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**THE SRETENJE CONSTITUTION – NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REASONS
FOR ADOPTING AND ABOLISHING**

Summary: The first complete Serbian constitutional act was adopted in 1835, on the Sretenje holiday, while Serbia still had the status of a vassal country. It was written in a European, liberal and democratic spirit, and as such, it was a thorn in the eye of the great powers, and under the pressure of Russia, Turkey and Austria, it had to be abolished and cut at the roots, before its practical application. This paper looks more precisely at the reasons why this kind of constitution came to life in our country, looking at the complexity of the legal, political and social relations in the country at that time, but also what were the motives for its destruction. The author tries to answer the questions of the international reasons for its abolition, but also whether Miloš had the intention of ruling under such a constitutional arrangement, or whether he adopted it with the expectation that he would have to abolish it, using the pressure of foreign powers as an excuse for that move. It is being questioned whether this constitution was imposed on the prince by rebellion, or whether he worked on it even earlier, side by side with Dimitri Davidović, and the question is inevitably followed: Who was the real author the Constitution of Sretenje in general?

Keywords: Constitution of Sretenje, Prince Miloš, Dimitrije Davidović, Principality of Serbia, the constitution

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