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**BULGARIAN COMMERCIAL AGENCIES OR CONSULATES IN THE  
OTTOMAN EMPIRE – FOUNDATION, DEVELOPMENT, INFLUENCE  
AND PERSONNEL (1896–1912)**

(Summary)

Bulgaria founded its commercial agencies in the European vilayets of the Ottoman Empire in the end of 19th century. Their existence was difficult because of the ambiguous treatment of the Ottoman authorities. The first Bulgarian commercial agents were men of good education and high repute. Their work coincided with the activity of two more important factors having their impact on the Bulgarians in the region: the Exarchate and the Internal Macedonian-Adrianople Revolutionary Organization (VMORO). The Bulgarian representatives had their own influence among the local Bulgarian population and acted as mediators between the two other organizations.