

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
● OF THE UNION OF MACEDONIAN EMIGRANT ASSOCIATIONS
IN BULGARIA

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE
**VII-th ANNUAL ORDINARY
CONGRESS**

of the
**MACEDONIAN EMIGRANT ASSOCIA-
TIONS IN BULGARIA**

Voted

**in the sittings of January 20, 21, 22 and 23,
1929, in Sofia.**

**In presence of 438 delegates, representing
180 Macedonian Brotherhood Associations.**

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RESOLUTION I.

TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE GREAT POWERS

The VII-th Ordinary Annual Congress of the Macedonian Emigrant Associations in Bulgaria, held at Sofia, on January 20, 21, 22 and 23, 1929, after an examination of the conditions created on the Balkan Peninsula by the Peace Treaties, lays stress on the fact that the peoples of that part of Europe are subjected to a heavy political and economical situation and that no opportunity is offered them for a peaceful and quiet development.

The Congress declares that the Peace Treaties of 1919 concerning the fate of South-Eastern Europe are in contradiction with the highly proclaimed principle of self-determination of the peoples, which principle is the only hope for the small peoples for a defence and guarantee of their individual existence. This is especially true for our fatherland — Macedonia, unjustly torn in parts which are within the boundaries of the Greek and Yugoslavian States and subjected to a moral and physical oppression, unseen heretofore by its cruelty. The unbearable situation thus imposed on the Macedonian population and the fact that the Greek and Serbian Governments are not even applying in respect to it the clauses on the protection of minorities, contained in the Peace Treaties and guaranteeing the elementary national, political and cultural rights of our fellow countrymen, have compelled the latter to have recourse to the sole means of self-defence, namely

the revolution. Ever since 1919 and up to the present day, the world is witnessing a ceaseless struggle between the oppressed and subjugated population on one side and its imposed conquerors on the other side, which struggle is a source of endless martyrdom for the peoples and a danger for the peace of the world.

Taking in consideration all the above and moved exclusively by the general interests of the Balkan peoples, the Congress unanimously emphasizes that the establishment of a lasting and equitable peace in South-Eastern Europe may be attained solely by the execution of the formula of the great British statesman William Gladstone: „Macedonia should belong to the Macedonians.“

The Congress appeals to the Governments of the Great Powers to intervene for putting in practice the desired self government of Macedonia and assures them that by so doing they will give satisfaction to the legal aspirations of millions of human beings who are now oppressed and deprived of rights, they will lay the foundations of the so long yearned peace for the Balkan peoples and will secure for them a brotherly existence side by side in the path of their common prosperity.

RESOLUTION II.

TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON THE SITUATION IN MACEDONIA UNDER GREEK RULE.

The VII-th Ordinary Annual Congress of the Macedonian Emigrant Associations in Bulgaria feels compelled again to draw the attention of the League of Nations on the fact that Greece continues to refrain from any step in the sense of recognising and guaranteeing to the Bulgarian population in Macedonia under her rule those national and cultural rights provided for in the treaties on minorities, which treaties are approved and accepted with the signature of the Greek State.

Further, the Congress feels compelled to lay stress on something worse: While giving the appearance of its readiness to execute all obligations it assumed in respect to the Bulgarian population in Macedonia under its rule, without in reality having the intention to do so, the Greek State has continued that same system of physical and moral terrorism that drove out from their native land a great part of the Bulgarian population and is making life impossible for the remaining part in Macedonia.

Taking in consideration all the foregoing, the Congress respectfully begs the League of Nations, which is entrusted with the control of the execution of the minority treaties and with the task of a defender of the conquered and subjugated peoples, to kindly take interest in the situation of the Bulgarian population in Macedonia under Greek

rule and ask the Greek Government to stop its moral and physical terrorism on same population; to give an effective opportunity to the refugees of that part of Macedonia to return in their native places and to get back their property that was taken from them and which they left unwillingly, being forced to do so by violence; to guarantee in an efficient way to the Bulgarian population under Greek rule all the rights provided for in the minority treaties, so that the Greek State in the future may have no occasion whatever to evade the execution of the obligations it has assumed on the basis of international agreements.

RESOLUTION III.

TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON THE SITUATION IN MACEDONIA UNDER SERBIAN RULE.

The situation of the Bulgarians and other populations in Macedonia under Serbian rule in the past year continued to be characterised by the boundless violence perpetrated on them, with attacks on their holiest rights recognised by the Peace Treaties and with a relentless and systematic stifling of any national aspiration on their side.

The relentless animosity, which is growing daily alongside with the unsuccessful efforts of the Serbian authorities to assimilate the Bulgarian population in Macedonia, which is foreign to their people, has brought terrorism to such a climax of roughness and cruelty, that these authorities have thrown of late the care of hiding their doings from the world.

This fact is finding an explanation also in the circumstance that the supreme institute of Europe for righteousness and peace among peoples has left heretofore without any sanction whatever the numerous acts of a widely evident terrorism in that part of Macedonia.

A long series of artificially arranged political processes, accompanied with an inhuman inquisition on the accused; an ominous chain of political assassinations and a pitiless destruction of anything more conscious in that country; trial and

imprisonment for the most innocent acts of national consciousness, such as the gathering of popular Bulgarian songs, singing of such songs and other similar acts; attacks on the family honour and dissolutions by violence of marriages, aimed against Bulgarians of that country that have found refuge in Bulgaria — this is the black path of the Serbian policy of denationalization in Macedonia, these are the means of the Serbian authorities in their struggle to conquer the will of a people, which has and wants to have the holy right to maintain its national characteristics and to develop on the natural basis of its ethnical peculiarities.

It is useless to repeat herewith the numerous examples of all these varied acts of Serbian official terrorism in Macedonia, which the National Committee of the Macedonian Emigrant Associations in Bulgaria had already the sad duty of bringing to the notice of the Honourable League of Nations several times in the course of the year that elapsed.

The „Hell of Macedonia“ is swallowing more and more victims, and the State over there is now waging a war with the population in the presence of all the civilized world. And this population, deprived of all legal opportunities for stating its aspirations for liberty and righteousness, separated from the rest of the world by the barriers of permanent violence and threats, although craving for peace, is being convinced more and more of the necessity and opportunity of the revolutionary struggle, the heroic champions of which have strewn with their bones all the parts of their native land.

We, therefore, who are nearest to them by feelings and have ourselves felt and been informed on the unbearable situation of our brethren in our conquered fatherland, turn anew to the League of Nations and address the following legal and insistent petition of ours:

1. That efficient measures be taken for the application in Macedonia under Serbian rule of the clauses for the protection of minorities — and that the schools and churches, established at the time with so much efforts and sacrifices by the local Bulgarian population, be opened anew;

2. That conditions be created for the return in their native places of the numerous Macedonian refugees, their personal security and the use of their civil and national rights being guaranteed.

This time we have a greater hope that our appeal will be heeded, being supported in this expectation by the noble and categorical declaration made in the last session of the League of Nations in the sense that it will not refrain from defending the holy rights of minorities.