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**ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF
BULGARIAN STUDENTS ABROAD (1903–1912)**

(Summary)

The article broadly addresses the organizational development of Bulgarian studentship abroad and its social and political activities during the period 1903–1912, in order to detect their inherent characteristics on the basis of abundant and diverse sources – archival documents and publications in periodicals of that time as well as studies of other authors on the subject. The evidence reveals mainly that the organizational structures of Bulgarian students abroad became more multifaceted. Some of the previously created societies definitively established themselves as spokespersons for their members and authoritative representatives of Bulgaria in the respective academic and cultural community, while others temporarily weakened their activities or waned to some degree. Among the newly established organizations two societies stood out with a good start: “Brotherhood” in Fribourg, Switzerland, and “Rodina” in Berlin, but they had yet to develop and gain prestige. There was also Bulgarian participation in multinational students’ formations based on the principle of federalism – mainly in its “south Slav” outline. A great achievement was that in 1909 the societies in the large Swiss university centers integrated into “Union of Bulgarian student societies “Brotherhood” in Switzerland.” Social and political activities of the Bulgarian students abroad during the period were primarily on matters of internal political nature among which the university crisis of 1907-1908 stands out. Ideological opposition in the ranks of Bulgarian studentship remained. As far as a common position on one issue or another was formed, it referred almost

exclusively to certain events with foreign political character such as the excesses over the Bulgarian population in Macedonia.