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**ASPECTS OF MODERNITY IN THE LITERARY-AESTHETIC SEARCHES OF
BULGARIANS AND CROATS FROM THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY**

Abstract

This paper outlines the spatial and time relations between the Bulgarian and Croatian actors in the historical drama of the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Burdened by its fatefulness, the new generation was forced, in the words of Stefan Zweig, to break with the sense of security. Devaluation and reconsideration of the ideological postulates of the past age necessitated quick corrections in the stereotypes of the modern protagonist. The spirit of negation regarding the suburban and philistine narrowmindedness in Southeastern Europe acquired the aspect of humanistic anthropocentric pathos. For Bulgaria, it bore the mark of Renaissance humanistic pathos that was not experienced in the National Revival, as well as a “modern” opposition of the lonely person to the social and national collective. That was the end of the age of national revival syncretism. In both Bulgarian and Croatian modern literatures, this moment was a result of the artistic suggestions of Western literature and national romanticism.

Keywords: literary aesthetics, literary manifests, identity, transformation