

News

International conference is underway in Sofia on the archives of Bulgaria's totalitarian secret service

Sofia is hosting an International Conference "Opening the files of the totalitarian secret services in Bulgaria", BTA reports. The forum is taking place in the context of increasing pressure from the public for access to the archives of the former totalitarian secret services in Bulgaria. The conference was inaugurated by Interior Minister Rumen Petkov and by **European Parliament Member Els de Groen**. Leaders and experts from institutions providing access to the archives of the former totalitarian secret services in Germany, Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Romania will present the laws and practices in their countries. According to Interior Minister Rumen Petkov declassifying the archives of the former State Security should take into account the interests of the Bulgarian state and of its citizens too. He pointed out that within a short period of time 11 archive funds had been opened containing important information. As of Monday these funds will be handed over to the Central State Archives. The Interior Ministry has fulfilled its obligations and has replied to 30,000 applications from citizens, Rumen Petkov told the conference.

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