

**The Consent of State and the Blessing of Church:
A Case Study on the new Bulgarian Denominations Act¹**

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Abstract:

This paper is an attempt to reveal how the law-making process confronts new problems that arise in the search for pragmatic solutions to state-church relations. The specific case study used is the Denominations Act, adopted by the Bulgarian National Assembly on December 20, 2002,² which serves as an example of a meeting ground for secular and religious politics in post-communist Bulgaria.

Key words: denomination act, Orthodox Church, secularism, postcommunism