
SUMMARY, No. 5 (80), 2009

The May issue starts with the speech by this year ARCHE 'For Honest Word' prize winner **Rashed Chowdhury**, hold in Mahilou on June, 11. The author reflects on the Belarusian identity, patriotism and nationalism. He argues that the current design of the Belarusian identity is exclusive, ethnically limited and isolating minorities. If the Belarusians wants to move closer to the Western cultural space, their identity is due to be re-defined to make it more open and alien-friendly.

Since the beginning of May the Hrodna-based journalist **Andrzej Poczobut** has been conducting his web-log at the ARCHE web-site (www.arche.by), highlighting hot political, cultural and ethical issues. Some pieces from it are re-posted in the issue, commencing from his essay 'Lukashenka's Defeat'. In his opinion, the Belarus's joining to the EU program 'Eastern Partnership' means the debacle of the previous Lukashenka's ambition to link up the nation only with the post-soviet geopolitical space.

Political observer **Ihar Barysaŭ** in his 'The Belarusian Political Illness 'Organizational Committee' blames some sub-political formations in the Belarusian political field, so called the organizational committees of the political parties or movements. Due to deep freezing of the Belarusian political sphere and as a result an informal ban to register new political parties the bizarre committees could exist for years without any formal status being just a subject of manipulation from the side the more powerful political actors.

Political commentator **Jury Chavusaŭ** in his 'Changes in 'Europe Last Dictatorship': Reality or fiction?' follows new trends in the Belarusian economy and policymaking, inspired by Belarus's invitation to the EU program 'Eastern Partnership'. There is in Belarus nowadays the evident misbalance between the economic and political sectors. If the liberalization of Belarusian economy still advances, the domestic political milieu is faced not the 'perestroika', but détente.

Journalist **Piotr Pytlakowski** tells on history of a Belarusian spy Siarhiej Monič, who was arrested in Vilnius on November 25, 2006 and transferred to the Polish justice.

Linguist **Żmiciar Saŭka** continues to deconstruct in his 'Mosaic Orthography' the new orthography regulations of the Belarusian language, which will be imposed on September 1, 2010.

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Historian **Žmicier Vičko** in his 'Treatise against 'Ličviny' criticizes new sup-cultural groups called 'Ličviny' (or 'Lithuanians' in Belarusian), whose members stress their Belarusian origin, use Belarusian language, but deny to recognize Belarus as their ideological motherhood. Stating that their national tradition constitutes the Great Duchy of Lithuania, they demonize the Belarusian nationalism, basing on some Soviet ideological schemes.

A blogger **Aleś Jurkaviec** in his 'Fear of the Belarussianisation': the Case of the Ideologist Siarhiej Šyptenka' sorts out the views on the Belarusian nation and language, presented by a teacher of the state ideology from the Academy of Management by Administration of President in his web-log. Some steps in the European direction, made by the Belarusian regime, sparked the frustrations of the loyalist professorate, concludes Jurkaviec. They fear that the domestic transformation could disclose their academic incompetence and thus hurt their professional prospects.

Essayist **Karen Akopaŭ** in his 'Barack Obama and the way towards Genuine, Homegrown Democracy' discusses the popular book written by American incumbent 'The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream' (New York: Vintage Books USA, 2006.).

Rashed Chowdhury in his 'The Feudal Populists Political Field' discovers the similarities in Pakistan and Belarusian political systems, using as a starting point the books by Benazir Bhutto 'Reconciliation: Islam, Democracy, and the West' (New York: Harper, 2008) and by Pervez Musharraf 'In the Line of Fire: A Memoir' (New York: Free Press, 2006).

A Minsk based political scientist **Volf Rubinčyk** shows the incompetence and inadequacy of a text-book, used for teaching in the Belarusian State University Institute of Journalism.

A Krakow based cultural anthropologist **Joanna Bernatowicz** presents a re-interpretation of a novel by Vincuk Advažny (pen-name of a Roman Catholic priest **Jazep Hiermanovič**), published in 1935 in Vilna.

A blogger **Aleś Biely** and a philosopher **Piotra Rudkoŭski** re-defy their positions in the polemics, started in ARCHE 12, 2008 issue.

Lublin based sociologist **Ryszard Radzik** in his 'Konstantyn Kalinowski in the Light of the Documents' deconstructs Kalinowski's phenomena.

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Aleś Paškevič in his 'Vilnius or Minsk. The Tragic Choice of Vaclaŭ Łastoŭski,' explains the motivations, which urged the Belarusian Democratic Republic prime minister to emigrate to Soviet Minsk in 1927. In 1930 he was arrested and sent to Saratov, where he was executed in 1938.

Basing on the archive sources, Warsaw University teacher **Jury Hryboŭski** in his 'The Belarusian movement and Germany in the on the eve and during the initial period of World War II' reconstructs short-term flirtation of the Belarusian right nationalism with Nazi Germany.

A Polish researcher **Aleksander Kozicki's** account 'Actions of the security organs of the Polish People's Republic against Belarusian political emigration, 1945—1956', published in the issue, was originally designed for the international scientific conference 'Secret weapon or victims of the Cold War? Central and Eastern European Émigrés', hold in Lublin, 13-15 November 2008.

Professor **Thomas M. Bohn** from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München account 'In the common sea of voices my voice shall resound too' exemplified the 1958 election in Supreme Soviet of USSR on Minsk case. This analysis is an attempt to show that Soviet elections also had different meanings and that forms of dissent were possible. Its epistemological interest is articulations of nonconformity and resistance in post-war Belarus.

The issue presents the translation of a key book for Belarusian nation-building for 19 century by colonel of Polish army **Aleksander Rypiński** 'Białoruś. Kilka słów o poezji prostego ludu tej naszej polskiej prowincji, o jego muzyce, śpiewie, tańcach etc.' appeared in Paris in 1840. Translator, historian of literature **Mikoła Chaŭstovič**, expressed his suggestion in the work in an afterword 'Rypiński: familiar and unfamiliar'.

The issue ends with the short reviews by **Andranik Antanian** and **Alaksiej Łastoŭski**, chronicle of the trial process, caused by KGB suit to declare ARCHE issue №7—8 of 2008 and liable to destruction as well as an obituary by **Piotra Rudkoŭski** on philosopher, ARCHE author **Uładzimier Furs**, died in June age 45.