IDEAS FOR CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION OF PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA IN 1956

(Summary)

The article deals with the first officially stated ideas for changes in the Constitution of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria, which was adopted in 1947. On the April plenum in 1956 were indicated many cases of breaching the fundamental law. This, along with the declared intention to pass changes to the state government on the plenum, created a precondition, some of the leading figures in BKP to bring up the question for modifications in the fundamental law. The suggestions were directed toward the following spheres: a) Changes, to remove some direct or indirect remnants of the texts of the Tarnovo Constitution that were laid in the original project of the fundamental law of 1947; b) Changes, that would reflect the new economic relations in the state; c) Changes that would adapt the text of the constitutional to particular texts of already enacted laws, sub-legislative normative acts, and resolutions of the BKP management, texts which were not consequent from fundamental public changes. d) Changes, directed to increase the influence and prestige of the Presidium of the Parliament; e) Editorial changes The assessment of the changes to the Constitution of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria conceived in 1956 can not be simple. The approach, to attempt to “doctor” the anti-constitutional character of certain legal acts, laws and sub-legislative normative acts with posterior changes to the constitutional is unacceptable. In spite of that, one can not help but appreciate the fact, that the proposed changes were directed toward better coincidence between the actual and written constitution of Bulgaria. The
proposed changes in the fundamental law in 1956, were thwarted because of the unfavorable society and political circumstances in the state and in BKP.