Bulgarian Historical Review

Издание на Института за исторически изследвания при БАН

Bulgarian Historical Review LI (2023) 1-2, 203 ISSN 0204-8906

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Subcultures As Active Participant in the Transition: the Bulgarian Case in the 1980s – 2000s

(Abstract)

The object of research presented in the article is the transition from a totalitarian to a democratic society in Bulgaria from the 1990s and the 2000s, and its subject is the contribution of the subcultural communities formed in this period, to the implementation of various social changes. The main research hypothesis is that at the end of the totalitarian regime and in the beginning of the transition in the political, economic and cultural life in Bulgaria, there were formed several main subcultures with various degrees of critical influence over the development of social processes in the country. A main mechanism of influence which transforms the subcultures in active agents of the historical change are the so-called 'culturemes'. So far, the study identified several significant subcultures of which two political playing the leading role in the transition. They are based on ideological structures consisting of limited number of simple ideologemes (the culturemes of the political conscience). The research is based on a sociocultural analysis of documents, surveys and interviews. It combines the perspectives of social history with those of political science and social anthropology.

Keywords: transition, subculture, cultureme, ideologeme

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