
SUMMARY, No. 11 (74), 2008

The issue opens with the round table 'The Authoritarian Ersatz of the Electoral Campaign', dedicated to the recently launched campaign of the purges of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, KGB, Ministry of Defense and National Office of the public prosecutor, initiated by the Belarusian president on November 13. Lukashenka blamed high ranking officers for illegal possessing land and construction of luxurious villas on the territory of a kindergarten near Zaslauskaye water storages etc.

The political analysts agreed that the spectacular show is the top event for official political discourse this year. Its functional role for the Lukashenka-style authoritarianism you can compare to the election procedure in the free societies. Preventing to the free and fair elections, Lukashenka is forced to rotate the state apparatus officials through the scandal purges and live broadcasted arrests. Otherwise the corruption expansion and the incompetence growth is inevitable.

Linguist **Żmicer Saŭka** deconstructs in his 'Mosaic orthography' the new orthography regulations of the Belarusian language, which will be imposed on September 1, 2010. Essayist **Volha Parfienčyk** sketches in her 'The Black Hope of America', which hopes the Americans associate to the newly elected president Barack Hussein Obama.

The **Pontis Foundation Belarus Brief** 'The END of the ENP' suggests that the main challenge the EU faces now is to develop the necessary measures to act accordingly, in line with this newly-adopted Realpolitik towards Belarus.

Piotra Rudkoŭski, a philosopher, logician, and methodology professor at the Vilnius-based European Humanities University (EHU), Lithuania, contests in his '**The Belarusian Revival between Pogrom and Hypermarket**' the suggestions that the Belarusian language and the Belarusian nationalism have no prospects under the populist regime and the commercialized culture oppression. **Alaksiej Łastoŭski**, a sociologist at the Minsk based Institute of Sociology criticizes two recently published books on the Belarusian nationalism in 21 century (Rudkoŭski, Piotr. *Białoruska idea narodowa w XXI wieku*. Lublin, 2008. Мацкевич, В., Егоров, А., Водолажская Т. *Становление нации в Беларуси: от подданства к гражданству*. Минск, 2008.). Their authors, the mentioned above **Piotra Rudkoŭski** and **Taciana Vadałažskaja**, sociologist at the Minsk based Institute of Sociology, opponent him in their 'Label Argumentation' and 'How to Answer to the Question what is the Belarusian Nation?' respectively. The Kyiv based philosopher **Vitaliy Ponomariov** reviews in his 'The Phenomenology of the Nation' the Belarusian translation of the Miroslav Hroch piece 'In the National Interests'. Polish translator and essayist **Małgorzata Buchalik** discusses in her 'The Belarusian Vegetation in Mahilou and Minsk' two novel Mahiloŭ born Russian novelist **Uładzimier Kazłoŭ** 'The School' and 'Warsaw'.

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Uładzimier Furs, a philosophy professor at the Vilnius-based European Humanities University (EHU), Lithuania, presents in his 'The Structural Framework of the Alternative Nation-Building' his ideas on the ongoing Belarusian Nation-Building. **David R. Marples**, professor of History at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, and his Belarusian co-author **Uładzimier Padhoł** in their 'The New Remembrance Policy in Another Russian-Speaking State' wonder how the official remembrance policy, falsifying the WWII developments in Belarus, consolidates the regime acceptance by the Belarusian population.

EHU professor **Taciana Čulickaja** in her 'The Discourses of the Belarusian Students' analyses the identity formations and divisions in the university youth environment. The economists reason (**Alaksandar Čubryk** in his 'Do Belarus Need the Reform,' **Dźmitry Kruk** in his 'Has Belarus Started with the Reform' and **Kiryla Hajduk** 'The Social Contracts in Belarus: Some one Solidify, Other one Isolate') how Belarus could soften the implications of the global financial crisis and effectively reform its economy. American expert **Jonathan Row** in his 'Our Phony Economy' as well as his British counterpart **William Tompson** in his 'Back to the Future? Thoughts on the Political Economy of Expanding State Ownership in Russia' sort out why the crisis hurt the American and the Russian economies in a larger extend than others one. **Aris Trantidis** from the London School of Economics reveals in his 'The Economic Underpinnings of Semi-Authoritarianism: Explaining Preferences and Power Relations in the Case of Belarus' the economic preconditions of the Belarusian regime stability.

Nasha Niva web-site editor-and-chief **Andrej Dyńko** writes in his 'How I became a Journalist' on his cultural, political and social experiences in the late 1990-ies and early 2000-ies. The political commentator of the Radio Liberty Belarusian service **Jury Drakachrust** states in his 'The Horizon of the Belarusian Elite Values' that the new generation of the Belarusian *nomenklatura* is more consumption oriented and hostile toward Russia than their communist predecessors.

Historian **Vital Makarevič** traces in his 'Anti-Verification. The Faking the Nobility Documents and the Illegal Ennoblement in Belarus in 19 century' how the Belarusian gentry responded to the official Petersburg demand to confirm their noble origin.

The issue ends with a review by **Vitaliy Ponomariov** on the re-edition of Natala Yakovenko synthesis '*Українська шляхта з кінця XIV до середини XVII ст. Волинь і Центральна Україна*'. Київ: «Критика», 2008.