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BOOK REVIEW

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Sava Djonev et al.: Political Culture, Elites and the European Union

POLITICAL CULTURE, ELITES AND EUROPEAN UNION

(Cross-cultural study)

Sava Djonev, Daniel Tomov, Yanica Petkova, Yoana Ignova, Vasilena Cvetkova, Eli-Dayana

Pancheva

Abstract

The politics is one of the most dynamic spheres in the social life, and this is why it attracts the attention since Aristotle's times until our days. The presented research is devoted to two important its aspects: the political culture and the political elites. The purpose of this paper is to develop the categories in which are thought these two notions in social conscious, to trace the contours of their real state in the society and these states to be compared – chiefly between Bulgaria and western countries from European union.

For this purpose, at the base of theoretical analysis are developed and tested two questioners – about the political culture and about the political elite. Their statistical characteristics are checked up and their suitability is evaluated, after which are used successfully for gathering empirical material. The further treatment and analysis of the gathered data give answers to all set above research purposes.

Rozaliya Guigova: Archival Materials Related to the Monumental Decoration of Representative Public Buildings in Bulgaria

ARCHIVAL MATERIALS RELATED TO THE MONUMENTAL DECORATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN BULGARIA

Rozaliya Guigova

Abstract

This article investigates an almost unknown aspect of German-Bulgarian cultural relations in the 1930s and the early 1940s: the artistic cooperation between famous Bulgarian artists and German stained glass institutes that develop their activities in the field of monumental decorative arts, particularly mosaics and stained glass (among them are the institutes Puhl& Wagner in Berlin and Mayer'sche Hofkunstanstalt in Munich). Almost all *large-scale* projects for stained glass and mosaics, which are destined to adorn numerous representative public buildings in Sofia, are realized in the workshops of the mentioned German companies. This text analyzes multiple archival materials and is mainly based on my work in Berlin where nowadays is situated the archive of one world famous institute for stained glass entitled „United Workshops for Mosaics and Stained Glass Puhl& Wagner Gottfried Haynersdorf“ (today in Berlinische Galerie). The purpose of this article is to inform about the current state and location of the archive. Furthermore, the article offers an art historical analysis of the projects preserved in the mentioned Berlin archive and created by the Bulgarian artists Ivan Penkov (1897–1957) and Dechko Uzunov (1899–1986).

SCIENCE AND ETHICS

Anguel Stefanov: Aspects of Criticism in Science

ASPECTS OF CRITICISM IN SCIENCE

Anguel Stefanov

Abstract

I try to delineate four aspects of the criticism related with the work of scientists today. The first one is the criticism inherent in the very process of theory formation and assessment; the second and the third aspects concern the blind peer review process both in international and in Bulgarian journals; and the fourth aspect represents the critique as a genre at home. My claim is that a gradual endorsement of a cultural climate is needed for launching and accepting of criticism in the sphere of scientific research in our country.

Key words: aspects of criticism, blind peer review, critique as a genre.

Sevo Yavashchev: Scientific Criticism as a Factor for the Development of Academic Staff at Universities

SCIENTIFIC CRITICISM AS A FACTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ACADEMIC STUFF IN THE ACADEMIA

Sevo Yavashchev

Abstract

The paper deals with effects of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act (2010) for existing negative practices in some universities, i.e. ignorance of scientific reviewing in the promotion procedures of academic staff. In the paper are discussed some reasons, means and ways of transformation of universities as educational institutions in business projects.

Key words: university, faculty, procedures, scientific criticism.

Ilia Todev: In Search of the Historical Truth

A HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION

Ilia Todev

Abstract

The paper presents a newly published book which tests the truth of the following statement of another book: *“The bones of the Russian and Romanian soldiers fallen in 1877 are laid partly in the huge mausoleum, partly in the vast military cemeteries... The fate of the bones of tens of thousands Ottoman soldiers, however, is different – they were exhumed and sold to a British company that turned them into fertilizer for British agriculture.”*

The investigation shows that this is not a truth but an attempt to build and distribute a sophisticated anti-Bulgarian myth.

Key words: Bulgaria, Ottoman Empire, Russian Empire, The Siege of Pleven 1877, myth

SCIENCE AND SECURITY

Petar Marinov, Elena Vaicheva–Nestorova: Islamic State and the Global Information Environment

Islamic State and global internet space

Petar Marinov, Elena Vaicheva–Nestorova

Abstract

Islamic State is very famous with its activity in global internet space and has real enthusiastic followers. High-quality videos, online magazines, usage of social media, the terroristic accounts in Twitter, target the young people in internet. Indisputably, virtual reality helps IS to disseminate its influence in closed and manageable groups. Social media and cyber-nets do not have national borders and it is very difficult to predict the negative effects of that influence.

Key words: Islamic State, cyber net, terroristic, social media.

PROBLEMS OF EDUCATION

Neli Dimitrova: On the Qualification of a Physics Teacher

ON THE QUALIFICATION OF A PHYSICS TEACHER

Neli Dimitrova

Abstract

The article presents an overview on the European systems, including Bulgaria, for physics teacher's training. The types of pedagogical investigations, necessary for the development of the professional qualification of the physics teachers are described. The experimental and innovative research conducted by the physics teachers in this process is analyzed. The article raises the controversial problem about the need for unification and introduction of relevant standards for the teaching profession and the need for continuous professional development of teachers.

Marina Encheva, Iglia Getova: Approaches to Teaching in a Virtual Classroom
APPROACHES FOR TEACHING STUDENTS IN A VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

Marina Encheva, Iglia Getova

Abstract

The article examines the specifics of teaching in virtual learning environment. The methods of e-learning applicable in the university education are presented as the emphasis is on the strategies for active learning and the collaborative educational activities. The instruments for implementation of the training in the new classroom are examined – flashcards, interactive whiteboard, eBeam as well as their integration into the contemporary learning management systems. With the introduction of the new classroom the basic functions of teaching in the educational system are modified which leads to overcoming the stereotypes in education, i.e. elaboration of new approaches to the professional situations and development of creative abilities.

Keywords: e-learning, virtual classroom, active learning, collaborate, activities, flashcards, interactive whiteboard

GLIMPSE AT THE PAST

Kamen Boyadzhiev: Bulgarian Archaeology 2015

BULGARIAN ARCHAEOLOGY 2015

Kamen Boyadzhiev

Abstract

The National Institute of Archaeology with Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences organized the National Archaeological exhibition „Bulgarian Archaeology 2015” for the ninth year in a row. Traditionally, it presented the results from the last season of archaeological fieldwork by displaying some of the most interesting finds, along with extensive illustrative material. Contributions to the exhibition came from fifteen museums of history and archaeology in the country, co-organizers of the event, with finds from their depositories.

The exhibition brought together more than 260 artefacts from 24 archaeological sites belonging to different types and chronology, ranging from the Early Prehistory to the Middle Ages. It was opened to the public between 11 February and April 10, 2015.

PERSONALITIES

Stela Tasheva: Architect Naum Torbov: in Sofia and Bucharest

ARCHITECT NAUMTORBOV: IN SOFIA AND BUCHAREST

Stela Tasheva

Architect Naum Torbov is born in 1880 in the village of Gopesh (now Macedonia) and receives his architectural diploma in 1904, from the Bucharest Fine Arts School. He is the author of one of the capital oldiconic buildings – the Sofia Market Hall, and also of many other edifices constituting the cityimage in the beginning of 20th century.

The aim of this article is to investigate the possible connections and influences regarding architectural development in Romania and the works of Naum Torbov and also to create an up to date summary on his legacy. He is examined as one of the „first generation” Bulgarian architects and is finally concluded to be an author, who follows and cultivates the key trends and searches of his own time, thus turning into their standard.

The results are in the area of history of Bulgarian architecture and particularly into stylistic analysis of architectural flows in the country and in the region.

THE FLOOR TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Stanislav Kotsilkov: Nanotechnologies – a Challenge for the European Legislature

NANOTECHNOLOGIES – A CHALLENGE FOR THE EUROPEAN LEGISLATURE

Stanislav Kotsilkov

Abstract

The research and incorporation of engineered nanomaterials have become a priority in the European Union strategy for achieving competitiveness and sustainable development. At the same time, when it comes to nanotechnology there is an absence of a unified legislative approach between the European Commission, the European Parliament and the EU Member States.

In most cases the regulation of the manufacturing, the distribution and the market placement of consumer products containing engineered nanomaterials is achieved within the framework of REACH, CLP and several other key EU Directives, where nanomaterials are either not explicitly mentioned or there is no individual approach towards them. Largely, this is due to the fact that the mass research, production and application of nanomaterials are a relatively new phenomena and both scientific and technological knowledge gaps in terms of detection, monitoring and filtration still exist. The two regulatory reviews of nanomaterials published by the European Commission indicate that the current EU regulatory framework is an adequate tool in terms of managing potential risks for both public health and environment safety but more efforts need to be directed towards achieving better law enforcement on community and national level. Furthermore, more research and scientific data are required in key areas, such as the characterization of nanomaterials, the effects of their exposure and the corresponding risk assessment and management.