

**Rumen Karaganev**

**BOGDAN MORFOV**

(Summary)

Bulgaria as part of a four-nation military coalition against the Ottoman Empire and a participant in the Balkan war was to expand its territories and thus to liberate its compatriots in Macedonia and Thrace from the century-old yoke. Carried by the militaristic wave, the director of Bulgarian State Railways and member of the Headquarters B. Morfov found out that among the decision-makers in the country there was a discord in their views on the geopolitical predeterminations mostly regarding the southern littoral areas. There were two perspectives – one was related to the extension of the kingdom with the inclusion of Thessaloniki to the west; Rhodes to the east, and the other – provided reasoned reduction of those areas. Morfov was a convinced supporter of the second one. The advocates of the first option undoubtedly dominated, and besides, they had the most influential positions in the government and the army. The director of Bulgarian State Railways, however, was committed to convince them that they were wrong. His mission went through many vicissitudes and finally proved impossible. It was not realistic the existing demands to be implemented, because they were unbalanced and ultimately sounded defiant amid wartime atmosphere and neighbourly disagreement. They only led to a very dramatic outcome, namely to the full obliteration in 1919 and 1920 of the underappreciated national project in view of the southern littoral area.