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The Public Healthcare Policy in the Legislation of Bulgaria in the Period 1879–1912

(Abstract)

A major objective of this article is to reveal the essence of the concept of Bulgaria's healthcare policy in the period from 1879 to 1912. It is based on a detailed study of the debates accompanying the preparation, discussion and adoption of all laws related to healthcare in post-liberation Bulgaria. Their analysis makes it possible to conclude that the formation of the basic concept of this kind of policy began already with the establishment of the first governing structures in the territories liberated by the Russian troops. At its core were the aspirations of the authorities to regulate all the necessary care that the state had to take to improve the health and to reduce the mortality among the population. It was of decisive importance for the realization of this process and for the gradual increase of the life expectancy of the population inhabiting the country.

Keywords: *historical demography, demographic policy, legislation, healthcare, history of Bulgaria in the period 1878–1912.*