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*Antoaneta Kirilova*

## **К истории одного дипломатического документа 1867 года: болгары в большой политике**

(Abstract)

**To the History of a Diplomatic Document of 1867: Bulgarians in Great Policy.** The article deals with the activities of the Russian Vice-Consul in Plovdiv Nayden Gerov in 1867 in the context of the Russian Balkan policy in the years of the Eastern Crisis of 1866–1869. By order of the Russian ambassador to Constantinople, Gen. N. P. Ignatiev, in 1867 N. Gerov wrote “A Project for Reforms”. This document, which became the basis of Ignatiev’s project, was to serve the Russian diplomatic action in a collective demarche in front of the Sublime Porte together with other European countries, notably France, for carrying out reforms in favor of the Christian subjects of the Ottoman Empire. The remaining activities of Gerov during the year form several problematic circles also in connection with Russian Middle East policy – the Russian idea of autonomy for the Bulgarians, the negotiations with Serbia for the creation of a Balkan Union for joint action against the Ottoman Empire, the Bulgarian political and revolutionary initiatives. After analyzing an array of unpublished and published documents on Gerov’s activities in 1867 in both of these aspects, the author attempts to determine the presence and opportunities of Bulgarians to influence the course of the “Great Policy”.

**Keywords:** *Ottoman Empire; Eastern Crisis of 1866-1869; Russian Balkan policy; Bulgarian national-liberation movement; Nayden Gerov; Count Nikolay Ignatiev*