EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN CONTEMPORARY BULGARIA

National strategy for the application of information and communication technologies in Bulgarian education

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The structure of the educational system in Bulgaria consists of the following levels

- **The preschool /level 0/**
- **Initial school /1-4 class, level 1/**
- **Junior secondary school /5-8 class, level 2A**
- **Secondary education**

Secondary education is divided into:

- **general secondary**
- **vocational education**

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The higher education includes:

- **Associate degree in Colleges /3 years/**
- **Bachelor's Degree /4 years/**
- **Master's Degree /5 years, Bachelor's Degree + 1 year/**
- **PhD /Master's Degree + 3 years/**

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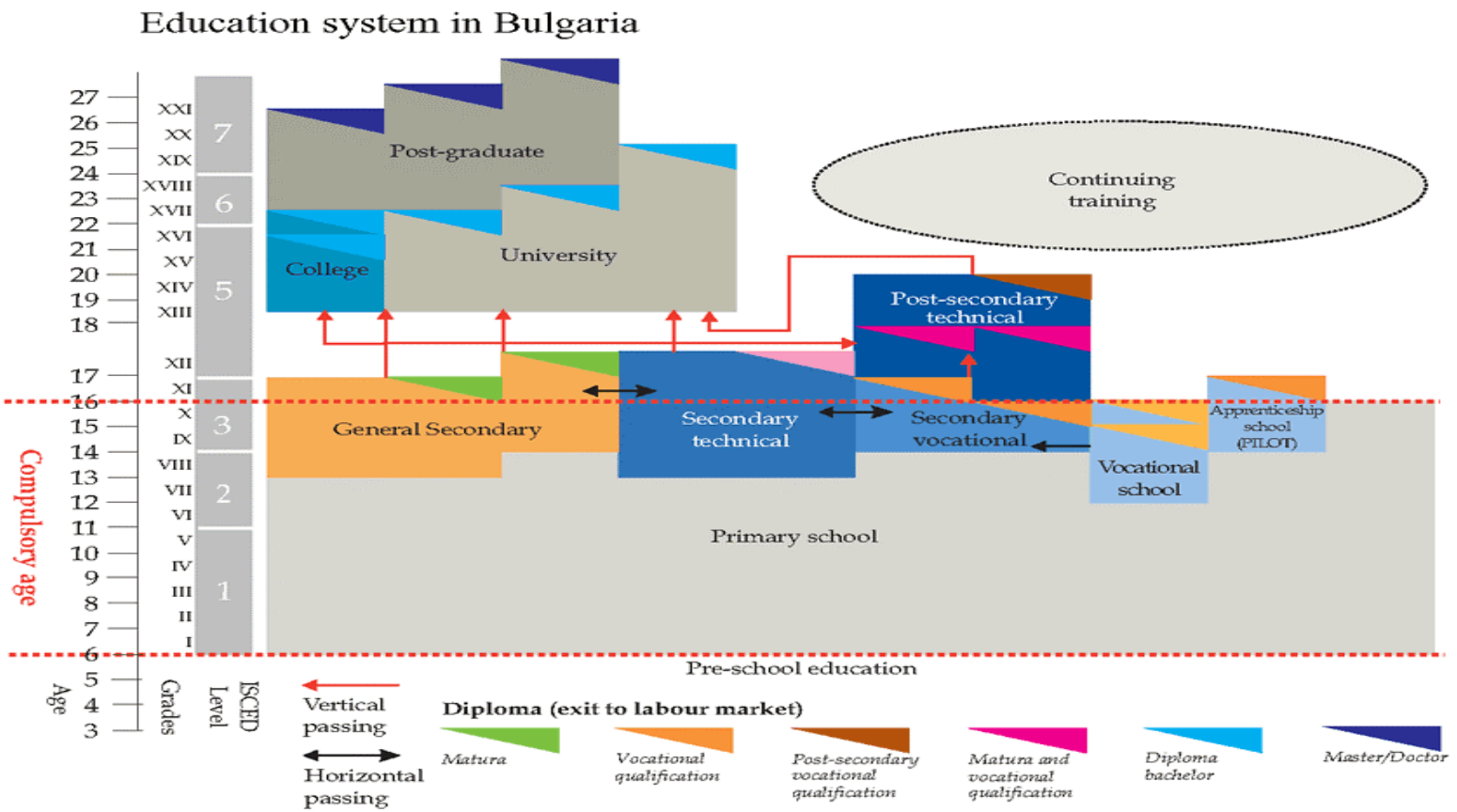
EDUCATION SYSTEM IN BULGARIA



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Official language and alphabet

Cyrillic character	Latin character
?, ?	?
?, ?	b
?, ?	v
?, ?	g
?, ?	d
?, ?	e or ye
?, ?	zh
?, ?	z
?, ?	i
?, ?	j
?, ?	k
?, ?	l
?, ?	m
?, ?	n
?, ?	o

Cyrillic character	Latin character
?, ?	p
?, ?	r
?, ?	s
?, ?	t
?, ?	u
?, ?	f
?, ?	kh
?, ?	ts
?, ?	ch
?, ?	sh
?, ?	shch
?, ?	û
?, ?	-
?, ?	yu or iu
?, ?	ya or ia

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SOME DATA ABOUT BULGARIA RESPECT TO THE EDUCATION

- **Population 7,5 M approximately**
- **815 842 students at the schools**
- **212 454 school children at the kindergarten**
- **1872 Primary Schools (7-13 years)**
- **168 Secondary Schools (14-19 years)**
- **419 General Secondary Schools (7-19 years)**
- **495 Secondary Vocational schools (14-20 years)**
- **20 Art schools**
- **2241 Kindergarten**
- **Vocational Education Centers**

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Key capabilities for learners

Valued capabilities for learners in the 20th Century

Conformity, compliance, working alone, standardisation

Key capabilities for 21 century learners

Creativity, ingenuity, collaboration, communication, community, standards

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National strategy for the application of information and communication technologies in Bulgarian education

- **Supplying computers and connectivity and building school computer labs**
- **Teaching and extending the qualification of the informatics' teachers. Improving the computer knowledge of the Bulgarian teachers**

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National strategy for the application of information and communication technologies in Bulgarian education

- **Developing and disseminating new curricula in electronic format**
- **Distance learning**
- **Enabling better administration in the education sector, particularly through the development of education management information systems.**
- **E-Teachers' books**

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Developing and disseminating new curricula in electronic format

- **http://www.znam.bg/com/home**
- **http://www.teacher.bg**

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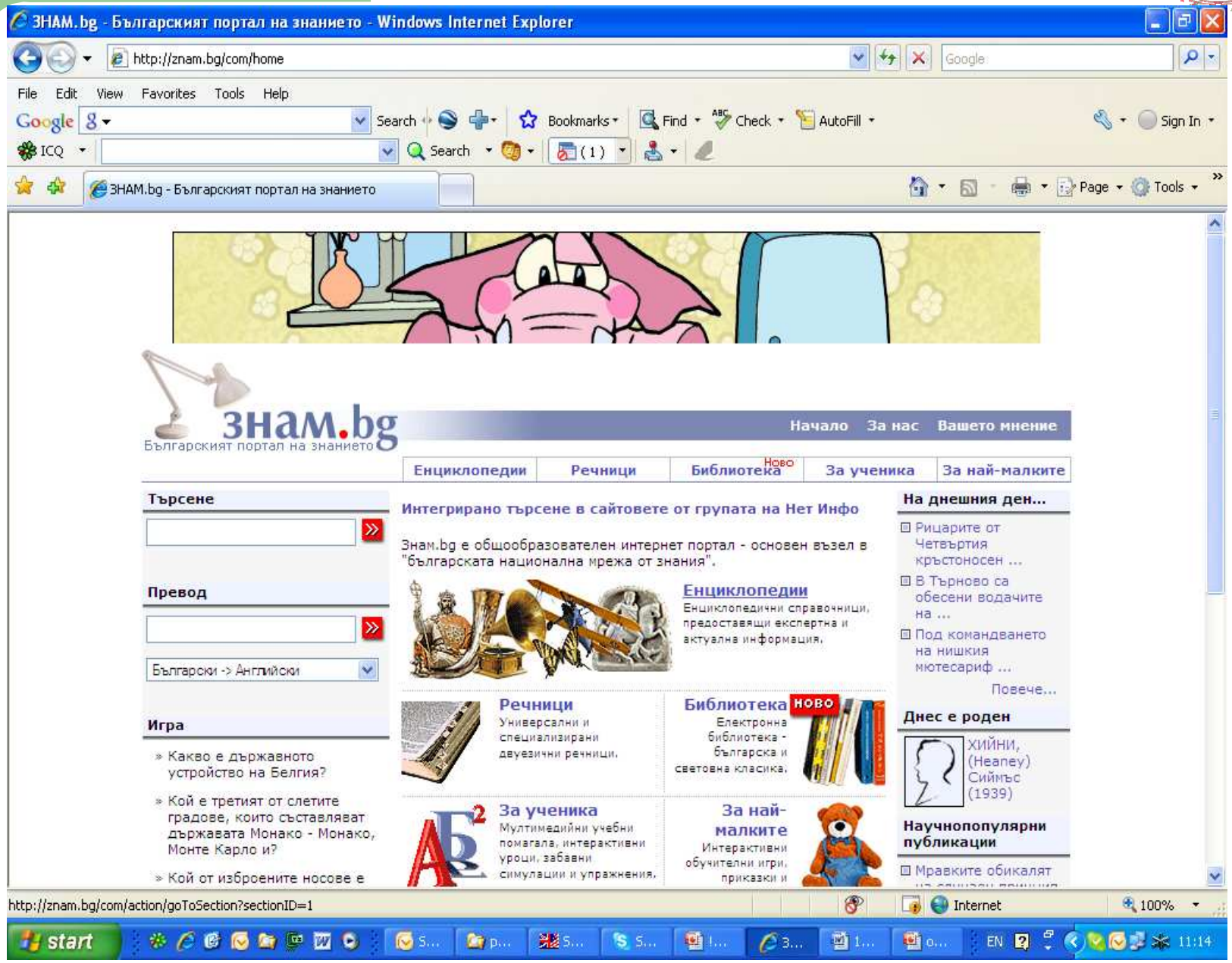

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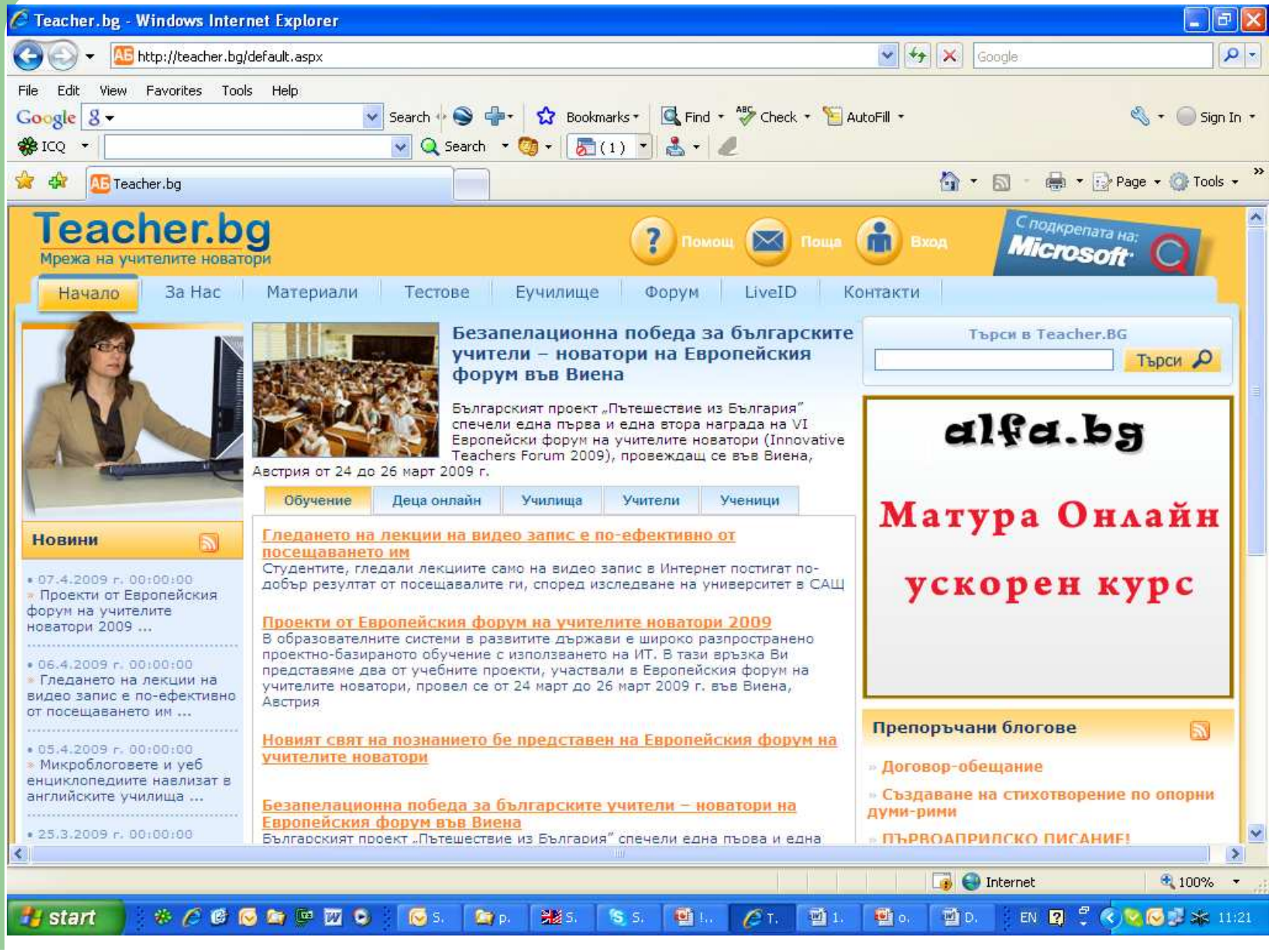

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Distance learning

- **Bulgarian virtual university**

  http://www.bvu-bg.eu/

- **National network of virtual libraries**

  http://www.bvu-bg.eu/nmvb/

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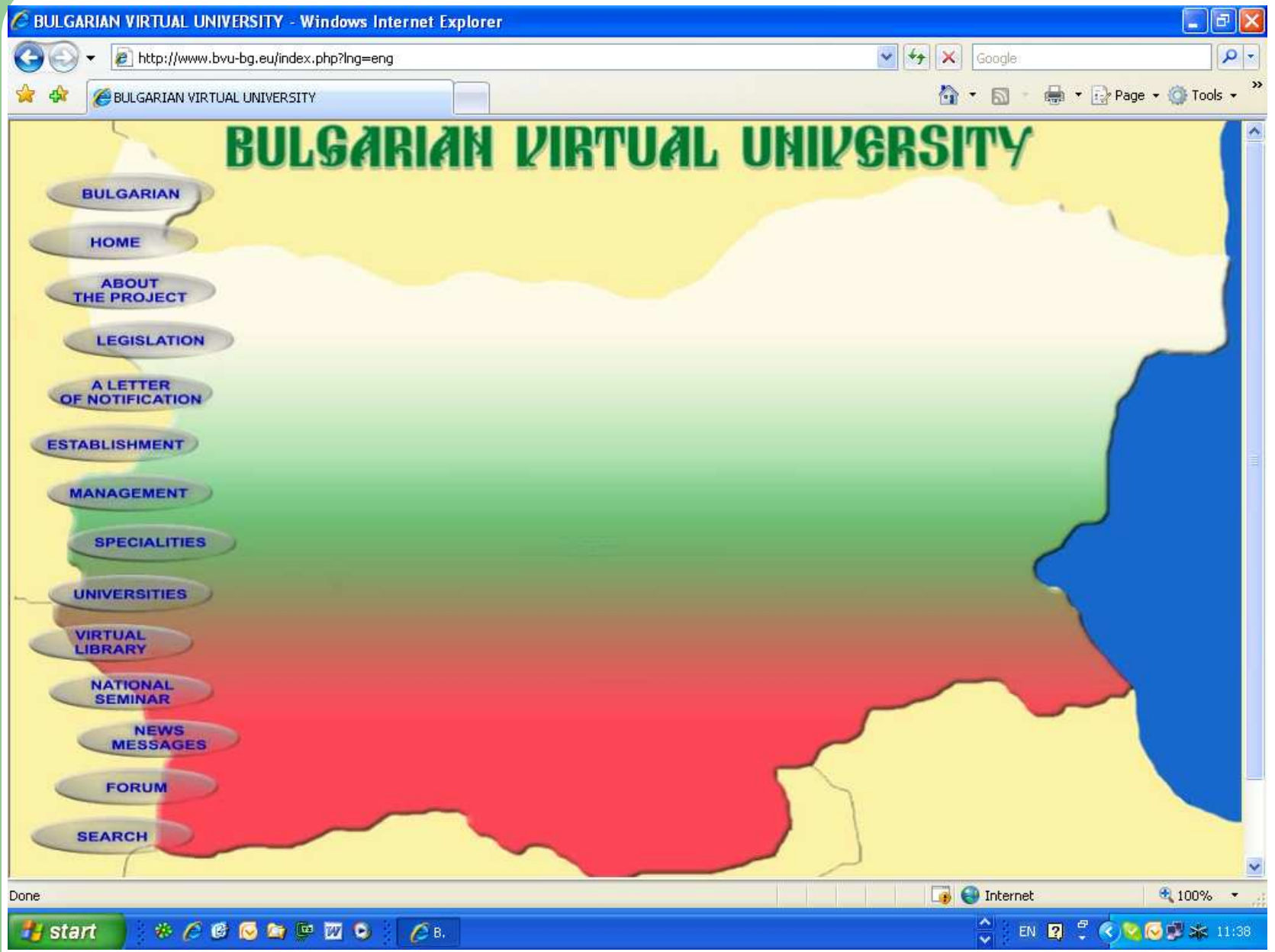

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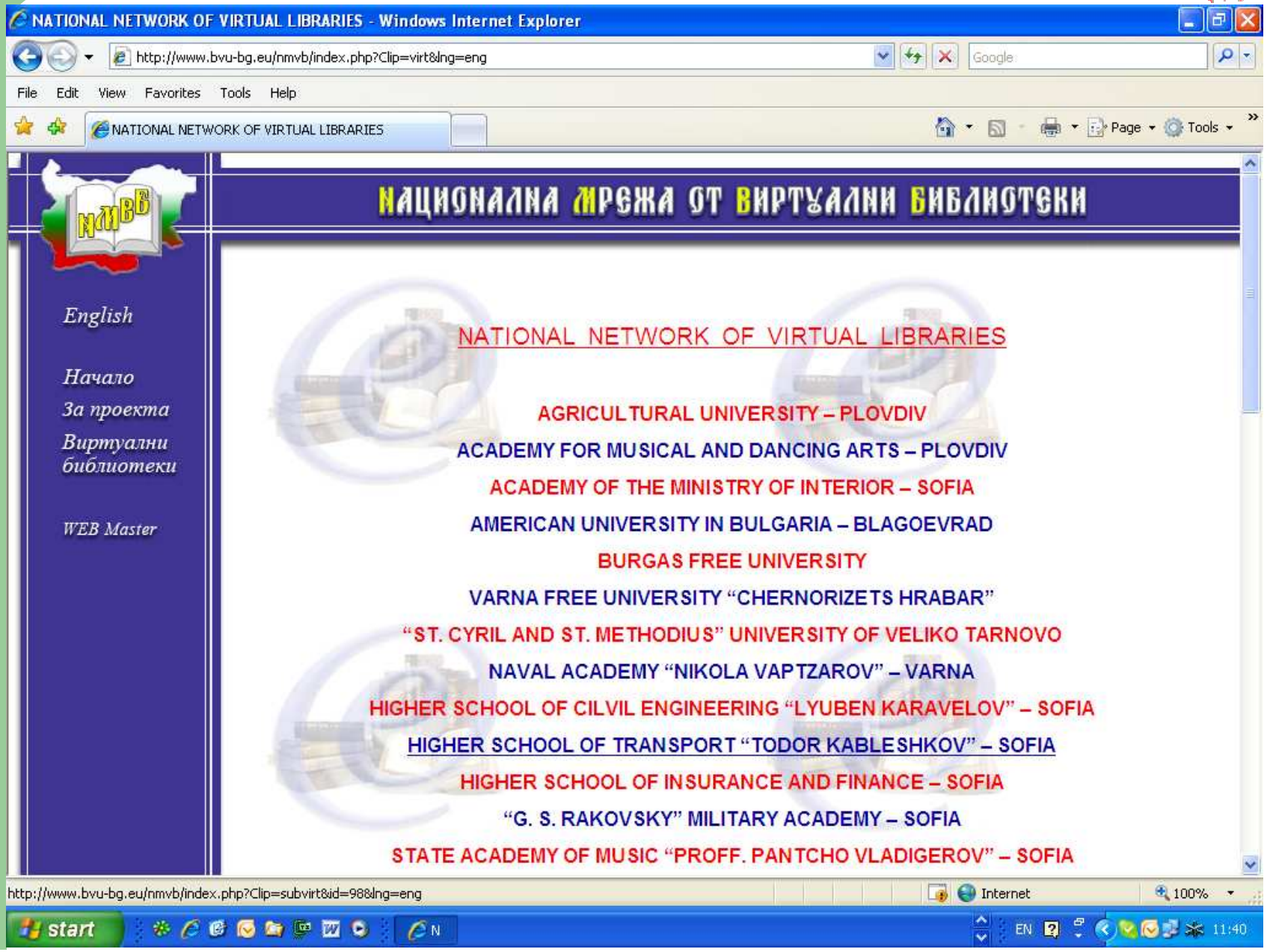

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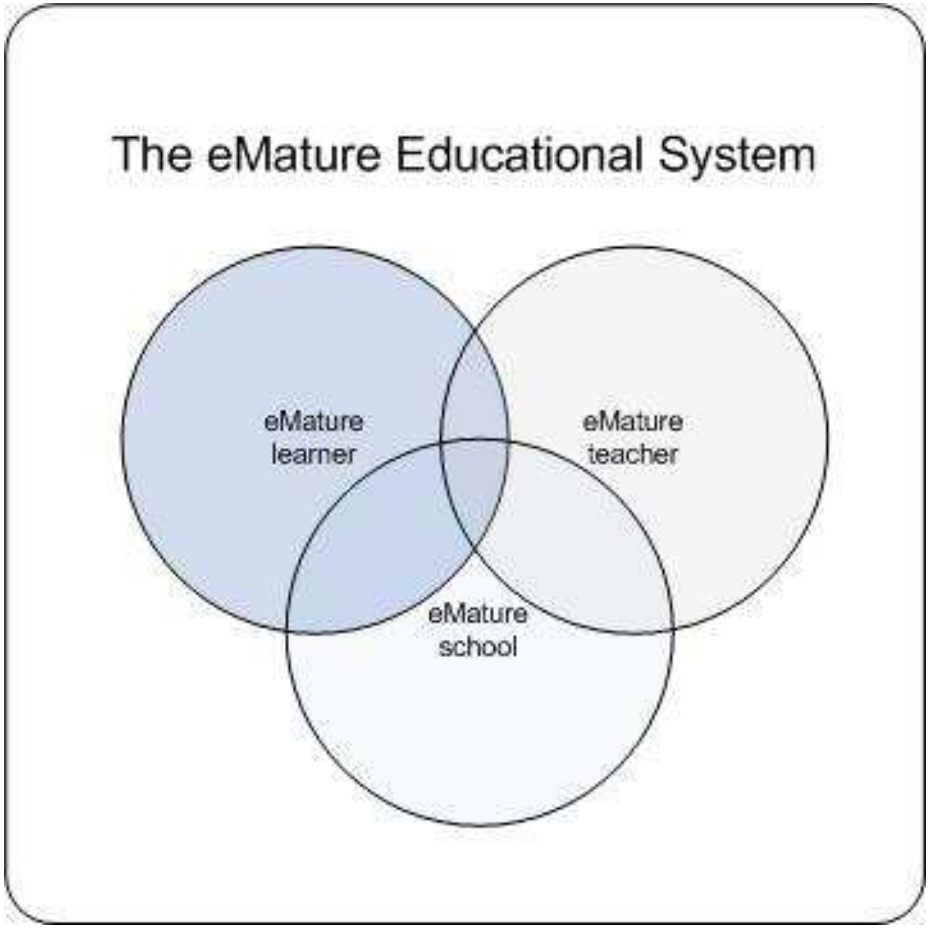
The eMature School Concept

When organisations make strategic and effective use of ICT to improve educational outcomes



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What are ICT for the Pupils?

- **Using ICT and developing digital literacy / abilities.**
- **The fun of actually doing something international!**
- **Better understandings of the European dimension, culture, habits, religions and differences.**

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What are ICT for the Pupils?

- **The possibility of more authentic learning.**
- **The non-ICT aspects: co-operation, planning, taking responsibility, making choices…**
- **Richer curriculum experience; geography, MFL, mother tongue, other histories, different takes on science, etc.**

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What are ICT for the Teachers?

- **A different sort of professional development**
- **An easy way into transnational work**
- **Natural opportunities to use ICT in the classroom**

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What are ICT for the Teachers?

- **Different ways of delivering curriculum**
- **The play ethic: because projects are usually stimulating, motivating and fun for the teacher**
- **Opportunities for professional cooperation with other teachers**

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What are ICT for the School?

- **The opportunity to become part of a collaborative learning community.**
- **Easy-entry to the world of international projects**
- **Possibility of longer and more sustainable co-operation with another school.**

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What are ICT for the School?

- **A level of built-in quality in the project because of the national and European quality labels.**
- **Opportunity for personal professional development of teachers & school leaders**
- **Parents are impressed**

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ICT and European Funds

- **Current Project: ICT in Education**
- **Budget: 20 M euro**
- **2 year period**
- **Activities: e-educational content, curricula, strategies, training of teachers (using software and creating content), open electronic libraries available to pupils and students, additional equipment**

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ICT and European Funds

Goals:

- **At least 80 000 teachers, professors, scientists, pupils and students included;**
- **400 training and test centers;**
- **At least 1000 new course books;**
- **Home internet access for 15 000 teachers;**
- **Electronic libraries;**
- **Educational films and Internet TV**

- **Tell me and I'll forget it.**
- **Show me and I don't remember it.**
- **Involve me and I'll learn it.**

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