

## **On the History of the Greek Community in Sofia from the Middle of the 20th Century until the Present: The Initial Years**

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(Summary)

The publication is the result of the study of the Greeks who arrived in Bulgaria in 1948–1949 and the process of settling in the country in the 1950s. Their community is formed by political emigrants from Northern Greece who left the homelands after the Civil War in the country (1946–1949). The article traces the main moments in the history of the emigration and the settling in the new country, as well as the initial integration into the Bulgarian society. It outlines the actions of the Bulgarian state in support of the Greek immigrants – the establishment of dormitories, the providing of medical care, the work placement. An important point in the article is the special care for children refugees as well as their education. Another accent is the self-organization of the Greek community in Bulgaria during the first years of the settlement – the committees in the hostels, the General Committee of the Greek Immigrants, the additional organizations, the newspaper, the information bureau, the creation of an educational structure. The author also provides information on the structure of the emigrant community in terms of its ethnicity, geographical and social origin. The main purpose of the publication is to present these processes from the point of view of the internal life of the immigrants on the basis of the interviews of the author with some prominent community representatives who have finally settled in Sofia.

**Keywords:** Greeks; political emigrants; refugees; children refugees; Greek organizations in Bulgaria; the Civil War in Greece

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