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Summary

THE ASPIRATION OF THE POPULATION OF THE LIBERATED AREAS TO JOIN PRINCIPALITY OF SERBIA IN 1878

With the outbreak of the uprising in Herzegovina in July 1875, the Eastern Question was reopened, and thus it was time to resolve the Serbian question. During the Second Serbian-Turkish War (1877–1878), the Army of the Principality liberated a significant part of the Serbian population thus was under Ottoman rule. However, the position of the great powers was contrary to the expectations of the Principality of Serbia, that it was natural for these areas to belong to Serbia, which were historically and ethnically part of a single Serbian people. Great efforts were made by the inhabitants of Pirot, Vranje, Trn, Breznik in order to prove to the whole world that they are Serbs and want to join the Principality of Serbia, and not the newly created Principality of Bulgaria. The Berlin Congress will resolve the issues of annexation of its war achievements to Serbia only partially in the favor, leaving a large part of the Serbian people outside the state borders.

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