

NINO KOPALIANI

THE BREST PEACE CONFERENCE AND THE GERMAN-TURKISH INTERESTS IN CAUCASIA

The 1920s occupy a special place in the history of the international relations of the modern period. At this time the Romanov house fell, the Soviet state was established and strengthened on the former territory of the Russian Empire. Whereas the year 1918 is an important date in the history of Georgia, when Georgia managed to get rid of the Russian political influence.

After the well-known events of October 1917, Russia went out of the World War I and the question of conclusion of a truce treaty was on the agenda. On March 3, 1918, an agreement was signed between Russia and Germany in Brest-Litovsk.

Although Germany was interested in the participation of Georgia in the conference, Georgia failed to send its representative to Brest-Litovsk to defend its interests. This affected the solution of the question linked with Georgia. When the interests of Germany and Turkey clashed over Caucasia, in spite of the strong opposition of the Russian delegation, under the pressure of Germany and its allies, Russia was forced to agree to the ultimatum of the Germans. Paragraph 4 of the Truce Treaty provided that Russian troops must immediately left the districts of Ardagan, Qars and Batumi. These three vilayets were taken away from Georgia and given to Turkey, which was painful and distressing for Georgia.