

The Greek revisionism in the Balkans, 1941 – 1945

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Scientific research has adequately corroborated the contacts between the Balkan states – especially the rebel units – during the Occupation, concerning their future relationships. Particularly, the post-war arrangement of the Macedonian issue and the cooperation of the communist leaders of the peninsula have been studied. However, research – at the level of political and diplomatic history - is not focused on the Greek side's aspirations, as expressed by the exiled Greek government, for the post-war Balkan status quo.

The proposed lecturer concerns about the Greek revisionism, as expressed by the period 1941-1945, regarding the formation of the country's northern borders. Exiled Greek governments promoted their demands, by expressing them to the British mainly, which concerned about the expansion of the Greek borders primarily to the detriment of Bulgaria and Albania, but also to a part of the border with Yugoslavia. Officially, these demands were raised in Paris's Peace Conference in 1946. Nevertheless, it is useful to study what has taken place in order to see how Greece wished to capitalize its partnership with the Allies by promoting its positions on a border revision.

The question that this hypothesis attempts to answer is, if this revision was feasible and whether the Greek claims were part of the Allies' competition for the world's post-war status quo. In this direction, the archives of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Archives are also useful. Even though the existing literature is limited, it is also worthwhile and it can provide information extraction field. Finally, the published archives of the Balkan countries are invoked, but this paper focuses on the Greek claims and not in that from the Balkan countries.

The Greek revision was difficult. The country and the West were competing with the USSR. Not only the expansion of the border was not achieved, but also Greece was called upon to face the North threat in the context of the Balkan division between the western and eastern world.