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War and Migration in Bulgaria from 1912 to 1926: the Refugee Inflows in the Light of Census Data

(Abstract)

The subject of the present study is the mass exodus of Bulgarians (and people of other nationalities) to Bulgaria generated by the armed conflicts from the second decade of the 20th Century, namely by the Balkan Wars and World War I including the 1917 revolution and civil war in Russia, the Aster Revolution in Hungary, and accompanying events. The study aims at revealing the demographic impact of refugees' intensive influx to Bulgaria between 1912 and 1926. In fact the latter was observed to 1928 and its quantitative dimensions covered about 200.000 people – mainly Bulgarians, but Russians, Armenians and others too poured into Bulgaria; meanwhile thousands of Turks and Greeks left it. Here certain aspects of refugee waves of the time are examined, in particular the ethnic structure, temporal dynamics, points of departure, destinations (points of attraction) of the refugee inflow to Bulgaria, refugees' territorial distribution and concentration, and it is done by the means of quantitative research methods of statistical data, namely the statistics for refugees in Bulgaria coming from the 1920 and 1926 censuses.