

Europe, Moldova, Bologna New skin in old wines

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A b s t r a c t s

Anneli Ute Gabanyi

Crisis Election in Moldova

Results, Conflicts, Prospects

In the Moldovan parliamentary election, President Vladimir Voronin's Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova may have won, but the result has been challenged by three opposition parties due to alleged irregularities. Protests by young Moldovans against the election result were forcibly suppressed, which led to tensions with Romania and the European Union. It is still unclear whether the situation will stabilise or new elections will ensue.

Vlad Kulminski, Hans Martin Sieg

The Europeanisation of Moldova

A Strategy for Solving the Transnistria Conflict

After the disputed parliamentary elections in April 2009, Moldova is at a crossroads. The regime is under pressure at home and abroad. This indirectly strengthens Moscow and Tiraspol's position in the conflict over Transnistria. But their interests are diverging. For economic reasons, the European Union is becoming more attractive to Transnistria. The upcoming transfer of power there could slip beyond Moscow's control. Moldova's previous negotiating strategy has led to a dead end. The alternative lies in a long-term strategy of Europeanisation, which would also inevitably change Russia's and Transnistria's interests.

Eckart D. Stratenschulte

The Square Eastern Europe

The European Union's Eastern Partnership

Squaring the circle has a name: Eastern Partnership. With this instrument, the European Union is trying to live up to its own expectations of its neighbours to the east and at the same time not to disappoint their wishes. The previous Neighbourhood Policy did not succeed in either respect. The European Union should make Moldova the test case for the Eastern Partnership's success.

Markus Wehner

Failed Revolution

In Russia's Archives the Clocks Run Backwards

It is becoming increasingly difficult to conduct research in Russian archives. Many files have once again been classified or remain inaccessible. Which documents are released is arbitrarily decided by bureaucrats. The West's assumption that it could have a lasting influence on Russian history and archive policy by means of common projects has proven to be an illusion.

Stefan Meister

Bologna po ruski

Internationalisation of Higher Education

At the start of the 1990s, international contacts secured the financial survival of schools of higher education. Since 2000, Russia's government has promoted the internationalisation of education as the foundation of the country's economic modernisation. Participation in the Bologna process is to make it possible for Russia to join the international system of schools of higher education. But education specialists and the Putin system's need to control are blocking a comprehensive internationalisation of higher education.

Paulina Gulińska-Jurriel

Soul in the West, Body in the East

Poles and Europe in Stefan Kisielewski's Published Work

For more than half a century, Stefan Kisielewski followed the political development of People's Republic of Poland as a feature writer and chronologist. He saw it as Poland's role to mediate culturally and intellectually between East and West, in order to bring together Europe's divided parts. His travels to the Soviet Union and Western Europe were fuelled by this motivation. He argued for an unbiased view of the Soviet Union and was irritated by West German disinterest in Europe's east. Kisielewski did not divine the significance that the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe was to have in overcoming the East-West conflict. But he clung to the idea of Europe's cultural unity.

Kurt Scharr

Chernivtsi in Flux

Cultural Landscape and Public Space 1775–2007

Cities are densely populated areas of social practice. Historical and contemporary maps show how this changes and, with that, how a city changes its functions. The cultural casting of public space through the allocation of street names, the shaping of squares, or the placement of monuments also bears witness to the varied history of urban centres. The case of Chernivtsi (Czernowitz, Cernăuți), the capital of Bukovina, shows this.

Edith Spielhagen

Transforming the Media in Belarus

The Chances and Limits of External Influence

A key feature of authoritarian states is the absence of a widely informed and mature public. This applies especially to Belarus. After independence, only a rudimentary transformation of the media took place. Access to independent media and information is severely limited by the government. Since the 1990s, foreign institutions have strived to promote the diversity of opinions by offering continuing education in journalism and organising media projects. The success of these efforts has yet to be researched.