

Abstracts and Keywords

Vladimir KONDRATEV

THE FUTURE OF FINANCIAL CAPITALISM

Abstract. *The financial capitalism has largely determined the direction of economic and social development in the last four decades. Addressing key aspects of financial capitalism, the author reviews its impacts on macroeconomic and social indicators, and its potential for transformation. Finance-dominated capitalism and financialization of all aspects of social life can stifle economic growth, favor capital at the expense of labor and the state, undermine democracy, increase inequality and cause economic and social instability. Politically, financial capitalism is underpinned by the imperative of neoliberalism. This flawed model of development and the deregulation of the financial system have inevitably led to crisis. Instead of deregulation, today's capitalism needs regulation to coordinate and guide the market economy to ensure broader and longer term interests.*

Keywords: *financial capitalism, financialization, neoliberalism, economic crisis, social instability, transformation of capitalism.*

Anton KRUTIKOV

“SOME DEPUTIES HESITATED UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT.” ON THE ROAD TO UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

Abstract. *The reluctant alliance between Ukrainian nationalists and the Communist Party and economic nomenklatura in August 1991 was one of the key factors in the declaration of Ukrainian independence. The Ukrainian political class preserved its monolithic character, which was reflected in the decorative and mostly formal changes that took place in the country after 1991. Instead of a profound transformation of the political system and structure of the political power, Ukrainian society received essentially the same set of institutions, political practices and actors. Personal interests of Ukrainian elites, guided by the instinct for self-preservation, played a decisive role.*

Keywords: *Ukraine, the USSR, GKChP coup, party nomenklatura, Ukrainian elites, Ukrainian independence, Ukrainian nationalism.*

Ekaterina NAROCHNITSKAYA**THE IDEOLOGICAL LEGACY OF CHARLES DE GAULLE. II. NATIONAL PARADIGM. PART 1. AN UNDERSTANDING OF NATIONAL REALITIES**

Abstract. *The national credo of Ch. de Gaulle went far beyond patriotism, a romantically providential image of France, the principles of French independence and “greatness”. The «last great Frenchman» had his own in-depth understanding of national dimension in history, which in his typical way synthesized existing concepts and doctrines, while rejecting extremes, reductionism and absolutization. Being a doer of history and not a desk theorist, the founder of the Fifth Republic did not seek to formalize his reflections in abstract terms. Yet, his systemic approach to the national dimension within his political philosophy contains a substantial theoretical message. The author explores key elements of de Gaulle’s national idea, his views on the French nation’s genesis, identity and evolution, on political and cultural role of nationhood, on prospects for nation states and other.*

Keywords: *Ch. de Gaulle, Gaullism, de Gaulle’s political philosophy, France, theories of nation, understanding of nationhood, national idea, nationalism, national identity, French identity, future of nations.*

Ekaterina NAROCHNITSKAYA**THE IDEOLOGICAL LEGACY OF CHARLES DE GAULLE. II. NATIONAL PARADIGM. PART 2. A CONCEPT OF FRANCE’S GREATNESS**

Abstract. *The imperative of France’s grandeur was one of de Gaulle’s national idea essential elements which is as widely known as it is often misinterpreted. Although such classical vocabulary was disappearing from European political discourse, the founder of Gaullism used the notion of greatness strongly rooted in French political culture as a mobilizing symbolic force for meeting crucial domestic challenges. The motive of greatness was also closely linked with the principles of France’s autonomy and global responsibility, on which de Gaulle pivoted the positioning of the Fifth Republic in the post-war world.*

All this conflicted with the supranational Euro-Atlantic project, which was the main reason for the sharp negativism against de Gaulle’s strategy and rhetoric, accused of “archaic thinking” by his opponents. In fact, the “last great Frenchman’s” concept of “greatness” was quite unorthodox in its reasoning and content, which are of particular interest as part of his relevant ideological legacy. Instead of axiomatic superiority, restoration of former power, civilizing mission, he insisted on the importance of high goal setting, vast undertakings and historical actorness, which were in de Gaulle’s view the existential imperative of French history.

Keywords: *Ch. de Gaulle, Gaullism, national idea, foreign policy thinking, idea of greatness, “greatness of France”, politics of grandeur /greatness.*

Yury TAVROVSKIY**RUSSIAN-CHINESE TREATIES: MILESTONES AND ZIGZAGS OF HISTORY. I. FROM THE 17TH CENTURY TO WORLD WAR II**

Abstract. *The relations between Russia and China were recorded in numerous documents, among which treaties were of particular value. Some of them were gradually becoming outdated, others were denounced after several years, but some remained quite relevant for decades. As documents of the highest international legal level leaving an indelible mark on the bilateral relations, treaties are the most suitable tool to track and perceive clearly their dynamics. Part I of the article reviews treaty relations between the two countries from the beginning of diplomatic contacts in the early seventeenth century to World War II. While Russian-Chinese relations expanded especially rapidly since the middle of the 19th century the Non-Aggression Treaty of 1937 is especially noteworthy as it proved to be of great value for the interests of both the USSR and the Republic of China at a critical juncture in their history.*

Keywords: *Sino-Russian relations, Sino-Soviet relations, international treaties, good-neighborliness, settling of the border between Russia and China, allied relations, treaties between Russia and China, treaties between the USSR and China, Sino-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact of 1937.*

Yury TAVROVSKIY**RUSSIAN-CHINESE TREATIES: MILESTONES AND ZIGZAGS OF HISTORY. II. 1945 — 2021**

Abstract. *Continuing with the review of the most significant treaties between the USSR/Russia and China, the author highlights the distinctiveness and positive impact of the treaties of 1945 and 1950. The departure from them and the ideological rift of the 1960s and 1980s had dramatic implications for both powers. The author attributes special importance to the currently valid 2001 Sino-Russian Treaty of Good-Neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation that mounted bilateral relations to an unprecedented high level. This even stimulated ideas either to supplement it with new articles or to conclude a new alliance treaty. While the idea produced discussions in the expert community and the media of both countries, the two parties have not shown readiness so far to enshrine in a legal act the newly acquired quality of bilateral relations. However, the escalation of U.S.-Chinese confrontation and the new “cold war” the West launched against Russia are calling for such a step, for the geopolitical prospects for Russia and for China are as closely linked as their past.*

Keywords: *Sino-Soviet relations, Sino-Russian relations, finalization of the border between Russia and China, treaties between the USSR/ Russia and the PRC/ China, allied relations, Sino-Russian Treaty of 2001, Joint Statement of June 28, 2021.*

Natalia TRAVKINA, Vladimir VASILIEV

BASIC SCIENCE IN THE USA: A CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

Abstract. *The change in value and cultural stereotypes, which has taken the form of cultural wars, has affected almost all United States public spheres. In recent years, it has been increasingly affecting the field of basic scientific research, including the fundamental sciences such as physics and mathematics. Despite the leading positions of the United States in the world scientific ratings, immigrants have traditionally played a vital role in American fundamental science. Changes in immigration inflows, as a rule, contributed to socio-cultural shifts, which largely determined the subsequent level of fundamental research. The ongoing change in ideological guidelines, under the banner of “racial and ethnic diversity”, has already touched both the physical and mathematical communities. New “measures to improve diversity and inclusion” among faculty and students at American universities have been an important, but not the only manifestation of this trend. Such changes can have implications for the United States position in world science, as well as for its scientific, technological and economic development.*

Keywords: *basic scientific research, immigration of scientists, Nobel Prize, Soviet mathematical school, racial/ethnic quota, black physicists, spirit of McCarthyism, meritocracy, racial and ethnic diversity.*

Natalia TRAVKINA, Vladimir VASILIEV

DE-AMERICANIZATION OF THE USA: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

Abstract. *The article analyzes fundamental shifts happening in basic values of today’s American society and its ideological paradigm. A survival confrontation has engulfed nearly all social and political groups. This value confrontation has taken the form of an ideological struggle around the concepts of cancel culture and critical race theory. The new trends associated with discourse of racial and cultural diversity are at odds with the centuries-old system of basic American values, which have defined the thinking of white Americans, the so-called WASPs. If the new trends eventually prevail, this will mean de-Americanization of America we have known. At least this would dramatically change both its self-identification and the outside perception towards the USA’s democratic political institutions.*

Keywords: *culture war, cancel culture, American values, historical memory, Declaration of Independence, critical race theory, systematic racism.*

Petr YAKOVLEV

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL IN THE POWER FIELD OF GLOBALIZATION AND REGIONALIZATION

Abstract. *The author traces, from today's perspective, the course and ways of global and regional (European) influences on social development of the two Iberian countries — Spain and Portugal. Both states have been facing numerous domestic and external challenges at the beginning of the third decade of 21st century. Both have been engaged in strenuous efforts to overcome the grave social and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Both are on the threshold of new major transformations. The two Iberian countries are good case studies of the global and regional trends that would shape the trajectory of global development in the foreseeable future.*

Keywords: *Iberian countries, globalization, regionalization, European Union, 2008-2009 crisis, coronavirus pandemic, coronavirus crisis, post-crisis growth model.*

Nailya YAKOVLEVA

PORTUGUESE PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AMID “EUROPEAN FATIGUE”

Abstract. *In the first half of 2021, Portugal assumed for the fourth time the presidency of the Council of the European Union, one of the seven key EU institutions. Lisbon's presidency came at a difficult time in the EU's history, marked by a great number of internal and external risks and challenges. The Portuguese diplomacy, in cooperation with the EU's governing bodies, has invested substantial efforts to solve political and economic problems arising from the coronavirus pandemic and to prepare the EU member states for a post-COVID era. However, these attempts to overcome “the European fatigue” have not been entirely successful.*

Keywords: *Council of the European Union, Portugal, fourth presidency, overcoming the COVID-19 crisis, U.S., China, relations with Russia.*

Ella ZADOROZHNYUK**PROVOCATION AROUND VRBĚTICE: DANGEROUS TURNS IN CZECH NANOPOLITICS**

Abstract. *The anti-Russian crusade launched by most Czech media and political elites several months before the October 2021 parliamentary elections is examined in various dimensions, including domestic and international political context, economic motives, historical and psychological backgrounds. The scandal around the events that took place years ago in Vrbětice is regarded as a mega-provocation and a kind of aggressive theatricals within the Czech nano-politics — the concept of nanopolitics has been introduced by the author in some of her previous publications on the Czech Republic's specific political dynamics. The author offers her forecast regarding political landscape after the 2021 parliamentary election and the future of Russian-Czech relations.*

Keywords: *Czech Republic, Czechoslovakia, Vrbetice, mega-provocation, nanopolitics, Russian–Czech relations, anti-Russian campaign, psychological complexes.*