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## PARTICIPATION OF THE ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE COMMISSION FOR MARKING THE BORDERS OF SERBIA AFTER THE CONGRESS OF BERLIN

**Summary:** The Treaty of Berlin stipulated that the demarcation of Serbia and Bulgaria was to be carried out by an international commission, with the question remaining whether that Commission would mark the Serbian-Turkish border as the marking of this border by an international commission was not addressed anywhere else in the treaty. The decisions of the Congress of Berlin granted Serbia much less territory than expected, although this expansion foresaw an increase by more than a quarter of its territory. The interests of the great powers, including Russia, Austria, and England, diminished the possibility of Serbia expanding its territory to areas that were directly in their sphere of interest. As it turned out during the marking of Serbian borders, the Austro-Hungarian military maps, as the basis for marking the borders of Serbia, were inaccurate and created visible problems for both the Commission for marking borders and the Serbian government. In June 1879, a year after the Commission began its work, a dispute regarding the old border was resolved and, the very next month, the Serbian border was marked. Problems at the Serbian-Bulgarian border around property issues remained to fester as a new focal point for a conflict between the two countries, which would flare up in the coming years.

**Keywords:** Serbia, Italy, borders, diplomacy, marking the borders

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