

Abstracts and Keywords

Aleksandr ANANIEV

ABKHAZIA: A VICIOUS CIRCLE OF OPPOSITION TO DEVELOPMENT?

Abstract. *The outcome of the early presidential elections in Abkhazia (February 15 — March 1, 2025) does not mean a complete settlement of the crisis in the republic. Domestic political and economic factors still remain relevant, and they have led the rival clans in Abkhazia to displace each other by force three times over the past ten years. During this time, local elites trying to preserve the outdated idle dependency model never allowed the adoption of a law that would have provided guarantees for Russian business investments. The newly elected President of Abkhazia, Badra Gunba, will not only have to consolidate power, but also strike a balance between Abkhazia's interests, its strategic partnership with Russia, and its relations with other neighbors.*

Keywords: *Abkhazia, presidential elections in Abkhazia, Badra Gunba, Adgur Ardzinba, clan struggle, Russian-Abkhazian relations, investment agreement with Russia, Turkish influence.*

Anton KRUTIKOV

“THE LAST CHAMBERLAIN”: IVAN I. TKHORZEVSKY AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Abstract. *This article is devoted to the activities of Ivan I. Tkhorzhevsky, a prominent representative of the higher Russian bureaucracy in the early 20th century, and his relationship with the Russian Revolution. As an associate of notable reformers Sergei Yu. Witte and Pyotr A. Stolypin, Tkhorzhevsky made a considerable impact on the evolution of Russian state law and governance. As a professional lawyer, he advocated for legal methods of political struggle, the strengthening of the Russian monarchy through the expansion of its social base, and the overcoming of ideological division within society. Being a direct participant in the reform initiatives of the Council of Ministers, Tkhorzhevsky developed a unique perspective on the Russian Revolution, based on his distinctive administrative experience and deep knowledge of the upper St. Petersburg bureaucracy. His analysis of the revolutionary upheavals of 1917 and reflections on the path of Russia's development in the past and future were later reflected in his memoirs and émigré journalism.*

Keywords: *Russian Empire, Russian Revolution, I.I. Tkhorzhevsky, S.Yu. Witte, P.A. Stolypin, A.V. Krivoshein, Council of Ministers, State Duma.*

Mikhail MUHIN**“EVERYTHING FOR THE FRONT, EVERYTHING FOR VICTORY!” MOBILIZATION OF THE SOVIET SOCIETY AND ECONOMY IN 1941**

Abstract. *In the first decades of the 21st century, the world has once again as in the 1930s entered a period of political turbulence. This provides an opportunity to explore past solutions and practices that may be relevant in some aspects in the current era. From this angle, the article focuses on the experience of socio-economic mobilization during the early months of the Great Patriotic War. In its clash with Hitler's Germany, which extended its economic control over virtually all of Europe, the Soviet Union could only survive by exerting all its strength and fully redirecting its industry towards military needs. In the summer and autumn of 1941, both the social, political, and economic spheres of the USSR underwent a period of comprehensive mobilization. The primary objective of this study is to identify the key directions of this process.*

Keywords: *Great Patriotic War, USSR in 1941, mobilization of the Soviet economy, comprehensive mobilization, socio-economic mobilization, redirecting industry towards military needs.*

Viktor NADEIN-RAEVSKIY**TURKISH POLICY IN SYRIA AFTER THE FALL OF BASHAR AL-ASSAD'S REGIME**

Abstract. *The internal Syrian conflict, which has been ongoing since the beginning of the Arab Spring, led to the victory of the Turkish proxies and other Islamist allies in late 2024. The article analyzes the main aspects of current Turkey's expansion in Syria, which was once part of the Ottoman Empire. The primary focus of the Turkish intervention was against the Syrian Kurds, as Ankara aimed to eliminate them in order to defeat the Kurdish movement in Turkey. In Syria, the Kurds have ruled their communities basing on the concept of “democratic confederalism” by Abdullah Öcalan, which does not align with either the Syrian or Turkish constitution. Following the self-dissolution of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, the Syrian Kurds were forced to enter into an agreement with the new Islamist authorities, who promised to grant them “constitutional rights”. The future of the Syrian situation, Turkey's role, and the fate of the Syrian Kurds remains uncertain.*

Keywords: *Turkish foreign policy, Syrian and Turkish Kurds, Recep Erdogan, Abdullah Öcalan, Turkomans, Turkish proxies, Islamists, Kurdistan Workers' Party, “confederal democracy”, “democratic confederalism”, Turkish military operations in Syria.*

Vadim TRUKHACHEV**ROMANIA'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AND RUSSIA**

Abstract. *For historical and political reasons, Russian-Romanian relations have remained at a very low level since 1992, and Romania itself has not received much attention in the Russian information space until recently. At first glance, it may seem that Romania is a typical Eastern European member of the European Union and NATO with deep anti-Russian complexes. However, the fact that the anti-systemic candidate C. Georgescu won the first round of the 2024 presidential election, and the repeat election in May 2025 was almost won by his successor G. Simion, disproves the image of Romania as a nation that does not challenge the Euro-Atlantic strategy. The author offers insight into the Romanian political space and voters' sympathies showing a highly ambiguous picture, with specific elements with regard not only to Moldova but also to Ukraine. From the point of view of its attitude towards Russia, Romania's public opinion is rather an "average case" within the EU, but in terms of support for Ukraine, it is far from the leaders. As in many other EU countries, there is a significant gap between the official doctrine and the position of the establishment, on the one hand, and the minds of broad public, on the other.*

Keywords: *Romania, Moldova, Bukovina, Russophobia, European Union, NATO, C. Georgescu, Romanian presidential elections, Romanian parties, Eurosceptic forces.*

Vladimir VASILIEV**THE CREATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS EVOLUTION:
THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT AND GOALS OF THE UNITED STATES**

Abstract. *The article traces the historical evolution of the United Nations established in 1945, from the perspective of the growing dysfunctionality of its cumbersome system. It also focuses on Washington's key goals in designing the global organization, as reflected in the State Department declassified archives, and on the logic behind the struggle for UN membership within the United States. Currently, there is rising domestic criticism of the UN, primarily due to its increasing deviation from the original American plan, developed in 1942 by the secret Advisory Committee on Postwar Foreign Policy under the auspices of the State Department. The plan was to use the future global organization as an instrument of (Anglo)American control over global political and socio-economic developments. Failures in implementing this goal and especially its incompatibility with ongoing global transformations have led to a rise in support for the withdrawal from the United Nations. The American advocates of this idea believe that in the context of so-called world anarchy US global dominance should be based on brute imperial force.*

Keywords: *UN, League of Nations, life cycle of organizations, UN dysfunctionality, F. Roosevelt, world order, world government, world / global anarchy.*

Ladislav Zemánek**CZECH LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN DECLINE**

Abstract. *The political climate in the Czech Republic is becoming increasingly tense. The government parties are attempting to prevent the opposition from coming to power, yet the opposition enjoys broad popular support and is expected to win the upcoming parliamentary elections. In analyzing the reasons behind this situation, the author outlines the key results of Prime Minister Petr Fiala's administration. Particular attention is given to structural problems in the socio-economic sphere, the government's one-sided pro-American orientation, the authoritarian transformation of Czech liberal democracy, grassroots public resistance, and attempts by the authorities to manipulate electoral processes. The article concludes that the parliamentary elections scheduled for October 3–4, 2025, will be of decisive importance in the current political context.*

Keywords: *Czech Republic, P. Fiala's government, liberal coalition, liberal authoritarianism, unequal partnership with the US, Czech politics.*