Snow cover and snow loading on the territory of Bulgaria

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The climate variations observed in the last decades of 20-th century cause change in regime of rainfall. The snow cover, except an important source of water is one of important factors, that has to be taken into account during design end exploitation of buildings and technical constructions. The analyse of results from measurements of thickness of snow cover in 110 meteorological stations in the whole BulgarianâEURŹs territory during the lasts decades of 20-th century are represented in this paper. A comparison between data from middle of last century and these ones for last its decades is made. The snow loading on horizontal surface for regions with altitude up to the 1200 m is estimated, as the comparison between received new results and this ones for the middle of 20-th century is made. Dividing into districts and new map of snow loading for the territory of Bulgaria is made according to requirements of the European UnionâEURŹs building norms. A comparison between new results and these one used not long ago in Bulgaria buildingâEURŹs norms are made. The analysis that was carried out, show decreasing of snow cover thickens, especially in the last decade of 20-th century. The decreasing of snow loading on the entire territory of Bulgaria, caused by the smaller thickens of snow cover in the last decade of previous century is observed, too. The results of this research are of great importance for building design, architecture and construction industry in Bulgaria. Significance if this fact is bigger in the context of future joining of Bulgaria to the European Union and necessary harmonization of building legislation, which is carried out now in Bulgaria.