

# POLITICAL SPHERE

Diversities of the past

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## Contents

### Diversities of the past

*Andrej Kazakievič. The brief genealogy of the Kryvian «idea»* ..... 4

*Abstract:* The author reviews in the article the main stages of the Kryvian «idea» evolution in the context of Belarusian political thought. The process of Kryvian «idea» development was divided in the article into four periods: the fixation (XIX — early XX), the conceptualization (in 1920s-40s), an interruption in representation (1950s-80s) and present state (since the end of 1980-ies). The author gives the main characteristics, political and cultural features of each period, along with political analysis of the Kryvian «idea» and its position among the other cultural and political projects.

*Alaksiej Jankovič. The ontology of lithuanism: the source, idea and realization.* ..... 11

*Abstract:* The lithuanism, as one of the elements of cultural and ideological landscape of Belarus is analysed in the article. The author examines lithuanism as a phenomenon that originated directly from state self-determination of the nobles of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania on all the territory of the country during its existence and after its liquidation. The author makes the analysis of the main stages of development and cultural and political manifestations of the lithuanism (the krajowa (home land) idea in particular), its historical, cultural, religious and political backgrounds as well as main ideological positions. A separate part of the article is devoted to the political and cultural manifestations of the lithuanism in contemporary Belarus.

*Volha Kazakievič, Andrej Kazakievič. Concerning the problem* ..... 19

*Abstract:* The article is an attempt of a synthetic presentation of trajectory of the genesis of Belarusian identity in the XIX-XX centuries. The authors make an attempt to liberate slightly the traditional scheme of the analysis of Belarusian identity evolution and to systematize its separate elements as well as to determine their cultural and political status.

*William Outhwaite and Larry Ray. Modernity, Memory and Postcommunism* ..... 27

*Abstract:* The conflicts and violence in post-communist areas (Yugoslavia) are reviewed in light of modern practice of dealing with collective memory and construction of national identities. The revision of «the past» and «the revival of memory» were connected with traumatic and destructive consequences. The sources of modern identity, which are drawn from in numerous stories, sources of information and archives, undergo revision, mobilization and recombination according to contemporary cultural changes and policy. The collective memory of trauma, the count of the deceased and construction of narrative community with the deceased can give to the collective memory the pathos that in some circumstances legitimizes the salutary violence.

### Discussions

The science and strategies of work with the past. Discussion at seminar «The Contemporary Belarusian thought», Institute of sociology, Institute of philosophy NAS, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2006 ..... 44

*Abstract:* The discussion materials from the inter-disciplinary seminar «The contemporary Belarusian thought», Institute of Sociology, Institute of Philosophy of National Academy of Science of Belarus, March 16, 2006 are given in this text. The discussion was devoted to the analysis of strategies of work with the past in sphere of science and politics, determinations of peculiarities of this work as well as its cultural and political consequences.

### History of conciseness

*Natalja Jakovenko. The topos of «united nations» in panegyrics to princes Ostrozhsy and Zaslavsky (at the beginning of the Ukrainian identity)* ..... 49

*Abstract:* A translation of a part from the book by famous Ukrainian researcher contains review of peculiarities of forming of regional identity and political ideology among the magnates and gentry of the Ukraine in late Middle Ages (XVI-XVII ct.). The author analyses the social and political context of the appearance of a new ideology in conditions of integration

into the «Republic of Both Nations», particularities of intellectual positions of the authors of this ideology as well as the specific interpretation of the own history.

*Dzianis Mieljancoŭ. The genesis of ethnic ethnical self-consciousness in Eastern Belarus in the Middle Ages* ..... 60

*Abstract:* The author is trying to systematize data concerning ethnic consciousness in Belarus in the Middle Ages. In particular, he analyses the peculiarities of ethnical and religious consciousness in ancient Belarus, its combination with the names «Rus», «Lithuania», «White Rus», etc. The author separately reviews the transformation of consciousness of inhabitants of Belarus during the Renaissance that was connected with gradual transition from religious to ethnic identity.

## Identity

*Tacciana Vadałažskaja. Ideas of Belarus' Inhabitants about the notion «citizen»* ..... 72

*Abstract:* A analysis of the contemporary state of political and civil consciousness in Belarus discovers a number of contradictions. The high level of electoral participation goes with low motivation of voters «to influence the trend of developments in the country». Another aspect of the existing contradictions the perception by state between residents of their citizenship: the identification with the citizens of the Republic of Belarus and significance of citizenship and while on the other hand, the neglect of political and legal status of citizen as a resource for solving social problems. On the basis of empirical sociological data the author determines in the article the correlation between the ideas about the concept «a citizen» and the peculiarity of perception of the country and of themselves as its citizens in conditions of contemporary Belarus.

## Institutions

*Natalja Vasilevič. The religious space of Belarus — the main stages of evolution* ..... 83

*Abstract:* The author reviews the forms of coercion and practice of extermination of Christian religion and religious organizations by the Soviet regime: starting with attempts of physical annihilation in 1920s-50s to the ideological struggle in 1960s-80s. The article contains an analysis of situation of religious revival in 1990s and the present religious situation in Belarus, including the forms of historical and political consolidation of Christian denominations.

*Alaksandar Sarna. Reproduction of daily life. The policy of the representation of events in mass media* ..... 91

*Abstract:* The article is devoted to the conceptualization of such notions as «event», «image of reality», «image of event». «Event» is investigated as a minimal or basic unit, on which the bigger communication chain is built. The author proposes in the article a conceptual model of informational structure of everyday life, representing it as conceptual scheme.

## Reviews

*Alaksandar Mastak. The beginning of the Ukrainian early-modern identity* ..... 102

*Abstract:* The review of a book by S. Plochyj «The faith of Nalivajko: the Cossacks and religion in early-modern Ukraine» shows «the mythological essence» of XVII century in Ukrainian historiography that hinders the formation of an impartial analysis of that historical period. The book by S. Plochyj is one attempt to eliminate this defect and actually the first serious synthetic monograph devoted to studies of the relationship between the Cossacks and Orthodox Church. The author draws attention to the way of legitimization of the revolution in 1648-1657 and hetman power of Bohdan Chmelnickyj, to correlation and evolution of religious, social and ethnical identities both in Cossacks surroundings and in the entire early-modern Ukrainian society at all.

*Valery Kolčan. «The Sociology» — 2005, the brief review* ..... 106

*Abstract:* The article reviews a scientific journal «Sociology». The main attention is focused on a subject review of publications of 2005, with concern the different aspects of political analyses. The author highlights a general theoretical imperfection of the majority of these articles and backwardness of a sociological theory of politics in Belarus at all. Studies of concrete social processes and phenomena in the sphere of Belarusian policy are in disfavor among sociologists, thus the originality of many phenomena in Belarusian politics needs theoretical comprehension from the sociological position.

Authors ..... 111

Content № 1—5 (2002—2005) ..... 112