Corrupt in Central, SE Europe – TI Report

Business | September 24, 2009, Thursday // 15:10 | Views: 4151 | Comments: 0

54% of all Bulgarians in 2008 beleived corruption took place "often" and "always" when companies compete for public sector contracts. Photo by Sofia Photo Agency

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The massive scale of global **corruption** is obstructing the sustainable economic growth, according to a report of **Transparency International** (TI).

The Global **Corruption** Report 2009: **Corruption** and the Private Sector (GCR), published Wednesday, shows that corrupt practices such as bribery, price-fixing cartels and undue influence on public policy, cost billions and constitutes a destructive force that undermines fair competition, and slows down economic growth.

PHASE III | Protests and Students' Movement (2013)

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Bulgarian students protest to demand government resignation

BY ANGEL KRASIMIROV
SOFIA | Sun Nov 10, 2013 10:50am EST

1 COMMENTS | Tweet 54 | Share 5 | Share this 67 | Email | Print

1 OF 8. A protester wrapped in a Bulgarian national flag shouts anti-government slogans in front of the government building in central Sofia November 10, 2013.
CREDIT: REUTERS/STOYAN NENOV

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AVAAZ.ORG COMMUNITYpetitions

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The world's largest and most effective online campaigning community for change START A PETITION

Demand the resignation of the Bulgarian government!

Created by Protesters of . Bulgaria

To be delivered to: Plamen Oresharski, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria

7,500
5,839
5,839 signers. Let's reach 7,500

SIGN THIS PETITION

To Prime Minister Plamen Oresharski:

We demand your immediate resignation. Your government has unquestionably lost the trust of the Bulgarian people and your remaining in power will lead to violation of basic human rights, escalation of violence, and threatening of human lives. We demand new elections for a fair government, representing the will of the people.

Enter your email address

Email

Why this is important to me (optional)

Avaaz.org will protect your privacy and keep you posted about this and similar campaigns. SIGN

Share this campaign on your Facebook wall

This petition has been created by Protesters of . and may not represent the views of the Avaaz community.

Why this is important

For more than four weeks the **Bulgarian people have been peacefully protesting** against political impudence and for the immediate resignation of the four-week-old government and new elections. Plamen Oresharski, the new prime minister, and the parties in power, **have mocked the protests and shown over and over again this is a puppet government**, which does not represent people's interests, but those of mafia and oligarchy. Currently **the new government has an approval rating of only 14%** - less than Mubarak during the Tahrir Square revolution, creating the biggest divide between people and

theguardian

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Bulgarian students lead wave of protest

Young people occupying institutions all over the country amid growing anger over corruption and unemployment

Kit Gillet in Sofia
The Guardian, Tuesday 26 November 2013 18.03 EST

Jump to comments (16)

Opinion polls suggest that around two-thirds of Bulgaria's 7.3 million people support the student protests. Photograph: Rex Features

Just after 1am inside Sofia University, a handful of young people are spray painting protest banners in a dimly lit corridor. Upstairs in a lecture hall, and dotted around nearby classrooms, fellow students are curled up on the floor asleep. Volunteers in yellow jackets are standing guard at the university gates.

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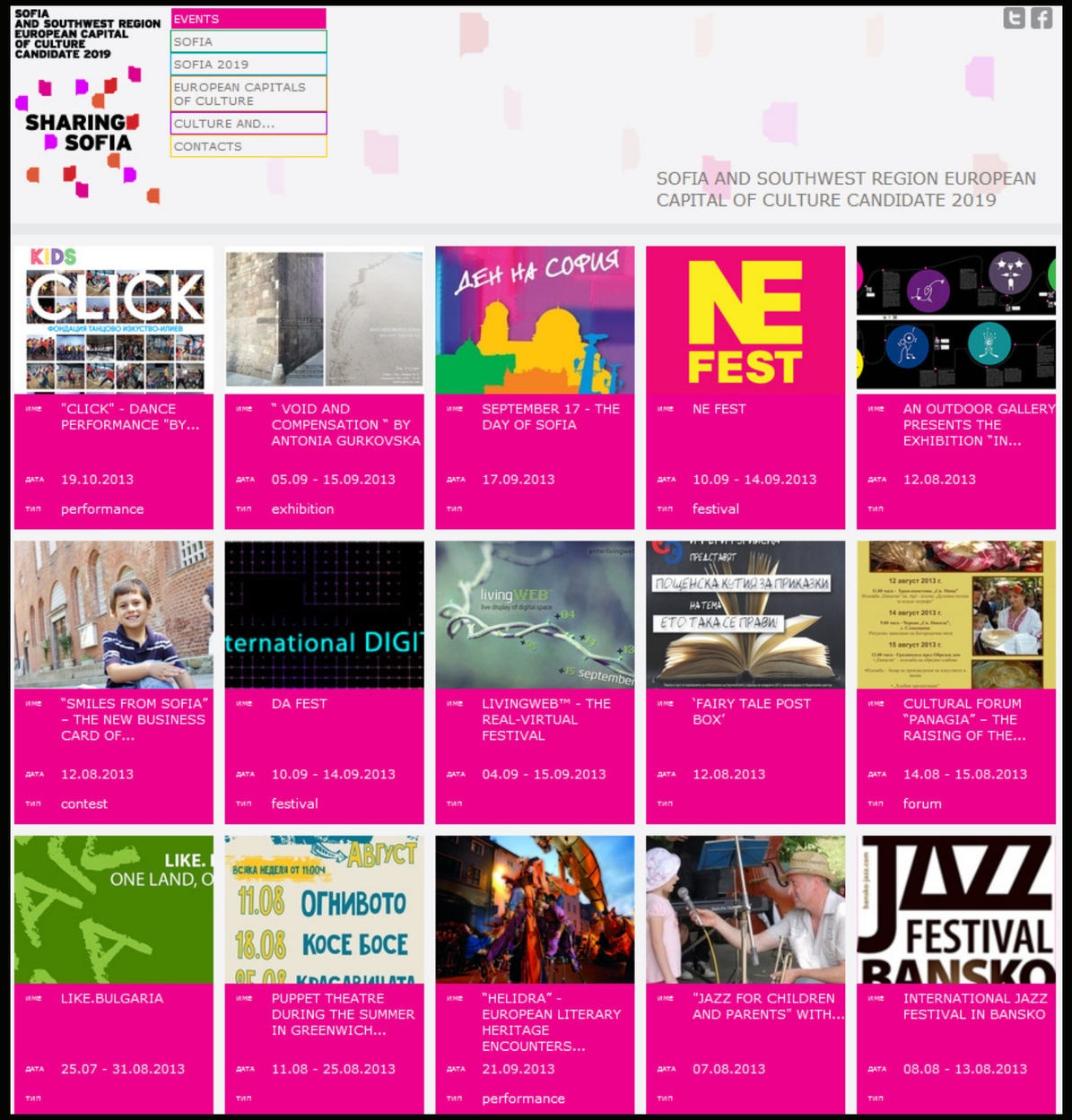
Students in Bulgaria occupy universities to demand an end to corruption, nepotism in govt

CAPTION

By Associated Press, Published: November 17

PHASE III | Sofia as cultural capital (2013)



PHASE III | Sofia as cultural capital (2013)