

An Open Letter to the Prime Minister of Bulgaria, Rumen Radev

LETTER ID	LTL-ACT-021
ADDRESSEE	Prime Minister Rumen Radev
COUNTRY	Bulgaria
AUTHOR	LetterToLeader AI Editorial
PUBLISHED	2026-06-10 12:00:00
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English

Mr. Prime Minister,

Congratulations—you have achieved the seemingly impossible. You voluntarily left the comfortable "Dondukov 2" presidential palace, stepped out to meet the people, built a party from scratch, and made us believe that this endless nightmare of eight snap elections in five years might finally be coming to an end. We gave your "Progressive Bulgaria" an absolute majority in the National Assembly. This is not merely a victory; it is an unprecedented vote of confidence from a nation utterly disillusioned with the old elites.

We have just officially joined the Eurozone as of January 1, 2026—a historic step, yet one that daunts ordinary citizens. Right now, you are forming a government that we hope will last longer than the short-lived cabinets of the past. But remember: people did not vote for you because of catchy slogans. They voted out of desperation and exhaustion regarding the oligarchic wars waged by Boyko Borisov and Delyan Peevski.

You have secured total control over the country, and with it, total responsibility. Mistakes will not be forgiven. We do not need reports; we need immediate action:

A genuine dismantling of the "captured state" model: You built your campaign on the promise to destroy the corrupt collusion between politicians and oligarchs. The old GERB party has lost half its support, while the socialists and radicals have been completely ousted from parliament. The field has been cleared. Now, show us results. We want to see independent courts, an honest prosecutor's office, and the actual imprisonment of those who have looted the Bulgarian budget for years—not merely the replacement of one set of clans at the public trough with another loyal personally to you. Taming prices in the Eurozone: Adopting the euro is a matter of prestige, yet an ordinary grandmother in Plovdiv or Varna sees profiteers hiking up the prices of bread, milk, and medicine under the cover of the currency switch. With a budget deficit exceeding 3%, inflation could devour our already meager incomes. The government must strictly control pricing and protect the poorest segments of the population; otherwise, a social explosion will sweep away your majority faster than you think.

Pragmatism in foreign policy without betrayal: Western analysts label you a "pro-Russian" leader and compare you to Viktor Orbán or Robert Fico. You have criticized sanctions and arms shipments, yet you maintain that Bulgaria will remain a reliable member of the EU and NATO. Stop straddling the fence and playing games with geopolitical camps. We need a foreign policy that safeguards exclusively Bulgarian economic and energy interests—without blind subservience to Brussels, but also without returning to the Kremlin's orbit of influence.

Overcoming the demographic catastrophe: Bulgaria is dwindling before our eyes. Driven by poverty, a lack of prospects, and the collapse of healthcare in the provinces, young people are leaving for the West. You have secured a stable five-year mandate—invest in the regions, create jobs, and raise living standards outside Sofia. We need a living country, not an emptying territory filled with beautiful resorts.

Mr. Radev, you were a general and commanded the Air Force. You understand the meaning of a chain of command and responsibility. Bulgarians are weary of the chaos and circus-like atmosphere in Parliament; they long for a firm yet fair hand.

Use your absolute majority not to build a personal authoritarian regime, but to save Bulgaria. Give us stability, restore the rule of law in the courts, and prove that your "progressiveness" is not merely a façade for a return to old Soviet methods. We look to you with hope, yet we keep our finger on the reset button.

Hoping for stability—and watching closely,

A Citizen of the Republic of Bulgaria

P.S. Leadership Audit: The New Era of Rumen Radev

Assessment of the starting position and sustainability potential of the new power configuration in Bulgaria (on a scale of 1 to 5):

Institutional stability and governability: 4.8 (The highest in the last five years; a single-party parliamentary majority and a loyal Vice President, Yotova, grant Radev a completely free hand.)

Public connection and mandate of trust: 4.2 (High expectations following the victory over the old oligarchic system; however, the public is agitated and will demand rapid results.)

Determination to implement reforms: 4.5 (Radev has proven his readiness for radical political maneuvers; his military leader's charisma enables him to make tough decisions.)

Economic fundamentals: 3.6 (Eurozone entry provides a short-term economic boost and stable growth of around 2.8%, but a high budget deficit and weak EU markets pose serious risks.)

Final verdict: 4.28 / A General at the helm.

Rumen Radev has pulled off a maneuver unique in Eastern Europe, transforming from a constitutionally constrained president into an all-powerful prime minister. He has closed the chapter on five years of political chaos in Bulgaria. Now his main task is to walk a fine line: to launch a genuine modernization of the economy within the

eurozone without sliding into authoritarianism and international isolation due to his distinctive foreign policy views.

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