

# 90 years Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society: past, present and future development

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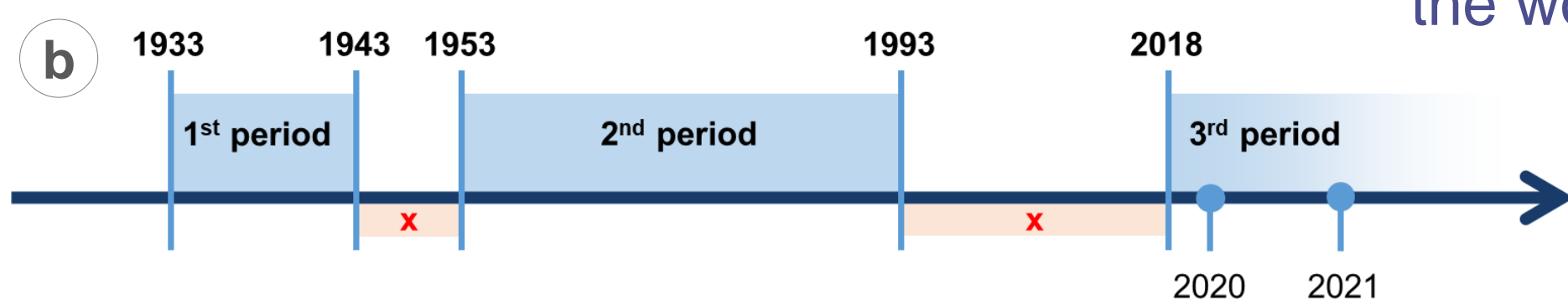
Hristina Prodanova <sup>\*</sup>, <sup>1</sup>, Stoyan Nedkov <sup>1</sup>, John Pickles <sup>2</sup>, Kliment Naydenov <sup>3</sup>

National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (NIGGG-BAS), Sofia, Bulgaria | University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, United States of America | Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” | Editorial board, Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society | <sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author: [hristina.zh.prodanova@gmail.com](mailto:hristina.zh.prodanova@gmail.com)



## Background

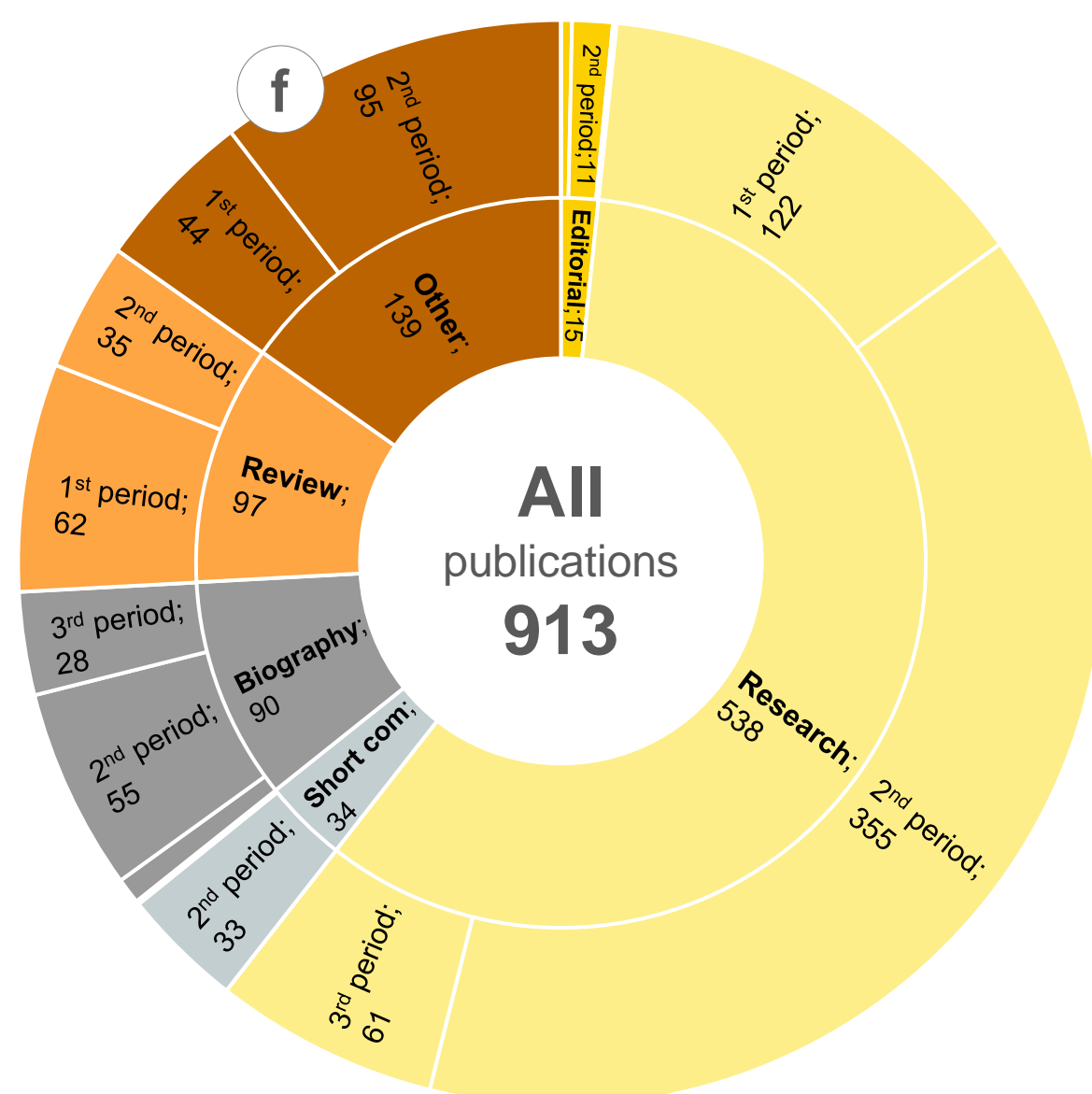
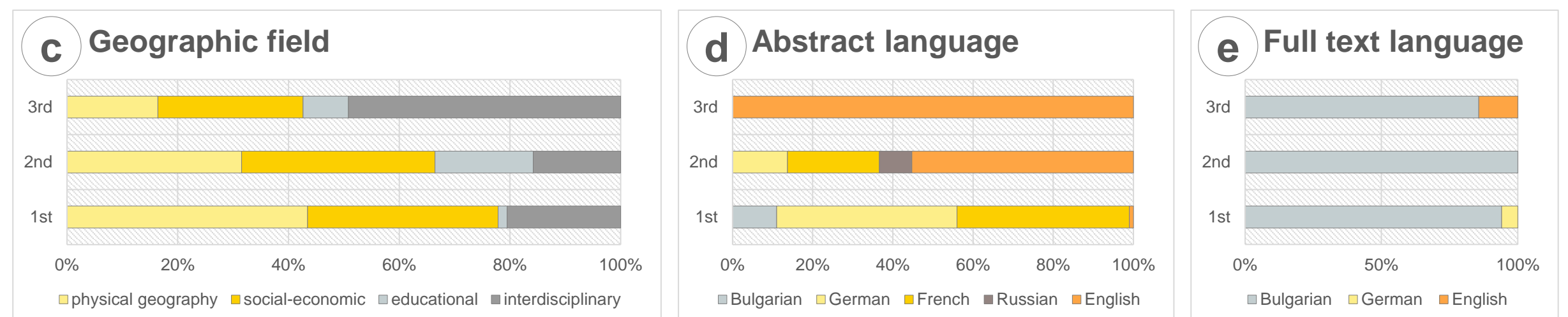
Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society (JBGS) is an international **open access peer-reviewed scientific journal** dedicated to all fields of geography and interrelated fields of earth, ecological, social, economic and geoinformation sciences. The geographical scope of the journal covers all the world with special attention to the Southeastern Europe and the Balkans.



It is the oldest geographical journal in Bulgaria and the most representative journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society published regularly in three periods **since 1933** (a, b).

## Development through the years

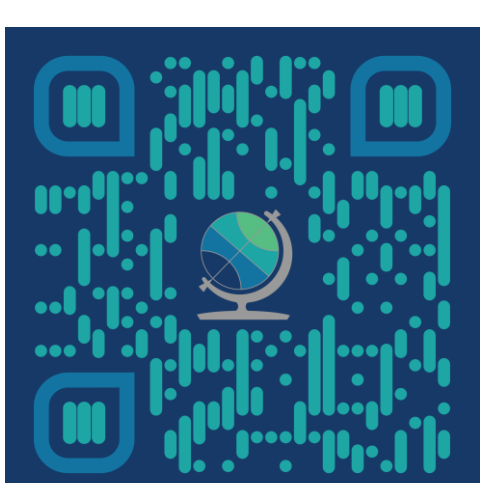
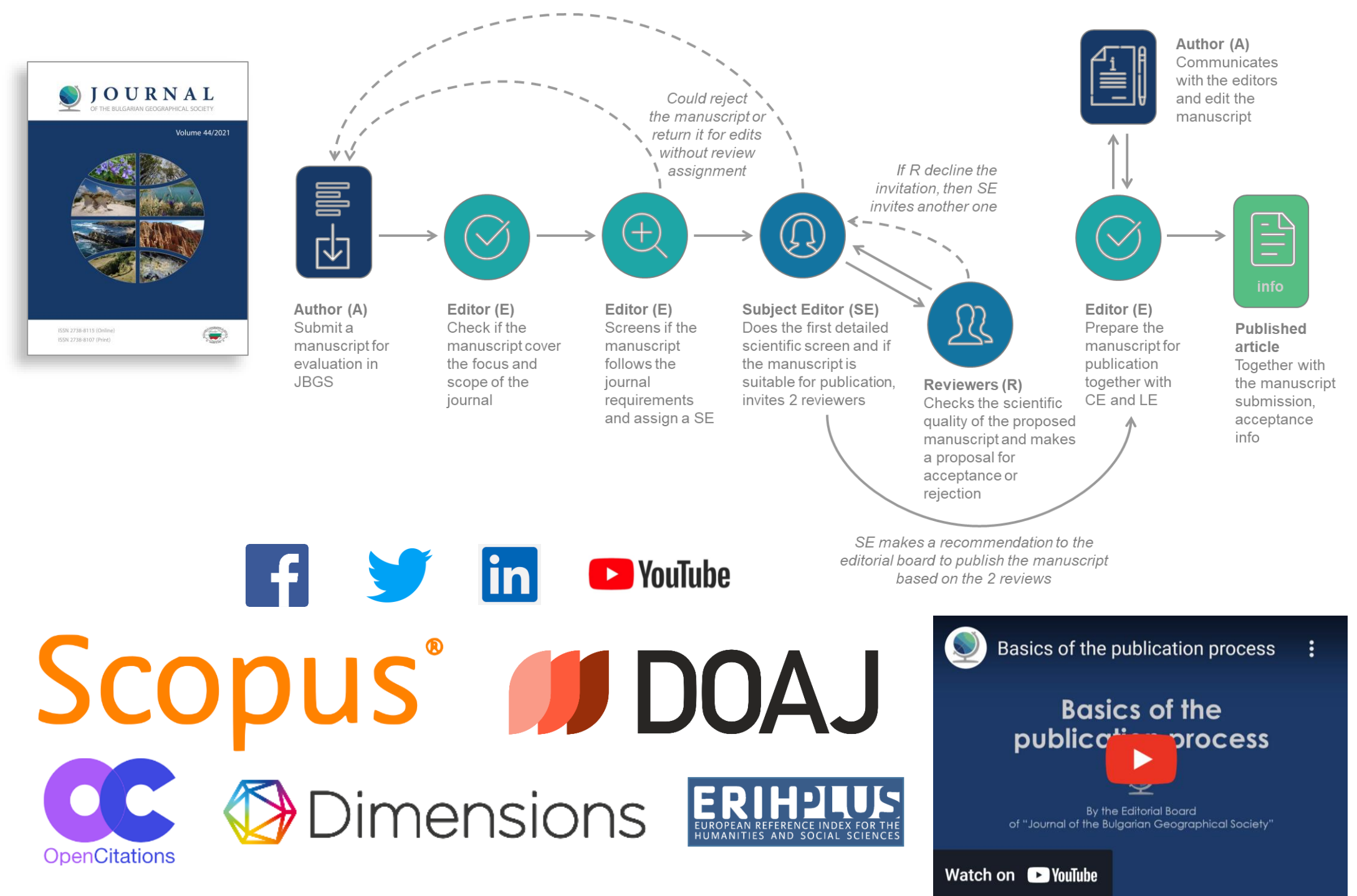
During the long period of its development, it became a **leading journal for publishing scientific results** in geography and related interdisciplinary fields in Bulgaria. The development of JBGS is divided into three periods (b) marked by the political changes that took place in Bulgaria after 1944 and 1989.



Since its establishment in 1933 up to 2020 the **journal has published 913 documents** (f) in different fields of study (c). About 80% of the full texts were published in Bulgarian (e), but most of them have **at least 1 resume or abstract in foreign languages** (d) (Nedkov et al. 2020). Most of the publications during the 1<sup>st</sup> period are of high quality and original research contributions (45%), and in certain cases these publications are pioneering in some areas of geographical science in the country. The share of the research papers rose to almost 60% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> period, but the number of other publications remained high mainly due to the communist propaganda materials. The 3<sup>rd</sup> period started in 2018 with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bulgarian Geographical Society (Nedkov et al. 2021). Although this period is relatively short, publishing has been active and **for the first time in its history the journal managed to publish two issues per year**.

## Current state and future challenges

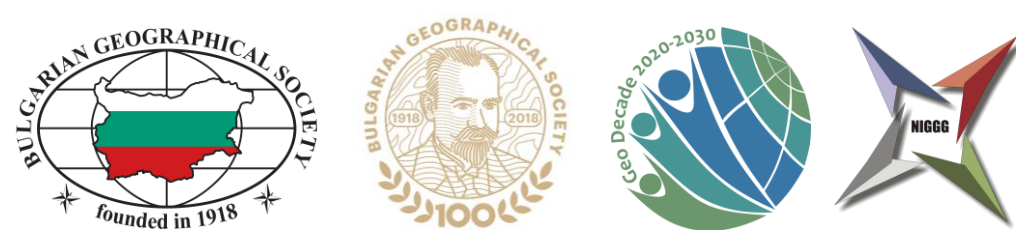
In the autumn of 2020, the editorial team and the executive committee of the Bulgarian Geographical Society **agreed upon a new mission of the journal**. Since 2021 the publishing process runs on Pensoft's next-generation publishing platform ARPHA – a publishing solution that supports the full life cycle of a manuscript, from authoring and reviewing to publishing and dissemination. For the last two years **JBGS transformed into a modern journal** by actively using the social media, helping its users through educational videos and strictly increasing the quality screening of the incoming manuscripts. All of that resulted into **more than 30 indexing databases** in which the JBGS show up. In January 2023 the journal **has been accepted for Scopus indexing**.



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## References

Nedkov S, Prodanova H, Naydenov K (2020) Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society: past, present and future. Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society 43: 107–120. <https://geography.bg/publication/magazines/item/516-vol43-2020-17>

Nedkov S, Pickles J, Naydenov K, Prodanova H (2021) Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society: the new vision and perspectives. Journal of the Bulgarian Geographical Society 44: 3-5. <https://doi.org/10.3897/jbgs.e68981>