

Summaries

***Makarenko V.P.* – Idea and Concept of National Self-criticism**

Abstract: The paper seeks to develop a theory of political criticism. To accomplish this task, the author analyzes the historical, theoretical and philosophical premises of national self-criticism. The M. Walzer's theory of social criticism is analyzed as a philosophical and theoretical foundation of national self-criticism. The author proposes to add to this theory the concepts developed by J. Benda (radical dualism between the nation and critic), R. Bourne (the need for critical distance), M. Buber (domestic criticism by clarifying the concepts of nationality, ethnicity and nationalism), Antonio Gramsci (trench warfare with everyday life), Beauvoir S. (feminist criticism), etc. The theory of national self-criticism, in author's opinion, should facilitate the release from "religious-mystical national egotism."

The Modernity: Dilemmas and Paradoxes (Round Table Discussion)

Abstract: Roundtable, held in Rostov-on-Don July 17, 2009, was devoted to discussing the concept of "modernity" proposed by B.G. Kapustin. The discussion was centered around the seven theses, in which B.G. Kapustin formulated his concept: 1) Conceptually "modernity" can be described in terms of knowledge, which Aristotle called *phronesis*; 2) The problems of "modernity" presented in such a context become life's problems which are not amenable to a final decision; 3) The consequence of understanding of the foregoing problem is rejection of Kant's "doubling of the Worlds" in the interpretation of "freedom", namely in favor of the Nietzsche's unity of freedom and discipline; 4) The result is a rethinking of the concept of "freedom" as an endless process of "liberation"; 5) "Modernity" as a problematic situation can be interpreted as a "tightly knit constellation of different institutions" and emancipatory processes of this "institutional cohesion"; 6) This allows us to rethink the relations between the concepts "modernity" and "modernization" - the latter is understood not as a movement toward some kind of model of modernity, but a way of life in modernity, in accordance with the logic of "challenge-response"; 7) Problematization of modernity is at the global level, and "modernization" is set in different historical and cultural contexts.

***Chukin S.G.* – The Prospect of the Parish Bell Tower against the Statue of Liberty: the Debate between Communitarians and J. Rawls's Followers**

Abstract: This article analyzes the debate on justice in the 80-90-ies of XX century, namely, the discussion took place between communitarians and Rawls's followers. The author considers the arguments of the three main critics of Rawls's theory of justice from 'communitarian camp' – M. Sendel, A. McIntyre and M. Walzer, and concludes: all communitarian projects are united by the desire to prove that any attempt to create a social theory in which the normative elements absent, doomed to failure. The theories of "good society" presented by communitarians differ both in signs of "good" and in ways to justify these signs. To date, the projects by A. Etzioni, A. Honnet, N. Fraser and A. Margalit are the most recognized ones. However, critical analysis of these projects allows the author to conclude: the inclusion of regulatory elements in the political theory of "good society" requires solving the fundamental problem of the epistemological status of values.

***Gudkov L.D.* – Are there Any Reasons in Theoretical Sociology in Russia?**

Abstract: This article is based on a report at the XVI Symposium "Paths of Russia: a Modern Intellectual Space." The author captures the "creeping empiricism" of sociological research in contemporary Russia without any meaningful attempt of theoretical generalizations and criticism. One of the main signs of lack of theoretical and methodological interests by sociologists is deficit of analysis of paradigmatic contradiction in interpretation of research results. In order to overcome this situation, in the author's judgment, it is necessary to realize the four key objectives: to develop the theory of meaning generation act for the analysis of highly differentiated structures and forms of interaction; to solve the problem of rationality and its types as well as problem of cultural substantiation of synthesis of ideas and interests; to set the interaction between sociology and humanities; to develop the apparatus for translation of analytical and conceptual languages of humanities into the language of sociology. However, the solution of tasks listed above is possible only if de-etatisation of Russian sociology takes place.

Reproduction of Absurdity (Editorial)

Abstract: In an editorial that precedes the publication of two chapters from the G.M. Derluigian's book «Bourdieu's Secret Admirer in the Caucasus», it is proposed to proceed from assumption that the social and political history of the Soviet Union / Russia is the epitome of absurdity, namely as a process of degeneration of professionalism in all spheres, including politics. The second point to which attention is drawn in the article: the entire history of the USSR / Russia could be represented as a process of multiple formation and collapse of the empire. To analyze the conflict in Chechnya, the author suggests using the concept of "modified separatism" by M. Ferro, and concludes: Conflict between center and periphery, the executive and legislative branches hides a multitude of trends towards reproduction of colonization in contemporary Russia.

***Derluigian G.M.* – Several Chapters from the Book: Bourdieu's Secret Admirer in the Caucasus. A World-System Biography (The University of Chicago Press, 2005)**

Abstract: In his book, G. Derluigian narrates the story of one of prominent leaders in the Chechen revolution who transformed himself from dissident intellectual into a nationalist warlord. Exploring globalization, democratization, ethnic identity, and international terrorism, Derluigian contextualizes personal trajectory of his protagonist from de-Stalinization through the nationalist rebellions of the 1990s, to the recent rise in Islamic militancy. Drawing on the work of Ch.Tilly, I.Wallerstein, and P.Bourdieu, author's explanation of the recent ethnic wars and terrorist acts in Russia succeeds in illuminating the role of human agency in shaping history.

***Subbotin A.I.* – Incomplete Discussion at the Seminar on Political Conceptology**

Abstract: The author analyzes the results of the discussion «Problem of the Elite in Contemporary Russia» held in the framework of a permanent seminar on political conceptology. The discussion was centered on the following critical issues: what is the «elite» in general, and the Russian «elite», in particular? What are the functions of the elite? What is the role of intellectuals in the process elite building etc.? The author believes that the discussion was left unfinished because the unambiguous answers to these questions have not been received.