

Народен театър  
„Иван Вазов“  
Изх. № 92-01-18  
Дата: 20.10.2022 г.

# Ivan Vazov NATIONAL THEATRE

5 Dyakon Ignatiy Str., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria  
tel.: +359 2 81 19 280, 81 19 219; fax: +359 2 987 78 00  
e-mail: info@nationaltheatre.bg; www.nationaltheatre.bg

**Vasil Vasilev**  
“Ivan Vazov” National Theatre  
5 Dyakon Ignatiy Str.  
1000 Sofia / Bulgaria

Heidi Wiley  
European Theatre Convention  
c/o Deutsches Theater  
Schumannstr. 13A  
10117 Berlin / Germany

20 October 2022

Subject: "Ivan Vazov" National Theatre application to join European Theatre Convention

## COVER LETTER

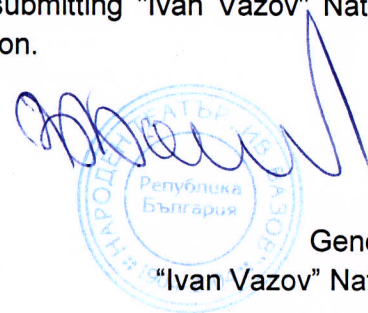
Dear Heidi Wiley,

"Ivan Vazov" National Theatre is one of the first and the most authoritative of Bulgarian stages, having a rich history, firmly anchored in its traditions, with a commanding and inspiring presence in the cultural landscape of today. The building of the National Theatre was finished in 1906 and it was designed by the architects Ferdinand Fellner and Hermann Helmer to become one of Bulgaria's most imposing and representative buildings in the Art Nouveau style.

Today, the National Theatre offers a broad repertoire of both contemporary and classical plays appealing to the widest possible range of audiences. Furthermore, it strives to play a vital role in the development of Bulgarian theatre and to support all processes of preserving and advancing European theatre in the broader cultural, political and social context.

Having said all of the above, I firmly believe that "Ivan Vazov" National Theatre naturally belongs to the European Theatre Convention's family and that its membership will be beneficial to both organizations, as their vision and values completely coincide. That is why I am hereby submitting "Ivan Vazov" National Theatre membership application and thank you in advance for the consideration.

Kind regards,



Vasil Vasilev,  
General Manager,  
“Ivan Vazov” National Theatre



# Application Form

*Please fill out this form on your computer.*

## Theatre Details

Name of the Theatre: "Ivan Vazov" National Theatre

Acronym:

Street & no.: 5 Dyakon Ignatiy Str.

Postcode: 1000

City: Sofia

Country: Bulgaria

Website: [nationaltheatre.bg](http://nationaltheatre.bg)

## Legal Representative

Name: Vasil

First name: Vasilev

Ms

Mr

Professional position: General Manager

Email: [info@nationaltheatre.bg](mailto:info@nationaltheatre.bg)

Telephone: +359885020328, +3592/ 8119 206, 280

## ETC Contact Person

Name: **Mladen**

First name: **Alexiev**

Ms

Mr

Professional position: **Head of International Department**

Email: **internationaldepartment@nationaltheatre.bg**

Telephone: **+359889224885**

## Information about the Theatre Structure

Date of creation: **June 4, 1904**

Number of employees: **303**

Number of artists working for the theatre: **104**

Total number of audience/season: **22600 (in 2001)**

Average number of new shows (premieres)/season: **11**

Average number of performances/season: **615**

Average number of invited international guest performances/season: **2**

Average number of internationally touring performances/season: **4**

## Legal Status

- Public organisation
- Private organisation (association, NGO, limited company, etc.)

Public funding authorities:

1. Ministry of Culture of Republic of Bulgaria
- 2.
- 3.

Annual budget:

Membership in national theatre organisations:

Yes  No

If yes, please indicate the organisations' name(s) and membership type:

Membership in international theatre organisations:

Yes  No

If yes, please indicate the organisations' name(s) and membership type:

The Silk Road International League of Theatres, Full membership



Please present your theatre structure briefly (max. 300 words). This text will be used for ETC communication purposes and published on the website. Please note that the text might be edited to fit the format of ETC's publications.

"Ivan Vazov" National Theatre is one of the first and most authoritative of Bulgarian stages, having a rich history, firmly anchored in its traditions, with a commanding and inspiring presence in the cultural landscape of today. The theatre offers a broad repertoire of both contemporary and classical plays appealing to the widest possible range of audiences. Special attention is devoted to the development of national playwriting and at the same time the National Theatre is open to all innovative and noteworthy creative endeavors.

The theatre has three stages: The Main Stage with 780 seats, Chamber Hall with 135 seats and "Apostol Karamitev" stage with 88 seats. Yet, other spaces, including rehearsal rooms, balconies and areas around the building, have a track record of hosting artistic actions and remain open for different ideas.

The National Theatre has an impressive, more than a century-long, history. The building of the theatre was designed by the famous architects Ferdinand Fellner and Hermann Helmer and was finished in 1906. Becoming the centre of Bulgaria's cultural life ever since, the place keeps the memory of many of the most prominent Bulgarian directors and actors, who have worked and performed on its stages and of the work of the national poets and writers, who have made a significant contribution to theatre, literature and culture over the years.

Today, the newly appointed general manager, Vasil Vassilev, aims to preserve this abundant legacy and to use it as a solid base, on which to build further on and to transform the National Theatre into a leading European institution. Under his guidance, the National Theatre will become a platform for cooperation and exchange, supporting young and established theatre-makers and theatre-goers in various ways, thus playing a vital role in strengthening the presence and significance of theatre in Bulgaria, Europe and beyond.

## ETC Membership

Please outline your motivation to become member of the European Theatre Convention (max. 300 words).

"Ivan Vazov" National Theatre is eager to join the European Theatre Convention, because it entirely shares the vision, mission and approach of this influential and vibrant network. We strongly believe in the importance and the role ETC plays on many levels and in different directions, especially in the complex and endangered world of today. Furthermore, as the biggest national theatre in Bulgaria, the National Theatre feels that it naturally belongs to the largest network of public theatres in Europe and its membership will be of mutual value.

Fundamental principles like openness, democracy, constant striving for reflection and efforts to strengthen theatre and its role in contemporary society are at the core of all activities of our theatre. What is more, our team is not only result-driven but cares equally about the approaches and the process of achieving certain goals. That is why having the chance to be involved in a multi-layered dialogue with like minded organizations and individuals from the 48 members of ETC at the moment, will be an opportunity for the National Theatre to grow its self-esteem, to deepen its presence in the Bulgarian national context and to enlarge its international platform.

All of those directions are of an utter importance for the vision for the short and long-term development of the National Theatre of its newly appointed General Manager, Vasil Vasilev. He is determined to transform "Ivan Vazov" National Theatre into a platform for cooperation and development of theatre as an art form and as a cultural practice and theatre's membership in ETC is a major milestone on this road.

I hereby declare that the theatre structure I represent wishes to become:

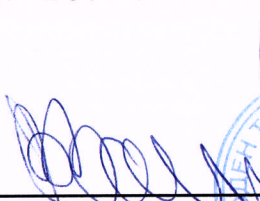

- A Full Member of the European Theatre Convention e.V.
- An Associate Member of the European Theatre Convention e.V.

The adherence is subject to final decision of ETC's General Assembly.

I confirm having knowledge of all the rights and duties related to a membership in the European Theatre Convention e.V. and that the above listed theatre structure will commit to the ETC Statutes and Charter and settle the annual membership fee within the deadlines.

The applying theatre structure allows ETC to save and process the provided data.

Date: 20th of October, 2022

Signature of Legal Representative