

Establishment of the Mariupol State University as a Humanities Education and Science Center in the North Pryazovya

Kostyantyn Balabanov (ORCID 0000-0001-7990-5272)
Mariupol State University (Kyiv, Ukraine)

Volodymyr Romantsov (ORCID 0000-0002-9019-4149)
Mariupol State University (Kyiv, Ukraine)

ABSTRACT

The study analyzes issues related to the establishment of Mariupol State University as a Center of humanitarian education and science in the North Pryazovya (the Northern Azov region). The prerequisites for the creation of the Mariupol Humanities College at Donetsk State University, as well as the Mariupol Humanities Institute of DonSU, are highlighted.

The study of the mentioned issue permits to consider the place of the Greek community in the social life of the Azov region, the peculiarities of the Greek mentality formation and the influence of this national and cultural factor on the formation of a higher education humanities institution in Mariupol. The issue of the formation of educational and scientific components in the activities of the Mariupol Humanities Institute is being clarified.

In the article, considerable attention is paid to the study of the Mariupol State University's place in the development of Ukrainian-Greek educational, scientific, cultural ties, various contacts in the humanitarian sphere, various aspects of Hellenistic studies at the institute are analyzed, historical and philological aspects of teachers', post-graduate students' and students' studies are indicated.

Theoretical studies of authoritative foreign and Ukrainian Scientists F. Brodel, Ya. Vermenych, E. D. Smith and others are included in the analysis of the chosen topic. According to the interdisciplinary approach, the article combines elements of regional and sociocultural history.

KEYWORDS

Mariupol State University, Mariupol Humanities College, Mariupol Humanities Institute, Northern Azov Region, historical regional studies.

Introduction

Mariupol State University (MSU) entered the fourth decade of its educational and scientific activity in the Ukrainian North Azov region. In a short time, it quickly made his way to a classical state university, which became widely known not only in Ukraine, but also abroad. The history of the university is inextricably linked with the steppe region of Southeast Ukraine on the coast of the Azov Sea, on the Ukrainian-Russian border, which has a multi-ethnic, multicultural population.

During the past period of its existence (1991 – 2023), Mariupol State University experienced several organizational transformations, which each time provided new, increasingly powerful impulses for its development as a center of humanities education and science in the region with a multicultural population, where Ukrainians, Greeks, Russians, Jews, Tatars, Armenians, Germans and other ethnic communities live near by.

The formation of Mariupol State University and its multifaceted activities were reflected in various scientific and popular science investigations. The historical origins of this higher education institution were discussed in the report of V. Romantsov at the international scientific and practical conference (*Romantsov, 2011*), the article by

V. Romantsov and N. Romantsova (*2020*) about Mariupol City People's University. K. Balabanov and S. Pakhomenko, in their monograph on the national, cultural and social life of the Greeks in Ukraine in the second half of the last century, drew attention to the Greek factor in the formation of the Humanities College in Mariupol. The authors of this monograph also noted that "the university was created without the appropriate material, technical and personnel base, without prestigious specialties and international relations in the conditions of an acute socio-economic crisis in the country in the early 90s of the last century" (*Balabanov, Pakhomenko, 2006: 188*).

Issues related to the establishment of the Mariupol Humanitarian College were covered by V. Romantsov and N. Romantsova (*2020*). K. Balabanov and V. Romantsov analyzed the place of the Mariupol Humanities Institute in the process of Mariupol State University formation (*Balabanov, Romantsov, 2021*).

In his writings, K. Balabanov paid great attention to the development of international relations of the newly established higher education institution in the Northern Azov Region (*Balabanov, 2004, 2009, 2011*). He emphasized that the active international activity of Mariupol

State University became his calling card and an important factor in the development of the university.

A significant number of publications are devoted to Kostyantyn Balabanov, who was rector of Mariupol State University from 1992 to 2020 and made a great contribution to the development of the university. Of particular interest is the collection for his 70th anniversary, which contains essays by well-known Ukrainian and foreign state, public and political figures and scientists of the jubilee against the background of the Mariupol State University development¹.

Numerous documentary sources, materials of particular origin, periodicals held by the university are attached to highlight the problems of the Mariupol State University formation.

Research methods

Research on the establishment of Mariupol State University as a center of humanitarian education and science in the Northern Azov Region is focused on the application of methodological approaches. The history of this higher education institution is connected with the population of the specified region, which has significant ethno-cultural features, and therefore we consider it appropriate to carry out scientific studies on the basis of historical regionalism. An authoritative French scientist of the second half of the 20th century, F. Brodel in this context, drew attention to the fact that "identities permeate the mass of our population and ... are preserved, remaining essential, for each community" for a specific region (*Brodel, 2013: 28*). Such a view gives insight into the peculiarities of the Northern Azov region Greeks' mentality, who played an important role in the establishment of the Mariupol State University.

Ya. Vermenych emphasizes that historical regionalism provides a "methodological key that offers mechanisms for combining macro-, meso-, and micro-approaches in social cognition." According to the scientist, it also creates an opportunity "to observe" the movement of ideas and the formation of identities" (*Vermenych, 2014: 18*). This methodological tool is also needed for the studied topic.

The theoretical approaches of E. D. Smith are directed to the analysis of issues of the national identity formation factors, which must be kept in mind when covering the chosen subject. A British scientist formulated the idea of an "ethnic concept of a nation" with a common origin and native culture (*Smith, 1994*). The Greek community of the Northern Azov region sought to confirm this in the creation of a humanitarian educational institution in Mariupol.

This research aims to analyze the problems of the establishment of Mariupol State University as a center of humanitarian education and science in the Northern Azov region.

Results and Discussion

Analyzing the process of formation of the Mariupol State University, it is necessary to pay attention to the historical conditions of its creation, the formation of the population's ethno-cultural composition, and its educational demands. In its current form, the polyethnic population of the Northern Azov region was formed during the last three centuries from the number of Ukrainians, Greeks, Russians, Tatars, Germans, Jews, Armenians,

and other ethnic communities under quite different civilizational influences. At the end of the 19th – in the first third of the 20th century, in the conditions of active social modernization in Mariupol, which was the cultural center of the Azov region, the intellectual foundations of the Northern Azov region's development were formed.

The communist totalitarian regime established by the Bolsheviks was not interested in the development of humanitaristics in the socio-cultural life of Ukraine. Mariupol was considered a Soviet industrial center – a city of metallurgists, machine builders, and sailors. The Azov Greeks remembered the tragedy of the Stalinist regime's "Greek operation" in 1937-1938, which was part of the great terror. Thousands of innocently killed Greeks left fear in the majority of the living, which was inherited by subsequent generations, and, on the other hand, forced Russification took place in parallel, which was accompanied by powerful communist propaganda, zombing the Greek intelligentsia.

In general, in the Greek community of the Northern Azov Region, which was socially traumatized as a result of the communist regime's criminal policy, a deformed national historical and cultural consciousness was formed. This was manifested in the fact that the majority of Greeks in the Donetsk region simultaneously indicated the Russian language as their native language, but at the same time, most of them did not speak Russian fluently, which corresponded to the reality. In everyday communication, the Greek population of the Northern Azov region was divided into Rumei (Hellenophone Greeks) and Urumi (Turkophone Greeks)² on the basis of language. They lived in various settlements, none of them knew the Greek language, the language of their historical homeland.

Creating a new higher education institution in Mariupol, they tried to correct this historical and cultural deformation. Only in the conditions of the society's democratization, the declaration of Ukraine's independence, the national and cultural revival of ethnic communities, there occurred an opportunity for the development of humanitarian education in the Azov region. The concept of a "humanitarian" educational institution focused on philological-historical and pedagogical training of specialists was taken as a basis. This was also reflected in the names of the higher education institution at various stages of its development: a humanities college, a humanities institute, the state humanities university.

Considerable preparatory work was previously carried out at various levels of central and local government in Ukraine. Academician V. P. Shevchenko, rector of Dnesh State University, actively lobbied for the opening of a humanities college in Mariupol, who borrowed interesting experience by visiting leading universities in the USA. The idea of Volodymyr Pavlovich was supported by Mariupol Mayor Yu. Hotlubey and heads of large enterprises³. The Mariupol City National and Cultural Society of Greeks⁴ also took a similar initiative. N. M. Kiselyova, who at that time

¹ Kostyantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiannya, naukovtsia, diplomata. Mariupol, PrAT «Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi». 2019. 319 p. (In Ukrainian)

² Hreky Pryazovia. URL: https://uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/Греки_Приазов%27я

³ Kostyantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiannya, naukovtsia, diplomata. Mariupol: PrAT «Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi». 2019. P. 50, 52.

⁴ Elliny Ukrainy. 2019. № 3 (March). P.4-5.

worked as the secretary of the Mariupol City Communist Party Committee on Ideology and was a member of the Central Election Commission, actively participated in solving this issue. She promoted the creation of the Mariupol Humanities College at the level of the authorities of Mariupol, Donetsk, and Kyiv: "she convinced the local party members that the house of politpros (political education) should be given to students. She met with the rector of Donetsk State University Volodymyr Shevchenko. She applied to her colleagues at the CEC for help, and they organized a meeting with Ihor Yukhnovskyy, chairman of the Supreme Council Committee of Ukraine on Science and Education"⁵.

On May 31, 1991, by the order of Minister of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the Ukrainian SSR O. Kanyschenko for the purpose of practical implementation of the tasks on implementing the Laws of the Ukrainian SSR on education, on languages, "taking into account the need for personnel support of the national traditions' revival processes, development of national languages, history, culture" in Mariupol Humanities College at Donetsk State University was established as an experiment of humanitarian specialists' two-stage training "in a college-university complex"⁶.

As part of the new educational institution, in accordance with the defined humanitarian concept of its activity, taking into account the educational needs of the multi-ethnic region, two departments were organized: "Philological disciplines" and "Historical and pedagogical disciplines"⁷.

On the basis of the mentioned order of the Minister of June 26, 1991, an important decision of the executive committee of the Mariupol City Council of People's Deputies "On the opening of a humanities college in Mariupol" was made. In this document, it was noted that its opening was due to the "emerging need in the city of Mariupol for pedagogical personnel of the humanitarian profile". To do this, they applied to the city committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, which was still active at the time, with a request to allocate classrooms in the building of the socio-political center, necessary for the organization of the educational process at the college⁸.

In the first year of educational activity of the Mariupol College of Humanities, students were recruited: 25 students at the history faculty, majoring in "History with the Modern Greek language"; in philology – in the specialties "Russian language and literature with the modern Greek language" – 25 people, "Ukrainian language and literature with the modern Greek language" – 25 people, in Romano-Germanic philology in the following specialties "English language and literature with the modern Greek lan-

guage" – 15 people, "German language and literature with Modern Greek" – 10 people⁹.

Taking into account the size and social activity of the Greek population in the Northern Azov Region, all the mentioned specialties were related to the professional study of the Modern Greek language, which was started at the initiative of the Mariupol Society of Greeks¹⁰.

At all stages of the college initial formation, it had comprehensive support from the Donetsk State University. During the first year of its operation, the main staff was mainly formed by the teachers of the Donetsk State University. At the beginning, M. Zakharchenko, candidate of historical sciences, associate professor of the USSR History Department of the DonSU, was appointed acting dean-director of the college and head of the department of historical and pedagogical disciplines from July 1, 1991.

M. Zaitsev, candidate of philological sciences, associate professor of the department of Russian philology, was transferred from Donetsk University to the position of head of the department for philological disciplines of the college, candidate of historical sciences, associate professor of the department of modern and recent history, to fill the staff of the Mariupol Humanities College.

V. Romantsov was invited to the position of associate professor at the Department of Historical and Pedagogical Disciplines. These were the first scientific and pedagogical employees of the college with scientific degrees and academic titles.

A. Khatsieva was accepted as a senior teacher at the philological disciplines department of the college. O. Karyda, who simultaneously worked as a senior teacher at the department of philological disciplines¹¹, was appointed the head of the college educational department. For teaching which disciplines in 1991–1992. The lecturers of the Faculty of History of Donetsk State University, candidate of historical sciences, associate professor L. Shepko and senior lecturer V. Kosikov were invited¹².

Since the college paid special attention to the study of the Modern Greek language, the department of historical and pedagogical disciplines formed a staff of teachers accordingly. M. Tatarynova¹³ was among the first to start teaching in 1991. In 1992, the Greek language for College students began to teach I. Inatova¹⁴, as well as N. Chapni¹⁵ (later headed the Mariupol City Greek Socie-

⁵ «Vsemu svoe vremia» – znaet Nyna Kyseleva, kavalier ordena kniahini Olhy. *Pryazovskiy rabochiy*. 2017.24.10.

⁶ Ministerstvo vyshchoi i serednoi spetsialnoi osvity URSS. Nakaz № 127 vid 31.05.1991 r. «Pro orhanizatsiiu humanitarnoho kolledzhu pry Donetskomu derzhavnomu universyteti». *Archive Fund of the Museum of History and Archeology of Mariupol State University*.

⁷ Donetskyi hosudarstvennyi universytet. Prykaz № 38/05 ot 04.07.1991. "Ob otkrytii kolledzha". *Fund of the Museum of History and Archeology of Mariupol State University*.

⁸ Reshenye yspolnytelnoho komyteta Maiupolskogo horodskogo Soveta narodnykh deputatov "Ob otkrytii v h. Mariupole humanitarnoho kolledzha" ot 26.06.91. № 318. *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

⁹ Donetskyi hosudarstvennyi unyversytet. Prykaz № 38/05 ot 04.07.1991. "Ob otkrytii kolledzha". *Fund of the Museum of History and Archeology of Mariupol State University*.

¹⁰ Mariupolske tovarystvo hrekiv vidsviatkuvalo svii 30-richnyi yuvilei. 07.04.2019. URL. <https://uagreeks.com/archives/4966>

¹¹ Donetskyi hosudarstvennyi universytet. Prykaz № 38/06 ot 04.07.1991. "Ob otkrytii kolledzha". *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

¹² Donetskyi hosudarstvennyi unyversytet. Prykaz 1565/06 ot 10.11.1991. "Po lychnomu sostavu kolledzha". *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

¹³ Donetskyi hosudarstvennyi unyversytet. Prykaz 1386/06 ot 04.10.1991. "Po lychnomu sostavu kolledzha". *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

¹⁴ Mariupolskyi humanytarnyi kolledzh. Prykaz 6 ot 12.10.1992. "Po lychnomu sostavu kolledzha". *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

¹⁵ Mariupolskyi humanytarnyi kolledzh. Prykaz 2 ot 01.10.1992. "Po lychnomu sostavu kolledzha". *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

ty, and became the deputy head of Greek Associates Federation of Ukraine). All named teachers completed special professional training courses at Greek universities. In order to increase the level of proficiency in Modern Greek, they began to invite Greek teachers.

Some teachers from Mariupol schools were hired as college teachers in 1991: G. Kozhukhova, V. Shapovalov, S. Shepitko (later Candidate of Philological Sciences, professor, dean of the Faculty of Greek Philology and Translation) and others. The teaching staff of this educational institution expanded significantly in the 1992/1993 academic year. Along with those who started working at the Department of Historical and Pedagogical Disciplines in the first year of operation, now the deputy director of the college, senior teacher N. Kiselyova, who taught historical local studies and managed local studies practice, teachers of the Modern Greek language joined. On September 1, 1992, O. Bessonov, G. Kutnyakova, and Ye. Nazaryev¹⁶ were accepted as senior teachers of the department of philological disciplines.

In the fall of 1992, 202 students studied at 5 specialties of the Mariupol Humanities College. The educational process was provided by 24 teachers, three of which had the scientific degree of candidate of sciences¹⁷. In 1992, pre-university training courses were created in the college, which provided applicants with assistance in preparing for entrance exams. The school of foreign languages "Polyglot" later joined the preparatory courses. They were an integral part of the college, and later of the Mariupol Humanities Institute of DonSU and the Mariupol State University (*Romantsova, 2020: 109*).

In October 1992, the Mariupol Humanities College at Donetsk University was headed by Kostyantyn Balabanov, rector of the Mariupol State University from 1992 to 2020. Almost three decades of his activity as the head of our higher education institution were marked by a powerful breakthrough in organizational, educational and scientific issues of the university's development. In a historically short period of time, the unknown Mariupol College of Humanities at DonSU rapidly rose to the status of a state university, turned into a modern scientific, educational and cultural center of Donetsk region, gained recognition in Ukraine and abroad.

The first step towards this was taken in August 1993, when the humanities college was reorganized into the Mariupol Humanities Institute of the Donetsk State University by a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine¹⁸. The opening of the institute took into account the acute shortage of humanitarians in the industrial region, as well as the fact that the largest Greek diaspora in the CIS lives in the southeastern part of the country. Mariupol Humanities Institute, training highly qualified specialists in humanitarian professions, gradually became the center of harmonious development of all ethnic groups living in the multinational Azov region, the center of the development of Hellenism in Ukraine.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Kolichestvennyie pokazateli rosta Mariupolskoho humanitarnoho instytutu za 1991–1996 hody. *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

¹⁸ Postanova Kabinetu Ministriv Ukrainy vid 13.08.1993 № 646 «Pro vdoskonalennia merezhi vyshchykh navchalnykh zakladiv». Fund of the Museum of History and Archeology of Mariupol State University.

In the jubilee edition dedicated to the 70th anniversary of K. Balabanov, it was stated that the Mariupol Humanities Institute was considered an important stage on the way to "building a modern competitive university"¹⁹.

In 1993, the first recruitment of students to Mariupol State University took place, the competition was 1.7 people per place. 18 medalists were enrolled (*Balabanov, 2004: 34*). At the beginning of the institute's activity, 393 students studied there, 40 teachers worked²⁰.

Students received professional training according to the curricula of the Donetsk State University, and it was assumed that after graduation they would receive university diplomas (*Balabanov, Romantsov, 2022: 183*). In 1996, the first graduation of specialists trained at the Moscow State University took place. 84 students of the institute received diplomas of the new institution of higher education (*Balabanov, 2004: 92*).

The humanities institute developed successfully. The organizational educational and scientific structure of Mariupol State University was actively formed. In 1994, the Faculty of Philology was established. In 1996, 4 faculties (in addition to philology as well as economics and law, history and foreign languages) were already working at Mariupol State University, 9 specialties were opened. In 1996, correspondence education was started at the institute²¹. On September 1, 1999, the faculty of correspondence studies was established²².

Mariupol Humanities Institute was founded in the multi-ethnic region of the Ukrainian Azov region, where a large Greek community lived, which sought to preserve its national culture and was interested in developing broad ties with the historical homeland. "It is natural that the Motherland of the Hellenes is Greece, which hospitably opens its doors to the institute, which, among other things, contributed in every possible way to the preservation, development and spread of Hellenism on the territory of Ukraine"²³. Already in July 1994, Mariupol Humanities Institute received humanitarian aid from Greece, which included some equipment for educational activities, as well as various office supplies²⁴.

In 1994, cooperation agreements were signed between the Mariupol Humanities Institute and the leading Greek universities – Athens, Ioannina and Thessaloniki. MGI took part in joint projects with the named universities. With the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the "Jason" program was developed. Every

¹⁹ Kostyantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiannya, naukovtsia, dyplomata. Mariupol: PrAT «Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi», 2019. P. 213.

²⁰ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi humanitarnyi universytet. Fotoahentstvo Dembytskoho, 2005. S. 4.

²¹ Istorycheskaia spravka Mariupolskoho humanitarnoho instytutu Donetskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department, 1997. Pages 5, 6, 7.*

²² Mariupolskyi humanitarnyi instytut Donetskoho derzhavnoho unyversytetu. Nakaz № 99. 30.08.1999. Z osnovnoi diialnosti. *Archive of Mariupol State University.*

²³ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi universytet: vid zasnovannia do sohodennia. Kostyantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiannya, naukovtsia, dyplomata. Mariupol: PrAT «Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi», 2019. S. 213.

²⁴ Akty o pryeme humanytarnoi pomoshchy yz Hretsyy. Maryupol 5.07.1994; 21.07.1994. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department, 1994.*

year dozens of teachers and students of Mariupol State University participated in educational, scientific, cultural internships in Greece on preferential terms²⁵.

At the end of February 1996, the department of classical philology and Hellenism was separated from the department of history and socio-political disciplines²⁶. In 1996, the specialty "Modern Greek language and literature" was created, and during the first year of its existence, more than 80 students studied the Modern Greek language²⁷. The quality of modern Greek language teaching was provided by teachers who completed a one-year internship in Greece²⁸.

In 1996, the Consulate General of the Republic of Greece was opened in Mariupol, thanks to the efforts of the Federation of Greek Associations of Ukraine, as well as the rector of the Mariupol State University. As part of the agreement with the Center for the Development and Study of Greek Culture in the Black Sea Countries, the Secretariat of the Center for Greek Education was opened on the basis of the Mariupol State University, which helped to the development of the Greek language and culture in Mariupol and the surrounding areas. The Center's library was created, modern Greek language courses were offered, and opportunities for educational and methodological work were provided²⁹.

In 1997, the Mariupol Humanities Institute was recognized in Ukraine and Greece as a leading center for learning the Modern Greek language, reviving the culture and spirituality of the Greeks of Ukraine, and strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two countries. In December 1997, for the first time, the head of a foreign state – the President of Greece, Konstantinos Stephanopoulos, visited the higher education institution of the Donetsk region, who gave a high assessment of the institute's activities in training highly qualified specialists, strengthening friendly ties between the Ukrainian and Greek peoples³⁰.

In the 1990s, Mariupol State University became a scientific center for the study of Hellenism and issues of Ukrainian-Greek cooperation. In the specified period, historians of the institute, who began to highlight the issue of Hellenism, became particularly active in these studies. One of the first to achieve a scientific result in this case was I. S. Ponomaryova, who worked at the department of historical and pedagogical disciplines since 1994, and in 1997 defended her PhD thesis on the subject "Ethnic specificity of the spiritual culture of the Greeks in the

Ukrainian Azov Region" and continued her studies on this issue³¹. Since 2017, she has been working as a professor at the Language and Humanities Department No. 3 of the Donetsk Medical University³².

In 1997, after the successful defense of a candidate's thesis devoted to the Greeks of the Northern Azov region after their resettlement as from the Crimea, A. Gedo began working at the department of historical disciplines of Mariupol State University. From October 1998 to April 1999, she was a scholarship holder of the Alexander Onassis Charitable Foundation (Greece)³³ (nowadays Anna Volodymyrivna is a Doctor of Historical Sciences, professor, head of the Department of History of Ukraine at the Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University)³⁴.

In 1996, after graduating from Mariupol State University, S. Novikov and S. Pakhomenko were admitted to the postgraduate program at the Institute of History of Ukraine, among the first graduates of the "History with Modern Greek" specialty. In the early 2000s, they successfully defended their PhD theses (*Novikova, 2005; Pakhomenko, 2003*). Nowadays, they work as associate professors at the departments of the Faculty of History at the Mariupol State University.

Close scientific ties were established with the "Cabinet of Ukrainian-Greek Relations" department of the Institute of History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, which was established in 1993 under the leadership of the candidate of historical sciences, senior researcher Nataliya Oleksiyivna Terentieva³⁵. On the basis of this department, our first graduate students were trained, and joint scientific events were held.

In May 1993, an international scientific and practical conference "Donbas and the Azov region: problems of social, national and spiritual development" was held on the basis of Mariupol Humanities Institute. In October 1993, the humanities institute acted as a co-organizer of the international scientific and practical conference "Ukraine - Greece: History and Modernity", which was held in Kyiv by the Institute of the History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

In May 1996, the Mariupol Humanities Institute at the state level under the auspices of the Ministry of Education of Ukraine, with the participation of Ukrainian scientists from the Institute of National Relations and Political Science at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of the History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Donetsk State University, as well as Greek scientists from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki held an international scientific and practical conference "Ukraine – Greece: experience of friendly relations and prospects for cooperation". At the plenary session of the conference, the Deputy Prime

²⁵ Informatsyonnaia spravka o deiatelnosti Mariupolskoho humanitarnoho ynstytuta Donetskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 1994, page 1.

²⁶ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi universytet. URL. https://uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mariupolskyi_derzhavnyi_universytet

²⁷ Istorycheskaia spravka Mariupolskoho humanitarnoho instytuta Donetskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 1997, page 1.

²⁸ Informatsyonnaia spravka o deiatelnosti Maryupolskoho humanitarnoho ynstytuta Donetskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 1994, page 3.

²⁹ Istorycheskaia spravka Maryupolskoho humanitarnoho instytuta Donetskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 1997, page 1.

³⁰ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi humanitarnyi universytet. Fotoahentstvo Dembytskoho, 2005. S. 4.

³¹ Lyman Ihor (comp.). *Doslidnyky istorii Pivdennoi Ukrainy: biobibliohrafichniy dovidnyk*. Kyiv, 2013. Tom 1. P. 286.

³² <https://iryna-ponomaryova.org/%D0%B3%D0%BE-%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BD%D0%B0/>

³³ Lyman Ihor (comp.). *Doslidnyky istorii Pivdennoi Ukrainy: biobibliohrafichniy dovidnyk*. Kyiv, 2013. Tom 1. P. 94.

³⁴ Fakultet suspilno-humanitarnykh nauk. Hedo Anna Volodymyrivna. URL. <https://iff.kubg.edu.ua/pro-fakultet/kafedry/2016-06-15-08-17-32/sklad/583-no-name.html>

³⁵ Terentieva Nataliia Oleksiivna. URL.

https://uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terentieva_Nataliia_Oleksiivna.

Minister of Ukraine for Humanitarian Affairs, academician I. Kuras, delivered a report³⁶.

In 1999, the scientific and practical conference "Ukraine – Greece: historical heritage and prospects for cooperation" was attended by the Minister of Education of Ukraine V. Zaychuk, the Minister of Education and Religion of Greece G. Arsenis and more than 300 leading scientists of Ukraine, Greece, Georgia. The conference contributed to the expansion of scientific, educational and cultural ties between Ukraine and Greece³⁷.

In 2002, the faculty of Greek philology³⁸ was established at Mariupol Humanities Institute, taking into account the peculiarity of its activities related to the training of specialists in Modern Greek language and literature, in large-scale cooperation with Greece. It was the first and only faculty among Ukrainian universities³⁹. Two departments were created there: Greek philology and Greek language and translation⁴⁰. The institute has the largest library of Hellenistic studies in Ukraine, "Konstantinos Levendis"⁴¹.

During the existence of Mariupol Humanities Institute, a modern material and technical and educational and methodological base of the higher education institution was created. A team of professionals – scientific and pedagogical workers and employees – was formed in the institute. Over the course of 12 years, 2,027 people received specialist diplomas at Mariupol Humanities Institute⁴².

The large-scale, multidisciplinary activity of the Mariupol Humanities Institute contributed to the fact that in 2004 it received the status of the Mariupol State Humanities University⁴³.

Conclusions

The scientific development of the mentioned subject proves that the establishment of the Mariupol State University as a center of humanitarian education and science in the Northern Azov region took place in the conditions of the independent Ukrainian state establishment and the

national and cultural revival of ethnic communities living on Ukrainian lands, in particular, in the Azov region.

The first stages of MDI (Mariupol Humanities College, Mariupol Humanities Institute) development were the time of improving its concept, formation of organizational, educational and scientific components, establishment of international relations. During this period, the main aspects of the new higher education institution's activity were focused on the realization of educational, scientific and cultural interests of the ethnic communities which inhabit the Northern Azov region, in particular, the Greek community.

From the very beginning, from the creation of the Mariupol Humanities College of the Donetsk State University, emphasis was placed on the study of modern Greek language. After the creation of the Mariupol Humanities Institute at the DonDU, the leading direction of its activity was active relations with Greek universities, state institutions, the development of Hellenistic studies, holding large-scale international scientific and practical conferences.

This focus was supported by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, local self-government bodies in Mariupol, as well as scientific institutions – the Institute of History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Institute of National Relations and Political Science, and since 1997 the Institute of Political and Ethnonational Studies at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Greek universities, government institutions, foundations and public organizations actively participated in this. The teachers, post-graduate students and students of Mariupol Humanities Institute widely used the opportunities of scientific, educational and cultural internship in Greece.

The development of the Mariupol Humanities Institute was supported by the Donetsk State University, the Consulate General of the Republic of Greece in Mariupol, the Federation of Greek Societies of Ukraine and local Greek societies in the settlements of the Donetsk region. All this determined the success of MHI in various fields of its activity and determined good opportunities for its further development.

The processes of the Mariupol State University formation as a center of humanitarian education and science in the Northern Azov region, noted in the survey, took place mainly during the 1990s – early 2000s. In the future, this higher education institution significantly expanded the scope of its educational and scientific activities at the expense of historical and philological Ukrainian studies, legal, economic, cultural sociological studies, development of international relations issues and others.

Strategic plans for the development of this higher education institution in Mariupol were implemented, taking into account the peculiarities of the historical and cultural development of the Azov region. Mariupol State University was founded on the basis of MDSU, which is the only classical university in the Donetsk region and one of the leading centers of cooperation between Ukraine and foreign countries in the field of education, science and culture. The following periods of its educational and scientific activities development during the 2000s require separate coverage.

REFERENCES

- Balabanov, K. V. (2009). Mezhdunarodnaia deiatel'nost' Mariupolskogo gosudarstvennogo humanitarnogo universiteta: formula uspekha. Donetsk. 448 s. (In Russian)

³⁶ Istorycheskaia spravka Maryupolskoho humanitarnoho ynstytuta Donetskoho hosudarstvennogo universyteta. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 1997, page 4.

³⁷ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi humanitarnyi universytet. Fotoahentstvo Dembytskoho, 2005. S. 4.

³⁸ Mariupolskyi humanitarnyi instytut Donetskoho derzhavnoho universytetu. Nakaz № 66. 28.08.2002. Z osnovnoi diialnosti. *Archive of Mariupol State University*.

³⁹ Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi universytet. URL: https://uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mariupolskyi_derzhavnyi_universytet

⁴⁰ Mariupolskyi humanitarnyi instytut Donetskoho derzhavnoho universytetu. Nakaz № 69. 02.09.2002. Z osnovnoi diialnosti. Arkhiv MDU.

⁴¹ Zvernennia rektoriv DonNU V. P. Shevchenka ta MHI DonNU K. V. Balabanova do Ministra osvity i nauky Ukrainy V. H. Kremenia pro pidtrymu klopotannia shchodo nadannia Mariupolskomu humanitarnomu instytutu Donetskoho derzhavnoho universytetu statusu universytetu ta pereimenuvannia MHI v Mariupolskyi derzhavnyi humanitarnyi universytet. *Archive of Mariupol State University. General Department*, 2004.

⁴² Zvernennia rektoriv DonNU V. P. Shevchenka ta MHI DonNU K. V. Balabanova...

⁴³ Kabinet Ministriv Ukrainy. Rozporiadzhennia vid 17 chervnia 2004 roku № 401-r Pro utvorennia Mariupolskoho derzhavnoho humanitarnoho universytetu.

- Balabanov, K. V. (2011). Mizhnarodna dijialnist Mariupolskoho derzhavnoho universytetu: dosvid uprovadzhennia innovatsiinoi modeli. Pedahohichniy protses: teoriia i praktyka, 1, 6–17. (In Ukrainian)
- Balabanov, K. V. (2004). Ukrayna – Hretsyia: s liuboviu v serdtshe: vystupleniia, statii, interviu, razmyshleniia. Donetsk. 504 s. (In Russian)
- Balabanov, K. V., Pakhomenko, S. P. (2006). Natsionalno-kulturne ta hromadske zhyttia hrekiv Ukrainy v druhi polovyni XX– na pochatku XXI stolittia. Mariupol. 260 p. (In Ukrainian)
- Balabanov, K. V., Romantsov, V. M. (2022). Mariupolskyi humanitarnyi instytut: z istorii stanovlennia MDU (1993 – 2004 rr.) (p. 182 – 185). Aktualni problemy nauky ta osvity: Zbirnyk materialiv XXIV pidsumkovo naukovo-praktychnoi konferentsii vykladachiv MDU. Mariupol, MDU. (In Ukrainian)
- Braudel, F. (2013). The Identity of France. Space and history. [Trans. from Fr.]. Kyiv, Zhupansky Publishing. (In Ukrainian)
- Hedo, A.V. (1997). Hreky Pivnichnoho Pryazovia (1778–1785 rr.): avtoref. dys. ... kand. ist. nauk. Donetsk. 24 s. (In Ukrainian)
- Novikova, S.V. (2005). Vnesok hrekiv v ekonomichni rozvytok Pivnichnoho Pryazovia (seredyna XIX – pochatok XX st.): avtoref. dys. ... kand. ist. nauk. Kyiv, Instytut istorii Ukrainy NANU. 19 s. (In Ukrainian)
- Pakhomenko, S. P. (2003). Kulturnyi rozvytok hretskoi spilnoty Ukrainy u druhi polovyni XX stolittia.: avtoreferat dys... kand. ist. nauk. Kyiv. 22 s. (In Ukrainian)
- Ponomarova, I.S. (1997). Etnichna spetsyfika dukhovnoi kultury hrekiv ukrainskoho Pryazovia: avtoref. dys. ... kand. ist. nauk. Kyiv, 20 s. (In Ukrainian)
- Romantsov, V. (2011). Mariupolskyi miskyi narodnyi universytet (pp. 135–136). Istorychni vytoky MDU. Nauka ta osvita v suchasnomu universyteti v konteksti mizhnarodnoho spivrobotnytstva : zbirnyk materialiv mizhnarodnoi naukovo-praktychnoi konferentsii (23–25 travnia 2011 r.). Mariupol. (In Ukrainian)
- Romantsov, V. (2019). Vyprobuvannia chasom: rektor MDU Kostiantyn Vasylovych Balabanov (pp. 120–123). In: Kostiantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiiany, naukovtsia, dyplomata. Mariupol, PrAT "Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi»". (In Ukrainian)
- Romantsov, V., Romantsova, N. (2020a). Mariupolskyi humanitarnyi koledzh – pochatok istorii MDU (pp. 108 – 111). Ukraina u svitovomu istorychnomu prostori: zb. materialiv Vseukr. nauk.-prakt. konf., Mariupol, 24.04.2020. Mariupol, MDU. (In Ukrainian)
- Romantsov, V., & Romantsova, N. (2020). The Mariupol Local Public University during 1917-1920-s: Historical Overview in the Context of Modern Methodological Approaches. Skhid, (4(168), 10–14. [https://doi.org/10.21847/1728-9343.2020.4\(168\).210738](https://doi.org/10.21847/1728-9343.2020.4(168).210738)
- Shevchenko, V. (2019). Schastlyvaia sudba i vysokoe prednaznachenye Konstantyna Balabanova (p. 48–54). In: Kostiantyn Balabanov: zhyttievyi shliakh osvitiiany, naukovtsia, dyplomata. Mariupol, PrAT «Hazeta «Pryazovskiy robochyi»». (In Russian)
- Smith, Entoni D. (1994). Natsionalna identychnist (Transl. from Eng.) Kyiv, Osnovy. 224 s. (In Ukrainian)
- Vermenych, Ya. V. (2014). Istorychna rehionalistyka. Kyiv, Instytut istorii Ukrainy NANU. 412 p. (In Ukrainian)
- Vermenych, Ya. V. (2007). Nova lokalna istoriya ta istorychna rehionalistyka: eksplikatsiya terminiv. *Rehionalna istoriya Ukrainy: Zb. nauk. st.* Issue 1, 13–28 (In Ukrainian).

Становлення Маріупольського державного університету як центру гуманітарної освіти та науки у Північному Приазов'ї

Костянтин Балабанов (ORCID 0000-0001-7990-5272)

Маріупольський державний університет (Київ, Україна)

Володимир Романцов (ORCID 0000-0002-9019-4149)

Маріупольський державний університет (Київ, Україна)

У дослідженні аналізуються питання щодо становлення Маріупольського державного університету як центру гуманітарної освіти і науки Північного Приазов'я. Висвітлюються передумови створення Маріупольського гуманітарного коледжу при Донецькому державному університеті, а також Маріупольського гуманітарного інституту ДонДУ.

Вивчення зазначеного питання дозволяє розглянути місце грецької спільноти в суспільному житті приазовського регіону, особливості формування грецького менталітету та вплив цього національно-культурного чинника на становлення гуманітарного закладу вищої освіти у Маріуполі. З'ясовується питання про формування освітнього та наукового компонентів у діяльності Маріупольського гуманітарного інституту.

У статті значну увагу приділено дослідженню місця МГІ у розвитку україно-грецьких освітніх, наукових, культурних зв'язків, різноманітних контактів у гуманітарній сфері, аналізуються різні аспекти елліністичних досліджень в інституті, зазначено історичні та філологічні напрямки студій викладачів, аспірантів та студентів.

До аналізу обраної теми долучені теоретичні студії авторитетних зарубіжних та українських вчених Ф. Броделя, Я. Верменич, Е. Д. Сміта та інших. Згідно з міждисциплінарним підходом у статті поєднані елементи регіональної та соціокультурної історії.

Ключові слова: Маріупольський державний університет, Маріупольський гуманітарний коледж, Маріупольський гуманітарний інститут, Північне Приазов'я, історична регіоналістика.

Received (Надійшла до редакції): 12.05.2023,

Accepted (Прийнята до друку): 21.06.2023

Available online (Опубліковано онлайн) 30.06.2023