

Irina Grigorova

**STATE POLICY FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT IN BULGARIA
1944–1989**

(Summary)

After World War II, with its sports achievements Bulgaria ranked among the most powerful countries. Its success in the field of high performance sport impressed the world to such an extent that it started talking about Bulgarian schools in wrestling, weightlifting, rhythmic gymnastics and rowing. The records of Stefka Kostadinova in the high jump and of Yordanka Donkova in the 100 meters hurdles remain unsurpassed to this day. Bulgaria was awarded prizes in a number of other sports disciplines. Factors for the brilliant development were the support (financial and material) from the state leadership, the coaching approach and the competitive spirit of athletes represented in the survey.