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Inter-Korean Dialogue and the Korean Denuclearization and Unification Issue During the Cold War (Through Bulgarian Archives)

(Abstract)

The study of the Inter-Korean relations during the Cold war period could show us clearly that none of the presently existing problems that are put on the table of negotiations are new. Exactly the opposite, most of them have been already a matter of discussion and negotiations as well as different strategies for solving of the core issue, the one of the possible Korean reunification has been explored, developed and negotiated again during the Cold war period. That's why studying of that period is critically important if we would like to understand and foreseen the current development of the problem as well as the chances for its positive progress. The paper traces the different stages and all the circumstances and different factors of the InterKorean dialogue during the Cold war period. The dialogue is related with two main points of discussion the one of the demilitarization and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula as a precondition of the other key issue of the Inter-Korean dialogue, the one about the possibilities and the way for future Korean Reunification. The issue about the Korean unification has been viewed from the prospective of Bulgaria during the Cold war but through the prism of the PDRK-ROK relations. The study has been made entirely on unpublished archival primary documents from different collections and funds of the Bulgarian State Archives and the archive of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry. Some of the documents are part of the Funds of the

Archive of Bulgarian Communist Party that are again preserved within the Bulgarian Archives State Agency (ASA).