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**DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN THE BULGARIAN COMMUNITY IN
BUDAPEST FROM THE LATE NINETEENTH TO THE LATE
TWENTIETH CENTURY**

(Summary)

The object of this study are the changes in the demographic profile of the Bulgarian community in Budapest from 1880 to 2001. It is based on the analysis of the results of population censuses in Hungary in 1880–1930, 1960, 1990 and 2001, and in particular on the database including all those who defined their mother tongue as Bulgarian, which is taken (albeit conditionally) as a marker of ethnicity. The current statistics from “Budapest székesfőváros statisztikai és közigazgatási évkönyve” [Statistical and administrative yearbook of Budapest] is used as additional source. The author traces the dynamics of the number, migration and resettlement of Bulgarians in Budapest, their regional distribution, their characteristics by age and sex, marital status, religion, socio-occupational structure, educational status. The article examines some demographic indicators about their ethnic and cultural identity in the late twentieth century, the processes of integration and natural assimilation, using for example statistical data by ethnic attributes; Bulgarian citizenship and “proficiency in Hungarian” for the population in Budapest with Bulgarian mother tongue. The major demographic changes in the Bulgarian community in Budapest in the late nineteenth to the late twentieth century are summarized as follows: 1) from a male community made up by immigrated men-working abroad, it became a settled community with predominant, although slightly prevailing, female element. 2) the community aged increasingly in the second half of the twentieth

century due to the change in the way it is replenished – through individual immigration. 3) After the First World War formation of a stratum of intellectuals began among local Bulgarian gardeners and merchants, repatriated Banat Bulgarian intellectuals lived along with that intelligentsia and in the second half of the twentieth century its ranks included new immigrant intellectuals. 4) The professional pattern of the Bulgarian community in Budapest changed dramatically – from a community of gardeners, it became a community of intellectuals, 90 percent (1990) of which was bilingual, and 44% – with Hungarian citizenship (2001).