

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED  
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023  
for examination in 2023**

*File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>*

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### **A. Identification of the organization**

#### **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report**

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

CIOFF България – Фондация „Международен съвет на организаторите на фестивали за фолклор и традиционни изкуства-България /ЦИОФФ-България/“

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria/International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Art/

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90060

#### **A.2. Address of the organization**

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria/International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Art

Address: 1309 Sofia, zh.k. Sveta Troica, bl. 173, entr. G, 7 fl., ap.112

Telephone number: +359879401191

Email address: [info@cioff-bulgaria.com](mailto:info@cioff-bulgaria.com)

Website: [www.cioff-bulgaria.com](http://www.cioff-bulgaria.com)

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: Pavlov

Given name: Emil

Institution/position: Chairman

Address: 1309 Sofia, zh.k. Sveta Troica, bl. 173, entr. G, 7 fl., ap.112

Telephone number: +359879401191

Email address: [Emil.pavlov59@gmail.com](mailto:Emil.pavlov59@gmail.com)

Other relevant information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Every year, during spring, National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria organizes Annual National Meeting of the choreographers – choreographers, cultural figures and art specialists from whole country take part in it.  
The Meeting includes also Seminar part with participation of experts from state institutions.

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

Lectures for ICH were exported by representatives of Ministry of culture, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Ministry of Education and Science. National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria is the founder of the award “Golden Yoke” given to most significant persons in the sphere of safeguarding of the Intangible cultural heritage for entire contribution to the development of the Bulgarian folklore and one special “Golden Yoke” award – for exceptional contribution to the folklore and its popularization - given to Bulgarian organizations, Municipalities and Cultural institutions. The prize was received by all state institutions related to the safeguarding of ICH.

**B.2.** Describe your organization’s participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Everything that was described in B.1. plus:  
Every year we organize Interantional Conferences during International Folklore Festival Veliko Tarnovo and International art academy “Summer rainbow“.  
2022 – Cultural conference “Creation of new dancing and musical piece“  
2021 – International science conference “In the terms of pandemic – survival or revival of the world intangible cultural heritage“  
2020 – pandemic – festivals and cultural activities were actually cancelled because of the lockdown  
Most of the conferences were held in partnership with the Regional centre for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage under the auspices of UNESCO, Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers and National Commission of Bulgaria for UNESCO.

**B.3.** Describe your organization’s participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Every 4 years National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria organizes National Review of the Folklore ensembles Bulgaria.  
Implementation of the Review as a long lasting tradition of creating expressions allows to CIOFF Bulgaria to follow the development of Bulgarian ensembles aiming prestigious international representation. Jury, consisting of specialists in Folklore and ICH evaluates the ensembles. Best groups receive the statute of “Representative ensemble of CIOFF Bulgaria” which gives them the opportunity to participate in festivals and cultural events all over the world. Representative ensembles are the main protector and guardian of ICH in the sphere of folklore.  
In the end of the National Review we prepare Official report for our Ministry of culture which can be used for statistical purposes of the ministry.  
During the National review in 2021 and 2022 we organized 98 concerts in 52 cities all over the country with the participation of more than 1000 ensembles and folklore formations.

**B.4.** Describe your organization’s participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List is a task of experts from the Ministry of Culture. Every two years the Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum under the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the regional museums and the district governors, holds a campaign for completing the List. This campaign has two stages - regional and national. We

have participated several times as consultants.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In last few years took part in many international conferences which are related with ICH. Also every World Congress of CIOFF - International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Art (NGO - Official Partner of Unesco - Associate Status and accredited to the UNESCO ICH Committee) includes Cultural Conferences and Forums.

2020 – Zoom meetings

2021 - Budapest, Hungary

2022 – Kiparissya, Greece

2022 – Mehmetchick, North Cyprus

2022 – Zoom meeting with Steering committee of NGOs represented in UNESCO

After each conference we prepare a report that we present to our members.

Because of the pandemic situation our travel and participation in different international cultural activities was restricted.

**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria has the following objectives:

- to promote the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and contribute to its implementation in the South-Eastern European sub-region;
- to increase the participation of separate communities, groups and individuals in safeguarding intangible heritage in the South-Eastern European countries;
- to support the efforts for safeguarding of the elements of intangible cultural heritage from the region that are included in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage and the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;
- to cooperate with the institutions engaged in studying and safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage on a local, national and regional level.

Support and participate in activities for training of specialists in the field of intangible cultural heritage; to promote UNESCO Convention of ICH through our folklore festivals and cultural forums.

**B.7.** Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Our National section of CIOFF Bulgaria organizes folklore festivals, workshops, science conferences, meetings, seminars and other cultural forums which involves different groups, audiences and participants as well as well known specialists in the sphere of Intangible cultural heritage. We introduce to the numerous public through the performing of different ensembles – some of the best masterpieces included in the Representative list of UNESCO and some of the examples from the List of good practices of UNESCO.

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**B.8.** Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria work actively with others NGOs.  
During the last 10 years we have elaborated a Network for CIOFF festivals and members in Eastern Europe including 9 countries where each year we organize our events popularizing pieces of the Intangible cultural heritage of humanity in front of numerous audience in all age ranges in these countries. Information of those organized festivals and complementary events we present and distribute to our members and to our Ministry of culture in Bulgaria.

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria collaborates constantly with the Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers for different projects and activities.

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria signed in 2022 a Contract for mutual partnership and popularising of folklore and ICH with the Center for safeguarding of the folklore heritage to the Academy of Music, Dance and Visual Arts "Prof. Asen Diamandiev" – Plovdiv.

We are in collaboration with various cultural institutions, cultural centers and experts in the field of ICH.

**B.9.** Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

National periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention in our country is prepared by National Commission of Bulgaria for UNESCO and Ministry of culture – where National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria periodically gives reports on our activities and results.

**B.10.** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding Representative List and List of Good practices is a task of experts from the Ministry of Culture, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum under the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, holds a campaign for completing the List. This campaign has two stages - regional and national. We have participated several times as consultants.

## C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

## D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

**D.1** Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

From 2010, National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria is one of the first 36 NGOs accredited to provide advisor services to IGC for Safeguarding of ICH of UNESCO, and since then attended the Sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage:

2008 (Istanbul),  
2009 (Abu Dhabi)  
2011 (Bali)  
2012 (Paris) with support of RC for safeguarding of ICH for SE Europe under auspices of UNESCO.

During the last several years National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria was represented in the different sessions of the Committee through Mrs Magdalena Tovornik – our CIOFF International UNESCO representative.

**D.2** Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.

Not to exceed 100 words

No

**D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

Advisory services we can provide in the field in which we work - Dissemination and safeguarding of Intangible cultural heritage. We encouraging the organization of national, regional and international Intangible cultural heritage events and we have great experience in organizing of cultural events.

For example we organize International Folklore Festival Veliko Tarnovo and other folklore festivals in the country. For the last 24 years there were presented more than 120 countries. We presented more than 20 Elements of the Representative List of UNESCO of ICH of humanity.

## **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):**

**E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As a part of International Organization, our members and staff use several foreign languages.

Chairman - Mr. Emil Pavlov - russian and english

Secretary General - Mrs. Stiliyana Yorgova - french, spanish and english

Chairman of Youth Movement - Mrs. Yoanna Nizamska- english, german and russian.

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria realise his objectives based on the principles of the value of cultural heritage, equality between heritage, principle of understanding, respect for heritage.

The general aspect of our work is the safeguarding and dissemination of Bulgarian folklore - we organize the international participation of Bulgarian folklore ensembles in international cultural events.

We also present the folklore of others countries in Bulgaria.

We present traditional musical instruments, traditional cuisine of the countries and traditional art as well.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As an International Organization we use different documents as Application Forms, Regulations, "By laws", Guidelines and others. Also, every year we prepare Annual Report.

As a modern Organization, nowadays most of the documents have online version.

For example: Every festival, which is member of National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria, should fill the report about the groups which have participated in the festival in Bulgaria. And every Bulgarian ensemble, which have participated in international folklore festival abroad should fill the report about the festival.

Now all the reports are Online, so it is easier for analysing the information.

E.4. Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.

Not to exceed 250 words

National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria has own Regulations. They are prepared by our staff and are translated in English and in French.  
The Structure of National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria includes also different Commissions, which have their own "By laws".  
Festival commission - nominates the folklore groups, which will participate in international folklore festivals abroad through the received invitations from CIOFF recommends international folklore ensembles and groups for participation in international folklore festivals in Bulgaria; organizes and coordinates the implementation of national examinations for keeping up with the art and technical values of the folklore groups;  
National Section of CIOFF Bulgaria works for popularization of the Bulgarian folklore wealth.  
Commission for PR and advertisement - realizes public relations, relations with the media and other agencies for popular information; works for popularization of the activity and raising up the authority of the National Section in the public space and in front of the society;  
works for popularization of the activity of the National Section in an international aspect.  
Financial commission - works out an annual budget and financial report;  
consults the Executive board about financial questions.  
Legal Commission.  
Cultural commission - organizes and coordinates its efforts with governmental and non-governmental organizations with similar activity by the implementation of cultural events in Bulgaria and abroad; works out projects and applies for outside financing at donor, contributor, governmental and non-governmental funds and organizations; works and represents the foundation in common initiatives and contacts with similar governmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of culture and education in Bulgaria and abroad.

E.5. Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

The work of National Section is divided into two levels - National Activities and International Activities.  
International Activities include:  
Communication with International Folklore Festivals abroad.  
Communication with foreign groups for participation in folklore festivals in Bulgaria.  
Participation in different cultural events as conferences, symposiums, exhibitions, workshops, seminars and etc.  
Projects with others NGOs working in the field of ICH.

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No



## G. Signature

*The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.*

Name: Emil Pavlov

Title: Chairman

Date: 23.01.2023

Signature:

