THE EVOLUTION OF DOUBLE IRREDENTISM
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE STATE BUILDING PROCESSES IN CYPRUS

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the problem of Cyprus dual irredentism’s evolution. The research conducted reviews the ethnic, international and legal reasons for the island’s secession. The author advances the argument that dual irredentism caused the separatism movement in Cyprus. Realization of the Greek and Turkish idea of Cyprus’ restoration under the framework of maternal states was accompanied by complicated international compromises and the conditions of the Cold War. Perspectives of Cyprus’ development were limited by the opportunities of the donor countries, Greece and Turkey. The conflicting interests that developed in Cyprus was the result of changes on the international stage and the evolution of Cypriot irredentism. These factors contributed significantly not only to Greek-Turkish and other interethnic controversies, but also to the confrontation between Greece and Greek-Cypriots, as well as Turkey and Turkish-Cypriots.

Dual irredentism and its evolution influenced directly the emergence of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. This process created the conditions for the establishment of an unrecognized state on the island. Following Cyprus’ integration into the EU in 2004, the Turkish community of Cyprus has demonstrated a reversible shift in attitude. Turkish Cypriots’ public opinion shifted from viewing official Ankara as a guarantor country to viewing it as a perpetrator of their difficult economic and international situation. Research placed a particular emphasis on the evolution of both Greek and Turkish irredentism. The contradictions and mutual influence of Greek and Turkish irredentism were analyzed in the context of Near-Eastern and Mediterranean regional processes.

Keywords: irredentism, the Cyprus question, unrecognized state, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

The full version of this article is available in Ukrainian.