

Abstracts and Key Words

Language Politics: the Present

Iryna Lašuk and Aksana Šeliest (Iryna Lashuk Aksana Shelest). The Symbolic and Communicative Dimensions of the Linguistic Practices of the Belarusian Poles.

The article considers the role of the Polish language as one of the basics for constructing ethnic identity of the Belarusian Poles, the factors of choosing the native language as a specific symbolic act and the influence of this choice on other aspects of the contents of the group identity. A special attention is paid to the analysis of the use of Polish, Belarusian and Russian in the real communicative practices of the Belarusian Poles, orientations for preservation and translation of the Polish language as one of the mechanisms for saving identity and cultural peculiarity of the given community.

Keywords: Belarusian Poles, Ethnic Identity, Language, Language Practices, Diglossia

Aliaksiej Lastoŭski (Aliaksei Lastouski). The Images of Authority, People and «Others» in Public Speeches of Belarusian Top Officials During the Period of Liberalization (2008–2010)

The article examines the processes in the formation and translation of the images of authority, people and «others» in public speeches of Belarusian officials during the period of liberalization (2008-2010). The hypothesis is checked, according to which liberalization should be expressed in public texts, where it must lead to the abandonment of an isolation strategy and to reduction of aggression towards «others». The author concludes that Belarusian authorities understood the liberalization in a limited format, which finally led to a natural collapse of this course.

Keywords: Political Identity, Public Speeches, Belarusian Officials, Liberalization

Uladzislau Ivanou (Uladzislau Ivanou). Feminization Nomina Agentis of the Belarusian Language and the Problem of Colonization

The article deals with a narrow and rather marginal linguistic topic – the feminization Nomina agentis of the Belarusian language. At first sight, the topic seems too narrow, but its

understanding and articulation in the light of the present debates around the Belarusian language, as well as in the light of feminism, leads to the colonialist perspective. The examples of acceptance and rejection of feminization show clearly that the official language is a colonial product, which refers to the stylistic norms of the Russian language.

Keywords: Colonialism, Linguistic Colonialism, Decolonization, Feminization of Language, Feminization Nomina Agentis, Language Policy

Language Politics: History

Andrej Kazakievič, Andrej Asadčy (Andrei Kazakevich, Andrei Asadchy). To begin writing in Belarusian. Regional and social composition of Belarusian Revival, the end of the 19th – beginning of the 20th century

The article offers the results of the biographical analysis of Belarusian cultural movement representatives, who started their literary or social and political writing in Belarusian language between years 1880 and 1918. Particularly, the geography of birth, the age of joining the cultural movement, social origin, cause of death and some other parameters are examined. The analysis shows some important regional and social features of the Belarusian movement representatives as a group, and gives a more detailed picture of the nation-building process at the turn of the 19th to 20th century.

Keywords: Belarusian Nation, Renaissance, Cultural Movement, Nation-building, Social History

Alieh Dziarnovič (Aleh Dziarnovich). Lithuanian Language in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania: between Function and Status

The main problem, which is placed in the article: why the Lithuanian language has not received the official status in the State, which was called the of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (GDL)? And this happened at a time when the beginning of the 16th C. have survived the first written examples of fixation of the Lithuanian language, and from 1547 there existed a rich tradition of the Lithuanian printing (predominantly in the Duke of Prussia). The author sees a possible answer to the recognition that in a multiethnic and multicultural society of the GDL in 15th–17th C. there was a language situation «a lot of diglossias». In this situation, for each language have been clearly set out certain public functions. In contrast to bilingualism in the socio-linguistic phenomenon of diglossia one who says, evaluates its idiom on a scale of «solemn – everyday». At the same time the public sphere is not used two language systems (formal and folk).

Keywords: Social and Linguistic Situation, Catechesis, Book-printing, Official Language, Diglossia, the Grand Duchy of Lithuania

Political Ideas

Iryna Michiejeva (Iryna Mikheyeva). The Political, Social, and Cultural Basis of «The Fourth Commonwealth of Poland» Ideologeme.

The article uncovers the specificity of a complex of cultural, historical, political, economic and mental causes and conditions of the formation of «The Fourth Commonwealth of Poland» ideologeme in its right version (in the ideological framework of «Law and Justice»). A number of archetypal foundations of a Polish phenomenon of «historical policy» (the enemy myth, the new state and human myth, the sacrifice myth) are analyzed, as well as the appearance of «pagan past» in the political present of the Polish state (the sacred mountain cult, martyrological cult). The author concludes that it is reasonable to examine cultural and political history of Poland in terms of post-colonialism, which makes it possible to find a peculiar ideology of PNR heritage elimination, rebel mythology and the cult of defeat in the national conservative political discourse.

Keywords: European Integration, Political Mythology, Conservatism, Nationalism, Historical Policy, Archetype

Political Institutions

Vadzim Smok. The Shaping of Regional Authorities in Belarus and Poland: a Comparative Analysis of Hrodna Voblast and Podlasie Voivodship.

The article examines how the political and economic institutions of Belarus and Poland affect the process of elite shaping in Hrodna voblast and Podlasie voivodship. The hypothesis states that different institutional heritage, current political regime and economic structure will result in different structures of regional elite. A comparative analysis of regional representative bodies is conducted on the basis of deputies' data by a number of criteria. The results partly corroborate the given thesis, as obvious distinctions in composition of the two bodies are seen. However, a certain similarity of two cases is traced, as well as some other factors that impact on the shaping of regional elites. These points make us assume the complexity and ambiguity of the studied process.

Keywords: Hrodna Voblast, Podlasie Voivodship, Regional Elites, Democracy, Authoritarianism

Reviews: history

Aliaksandr Šamiakin (Aliaksandr Shamiakin). From Brest to BSSR. Траціцяк, С. А. (2009). Брэсцкі мір і грамадска-палітычныя працэсы ў Беларусі: лістапад 1917 – студзень 1919 г.

The review examines the book of the Belarusian historian S. Tracckiak, which covers political and state-building processes in Belarus in years 1917–1919.

Keywords: Review, Belarusian Popular Republic, Belarusian Soviet Socialist Republic, Belarusian State, Revolution, World War I

Aliaksandr Filipau (Aliaksandr Filipau). Belarus: Unconventional History. Беларусь в XX веке: нетрадиционное представление истории (2010). Под ред. В. Н. Сидорцова.

The review deals with the debated interpretation of Belarusian history in the book edited by Belarusian historian Sidarcoŭ. Some concepts, methods and empirical materials presented in the book are critically analyzed

Keywords: Review, History of Belarus, History, Synergy, Everyday History

Uladzislau Ivanou (Uladzislau Ivanou). «Together but almost apart». Монолатій, Іван (2010). Разом, але майже окремо. Взаємодія етнополітичних акторів на західноукраїнських землях у 1867–1914 рр.

A book of Ukrainian researcher Ivan Monolatyj, which focuses on ethnic and political development of Western Ukraine in the second half of the 19th – beginning of the 20th century, is reviewed.

Keywords: Review, Western Ukraine, Ethnic Politics, Ethnic Relations, Austria-Hungary

Uladzimir Ščerbau (Uladzimir Shcherbau). Eastern Europe – United by Big Blood. Snyder, Timothy (2010). Bloodlands. Europe between Hitler and Stalin.

This is the review of a quite famous book by American historian T. Snyder. The concept and method of historical narrative are analyzed. Also, the reviewer points at certain problems of the study caused by the use of mostly secondary historical sources.

Keywords: Review, World War II, Political Repressions, Mass Killings, Victims of War

Reviews: Society and Politics

Aliaksiej Lastoŭski (Aliaksei Lastouski). The Rebel of «Tutejšyja» against the Nation. Чернявская, Юлия (2010). Беларусь. От тутэйшых – к нации.

The review examines the book of Belarusian researcher Julija Charniauskaia, which deals with the peculiarities of the Belarusian nation and national identity formation.

Keywords: Review, Belarusian Nation, Identity, Ethnic History, Folklore, National Consciousness

Paviel Barkoŭski (Pavel Barkouski). Dialogues for the Reappraisal of Values. Мацкевич, В.В. (2010). Переоценка ценностей в культуре и истории Беларуси.

The review examines a book of a famous Belarusian intellectual and public figure Uladzimir Mackievič. The author's logic in the solution of «value problem» in modern Belarusian society and culture is analyzed.

Keywords: Review, Uladzimir Mackievič (Vladimir Matskevich), Cultural Values, Belarusian Politics, Interpretation of History, Methodology

Andrej Asadčy (Andrei Asadchy). Within the Ideological Process: Ungovernable Flow of Facts and Ideas. *Слука, О. Г. (2010). Идеологические процессы в Беларуси.*

The review critically examines the book of Aleh Sluka, an active propagator of «ideology of Belarusian state», which covers the ideological processes in Belarus.

Keywords: Review, Ideology of Belarusian State, National Idea, Belarusian Politics, Belarusian State

Tacciana Čyžova (Tatsiana Chyzhova). Belarusian Yearbook: Analytics, Science and Political Journalism. *Белорусский ежегодник. Сборник обзорных и аналитических материалов по развитию ситуации в Республике Беларусь (2010). Сост. и ред. А. Паньковский, В. Костюгова.*

The essay reviews a well-known annual publication on social, political and economic development of Belarus in 2010.

Keywords: Review, Belarusian Politics, Economy, Society, Analytics, Political Science

Andrej Kazakievič (Andrei Kazakevich). Belarusian Dictionary of Plagiarism: copy + past. *Шынкароў, В. В., Раманавы, С. П. (2011). Беларускі палітычны слоўнік. Мінск: Адукацыя і выхаванне.*

The review analyzes a special dictionary of political terms, prepared by the workers of Belarusian state higher education institutions.

Keywords: Political Science, Politics, Dictionary, Terminology, Plagiarism

Siarhiey Bohdan (Siarhei Bohdan). An Original Study of an Unoriginal Problem. Manufacturing Enemy Images? Russian Media Portrayal of Latvia (2008). Ed. Nils Muižnieks.

The review examines a book by modern Latvian researchers. It focuses on the causes, context and strategies of the enemy image formation in Russian mass media.

Keywords: Review, Latvia, Russia, Enemy Image, Informational Wars, Mass Media

Siarhiey Bohdan (Siarhei Bohdan). The Ultimate Afghanistan of the Belarusian Science. *Стурейко, Степан, Медяник, Владимир (2009). Афганистан: этнополитический конфликт и проблема перемещенных лиц.*

The review critically analyzes the book by Belarusian historians, which deals with the problem of armed conflict in Afghanistan.

Keywords: Review, Afghanistan, Armed Conflict, Refuge, Belarusian Science, Oriental Studies