Stoicho Grancharov

THE START OF THE TRANSITION TOWARD DEMOCRACY AND MARKET ECONOMY IN BULGARIA THROUGH THE EYES OF THE BULGARIAN AUTHORS

(Summary)

In the middle of the 80-ies of the last century, the crisis in the states from the socialist camp in Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union, became ever more deeper and obvious and in fact irreversible. The attempts of the ruling circles to overcome, or at least to diminish the most negative consequences of this crisis were unsuccessful. The communists in the system saw the increasing need for radical changes in the system, while their opponents saw – what in the long run became reality – the need for changing the system itself. Bulgaria is one of the states in Eastern Europe where the changes began later. The Bulgarian authors as a whole accept the events from the end of 1989 as a start of the so-called transition in Bulgaria. The present article traces the events and particular facts that followed the fall from power of Todor Zhivkov in 10 November 1989. The essential contribution of the article is that this is made through the prism of all research materials of Bulgarian authors who wrote on that theme. In this way it forms a full historiography picture of the researches on that topic.