

## **The Honorable Dr. Solomon Isaac Passy DHC**

**Founding President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria (1990-present)**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria (2001-2005)**

**Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE (2004)**

**Chairman of the UN Security Council (September 2002, December 2003)**

**Chairman of Foreign / Foreign and Defence Parliamentary Committees (2005-2009 / 2001)**

**Bulgaria's nomination for Secretary General of NATO (2009)**

**Chairman of Transparency & Accountability Committee of OSCE PA (2005-2009)**

**Vice-President of the Atlantic Treaty Association, Paris (1996-1999)**

**Member of Parliament (1990-1991, 2001, 2005-2009)**

**Member of 4 Bulgarian Antarctic Expeditions (1993-2005)**

**Computer Scientist (since 1979)**

**Leader of opposition and freedom fighting movements (1985-1990)**

### **EDUCATION & DEGREES**

**1985:** Ph.D. in Mathematical Logic & Computer Science, Sofia University

**1979:** M.S. in Mathematical Logic, Sofia University

**BORN** December 22, 1956, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

### **CAREER**

**1990 – to present:** Founding President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria

**August 2005 – July 2009:** Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bulgarian Parliament, Member of the EU Affairs Committee

**June 2005 – July 2009:** MP from Burgas region, National Movement Simeon II, third term as MP since 1990.

**August 2006 – July 2009:** Chairman of the Transparency and Accountability Committee of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

**August 2005 – July 2009:** Chairman of the Bulgaria–USA caucus of the Bulgarian Parliament

**July 2001:** Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Committee of the 39<sup>th</sup> Parliament

As Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee (2005-2009) Dr. Passy developed public diplomacy to stimulate a dialogue between the Euro-Atlantic community and the rest of the world, in promotion of the common Atlantic values.

In 2009 Dr. Passy was officially nominated by the Government of Bulgaria for Secretary General of NATO. In this tough competition, though originating from “New” Europe, he proved to be among the most popular candidates.

**JULY 2001 – AUGUST 2005:** Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Government of Prime Minister King Simeon Saxe-Coburg.

### **Highlight of accomplishments<sup>1</sup>:**

- **NATO** During Dr. Passy's mandate and with his proactive involvement Bulgaria was invited to join NATO (Prague 2002) and effectively joined the Alliance (March 2004). This was the successful completion of Dr. Passy's fourteen-years-efforts for Bulgaria's accession to NATO.

In 2003 with the proactive participation of Minister Passy, the Governments of the US and Bulgaria started negotiations for the establishment of joint US-Bulgarian military facilities in Bulgaria. The negotiations were successfully completed and ratified by the Bulgarian Parliament in May 2006 during Dr. Passy's mandate as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

In July 2004, Minister Passy launched the idea for a common code for hostage crisis management which evolved into the Policy statement of the Global coalition against terrorism.

In 2009 Solomon Passy launched a new target for NATO: the Alliance to be given a Peace Nobel Prize for what it did in the previous 60 years. This is a personal priority for Solomon for the next coming years.

- **EU** During his mandate as Minister of Foreign Affairs and with his proactive involvement Bulgaria concluded the negotiations with the European Union on all chapters (2004), negotiated

with the EU (2002) on the date of accession – January 1st, 2007, signed the Accession Treaty (April 2005) and ratified the Treaty (May 2005).

During his term as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Bulgaria succeeded in finalizing all procedures and effectively joined the Union in 2007. This has been the culmination of Dr. Passy's fifteen-years-efforts for accession of Bulgaria to the EU.

After pro-active participation in the EU Inter Governmental Conference (2004) Minister Passy co-signed the EU Constitution, and later in 2008 as Chairman of FAC spearheaded the ratification by BG Parliament of its revised version, known as Lisbon Reform Treaty.

- **UNSC** During his mandate and with his active involvement Bulgaria successfully served on the UN Security Council (2002-2003). Thus Bulgaria contributed to some of the most important Security Council resolutions, defining the security policy of the international community after the terrorist attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001. Dr. Passy chaired the UNSC in September 2002 and December 2003. In 2001 – 2005 the Government made the key decisions for Bulgaria's participation in the international efforts for the liberation, democratization and stabilization of Afghanistan and Iraq, which were the milestones of Bulgaria's long-term foreign policy.
- **OSCE**<sup>1</sup> In 2004 Dr. Passy was the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. He was a member of the OSCE Troika during 2003-2005. During his tenure OSCE reached a consensus on further reforms in the Organization, stepped up efforts in fighting anti-Semitism, xenophobia and discrimination, contributed to democratic processes in Georgia and Ukraine, supported peace efforts in Georgia, Moldova, Kosovo, Armenia and Azerbaijan and addressed the countries of Central Asia. The Organization resumed its activities in the Middle East and reached out to new countries in Asia.
- **Balkans and Neighbours** In 2004-2005 Minister Passy launched the vision for his country to become a pro-active exporter of Euro-Atlantic values to Balkan and Black Sea regions. He proposed and signed agreements in that respect with Albania, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Montenegro, Georgia and Ukraine.  
In 2005 Minister Passy launched a strategy, adopted by the Bulgarian Government, to almost double the crossing points over Bulgarian borders in the period 2005-15, which would bring the Balkans closer to the European infrastructural standards.
- **Pope John Paul II visited Bulgaria.** In May 2002 the Pope visited Bulgaria. During his visit he denied the so called "Bulgarian connection" in the attempted assassination in 1981. This was the successful completion of Dr. Passy's eight-years-effort to invite Pope John Paul II to Bulgaria and to restore the country's reputation.
- **The Bulgarian medics in Libya** On July 24, 2001 Minister Passy inherited with his portfolio the very dramatic case with 6 Bulgarian nationals and 1 Palestinian doctor detained in Libyan prison, unjustly accused for deliberate infection of over than 400 Libyan children by HIV/AIDS. Dr. Passy built up the strategy of his Government for negotiations with Libya, based on five basic principles:
  - Full commitment of the Bulgarian state and government with the case;
  - Establishment a full fledged dialogue with Libya, channelled through Seif Al-Islam and his Qaddafi Charity Foundation. Dr. Passy visited 5 times Libya, met 3 times with Colonel Muammar Qaddafi and relevant Libyan authorities;
  - Full fledged internationalization of the case, realized, among others, through EU and US, UN and UNSC, NATO, OSCE, CE, The Pope, The Ecumenical Patriarch. These efforts resulted in the three-lateral format EU-US-BG (March 2005) which in concert conducted and concluded the negotiations with Libya.
  - Support of building conditions for full reintegration of Libya in the international community;
  - Satisfactory and respectful solution for both sides, based on the knowledge of the full innocence of the six Bulgarian medics and the Palestinian doctor, and the full sympathy with the tragedy of over than 400 Libyan families of the children in Benghazi, infected by the HIV/AIDS.This strategy was justified by the liberation of the 7 medics, six years later, on July 24, 2007 when Dr. Passy was Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the BG-Libyan caucus in the Parliament.
- **North Korea** After the successful developments with the Bulgarian medics in Libya's, in July

<sup>1</sup>

For more information see the attachment

2007, Dr. Passy assumed a good-will visit to Pyongyang to propose to the government of North Korea the positive model of Libya for reintegration in the international community and to share the painful Bulgarian know-how in this process. Soon after, the breakthrough in the 6-party negotiations and the Summit between North and South Korea was announced.

- **MFA** Under the leadership of Dr. Passy, the Bulgarian government established the position of Minister of European Affairs (2002) as well as the Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2003) – the first Diplomatic School in the history of Bulgaria. Dr. Passy created also the Cultural Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2005) – the largest open air collection of sculptures in Bulgaria.

**July 2001:** MP, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Committee, of the 39th National Assembly.

- Under the leadership of Dr. Passy, the Bulgarian Parliament decided to unite the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committees in order to secure a coherent foreign and defence policy, paving the way to the country's accession to NATO.

**1991-2001:** Founding President and CEO of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, the first pro-Atlantic NGO ever founded in a non-NATO member state

- Dr. Passy launched (1994) the idea of joint Bulgarian-Greek and Bulgarian-Turkish military contingents which materialized in 1999 with the creation of the South-Eastern European Brigade, SEEBRIG.
- Dr. Passy was a prominent public supporter of NATO's timely involvement in Former Yugoslavia and in particular of NATO's operation in Kosovo to counter the destructive policy of Milosevic.
- In the mid '90s Dr. Passy was a strong defender of the movement of US military facilities in Europe eastwards and to Bulgaria in particular – a goal materialized with his leadership in 2006.

**1990-1991:** MP, Grand National Assembly, Green Party, Union of Democratic Forces (UDF)

- As an MP in August 1990, Dr. Passy drafted a bill for Bulgaria's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact and accession to NATO, which was the start of the nations' efforts to join the Alliance. This was also the beginning of the public discussion in Central and Eastern Europe for the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and NATO's enlargement eastwards. The Warsaw Pact was officially disbanded in July 1991 while the enlargement of NATO materialized in 1999.
- In 1990 Dr. Passy drafted also the bill Bulgaria's accession to the European Union.
- Dr. Passy is among the founding fathers of the first Bulgarian democratic and republican Constitution (1991)
- In August 1990 after Saddam Hussein's occupation of Kuwait, Dr. Passy was a co-sponsor of the bill which authorized Bulgaria's participation in the international coalition liberating Kuwait. In the next decade he was continuously advocating the necessity of the liberation of Iraq itself from the tyrannical regime of Saddam. This eventually happened in 2003 and the Bulgarian Government gave a significant contribution to this end.
- In 1990, Dr. Passy was the sponsor of the draft bill for abolishment of the death penalty in Bulgaria, a cause which he defended since 1985. The respective law was approved in 1998.

**1980-1994:** PhD studies and Assistant Professor in Mathematical Logic and Computer Science at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Passy and his team completed a study on modal logics, originally initiated by Aristotle in the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C., framing the theory of the necessary truths in the possible worlds – popular today as hybrid logics. Before that he was studying the boundaries of human understanding and limits of knowledge. Dr. Solomon Passy is the author of dozens of publications in leading international journals on logics and computer science.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE / SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT / ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Dr Passy's activities have been closely linked with this topic. In the late 80's he was the co-founder of WWF-Bulgaria as well as of the first eco-political opposition movements in Bulgaria.

**Between 1993-2005** he was member of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 13th Bulgarian Antarctic Expeditions to Livingston Island, Antarctica. He was the first Bulgarian Cabinet Member to visit the Bulgarian Antarctic Base. As a result of the efforts of the Bulgarian Antarctic community and of Dr. Passy in particular, in 1998 Bulgaria was accepted as the 28th consultative member to the Antarctic Treaty. In

recognition of his contribution to the Bulgarian Antarctic program, the Peak Passy on Livingston Island was named after him.

**In 2008** he and his wife Gergana launched before the European Commission the idea for universal standardization of all gsm mobile chargers and headsets. The EC, accepting their motivated proposal convinced the world GSM Association which agreed to standardize this periphery until 2012. This policy will save about 20 million tons of electronic waste/CO2 emission each year and will seriously help countering the global warming.

## **POLITICAL AND PUBLIC**

**2002-2009:** Member of Political Council of NMSS

**2005-2007:** Vice-President of the National Movement Simeon II (NMSS)

**1996-1999:** Vice-Chairman of the Atlantic Treaty Association, Paris

**1999:** Co-chairman of the Host Committee for the visit of President Bill Clinton to Bulgaria

**1994:** Leader of the Bulgarian delegation for the Audience with H.H. Pope John Paul II

**1991:** Chairman of the Host Committee for H.H. The XIV Dalai Lama's visit to Sofia

**1989:** Founder and Spokesman of the Green Party of Bulgaria

**1990-1991:** Co-founder and member of leadership of the Union of Democratic Forces

**1989-1990:** Participant in the National Round Table for transition to democracy

**1989:** Activist of Ecoglasnost opposition movement

**1985-1989:** In opposition to anti-Muslim repressive policy of the Communist regime, Dr Passy adopted the pseudonym Syuleyman Tehlikeli

## **CO-FOUNDER OF:**

- Bulgarian Aero-Space Agency (1993)
- Manfred Woerner Foundation (1994)
- Bulgarian Antarctic Institute (1994)
- Bulgarian Wildlife Fund (1989)

## **MEMBER OF:**

- Advisory Board of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (Berlin)
- Honorary President / Streit Council for a Union of Democracies (Washington, DC)
- Board of trustees of the American University in Bulgaria
- Board of trustees of the Burgas Free University
- Bulgarian Society for Protection of Birds -- BirdLife Bulgaria
- National Geographic Society

## **INTERNATIONAL STATE AWARDS**

- Ordine della Stella della Solidarieta' Italiana (I classe), Italy, 2006
- Orden de Isabel la Catolica (Gran Cruz), Spain, 2006
- Order of Léopold II (Grand Cross), Belgium, 2004
- Orden Del Mérito Civil (Gran Cruz), Spain, 2003
- Orden Infante Dom Henrique (Grã-Cruz), Portugal, 2002

## **AWARDS**

- Doctor Honoris Causa of the South-West University of Bulgaria (2005).
- Dr. Passy is the bearer of the first Balkan Peace Award, awarded by the South East European Journalists Union (Edirne) for his contribution to peace in the region (2004).
- Award for contribution to social peace from the Turkish daily newspaper "Zaman".
- The American Jewish Committee's Distinguished statesman award in recognition of distinguished leadership to advance the principles of peace, democracy and international cooperation (2002).
- Award for long-standing dedication to Euro-Atlantic ideals from the Greek Association for Atlantic and European cooperation (2001).
- Honorary citizen of the town of Nedelino (2003).
- Honorary Citizen of the State of Texas (2004).

## **LANGUAGES**

Bulgarian (native), English (fluent), Russian, French, the Balkan Slavic languages, and basic knowledge in Spanish

## **FAMILY ROOTS**

Solomon Passy (known in the past as Syuleyman Tehlikeli) has a heritage of ethnic and religious tolerance deeply rooted in the family traditions – a unique amalgamation of Christian (Orthodox and Catholic), Jewish, Greek and Muslim background, derived from Europe, the Balkans, the Middle East and Northern Africa. 'Passy' is an Arabic name, meaning '*from the city of Fez*' showing the Moroccan roots of the family. Though Bulgaria did save the Jews during WWII, some of Solomon's relatives did not survive the Holocaust.

## **HOBBIES**

Solomon Passy loves sports and occasionally practices some: jogging, swimming and rappelling. He was honoured a black belt in aikido. He enjoys chess.

At the age of 50 Dr. Passy performed the first of his flights on an F-16 Falcon Fighter of USAF, for training of a combat mission destroying a terrorists' bunker, during a joint BG-US exercise over the space of Bulgaria. Having experienced the ultimate in aircraft acceleration and manoeuvrability and having been tested in "Nine—g" environment Dr. Passy acquired membership in an Exclusive and Select Group of Pilots who have flown the world's finest fighter. Since then he does not miss an opportunity to fly a fighter plane.

- **ATTACHMENT PUBLIC DIPLOMACY** and Other Passy's activities in Asia, Caucuses, CIS countries, and West Africa including as a OSCE CiO, and later on:
- **Afghanistan** Minister Passy shaped Bulgaria's policy and involvement in Afghanistan after 9/11 and contributed to formulating the vision of UNSC (2002-03) and of OSCE(2003-05) for Afghanistan, including for inviting the country to join the Asian Partners of OSCE. Upon request of President Karzai CiO Passy arranged to send the first ever out-of-area mission of OSCE to observe the elections in this country. With President Karzai Dr. Passy also launched an initiative for the replacement of poppy fields with Bulgarian rose plantations to reduce the production of opium. He visited Kabul twice and was instrumental in number of donor conferences and fora.
- Since his first visit to **China** in 2002, Dr. Passy actively promotes closer relationship between OSCE/NATO/EU and China. After trips to different parts of China, including Tibet, in October 2007 Dr. Passy launched the discussion on creation of a NATO-China Council.
- A study on the small island state of **Cape Verde** led Dr. Passy to the conclusion that this country, if integrated in the Western security system may contribute to world security arrangements unproportionally more than its size hints. In 2007 Dr. Passy launches a campaign for inclusion of **Cape Verde** in NATO-PfP/OSCE/EU framework;
- **Azerbaijan** CiO Passy negotiated with President Ilham Aliyev the release of some 130 prisoners;
- In **Tajikistan** Dr. Passy negotiated with President Rahmon a moratorium on the death penalty;
- In **Belarus and Turkmenistan** he negotiated with President Lukashenko and President Turkmenbashi Niyazov the continuation of the presence of OSCE missions in these countries. He also succeeded to negotiate with **Belarus and Turkmenistan** the consensus on the appointment of the director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;
- In **Georgia** the Chairman-in-Office supported the consolidation of the democratic processes and building of democratic institutions after the "Rose Revolution". Dr. Passy successfully mediated between President Saakashvili and the separatist leader of Adzharia province Aslan Abashidze for the solution of the Adzharia issue. By the end of the chairmanship of Dr. Passy and with his proactive participation this problem was resolved;
- In **Kyrgyzstan** Dr. Passy launched a major fund raising effort which secured the continuation of the activities of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek;
- During the chairmanship of Dr. Passy and with his proactive participation, the OSCE reached an agreement to invite **Mongolia** as the newest partner of the Organization in Asia. Immediately after that Mongolia applied to join PfP of NATO, strongly supported by Dr. Passy. After the visit of Solomon and Gergana Passy to Mongolia in May 2009, they strongly endorsed NATO's positive response to Mongolia as well as closer relationship of this country with the EU, the OSCE and the Council of Europe.
- Dr. Passy invested political credit to secure progress on the frozen conflicts in **Transdnistria, Abkhazia and Nagorno Karabakh** appointing for his special representatives former Bulgarian presidents and prime minister;
- In **Ukraine** under his chairmanship, the OSCE was successfully involved to secure the peaceful and democratic transition in the critical period between the two rounds of the presidential elections in 2004;
- CiO Passy strongly supported the cooperation between the five **Central Asian states** and the exchange of best democratic practices among them. He stressed **on education** as a common denominator for further democratization of Central Asian countries. He inaugurated a joint conference on education among the five Central Asian states, held in Tashkent;
- In **Kazakhstan** Dr. Passy negotiated with President Nazarbayev upgrading of democratic standards for the elections in 2004, as well as concrete steps for the democratization of the freedom of speech and the media; Dr. Passy was a supporter of the Kazakhi 2010 OSCE Chairmanship;

- As CiO of OSCE Dr Passy strongly supported the **shift Eastwards** of some of the most attractive OSCE activities -- to the Caucasus and Central Asia. Under his leadership the OSCE participating states agreed to organize a part of the Human rights forum in the Caucasus and part of the Economic forum in Central Asia;
- **Iran** Dr. Passy contributed, upon request of George Soros, for the release of four US/Iranian citizens detained in Teheran in 2007 on allegations of espionage.