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THE ELECTIONS FOR PEOPLE'S COUNCILS IN 1949

(Summary)

The article clarifies and subjects to analysis the reasons why the first elections for local authorities of the Government in Bulgaria have been held five years after the political change on 09.09.1944 and a year and a half after the adoption of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in December 1947. These elections held under the conditions of an almost one Party communist regime, are characterized by their formality and fictitious nature. The election processes in 1949 attract the interest also with a view of the adapting of the Soviet model to the Bulgarian political conditions, i.e. by using manipulations, raising the percentage of the participation of the voters, falsifying results, creating the impression for mass support of the people, for the policy of the official system of government, the lack of political competition and equal start for participation in the political rivalry. Attention is paid to the legislative and normative regulations in the preparation of the election processes, the technology of their conducting, the counteractions of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian Agricultural People's Union aimed at each other in forming the election lists of their candidates for people's councilors, etc.