

**JOSEP SUÑOL AND FC BARCELONA AS AN INSTRUMENT  
OF THE CATALONIAN IDENTITY REPRESENTED  
IN THE BULGARIAN PRESS**

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Abstract

The paper examines the symbiosis between the political emancipation of Catalonia in the frames of the Spanish state in XX century and the transformation of FC Barcelona from a universal football club established by a foreigner into a club with a clearly manifested regional identity. The dynamics of the process are traced out through the study of the personality of Josep Suñol who becomes its catalyst and the way in which his life and death reflect in the historical development of FC Barcelona.

At the same time the paper shows the representation of Suñol in the Bulgarian press – his personality as well as his messages. The aim of the study is to determine to what extent the social and political context in the country and the changes which occurred after 1989 affect the interpretation of the subject in Bulgaria.