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Specification of the Bulgarian “dissidence”

(Summary)

A close look at archive documents, diaries and memories of contemporaries throughout the years of socialism gives the opportunity to distinguish different dissident positions. Many of those absolutely match with similar types of manifestation in other East European countries. What is remarkable for Bulgaria is the lack of dissident organizations such as .Charta 77., which started the chartist movement in Czechoslovakia. Also the lack of organizations such as . Solidarnost. in Poland and groups that in the middle 80.s actively develop programs for the transformation of the socialist regime as it is in Hungary. It is clear that all three countries have their own specific dissident activities. This specification is believed as natural, even though the Czechs sometimes may have felt inferior compared to the Poles. In Bulgaria the lack of similar organizations is made to dramatic and exactly this is the main complex factor, it is also the main argument supporting the thesis that at the beginning of the democratic changes the Bulgarians were completely unprepared for them. Is this statement true? Isn't it much more precise to say that just the organized Bulgarian dissident manifestation? That in the middle 80.s in Bulgaria a different type opposition and releasing exist? The questions are numerous but all of them may be summarized in one: What shows the specification of the difference in the Bulgarians. type of thinking? Generally speaking, it is the individual opposition to acts of the communists, an opposition that gains publicity, removes the fear and provokes more critical attitude towards the government and towards the real socialist political reality. It gives courage for some kind of opposition reaction. However,

it is not a single manifestation, but a constant position throughout the years. Bulgarian dissidence, similar to that in other Easteuropean countries, has a predominantly intellectual structure, as well as nature. It does not distinguish itself as such; neither expects a reward, nor acknowledgment. It is a personal choice, a mission that has its own high price and real consequences. Exactly due to this opposition the most popular unofficial organizations were created in the late 80.s and new public adjustments were formed . an essential precondition for an adequate acceptation of the changes after the Collapse of the Berlin Wall.