

## SPATIAL-TEMPORAL ASPECTS OF TOPOONYMY DECOMMUNIZATION IN THE CITY OF KYIV

Oleksiy Gnatiuk

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv  
ORCID: 0000-0003-1818-2415

Anatoliy Melnychuk

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv  
ORCID: 0000-0003-4419-1446

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**Abstract.** The article deals with the temporal and spatial patterns of the toponymy decommunization process in Kyiv during 1989-2018. The uneven intensity of the post-socialist toponymic transformation, manifested in the form of four specific waves of decommunization, is clearly conditioned by the background political process. The genetic and semantic structures of the new toponymy, as well as locational patterns, reveal the priority of certain historical contexts as constituents of contemporary national ideology. The toponymy, resulting directly from the decommunization process, has expressed ideological burden comparing with the other place names; in particular, it emphasizes the memory of Ukrainian statesmen and condemns the Soviet communist regime. Increased concentration of ideologically-colored place names, reflecting actual historical memory policy and approaches to constructing a new national identity, confirms the importance of the historic center of Kyiv in the urban symbolic space. The status of a street as a primary or a secondary also influences the toponymic policy. Despite the similarity of the toponymic process to the neighboring cities in the northern and central right-bank Ukraine, Kyiv has developed a distinctive model of toponymic policy due to its capital status.

**Key words:** toponymy, renaming of streets, decommunization, Kyiv, historical memory policy

The full version of this article is available in Ukrainian.

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