

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SARAJEVO TO MARK THE CENTENARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF THE REVOLUTION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

At the Hotel «Terme» in Ilidža, a pleasant suburb of historic Sarajevo, the Yugoslavian Academies of the Arts and Sciences successfully organized an International Conference which was held from the 1st to 3rd October. It commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and other Balkan States, against Turkish rule, and also, more generally, the whole Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878. Prof. Constantine Vavoukos of the Thessaloniki University Law School, Professors Stephanos Papadopoulos and Zacharias N. Tsirpanlis of the Jannina University School of Philosophy, and Dr. Evangelos Kofos represented Greece.

The Conference began on the morning of 1st October and a general meeting of the delegates was addressed, in Serbo-Croatian, by three Yugoslav historians: Vaso Čubrilović, «The Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878 and its Meaning for International Relations at the End of the 19th and Beginning of the 20th centuries»; A. L. Naročnicki, «The Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878 and the Great Powers: Results and Problems of Research»; Milorad Ekmečić, «The Historical Significance of the Revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1875-1878».

From that afternoon, the program continued in three separate sections which examined in more detail the following general topics: 1) The Eastern Crisis and International Relations; 2) Revolutions and Wars in the Balkans; 3) Socialist and Democratic Movements and their Contribution to the Revolutionaries. All told, seventy-seven lectures were programmed and, with very few exceptions, delivered in the three sections. The lecturers spoke in many different languages (mainly in Serbo-Croatian, Russian, English, German, French, Slovene, etc.) and both the papers and the discussions were simultaneously translated into English and Russian.

The lectures delivered covered all sides of the general scope of the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878, and especially concentrated on those problems peculiar to the local uprising in Bosnia and Herzegovina. More particularly, learned scholars from Russia, Germany, Greece, Bulgaria, Italy, and the various constituent Republics of Yugoslavia concentrated on interesting and often hitherto unknown evidence from documents, preserved in the archives or in the libraries of the countries from which they sprang, concerning the Crisis of 1875-1878. Thus was secured a well-rounded presentation of this very crucial chapter in Balkan and international history of the second half of the 19th century.

If we wished to follow the position and actions of various countries and peoples within that period, we might well quote the following papers:

a) On the position of Greece and the unredeemed Greeks: Constantine Vavoukos, «Les réglementations juridiques opérées par le traité San-Stefano au Sud de la Péninsule d'Hémos et ses répercussions ethnologiques»; Evangelos Kofos, «The Subject Greeks during the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878»; Zacharias N. Tsirpanlis, «Les Grecs et l'insurrection de 1875 en Herzégovine et en Bosnie»; Krste Bitoski, «Greece and the Situation in the Balkans, 1875-1878» (in the Skopje idiom); Risto Poplazarov, «Macedonia and the Struggle for Independence, and the Wars in the other Yugoslavian Regions during 1875-1878» (in the Skopje idiom). The texts of the last two papers reiterate opinions which must be examined carefully and in cross-reference to information from other sources before they become acceptable.

b) On the role of Russia: K. B. Vinogradov, «Russo-Austrian Relations in Connection with the Uprising in Bosnia and Herzegovina» (in Russian); C.I.Bočkareva, «Russo-Serbian Relations in Relation to the Serbo-Turkish War of 1876» (in Russian); N.I. Hitrova, «Russian Aid to Herzegovinian Refugees in Montenegro (1875-1878)» (in Russian); I. S. Dostjan, «The Position of Russian Society toward the Balkan peoples' War of Liberation during 1875-1878» (in Russian); Jovan Jovanović, «The Participation of Russian Volunteers in the Herzegovinian Revolt of 1875» (in Serbo-Croatian).

c) For the role of Austria-Hungary: N. Paskaleva, «Austria-Hungary and the National Movements in the Balkans (1875-1878)» (in Russian); Islamov Tofik, «The Hapsburg Monarchy and the Occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina» (in Russian); Arnold Suppan, «Österreichisch-ungarische Militärpolitik zur Zeit des bosnischen Aufstandes 1875»; Horst Haselsteiner, «Die ungarische Opposition und die bosnische Okkupation»; Dževad Juzbašić, «The Occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Question of the Incorporation of Bosnia, Herzegovina and Dalmatia into the Austro-Hungarian Empire» (in Serbo-Croatian); Mustafa Imamović, «Bosnia between the Ottoman and Hapsburg Empires in the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); István Diószegi, «Andrássy und der Aufstand in der Herzegowina im Sommer 1875»; Endre Arató, «Public Opinion in Hungary and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Question, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Knapić-Krhen Cvetka, «Some Evidence on the Position of the Austrian Social Democrats toward the Eastern Crisis» (in Serbo-Croatian); Arpad Lebl, «The Revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Workers' Movement in Hungary» (in Serbo-Croatian).

d) For the German position: Imanuel Geiss, «German Politics on the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Konstantin D. Kosev, «The German Role in the Period of the Eastern Question of 1875-1878» (in Russian); Heinz Wolter, «Die Stellung der deutschen Sozialdemokratie zum Aufstand in Bosnien und der Herzegowina und zur Politik der europäischen Großmächte während der Orientkrise 1875-1878».

e) For the position of France: Simeon Damjanov, «France and the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878» (in Russian).

f) For the position of Italy: Dragovan Šepić, «Italian non-Redemption and the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Jože Pirjevec-Pierazzi, «The Italians and the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina» (in Serbo-Croatian).

g) For the position of America: John V. A. Fine, jr., «The American Reaction to the Uprising in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1875-1878».

h) For the position of one section of the British people: Václav Žáček, «The Aid of the British 'Pan-slavists' for the Slovakian Revolutionary Movement in the 6th and 7th Decades of the 19th century» (in Slovakian).

i) For the position and aspirations of the Albanian people: Emin Plana, «The Revolution in Bosnia and the Albanians, 1875-1878. The Memorandum of Jannina» (in Serbo-Croatian); Šukri Rahimi, «The Question of Albanian Autonomy within the Boundaries of the Ottoman Empire, 1877-1881» (in Serbo-Croatian).

j) For the position of the Bulgarian people: Nikolaj Todorov, «The April Uprising and its Role in the Eastern Crisis (1875-1878)» (in Russian); Veselin Trajkov, «Bulgarian Public Opinion and the Liberation Movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Period which preceded the Uprising of 1875» (in Russian).

k) For the position of the Polish people: Jerzy Skowronek, «L'activité et les projets du mouvement national polonais envers la Bosnie-Herzégovine 1841-1878»; Jerzy Zdrada,

«Les Polonais en présence de l'insurrection de Bosnie-Herzégovine et en face de la guerre russo-turque 1875-1878».

l) For the position of Roumania: Nicolae Ciachir, «La position de la Roumanie à l'égard des soulèvements de Bosnie et Herzégovine durant la période 1875-1878».

m) For the position of Slovakia: Mikuláš Ptsch, «The Solidarity of the Slovaks toward the Revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina and their National Liberation Struggle in 1875-1878» (in Slovakian).

On the situation prevailing in those regions in revolt, and on the participation of other Yugoslavian peoples in the Bosnia-Herzegovina fighting, the papers are much more numerous, and contribute toward a better and more complete interpretation of those events. Worth mentioning are the more important papers which emphasize the variety of themes. This corresponds to the broader dimensions of the revolution: Nusret Šehić, «Yugoslavian Historiography in the last Decade in Regard to the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Ju. A. Pisarev, «The Uprising in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875-1878, and the Liberation Struggle of the Yugoslavian Peoples in the 19th and early 20th Centuries» (in Russian); Petko Luković, «Slovenian Connections with the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, to the More Important Events in the Balkan Peninsula and to the Solution of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Question, 1875-1878» (in Slovenian); Radoman Jovanović, «Conflict of Montenegrin and Serbian Influences in the Bosnia-Herzegovina Revolution 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Nikola Petrović, «The Meaning of the Eastern Question in the Political Life of Vojvodina in the 6th and early 7th Decade of the 19th century» (in Serbo-Croatian); Ljuben Lape, «Socio-Economic Conditions in Macedonia during the Period of the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the Personality of Dimitri Pop Georgieva-Berovskog» (in Serbo-Croatian); Dragutin Pavličević, «Polemic in the Croatian and Serbian Newspapers in Hungary, in Relation to the Bosnia-Herzegovina Uprising and its Period, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Vera Ciliga, «Views of the Popular Party in Croatia and the Revolts in Bosnia-Herzegovina» (in Serbo-Croatian); Vasilije Krestić, «The Serbs in Hungary in Relation to the Revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1875» (in Serbo-Croatian); Žarko Šćepanović, «Socio-political Conditions in Potarj and Zatarj on the Eve of the Revolution of 1875 and the first Year of Revolution in this Area» (in Serbo-Croatian); Mile Trnjaković, «The Importance of the Liberated Region of Crni Potoci during the Revolution in Bosnia, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Savo Skoko, «The Operations of the Serbian Army during the Serbo-Turkish War of 1877-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Petar Opačić, «The Operations of the Serbian Army in the Serbo-Turkish War of 1876» (in Serbo-Croatian); Vojislav Bogičević, «The Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875-1878, and the Yugoslav Question» (in Serbo-Croatian); Hajrudin Ćurić, «The Committees for Backing the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Mitar Papić, «Child Education in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the Revolution, 1875-1878» (in Serbo-Croatian); Julije Grabovac, «Dalmatian Support to the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina» (in Serbo-Croatian); Vlado Oštrić, «The Meaning of the Bosnian Revolution for the Workers' and Socialist Movement in Croatia» (in Serbo-Croatian); Manol Pandevski, «Macedonian Volunteers in the War between Turkey and the Serbo-Russian Alliance, from 1876 to 1878» (in Serbo-Croatian).

Worth mentioning also were the papers which referred generally to the role of the Great Powers and to the new conditions, especially those created in the Balkan Peninsula by the decisions of the Treaty of Berlin: Božo Madžar, «Peace Efforts of the European Great Powers during the Revolution of Herzegovina in 1875 (Consular Mission to Herzegovina)» (in Serbo-Croatian); Novak Ražnatović, «Relative Facts on the Decision of the Treaty of

Berlin Concerning Montenegro» (in Serbo-Croatian); Milka Zdraveva, «**Territorial Changes in the Balkans according to Berlin Conference and their Consequences in the Economic Life of Macedonia»** (in the Skopje idiom); Orde Ivanoski, «**The Position of Macedonian, Bulgarian and Serbian Socialists in face of the Decisions of the Berlin Conference and the Attitude of the Great Powers to the Newly Liberated Balkan Peoples»** (in the Skopje idiom).

Another group of papers, no less important, covered the more energetic personalities who played some role during the three critical years. Such for example were those of: Radovan Samardžić, «**Jovan Ristić and the Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Marijana Schneider, «**The Croatian Painter Ferdo Quiquerez in Montenegro and Herzegovina in 1875 and 1876»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Enver Redžić, «**Marx and Engels in Relation to the Struggles and Aspirations of the Southern Slavs for their National Restoration»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Dušan Lukać, «**Svetozar Marković and the Preparation for the 1875 Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina»** (in Serbo-Croatian).

Finally, although almost all of the papers were supported by new or little-known evidence, or proven by unpublished or unworked historical sources, some specialist researchers were occupied in bringing to light new sources either printed or from archives. Those papers which will attract the special attention of historians in the future, are the following: Kliment Džambazovski, «**Serbian Diplomatic Sources on Bulgaria and the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Nikić Andrija, «**The Revolution of Herzegovina in the Light of new Evidence»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Rade Petrović, «**Resistance in Bosnia-Herzegovina to the Occupation According to Italian Archival Sources»** (in Serbo-Croatian); D. F. Popl'ko, «**The Democratic Current in Bosnia during the Uprising in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1875-1878, in the Light of Russian Journals»** (in Russian); Nada Beritić, «**Il Dalmata of Zadar on the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Šime Perićić, «**The Discussion of the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the *National Newspaper* of Zadar. Bibliography of the Articles about the Revolution in Bosnia-Herzegovina which Appeared in the *National Newspaper* of Zadar»** (in Serbo-Croatian); Ljubomir Zuković, «**The Revolution in Herzegovina in the Folksongs»** (in Serbo-Croatian).

With the above classification according to subject matter, we believe that the reader's esteem will be aroused, firstly because of the great impetus given historical research by the organization of such a conference, and secondly, by the evaluation of the problems of the Eastern Question of 1875-1878, and the delineation of the paths for further research which the subject still demands. Nor must we omit that the discussions accompanying the papers led to the clarification and rounding-out of certain views.

Although 100 years have passed since those events, the study of their consequences still provokes to-day certain strong nationalistic claims with political overtones. But it has been proven many times that scholarship does not accomplish its purpose when it serves temporary political purposes.

However, the publication of the texts of the papers, which has been undertaken by the Organizational Office of the Conference, will no doubt aid in the clarification of those disputed claims and in the easier verification of the sources.