

Abstracts and Keywords

Sergey KARPOV

LITTLE-KNOWN PAGES OF THE HISTORY OF CRIMEA AND THE BLACK SEA REGION: SIGNIFICANCE AND PROSPECTS FOR RESEARCH

Abstract. *Many pages of the history of Crimea, which are of great importance for Russia, are still little or insufficiently examined. In particular, the period of 13–15th centuries is very promising for further research since it promises new discoveries on the basis of unknown or little-known sources, including archives of Italian trading colonies in the Black Sea. The array of archaeological finds shows strong relationship between the Crimea and medieval Russian principalities. Historical and Archaeological Laboratory for the comprehensive study of the Byzantine Black Sea region was recently established in Sevastopol State University to analyze and introduce new data on the region's history. A comprehensive outlook and research based on written and archaeological sources allow us to trace how slowly but surely Crimea was integrating into the system of Russia's ties within the Mediterranean region and into Russian statehood.*

Keywords: *Crimea and the Black Sea region in the 13–15th centuries, relations between Crimea and Russian principalities, Crimea in the system of Mediterranean ties of Rus/Russia, trade routes, Italian trading colonies, Caffa (Feodosia).*

Vladimir KRUGLOV

“THIS IS AN ANTI-STATE ACT DIRECTED TOWARDS A DANGEROUS GOAL”. THE TRANSFER OF THE CRIMEAN REGION FROM THE RUSSIAN SFSR TO THE UKRAINIAN SSR — BACKSTORY, COURSE OF EVENTS AND IMPACT. PART I

Abstract. *The transfer of Crimea from the Russian SFSR to the Ukrainian SSR in 1954 eventually turned into one of the main events of the Khrushchev Thaw period and one of the most acute international issues, first in the post-Soviet space and then in world politics. In recent decades, it has been a subject of intense historical, intellectual and policy debates. Even a certain mythology has developed, including both outright fiction and seemingly plausible stories. Various research gaps still remain with regard to this page of Soviet history. Nevertheless, the available data allow us to summarize intermediate results — to identify the initiators of the transfer, analyze their motivations, reconstruct the course of events and assess the direct impact of such administrative action.*

Keywords: *transfer of Crimea to Ukraine, administrative status of Crimea in the USSR, Soviet national territorial policy, Nikita Khrushchev, Crimea Regional Committee of the CPSU, Petr Titov.*

Vladimir KRUGLOV

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Abstract. *Nikita Khrushchev's decision to hand over Crimea to Ukraine was not quite spontaneous, and in 1954, he had at least two new motivations. The Crimea example is very instructive, since it clearly shows the political practices characteristic of the USSR in the national territorial sphere. The ill-considered and hasty, inaccurately officialized and superficially explained decision to withdraw Crimea from the RSFSR already then caused incomprehension and rejection, which could not be openly manifested at that time and which therefore turned to be only more persistent. A new trouble spot appeared, dormant, but potentially generating interethnic, inter-republican and ultimately international confrontation. This potential began to manifest itself already with the weakening of the communist party's ideological control in the late 1980s.*

Keywords: *transfer of Crimea to Ukraine, administrative status of Crimea in the USSR, Soviet national territorial policy, Nikita Khrushchev,*

Anton KRUTIKOV

HISTORICAL FATE OF KHOLMSHCHINA DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR. PART II

Abstract. *After the October coup in Petrograd and the outbreak of the Civil War, the struggle for the Kholm region turned into a rivalry between Ukrainian and Polish national projects. The main tendency was to attempt a 'controlled nationalization' of the East Slavic population of the region and to give it a Ukrainian/Polish character. Kholm and Podlasie found themselves at the epicenter of a clash of German, Austrian and Polish interests in the final stages of the First World War. The Ukrainian People's Republic and the Ukrainian State of Hetman P.P. Skoropadsky tried to solve the Kholm problem through traditional diplomacy, but lacked actor-ness. After the defeat of Germany and Austria-Hungary, the more organised Polish national movement expectedly prevailed. The Polish Roman Catholic Church and the Greek Catholic Church in Galicia tried to become independent actors in the Kholm issue.*

Keywords: *Kholm region, Kholm Governorate, World War I, Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Ukrainian People's Republic (UPR), Poland, Ukrainian Hetmanate (1918).*

Natalia TRAVKINA

THE YEAR 2025 — TO AN AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE (COUNTER)REVOLUTION? ELECTION MANIFESTO OF THE US REPUBLICAN PARTY

Abstract. *The article analyzes programmatic documents of the U.S. Republican Party released in the run-up to the presidential election of 2024. The author emphasizes that the 2024 Republican Party Platform, published in July, tends to be a manifesto calling for revolutionary transformations in case of Donald Trump's return to power. The Heritage Foundation's book "Mandate for Leadership: The Conservative Promise. Project 2025" is another important part of the Republican Party's platform. This conservative policy guide for a second Trump term outlines specific tasks to transform the functions of the American state and its algorithm at the federal level, with the ultimate goal of dramatically reducing the role and importance of the federal sector in the U.S. economy.*

Keywords: *2024 United States presidential election, Republican Party platform, D. Trump, Trump's Manifesto, deglobalization, evolution of American conservatism, Heritage Foundation's Project 2025.*

Vladimir VASILIEV, Natalia TRAVKINA

THE U.S. DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S ELECTION PROGRAM: A SECOND TERM FOR THE J. BIDEN/K. HARRIS ADMINISTRATION?

Abstract. *President Joe Biden, who had secured the support of the overwhelming majority of the August Democratic Party convention delegates, officially withdrew his candidacy from the 2024 presidential race after dramatic events on the eve of the convention. As a result of a "palace coup", it was vice-president Kamala Harris who was nominated as the presidential candidate, bypassing decades-old democratic procedures. The behind-the-scenes clash between Joe Biden and the top of the Democratic Party (Barak Obama, Nancy Pelosi, and Chuck Schumer) led to the adoption of the Democrats' election platform with a number of incongruities. Analyzing the 2024 Democratic platform, the authors note that the repeated reference to Biden's "second term" and other elements indicate the possibility of uncommon scenarios at the last stage of the 2024 elections. It is concluded that, given the intensity of opposition between the Democrats and the Republicans, the Biden-Harris administration will do everything to keep control over the executive branch of government in the hands of the Democrats and not allow Donald Trump to return into the White House.*

Keywords: *2024 United States presidential election, Democratic Party, Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, 2024 Democratic Party platform, Presidential Succession Act of 1947.*

Petr YAKOVLEV

NEW GEOGRAPHY OF RUSSIA'S FOREIGN TRADE: TRENDS, PROBLEMS, PROSPECTS

Abstract. *The Russian Federation's foreign trade is going through a stage of profound transformation, realizing new opportunities and facing serious challenges. The more economically developed countries of the West, which have long dominated Russia's exports and imports, are being replaced by developing countries of the Global South, or World Majority. This process has been moving for over a decade, but it is now, under the influence of geopolitical factors, that Russia's trade with the regions of the Global South is acquiring radically different dimensions. The countries of the World Majority are consistently strengthening their positions in the world economic relations, which opens up wide business horizons for Russia. At the same time, the imperative of forming mutually beneficial business relations with many various Asian, African and Latin American states has invaded the agenda. This strategic task requires resetting the whole system of foreign trade relations of the Russian Federation and developing a science-based policy of cooperation with the regions of Global South.*

Keywords: *Russia, foreign trade, commodity structure of exports and imports, new world order, collective West, regions of Global South.*