

# Bulgarian Historical Review

Издание на Института за исторически изследвания при БАН

Bulgarian Historical Review XLIV (2016) 3-4, 188-222  
ISSN 0204-8906

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## **The Bulgarian Minority in Bessarabia in the Inter-war Period According to Documents of Siguranta**

(Abstract)

Based on documents from the archives of Siguranta in Bessarabia, our article analyzes the situation of national minorities in Romania in the interwar period, in the context of the territorial unification after WW I. The newly created State had to face a new problem, considering the fact that until then the minorities inside were extremely small, numerically speaking. The study provides a glimpse of the situation of minorities and focuses on the Bulgarian one, as there is limited data in the Romanian historiography about this (almost all studies make reference to the 19th century). Some aspects were studied by historians from the Republic of Moldova and, to a greater extent, the issue was examined by specialists from Bulgaria. The article is based on analysis of unpublished archival documents from the National Archive Fund of the Republic of Moldova and examines how the minority in Bessarabia, especially the Bulgarian one, interacted with Romanian authorities. We tried to capture and render in our study the main issues that were raised regarding the Bulgarian ethnic community, the way they tried to expose the situation and maintain their ethnic identity, but also the authorities' responses to their claims in the context of the rather complicated period between the two world wars.