

**THE CESSION OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS TO GREECE, 1862-4:
IMPERIALISM, NATIONALISM, AND BRITISH
ADMINISTRATION**

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Abstract: The reading of the events that preceded the cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece and the motives that guided Britain's political leadership has associated the decision of 1862-1864 with the broader debate about imperialism and separatism, British administration in a dependency and the principle of nationality. Two particular points of the whole issue will be discussed here: to what extent and how successfully was the case of the Ionian Islands related to contemporary debates about Britain's imperial policy and the national movement in continental Europe; furthermore, whether the reaction to the cession of the Ionian Islands affected British opinions on the Greek kingdom and the Greek nation.

Keywords: Ionian Islands; British Protectorate; cession to Greece; imperialism; nationalism

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