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I will share memories of the first conference Children in Information Age, held in Varna (Bulgaria) 32 years ago – both personal and based on two documentaries featuring the vision of eminent scientists and educators on computers in education, including John Atanasov (USA), Shoji Shiba (Japan), Jacques Hebenstreit (France), Boris Gnedenko (Russia), Mary Alice White, Sylvia Charp, Andy diSessa (USA). How their questions and visions look like today will be discussed based on case studies in Bulgarian and International context.

Here are some of the questions posed then still relevant today:

- In what way should the students be trained as to the future problems of rational use of computers?*
- In what programming language should we train the children today when in 10 years we might program in natural language and it might be Japanese?*
- What does “computer literacy” mean in fact?*
- Why does one expect a positive impact of learning to program on children’s thinking skills?*
- Will applications of technology in the area of instruction be unlimited in their potential?*
- Which qualities should be identified by the teacher in the software available?*
- Will almost any statement made today be obsolete in a few years, if not months?*

About speaker

Evgenia Sendova is Associate Professor at IMI-BAS, member of the Education in Mathematics and Informatics Department with PhD in informatics. Her interest in education was harnessed in the frames of the Research Group on Education (1979-1989), an educational experiment of BAS and the Ministry of Education where she was involved in creating a new curriculum, educating teachers and students in guided discovery style, and editing journals for teachers. Since 1997 she has been involved as a tutor in the annual Research Science Institute, a summer program for gifted high school students in mathematics and science, organized by the Center of Excellence in Education jointly with MIT, USA. She coordinated the Bulgarian collaboration with the American educational center Best Practices in Education for developing strategies and resources for mathematics education in the secondary school. E. Sendova is author and co-author of more than 120 articles in scientific journals, 5 books and more than 20 textbooks. She has got the IFIP Outstanding Services Award (1991), Siemens certificate for working with young talents in mathematics and science (2003), Golden Feather award of the Union of the Bulgarian Teachers

(2011). She has been involved in the recent years in 10 European projects dealing with IBL, and was coordinator for IMI-BAS of Scientix.