THE ISSUE OF THE BULGARIAN MINORITY IN YUGOSLAVIA IN UN DOCUMENTATION FROM 1994-1995

(Summary)

The disintegration of the Yugoslavian federation in the early 1990s retrieved from oblivion the subject about the Bulgarian minority in Serbia. The issue became part of the official relations between Bulgaria and “residual” Yugoslavia and was initially treated as a bilateral problem to be gradually brought to an international level. The culmination of this so called “internationalization” of the issue was when it was raise before the UN. The study of the official documentation in the UN archive allows the analysis of the Yugoslavian and Bulgarian states regarding the Bulgarian minority. Bulgaria’s standpoint is presented in a series of diplomatic announcements and texts. They are summarized in a memorandum entitled “Situation of the Bulgarian Minority in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia”, filled in the General Assembly of UN under A/49/455-29 September 1994. Despite the vigorous resentment of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the UN decided to address the issue. It was investigated by the special researcher of the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the UN Human Rights Commission – Tadeusz Mazowiecki. He included the problem of the Bulgarian minority both in his tenth periodical report, as well as in his conclusive report. These are the grounds on which the period of 1994–1995 is defined as the most active one in Bulgarian policy concerning the Bulgaria minority in Yugoslavia.