

THE REALIZATION OF A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING OF REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA – BASIS FOR APPLYING THE EUROPEAN PRINCIPLES OF REGIONALISM

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Abstract

In the present study the author examines the administrative and territorial planning as a basic, immutable principle in the organization and administration of each country. The administrative and territorial planning reflects most completely and comprehensively the democratic character and content of the general government – through the combination of the perceived and established model of political organization of society and the principles and the nature of the existing state system.

The author is for the realization of a new administrative and territorial division of the country, and proposes that territorial units (the planning regions) become administrative and territorial ones (such as are the provinces and municipalities at present), through amendment of the fundamental law – the Constitution. On that basis the planning regions will have their own administrative structure and budget. This circumstance will lead to a stronger realization of the process of decentralization and transparency in the management of the administrative and territorial units; the possibility to apply the European Charter of Regional Self-Government. Greatly reduced will be the negative impact of the „centre-periphery” issue caused now by the provinces (the former districts). There will be created conditions allowing us to reduce the socio-economic disproportions between the individual administrative and territorial units and, last but not least, to apply effectively the principles of regionalism laid down in the development of the European Union.

Keywords: administrative and territorial planning, regionalism, „centre-periphery” issue.

СЪДЪЖАНИЕ

Въведение	59
Глава I. Административно-териториално устройство (ретроспекция)	
Европейски практики	60
1.1. Ретроспекция на административно-териториалното устройство на България след Втората световна война	62
1.2. Ретроспекция на административно-териториалното устройство на България през периода 1947-1990 г.	63