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Year of Publication: 2018

Ganey, Venelin, [Explaining Eastern Europe: "Soft Decisionism" in Bulgaria](#) [1], Journal of Democracy, Vol. 29, no. 3, 2018, pp. 91-103

The author discusses 'patterns of democratic backsliding' in Eastern Europe, but concentrates primarily on 'constitutional retrogression' in Bulgaria. The article argues that the declining political influence of the middle class has undermined respect for the rule of law, so enabling 'oligarchic networks' to capture key parts of the judiciary, and undermining media independence. Ganey describes Borissov's personalistic form of governing, suggesting this can be conceptualised as 'soft decisionism'.

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[1] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2018/explaining-eastern-europe-soft-decisionism-bulgaria>