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*Diplomatic-Consular Missions and Representatives of the Kingdom of SCS in Bulgaria  
(1920–1929)*

*Summary*

Research in the history of a diplomatic service of a country is an important historiography topic, essentially related to studying the foreign policy. Our research focuses on the functioning of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (SCS) Mission to Bulgaria in 1920, as well as of the consular office in Varna. The preserved materials are not complete, but suffice to provide an insight into general problems that accompanied activities of Yugoslav diplomatic and consular service in Bulgaria during the first post-war decade, when the relations between the two countries were tense, on several occasions even verging on the brink of open conflict. The Kingdom of SCS diplomats, Milan Rakić and Ljubomir Nešić in particular, had experience and reputation, and put them to use not only to present the interests of their country in a dignified and praiseworthy manner, but their work also served to “muffle” the political pressures present daily in the relations between the countries and certainly contributed to their not turning into an open conflict that would be difficult to control. Diplomatic representatives of the Kingdom of SCS enjoyed the trust of Bulgarian politicians and intellectuals, which was important if the nature of Yugoslav-Bulgarian relations is taken into account.

The consulate in Varna played an important role for the intelligence service of the Kingdom of SCS in Bulgaria due to the strategic significance of this Black Sea port. It was for this very reason that the military disagreed when the Government decided to close the consulate (at the end of 1926). In addition, Varna was one of the Bolshevik centres in Bulgaria, and the second largest colony of Yugoslav nationals lived there.

The Notes to this paper provide CVs of all diplomatic and consular representatives in Bulgaria in the period from 1920 to 1929.