

## A b s t r a c t s

Roland Götz

Pipeline Bugbear

Fallacies of the European Energy Debate

In the European energy debate, an allegedly dangerous dependency on imports from Russia is evoked with growing frequency. Sometimes, there is talk of a militarisation of energy policy, that is to say, a NATO for energy. But this threat scenario misses the mark. Russia is at least just as dependent on exports of fossil fuels as Europe is on their imports. The means of increasing energy security are also inadequate. All of the other providers and supply lines outside of Europe are more problematic than Russia. Therefore, instead of promoting alternative pipelines, the EU should promote alternative forms of energy. Alongside an increase in energy efficiency in the eastern EU member states and Russia, such a policy will contribute not only to securing supplies but to protecting the climate as well.

Jeronim Perović

The Gas Farce

Russia, Ukraine, and European Policy

The gas conflict between Russia and Ukraine in January 2009 left almost 20 countries in Europe without natural gas. Now Russia and Ukraine are considered problems when it comes to European energy security. Brussels and the national governments of the EU member states have to consider what kind of consequences are to be drawn from this crisis. Russia is, and will remain, Europe's most important gas supplier. But relations between Europe and Russia are troubled and have to be corrected. An important precondition is for the European Union to show unity. Above all, however, it is necessary to understand the complex background, causes, and motives behind the gas conflict.

## Approaches to Stalinism

Arsenii Roginskii

Fragmented Memory

Stalin and Stalinism in Today's Russia

The Stalin era is very much present in Russia today, albeit for the most part in an idealised form. When it is equated with the war, Stalin stands for victory; when the Great Terror is recalled, the victims are front and centre. The crimes and the perpetrators are not part of the discussion. This has as much to do with the lack of a legal basis for prosecution as with the fact that differentiating between perpetrator and victim is often difficult. In addition, official history policy marginalises and trivialises terror as a feature of Stalinism.

Oleg Khlevniuk

### The Stalinist Dictatorship

#### Politics, Institutions, and Methods

New sources have enriched our knowledge about Stalinism. This dictatorship established itself in the course of the party's struggle against a large part of the population. This was the continuation of the Civil War with other means. Repression and terror formed a pillar of centralised rule. They began and ended on Moscow's orders. Campaigns were the basis of political and administrative praxis. These compensated for the weakness of traditional development stimuli, healed an apparatus under strain, and guaranteed strong centralisation. Today's attempts to smooth over the criminal character of the Stalinist dictatorship by reducing it to the modernisation of the country and victory in the war are unacceptable.

Jörg Baberowski

### Life in a State of Emergency

#### Karl Schlögel's *Terror und Traum: Moskau 1937*

Depicting life under conditions of a state of emergency in a realistic way is a task that poses enormous difficulties for the historian. If he wants to address the variety of simultaneous events in a particular place, he must let his sources speak in a way that makes the cacophony of experiences palpable and communicable. In *Terror und Traum*, Karl Schlögel has made an effort to depict life in Moscow in 1937 in a realistic way. This ambitious experiment has not reached its conclusion. But it shows how a story that seeks to be more than a chronology of events ought to look like.

Ulrich Schmid

### The Literarisation of Historiography

#### Moscow 1937: Karl Schlögel's Masterpiece

That historiography tells stories has been known since the appearance of Hayden White's methodological investigations at the latest. Only most recently, however, have historians assumed the consequences of this insight: Carsten Goehrke built fictitious scenes of pre-modern Russia into his work *Russischer Alltag*. Karl Schlögel goes one step farther. He has construed his new book *Terror und Traum: Moskau 1937* as a literarily stylised grand narrative with tragic protagonists, thrilling story lines, and spectacular settings.

Nawojka Cieślińska-Lobkowicz

### The Blind Spot

#### Looted Art, Restitution, and the "Eastern Jews"

The search for Jewish owned cultural assets stolen by the National Socialists starting in 1933 and the restitution of those assets to their rightful heirs has occupied politicians and those directly affected to this day. An exhibition at the Jewish Museums in Berlin and Frankfurt and a substantial companion volume *Raub und Restitution* are dedicated to the issue. But something is missing. The fate of the East European Jews goes unmentioned. This is representative of the shortcomings of research in this field and the continued existence of stereotypes and ignorance. The unwillingness of some countries in East Central Europe to accept their Jewish heritage and to address restitution seriously merely add to the problem. The art collectors Maksymilian Goldstein and Abe Gutnajer of L'viv (Lwów) and Warsaw are well suited as symbolic additions for closing this gap.

Nikita Sokolov

The Eternal Karamzin

Historical Ideology from the Textbook

History class plays an important role for the political consciousness of every society. In Russia, the first history book came into being in the 18th century. Soon the state-fixed construct of Russia's history drafted by Nikolai Karamzin asserted itself. Herein lies the basis of ideas such as a special path, the fortress under siege, centralism, and the legitimization of authoritarian rule. From 1918 to 1934 and during Perestroika, other views of history dominated. Now a restoration can be observed. New history textbooks are once again spreading constructs of history in the tradition of Karamzin.

Isabelle de Keghel

Guilt, Faith, and Salvation

Religion in the New Russian Cinema

In the 1990s, the Second World War was rarely a subject in Russian films. In new productions, the war once again has a role to play. Religious topics and figures are at the centre of action. Pavel Lungin's "Ostrov" from late 2006 has become a box office hit. Support from the church and state has facilitated its success, but the success of this film feeds primarily on society's need for an individual and spiritual confrontation with guilt and forgiveness.

Alexander J. Motyl

Russia: People, State, and Leader

Elements of a Fascist System

In Russia, a fascist system has established itself. Its features are hyper-nationalism, a fetish for the state, and a cult of masculinity centred on Vladimir Putin, who, even under President Dmitrii Medvedev, remains the country's undisputed leader. This order is not stable. When Putin's star fades, power struggles among the elite will break out again. Imperial overstretch and the looming economic crisis merely add to the problem. Russia faces a new time of troubles.

Karlheinz Kasper

"I Know My Way around Paradise"

Russian Literature in German Translation 2008

With 30 titles this year, the number of translations appears to have evened off at an acceptable level, although we should not close our eyes to the fact that ten titles are to be allotted the genres of thriller and fantasy. That speaks for their success with readers, but it does not reflect the situation of contemporary Russian fiction. The latter shows a trend towards anti-utopian views of Russia, as expressed in books by Vladimir Sorokin and Dmitrii Glukhovskii. Especially gratifying this year is the number of discoveries of previously unknown or untapped works, which range from contributions by Sof'ia Tolstaia and Ivan Bunin, Anatolii Shteiger and Leonid Dobychnin, to Varlam Shalamov.