**FORMING THE WELFARE STATE IN BULGARIA – FROM CARING FOR**

**THE POOR TO STATE SOCIAL POLICY (THE 30s OF XX century)**

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***Abstract****. In the second quarter of the twentieth century, Bulgarian society, like most European countries during this period, underwent significant changes in the social sphere, which marked a transition and transformation, from a liberal model of care for the poor to the development of a defensive, state-responsible social policy. The radical change that is taking place in the field of social protection is helping to move to a new ethical system of government in which the state, as the main carrier, will increasingly expand its powers in order to obtain its completed form in the early 1950s. century. Realized as a natural result of the increased social demands on the part of the society, caused by extremely unfavorable in terms of the socio-economic and political conditions and problems in the development of the Bulgarian state during this period, social changes are imposed and achieved through the authoritarian policy of governance, conducted by the Nineteen-seventh Government, led by Kimon Georgiev (May 19, 1934–January 22, 1935). This study examines the main aspects and elements related to legislative regulation and the processes of formation and transition to state social policy in Bulgaria, characterizing it as the foundation for building a "prosperous state" (Walfare State).*

***Key words****: Bulgaria, social policy, welfare state, social protection, authoritarianism, poverty*