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**Italy and the constitutional issue during the rule of Prince
Alexander Batemberg**

(Summary)

The Constitutional Issue in the Principality of Bulgaria during the reign of Prince Alexander Batemberg was one of the most important for the newly liberated state internal political problems as well as one of the important foci on which the country's relations with the Great Powers centred. This research has set itself the task to shed more light on the Italian policy in this respect. Until recently, this problem has been neglected by Bulgarian historiography, most likely because there was no access to relevant literature and documents, and because of the position of this weakest of the then Great Powers, Italy, was underestimated by Bulgarian internal and foreign political circles. Another likely reason for this state of affairs was the ignorance regarding a number of interesting Italian assessments of the developments in Bulgaria of that time. The greater part of the documents, on which this research has been based are brought for the first time into scientific requisition.