



British Embassy
Sofia

Dr Rob Dixon
Her Majesty's Ambassador

9 Moskovska Street
Sofia 1000
Bulgaria

Tel: +359 2 933 9222
Email: rob.dixon@fcdo.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/world/bulgaria
Twitter: @RobDixonHMA

18 February 2021

Dear Graduates,

I want to congratulate you all on this very special day, your graduation. Studying medicine requires real dedication and hard work, all of which you have demonstrated over the past six years. This requires an extra level of commitment when studying overseas, away from our friends and family. Well done.

As British Ambassador to Bulgaria, I am proud to share in the excitement of your graduation. As you step into the professional world, please take a moment to reflect on your very special achievements, and of course to celebrate (in a COVID-safe way!).

Where we study, can be just as important as what we study. Young British doctors graduating from Bulgarian universities represent a unique link between our two countries. This is your achievement but it also says so much about the close ties between our countries that you, the next generation of British doctors, soon to be working in the National Health Service, were educated here in Bulgaria to the very highest standards.

The current pandemic has demonstrated more than ever that medical professionals are the modern day heroes of our time. Over this last year we have seen repeatedly how doctors and nurses have bravely cared for patients in the most challenging of circumstances.

The National Health Service is a British institution we are all immensely proud of. It represents the best of our country. As you start your lives as junior doctors, many of you will now be part of this legacy, providing essential care to the most vulnerable, backed by the very best Bulgarian training.

So, congratulations on your achievements; a huge thank you to those that have trained you; and I wish you all the very best of luck in as you start your medical careers.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Dixon

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