

Abstracts and Keywords

Anton KRUTIKOV

CONCEPTS OF BELARUSIAN HISTORY. I. FROM WEST-RUSSIANISM TO NATIONAL MYTHS AND POST-SOVIET PRAGMATISM.

Abstract: *Among the alternative versions of the past there are several main models represented in the academic space and directly influencing public consciousness, public policy and internal political processes in the Republic of Belarus. Apart from the Soviet school of Belarusian history, these include West-Russianism, which views Belarus as an organic, yet distinctive, part of the Russian cultural and historical space, «Litvinism», and the Belarusian national school. The complex and dramatic nature of the formation of Belarusian statehood in the 20th century still determines the dominance of ambiguous, polar and sometimes mutually exclusive approaches to the study of national history.*

Keywords: *history of Belarus, Belorussia, Western-Russianism, West-Russianism, historical concepts, historical politics, national idea, Belarusian nationalism.*

Anton KRUTIKOV

CONCEPTS OF BELARUSIAN HISTORY. II. «RUSSIAN WORLD», «LITVINISM», «BELARUSIAN CIVILIZATION».

Abstract: *At the turn of the 1990s, Belarus received a unique chance to revive Western-Russianism as a new national idea based on the centuries-old cultural affinity of the three fraternal Slavic peoples. However, rapid changes in the historical policy of the Belarusian leadership resulted in the diffusion of nationalist concepts of the past into historical science and official rhetoric. President Lukashenko's theses about the «Belarusian civilization» were quickly reflected in «official» Belarusian historiography. The symbols of the modern Belarusian protest movement – T. Kostyushko and K. Kalinowsky were introduced into the public consciousness not by external forces, but by Belarusian textbooks.*

Keywords: *Belarus, Belorussia, Belarusian historiography, historical concepts, Western-Russianism, West-Russianism, «Belarusian civilization», Belarusian nationalism, Litvinism.*

Ekaterina NAROCHNITSKAYA

THE IDEOLOGICAL LEGACY OF CHARLES DE GAULLE. I. PARADOXES OF PERCEPTION, HISTORICAL MEMORY, POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY.

Abstract. *The personality of General de Gaulle, which once divided the French, now holds the first place in their national imagination. In recent years, all kinds of politicians have increasingly laid claim to his legacy. Ironically, the new reverence for de Gaulle has grown*

with the demise of Gaullism and intensified with French elites turning to an alternative Euro-Atlanticist and neoliberal paradigm. In this paradox, the «obsession with Gaulle» has taken on very different meanings. For some it is a rhetoric instrument or compensatory nostalgia, but for many it is indeed a symbol of disagreement with political dogma of the last decades. De Gaulle's shadow over today's France is inextricably linked to the appeal and relevance of his ideas. His political philosophy stands out by a kind of multiple synthesis of opposites, often overlooked and underappreciated. De Gaulle's cornerstone ideas directly resonate with fundamental dilemmas that are now at the heart of controversies within societies and internationally, including those between West and Russia, West and East. His search for a dialectical conjunction of national, European and global imperatives is of particular interest.

Keywords: Ch. de Gaulle, historical memory, historical discourse, Gaullism, Gaullist legacy, political philosophy.

Natalia NAROCHNITSKAYA

HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND IDEOLOGY AT TURNING POINTS IN RUSSIAN HISTORY

Abstract: *The evolution of the historical consciousness of Russian society over two centuries shows its potential to play a destructive or a saving role in dramatic moments of history, when out the prime value of the national statehood continuum is challenged by outer or inner attacks. The Russian intelligentsia's maximalist «reception» of Marxism resulted into total nihilism and a zeal to sacrifice the statehood for the sake of world revolution. However, having started in 1917 with a radical overthrow of Russian history, the authorities reincorporated it into the Soviet doctrine on the eve of the World War II, which resurrected national feeling and unity and enabled victory in the mortal fight. New ideological but equally nihilistic maxims once again prevailed and lead inter alia to the second collapse of the state in 1991. Historical consciousness of contemporary society, especially of young generations, is particularly prone to rapid changes and alternative extremes in the era of information technologies, which confirms the crucial importance of historical education to maintain spiritual sovereignty and national conscience as its core.*

Keywords: state, motherland, continuous statehood, historical nihilism, Russian history, historical conscience, information technologies.

Hauke RITZ

TECHNOLOGY OF AN UNFREE WORLD. I. PRIMARY CODE

Abstract. *The actual technological revolution challenges our ideas about civilization to a much larger extent than all previous technological breakthroughs. Does it not lead us into a new world where there is no place for human freedom, and what has made possible such a trajectory of technological progress? To answer the latter question, it is necessary to ana-*

lyze the logic of natural science development as well as the currently dominant scientific image of the universe. In the first part of his research, the author focuses on the premises of the scientific method, on the basic assumptions about the nature of our reality, which precede any scientific research and unconsciously structure the perception of reality.

Keywords: civilization, freedom, natural sciences, technological progress, materialism, consciousness, subjectivity, outer world, inner world.

Yakov SHEMYAKIN

CULTURAL TRANSFER AND DIALOGUE OF CULTURES IN THE RUSSIAN AND LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATIONAL BORDERLANDS

Abstract. The article compares «cultural transfer» and «dialogue of cultures» as socio-cultural realities in two «border» civilizations of planetary scale — Latin America and Russia. The author develops and illustrates the thesis that identity of subjects of intercultural interaction is a necessary precondition and the key to cultural transfer. The focus is on the problematics of the dialogue of cultures. According to the author, the basic reason for all difficulties to put into practice the ideal of dialogue consists in what W. O. Quine described as the problem of «radical translation», that is, of understanding texts created within another culture based on essentially different views about the universe and life.

Keywords: cultural transfer, dialogue of cultures, identity, the universal, the local, «radical translation», resemantization.

Natalia TRAVKINA, Vladimir VASILIEV

THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. DISINTEGRATION

Abstract. During the 2020 presidential campaign in the United States, the problem of secession of a state or a group of states from the U.S.A. was actively discussed. The acute economic, epidemiological, racial-ethnic and environmental crisis have combined to create an unprecedented political crisis, which divided the country into two parts: pro-Republican (red) states and pro-Democratic (blue) states. Most theorists and supporters of secession see it as the logical conclusion of the evident political, economic, cultural and demographic cleavages of the country. A legal, formal partition has been advocated both as a chance to avoid a civil war similar to the one between North and South (1861–1865), and as an essential condition for the advance of American society, a way to break political, social and economic deadlocks in American politics.

Keywords: U.S. presidential campaign 2020, U.S. political crisis, secession, American society.

Vadim TRUKHACHEV**CONTROVERSIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND SLOVENIA**

Abstract. *In the second half of 2021, the presidency of the European Union will be held by Slovenia, admitted to the EU and NATO 17 years ago. This small post-Yugoslav state with a strong Central European identity has a very active foreign policy, which is worth a closer look. In its main directions, Slovenian interests clearly overlap with Russian ones. The Slovenian-Russian relations are rather contradictory, there are different approaches to Russia among the Slovenian elites, but these differences are not as polar and visible as in the Visegrad Group countries or in Austria.*

Keywords: *Slovenia, Russian-Slovenian relations, the European Union, NATO, the Balkans, Central Europe, B. Pahor.*

Petr YAKOVLEV**KEY FAULT LINES IN THE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Abstract. *The rapid ubiquitous spread of the coronavirus pandemic has quickly accelerated changes in the established world order and given an extra impetus to transforming the system of geopolitical relations. The fundamental implications of these tectonic shifts, which began several years before the COVID-19, have yet to be fully understood and assessed. However, some trends, which portend deep rifts in international relations and directly affect the geostrategic interests of the Russian Federation, can be already identified.*

Keywords: *crisis of the world order, Europe, Asia-Pacific region, Indo-Pacific strategy, United States, China, Russia's interests.*

Ella ZADOROZHNYUK**VACLAV HAVEL, RUSSIA AND NATO**

Abstract. *The attitude of Vaclav Havel, the first head of the post-Communist Czech Republic, towards NATO went beyond just Atlanticism and included some reverence for the Atlantic bloc. Havel moralistically encouraged the bombing of Yugoslavia and the interventions in Iraq and Libya; he urged to bring NATO closely to Russian borders and to punish Russia for the USSR's sins and potential imperial ambitions. Such views, though not shared by most Czech citizens, have long defined foreign policy priorities of some Czech political elites. Their traces are being found at the brink of the third decade of the 21st century. However, Havel's approach, always in praise of NATO, has been recognized as futile even by his strong supporters.*

Keywords: *Russia, Czech Republic, Vaclav Havel, foreign policy orientations, relations with Russia, moralism, NATO, humanitarian bombing.*