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Publications in the Field of Rural Sociology and Research in Bulgaria in 1995

This review is based mostly on publications in some specialised journals in the field of rural sociology and economy. Namely: *Ikonomicheska misl* (Economic thought), *Ikonomika i upravlenie na selskoto stopanstvo* (Agriculture, Economics and Management), *Ikonomika* (Economy — a monthly issue for theory and business).

In Bulgaria, the search for strategies and models for reconstruction of agriculture and rural areas after the political changes has continued for five years. Generally speaking, the land reform in Bulgaria has slowed down in the past two years. The main reason for this is the very changeable 'piecemeal policy', rather than a stable, long term concept for reviving agriculture. Among the essential reasons for this process is the complex procedure of restoration of property rights for the land to previous owners and heirs. Also the slowing down of land allocation by means of plans for land division as well as some financial and technical reasons.

Privatisation in agriculture has moved slowly also. Any of the organised auctions for the selling off of state or former co-operatives real property as buildings, equipment, machinery etc., have been unsuccessful or were sold but not used for agricultural means.

Up to 1994, only about 40 enterprises in the food industry sector were privatised out of 420 companies in total. This is why the basic problems treated in the publications concern burning issues: the ongoing land reform and restoration of property rights to previous owners and heirs; land ownership relations between the state and subjects (individuals, groups or organisations); the state agrarian policy; agricultural production structures as well as specific social issues resulting from the transition.

Agrarian policy, the relations concerning land reform and structural changes are the focus of almost every paper: e.g. R. Popov, *Agrarnata politika v Bulgaria* (Economy, pp. 9–12, February 1995), analyses the crisis in

agriculture, structural reform and its delay. Critical review of the state agrarian policy has been made by D. Vladov (*Formirane na agrarniya vupros v Bulgaria na kraya na XX vek*, Economic thought, pp. 15–24, No. 5, 1995). T. Dardzhonov polemizes with other authors' theoretical view concerning the state of agriculture and structural reform (*Krizata v Selskoto stopanstvo ne e resoultat ot reformite* [in:] Economy, pp. 8–10, March 1995). A discussion on the pace of land reform and the role of the state poses S. Kirilova in *Zemyata — nakude, kak i na kogo?* (Economy pp. 4–8, April 1995). The economists M. Risina and I. Yanakieva (*Pozemlenite otnosheniya ou nas — truden, no razreshim problem* [in:] Economy, pp. 10–12, June 1995; *Pozemlenite otnosheniya v Bulgaria: Sustoyanie i problemi* [in:] Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 13–16, No. 1–8, 1995), state again the question about the size of the land and effective forms of production.

The liquidation of collective farms is still a topical issue — T. Atanasova, N. Kostadinova, *Protsest na likvidatsiya na proizvodstvenite strukturi v selskostopanskiya sektor* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 26–28, No. 4, 1995) in which opinions of several owners and members of Liquidation Councils of the former co-operatives were indicated.

Origin and development of land relations are discussed in the article of N. Kostadinova, Y. Yarkova, T. Atanasova entitled *Pozemlenite otnosheniya v Bulgaria* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 8–10, No. 3, 1995). Data from the Haskovo region, survey and analysis are presented. It is concluded that state and government regulations of land relations will be necessary.

In a number of articles, one can find visions and orientations in favour of the state regulation of agricultural transformation — rather than supporting the liberal market principles. State intervention and protection of agricultural produce is, no doubt, an important aspect of the agrarian policy during the transition; but it is still being assumed as a reflection of the old way of thinking and not as the ideology of independent economic subjects who are the main competitors in the market. This is due, to a certain extent, to the lack of real land, capital and labour market and the low level of investments in Bulgarian agriculture.

In his paper — *Rolyata na durzhavnoto regoulirane v selskoto stopanstvo*, Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 3–6, No. 2, 1995, G. Kostov supports the role and 'measured' interference of the state in regulations and relations between agriculture and other branches concerned with the economy. G. Kostov, G. Milev, V. Hadajeva (et al) (*Durzhavata i organizatsionno-ikonomicheskoto prestrouktourirane na zemedeliето*, (Agricultural Economics and Management, p. 3–5, No. 7–8, 1995) develop this position in detail with connections to the new established structures in the agrarian sector.

Two papers treat similar issues: G. Dulevska, *Imoushtestveni otnosheniya v zemedelskite proizvodstveni kooperatsii* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 3–7, No. 1, 1995) — character of property owning relations and sources, and security of rent as a principle form of economic entity of these relations are discussed: K. Kaneva, *Imoushtestveni otnosheniya v kooperativnite formi na sdrouzhavane* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 8–11, No. 1, 1995) property ownership relations between co-operative members and reflections of all members on one side, and relations of all members of the co-operative as judge, on the other side are analysed.

R. Trendafilov, M. Anastasova's paper *Sustoyanie na troudovite resourci v selskoto Stopanstvo sled starta na agrarnata reforma* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 45–48, No. 1, 1995) — deals with determination of quantitative and qualitative contents of labour resources in agriculture, associated with changes of methodological instruments of statistic accounting.

The very important issue of the new forms of production is being treated in several articles. The social structures in agriculture are commented upon in the paper of V. Yakimov, V. Videv (et al): *Otnosno organizatsionnite strouktouri v bulgarskoto zemedelie* (Economic Thought, pp. 37–46, No. 6, 1995), where the authors have pointed out different forms of agricultural production: individual farms, agricultural production co-operatives, co-operatives for the selling and processing of agricultural produce, co-operatives for services, agricultural credit co-operatives, one-man companies and limited liability companies as an alternative to individual farms. M. Mihailov, M. Koleva, I. Yanakieva (et al) in their paper: *Strouktournata reforma v bulgarskoto zemedelie* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 6–9, No. 7–8, 1995) focus on land reform and new forms of agricultural production. Unlike the slower run of land reform organisational restructuring in the agricultural sector is going faster. Private sector agriculture cultivates 17,300 thousand dka of land (10 dka=1 ha) in 1780 thousand private farms, which have produced 72% of the whole agricultural production. Around 2000 co-operatives with a 15,660 thousand dka land have been created. There are 590 state agricultural enterprises. D. Savoya's paper *Chastnoto fermerstvo — sega i za v budeshhte* (Economy, pp. 9–10, October, 1995) shows the authors statement supporting private sector agriculture.

K. Kaneva focuses on *Korporativni formi za proizvodstvo i obslouzhivane v zemedeliето* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 10–12, No. 7–8, 1995). Creation of limited liability companies, joint stock companies and other modern forms of agribusiness are very important structures towards modern agrobusiness.

Particular socio-economic and sociological problems of the village and agricultural producers are being analysed in several articles, e.g.:

— V. Doichinova, *Povedencheski problemi na founktsioniraneto na zemedelskata proizvoditelna Kooperatsiya* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 25–30, No. 7–8, 1995);

— T. Taneva, M. Nikolov, *Harakter na motivatsiyata za zhivotnovaudna deinost ou zaetite v durzhavnite i chastnite fermi* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 75–78, No. 7–8, 1995);

— T. Todorov, V. Koleva, *Sotsialna i zastrahovatelna zashtita na sel-skostopanskite proizvoditeli v Bulgaria* (Agricultural Economics and Management, pp. 33–36, No. 5, 1995) — a sociological survey determined a great lack of information among the labour force and of persons insured about opportunities and needs of a modern social network setting up and conditions of social protection against different social risks;

— G. Kiosev, *Zemyata kato agroekologichen resours v zemedeliето* (Economy, pp. 20–22, July 1995) — necessity of new methodology, new approaches for land use under market conditions: orientation towards ecological agricultural production.

In 1995, a book entitled *Ekologiya i selsko stopanstvo* V. Kozhuharova–Zhivkova (ed., Institute of Sociology) was published. It is a collection of papers presented at the 1993 conference 'Ecology and Agriculture', held in Sofia. A block of papers deals with aspects of ecology — agriculture — village relations; some of them concern general ecological problems in the Bulgarian village (S. Dobрева) and in agriculture (M. Shishmanova); others — the ecological — economic relations under the transition towards a market economy (G. Kostov, N. Naidenov). The need for ecological knowledge and ecological behaviour of the Bulgarian villager (V. Kozhuharova) and the attitudes, orientations and values with respect to ecological issues (V. Stankov, G. Tanev, and T. Atanasova) supplement the theoretical and empirical experience with new ideas.

RESEARCH/PROJECTS PUBLICATIONS

Y. Kapitanski, M. Anastasova, H. Hristozov, L. Mancheva, G. Petrov, I. Draganova, D. Basamakov and D. Ivanova, *Troudovata realizatsiya v selskoto stopanstvo na Bulgaria*, NATSID (National Centre for Information and Documentation). reg. No. 83066051, — joint project based on a survey dealing with social problems of people working in agriculture; their motivation and attitudes concerning agricultural labour.

M. Draganova, *Sotsialni konflikti v selskoto stopanstvo (Rezoultati ot sotsiologichesko izsledvane)* [in:] *Sotsialni konflikti v ousloviyata na prehod,*

NATSID (National Centre for Information and Documentation), reg. No. 83748043, 1995 — a part of a project dealing with current conflicts emerging on the pace of land reform and agricultural restructuring; conclusions based on a representative survey (1994). The respondents define the work of Municipal land Commissions, authorised to complete the land restitution and the delay of the land allocation plans, as the more important reasons for the conflict.

Several ongoing projects are being carried out in the Institute of Sociology. The project entitled *Obshtinskite zemi i tyahnoto izpolzване ot selskite domakinstva* (V. Kozhuharova et al) is a project studying three villages in three historical periods: Longitudinal panel survey *Sotsiologicheski problemi na trouda v bulgarskoto selo* carried out S. Todorova and Z. Toneva; *Novoto sotsialno razsloyavane v bulgarskoto selo v ousloviyata na prehod* (N. Tilkidjiev et al) is a project dealing with emerging social groups in a Bulgarian village.