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AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATION OF BULGARIAN INTELLIGENTSIA WITH EUROPEAN EDUCATION (1878–1912) (PART TWO)

(Summary)

The study aims to contribute to the overall disclosure of the Austro-Hungarian contribution to the preparation of Bulgarian intelligentsia with European education during the period 1878–1912 using a large number of various sources. These include, above all, previous research on the subject and in particular those whose authors were able to work with the archival records of the educational institutions themselves. Plenty of information is extracted from previously unused documents pertaining to the legalization of foreign diplomas in Bulgaria, entitling technical professionals with engineering and technical education to practice freely, entitling professionals with medical training to work etc. Periodicals were reviewed, including the “Official Gazette”, where there are hundreds of decrees for financial support given to Bulgarians studying in the Austria-Hungary. Old reference books and new encyclopedic books are taken into account. Based on these sources, a list is made for 1910 Bulgarians, containing their names, places of birth, places of study, academic major, and graduation year. The data in the list are summarized and analyzed in detail, and then general conclusions and generalizations are made. It is found that the total number of Bulgarians who studied in Austro-Hungarian universities, academies, higher and professional schools during the investigated period is 2300 people. The distribution by majors reveals priorities. The top three positions are held by engineering and technical subjects (13%) and law (12.6%);
followed by pharmacy (9.9%) and the group consisting of philosophy, pedagogy and history (also 9.9%), medicine (9%), arts (7.5%), agriculture, viticulture, horticulture and gardening (5.9%), etc. Preferences regarding the place of study are focused mainly on Vienna (36.6%). The second position is held by Zagreb (24.8%) - because of the short-term stay of Bulgarian students there during the university crisis in Bulgaria in 1907. The third position is held by Prague (18.4%), thanks mainly to the attraction of its Polytechnic. And it is followed by Graz (6.2%), Lemberg (2.2%), Tabor (2%), Czernowitz and Krizhevats (1% each), Pisek and Trieste (0.9% each), Klosterneuburg (0.8%), Budapest and Brune (0.7% each) etc.