

ABSTRACT. Medvedchuk Nataliya, *Wkład chrześcijaństwa w formowanie idei jedności europejskiej oraz udział Kościoła w procesach eurointegracyjnych: współczesny stan i kierunki naukowych badań problemu* [The contribution of Christianity to building an idea of the European unity and the role of the Church in the integration processes – the contemporary condition and directions of research]. *O wielowymiarowości badań religioznawczych* [On multidimensionality of the research of religion] edited by Z. Drozdowicz – „Człowiek i Społeczeństwo” vol. XXIX, Poznań 2009, pp. 59-69. Adam Mickiewicz University Press. ISBN 978-83-232-1972-9. ISSN 0239-3271.

The participation of the Church in the formation of the idea of European unity and in the evolution of European integration, as well as in the process of becoming a multinational UE, is studied by scholars from several perspectives. Theologians study this problem from the point of view of Catholic social teaching. The principles of international politics of Vatican – including international relations between Vatican and individual members of the EU as well as the EU as a whole – as outlined in the Catholic doctrine, contain peculiar social ethics, a Catholic approach to human rights and peace missions and to the functioning of a democratic society. A slightly different kind of analysis of direct initiatives taken by the Holy See has been made from the point of view of political science. Political scientists talk about political significance and objectives of the Catholic Church in a united Europe, as well as about the conception of ecumenism.

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