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### THE CATALAN CRISIS: SCENARIOS OF SOLUTION

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Public opinion about the future of an independent Catalonia may be very ambiguous. One of the most controversial topics was the economic issue. On the one hand, Catalonia will manage its own national resources. However, other experts do not rule out the negative development of events for the Catalan economy when it decides to separate. [1]

There are several possible solutions to the Catalan crisis. The first option – the reform of the constitution that is proposed by the socialists. From a legal point of view, this is the most acceptable way out of the situation. According to the current Basic Law, Spain is a state of autonomies in which the central government delegates a certain part of its power to local authorities. If Spain becomes a federal state, which freely includes various regions, which also have the right to leave the country, then the state will receive sovereignty from them. Such a reform will obviously be supported by other «historical nationalities» of Spain – Galicians, Basques, Valencians, Balearics and Andalusians [2].

Several Catalan political parties are insisting on the second option – holding a referendum. Anyway, there is one big difficulty: how should the question put to the referendum be formulated? The most determined politicians say that the question should be «do you want independence from Spain?», but not everyone supports such formulation. More moderate circles suggest asking citizens whether they want to preserve or change the current model of the state [3].

The third option is advocated by some circles. This scenario includes that Catalonia remains part of Spain, but receives special rights in the tax, educational and cultural spheres, as well as having its own representation in international organizations [4].

In the coming years, another scenario seems much more likely: maintaining the status quo or modifying the legal statues of the autonomies within the framework of the current constitution. The relations between the center and the regions will develop in the logic of the single Spanish nation and the indivisibility of its sovereignty, fixed by the constitution [5]. In such a scenario, the central government will have to constantly deal with manifestations of separatist sentiments of some elites.

**Conclusions.** The resolution of ethnopolitical conflicts in the Kingdom of Spain depends on the consolidation of all political forces. All three scenarios for solving the Catalan crisis are actively discussed within political elites and ordinary citizens. The future of Spain depends on a consensus between all parts of society.

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