

Abstracts and Keywords

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D. TRUMP'S BATTLE WITH CHINA: IS VICTORY POSSIBLE?

Abstract. *The US economic and trade war against China largely escalated in 2018–2019. The conflict is unlikely to be resolved in the near future, while this would be economically beneficial for both parties. Beijing has been carefully avoiding the escalation of emerging US-China bipolarity into confrontation, relying on cooperation with large American business enterprises and using numerous foreign policy failures of the Trump administration. Nevertheless, in the spring and summer of 2019, the United States continued to increase pressure on China. The fundamental confrontation between the two powers affects not only the business interests of both countries, but also a wide range of issues that go far beyond bilateral relations.*

Keywords: *trade war, USA, China, world economy, American — Chinese relations, confrontation between the US and China.*

Anton KRUTIKOV

KIRILL RAZUMOVSKY AND REFORM PROJECTS IN LEFT-BANK UKRAINE IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE XVIII CENTURY

Abstract. *Reforms of the hetman Kirill Razumovsky gave Ukraine a chance to take the path of accelerated modernization in the spirit of Peter the Great's transformations. Or, the Little Russian elite's priorities and ambitions did not allow to complete the reforms and were one of the prerequisites for the liquidation of hetmanate. The incompleteness of modernization developments led to the emergence of nostalgia for a "golden age" among the Little Russian gentry and intelligentsia, and contributed to the emergence of early forms of Ukrainian autonomism.*

Keywords: *Ukraine, hetmanate, Little Russia, hetman, Kirill Razumovsky, national modernization, reforms, national identity.*

Anton KRUTIKOV

THE MORAL CODE OF THE EMPIRE

BOOK REVIEW: REES-MOGG J. THE VICTORIANS: TWELVE TITANS WHO FORGED BRITAIN. L., 2019.

Abstract. *Review of the book by British politician Jacob Rees-Mogg, published on the occasion of Queen Victoria's 200th anniversary and presenting biographical essays on 12 eminent Victorian politicians. The Victorians, who forged British power in the 19th century, are declared bearers of high moral principles, while their stories act as a manifesto of modern British conservatives and Eurosceptics. The book's relevance is determined not by the author's approach to the role of Victorians, but by numerous allusions to actual circumstances, turning the reader's mind to the historical choice faced by Great Britain in the context of Brexit.*

Keywords: *J. Rees-Mogg, Victorians, British power, Queen Victoria, the "British way", British foreign policy, Eurosceptics.*

Stanislav MITRAHOVICH

GAS TRIANGLE RUSSIA — EU — UKRAINE: PENDING RISKS

Abstract. *The preparation for the conclusion of a new gas transit contract between Russia and Ukraine, at the end of 2019, turned out to be an extremely difficult political and economic process affecting the interests of various actors. Conflicting interests and positions of Russian and Ukrainian political leaderships and business companies, as well as those of the USA, EU, Germany have been involved. Another important political context for energy diplomacy have been the EU integration policies, including the implementation of the updated EU Gas Directive into the national laws of member states.*

Keywords: *gas pipelines, gas pipeline policy, gas pipeline politics, European Union, Russian-European relations, Russia-Ukraine relations, Russian-Ukrainian gas transit contract.*

Albina NOSKOVA

THE USSR'S GEOPOLITICAL INTERESTS, PROBLEMS OF SOVIETIZATION OF EASTERN EUROPE AND SOVIET-POLISH RELATIONS (THE 1940s)

Abstract. *The article analyzes, in the geopolitical context, the Soviet policy towards Poland during the Second World War and the first post-war years. The struggle of Soviet diplomacy for the future mutual security of the USSR and Poland is presented as well as differing perceptions of interests, geopolitical role, allies and borders of the two countries and unequal possibilities of their implementation. The author demonstrates that the Soviet concept of the time and the USSR role as guarantor of Poland's security and borders did not assume the sovietization of its social order, but the elimination of anti-Soviet forces and power sharing between communists and democrats.*

Keywords: *USSR, Poland, World War II, national and state interests, post-war security, Sovietization, geopolitics, Poland's borders, Polish government-in-exile, diplomacy, Big Three, Home Army, liberation from Nazism, popular democracy.*

Svetlana POGORELSKAYA

MODERN GERMAN POPULISM: THE GENERAL AND THE SPECIFIC

Abstract. *Populism is one of those problematic notions that have no single and correct interpretation; rather there are mainstream and controversial ways to use them. Nowadays, so-called populism can be understood as a reaction of the populations rooted in their states to globalization processes and to changes in the ideological profile of Western establishment parties. The phenomenon is examined in the case of today's Germany, with its "Alternative for Germany" and the "Stand Up" movement. Comparative analysis of political programs shows that there are many similarities between right and left populisms on a number of substantive issues. Both have anti-globalization attitudes, are dissatisfied with political elites and point to the dangers of social stratification.*

Keywords: *populism, right populism, left populism, Germany, Alternative for Germany, AfD, The Left (Party), "Stand Up" movement (Germany).*

Alexander POLUNOV

CRIMEAN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN 2005–2010: STRUGGLE FOR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL IDENTITY OF RUSSIAN POPULATION

Abstract. *The article analyzes the social, political and ideological backgrounds of the processes that unfolded on the Crimean Peninsula in the spring of 2014 and ended with its return to Russia. The focus is on the period 2005–2010, when the "orange power" with President V. F. Yushchenko at the head was established in Kiev. The author dwells on public organizations and political parties of Russian population in Crimea, their positions on key domestic and foreign policy issues and on serious differences that arose between them in the course of their activities but were eventually overcome.*

Keywords: *Crimea, autonomy, independence, Russian population, NGOs, non-governmental organizations, political parties, Orange Revolution (Ukraine), ideology, culture.*

Petr YAKOVLEV

FROM BRAZIL TO RUSSIA: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AMONG BRICS MEMBER COUNTRIES

Abstract. *At the 11th BRICS summit in Brazil, Russian President Vladimir Putin pointed to such shared global priorities of the group as the compliance with international law, the central role of the United Nations in international affairs and the establishment of a more just global order. Five BRICS countries are concerned about negative trends in world economy and politics — the slowdown in global economic growth and trade, uncontrolled debt growth, surges in commodity prices, US attempts to obtain unilateral advantages through sanctions and protectionist measures and to infringe on the interests of other states. The BRICS five, based on their increased economic, financial and trade power, are looking for solutions to these negative developments, including through the building of alternative international economic institutions. The association is increasingly becoming a political reality of global scale.*

Keywords: *BRICS, Brazil BRICS summit, global economy, world trade, New Development Bank, establishment of more equitable world order institutions, Russian chairmanship.*

Sergey ZOTOV

HOW RUSSIA, AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF RUSSIAN TROOPS FROM LATVIA, MANAGED TO KEEP THE EARLY WARNING RADAR STATION IN SKRUNDA FOR 6 YEARS. THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR'S MEMOIRS.

Abstract. *After Latvia gained independence in 1991, the question arose of withdrawing Soviet troops and military installations from the territory of the Republic. It was not only difficult, but it seemed impossible to achieve acceptable withdrawal conditions for Russia, in the euphoria of “new thinking” and the furious campaign of Latvian national radicals. The author, who was the head of the Russian State delegation at the talks with Latvia on these issues, reveals the hidden story of the ensuing diplomatic battle within its domestic and international context, analyzes its course, circumstances, lessons and importance.*

Keywords: *Russian diplomacy, talks between Russia and the Republic of Latvia, withdrawal of troops from Latvia, Skrunda Radar Station, missile attack warning system, early-warning radar, “package solution”, “package deal”.*