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## **The Idea of the Balkan Neighbour in the Military Propaganda Periodicals, Targeting the Regular Army in the Eve of World War II (1934–1941)**

(Summary)

The article examines the role of the Bulgarian Army and more precisely the army's propaganda periodicals, whose main purpose is to form the concept the Bulgarian young men have of the "others" on the Balkans in the eve of World War II (1934-1941). Therefore the trends in some of the most significant Bulgarian military editions are researched – "Bulgarian Warrior", Collection Military-Historical Stories "Perished for their Motherland" and "Soldiers' Library". In this editions are published numerous articles about important and dramatic moments from the Bulgarian history and especially moments during the wars for national liberation 1912-1918. This publications are used not only to make the young Bulgarian soldiers more patriotic, but also to create a particular idea about the "others" on the Balkans. The article follows the creation of these ideas about our Balkan neighbours (Turks, Romanians, Serbians and Greeks) during the period 1934-1941, registers the alternations, that occur in their "ideas" during these tense pre-war years, and also searches for the reason of those alternations (most often depending on the coming changes in the international circumstances and respectively the course of the Bulgarian foreign politics ). It stressed that exactly this periodicals "canalize" and guide the idea Bulgarians have for who is "good" and who is "bad" neighbour on the Balkans. A very important condition for a successful uniting of the army and the army's support for the foreign political plans in the eve of the wars that are namely: gradual reuniting the

Bulgarian lands lost in the wars 1912-1918 and reassembling the torn to pieces Bulgarian Fatherland.