

COLUMN OF THE FOUNDERS

Mikhail Baidakov, Sergey Belkin

Holistic development – 4

The publisher and the editor-in-chief of the literary miscellany continue to structure the idea space evolving in the development problem context. In the introductory text they assert that Russia should create a new development paradigm the main point of which can be expressed by the formula – integrity in diversity. This paradigm can be productive for the development of not only Russia but the whole world.

EDITORIAL COLUMN

Dmitry Andreev, Sergey Belkin

Opening issue – 6

The article designates the issues covered by the authors engaged in preparing a regular issue of the literary miscellany. By announcing the articles to be published the editor-in-chief of the literary miscellany and the deputy editor-in-chief make the materials presented complete structurally and in terms of the meaning as a whole.

PHILOSOPHY OF DEVELOPMENT

Vladimir Kurashov

What is Russia? Philosophic Perspective – 12

Vladimir Kurashov thinks over the key issues of the Russian way of life – patriotism, nationalism, love for country and the national idea. He singles out the features specific to the Russian mentality including continuous exploration of the meaning of life or philosophical meditateness with a pronounced tendency for metaphysical contemplation. The author highlights the importance of the spiritual unity of the nation for Russia's stability and national security. He concludes that Russia is a country of continuous exploration of the meaning of life by the nation and almost continuous reformation initiated by the government.

Vladimir Maliavin

Dear Land and Upcoming Universality – 26

Vladimir Maliavin reflects upon the forms in which the nation manifests its distinctive character and national identity in the age of globalization and nihilism. The author proposes to consider as a subject of research the forms of the phantom reality manifestation in culture and its embracement by individual and social mind. He believes that such work will be gracious for Russia as in the context of accelerated capitalist development and weakening ideological suppression the Russians will vigorously conjure "dear ghosts" from the nonbeing and Russia's representations will rapidly multiply.

Sergey Belkin

Non-Russian Russian and Russian non-Russian – 48

The editor-in-chief of the miscellany refers to the currently politicized topic – Russian national identity. The author shows the futility of the discussion of this topic in an academic manner. He believes that this problem only gets a chance of constructive resolution only when it becomes part of a more general problem – the formulation of creative goal-setting

for the whole society. Any other way to help Russians to deal with their self-identification, not only will not succeed, but will be destructive to them and thus, given the role of Russians to the society and the country as a whole.

DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Alexander Rahr

The latest “Petersburg Dialogue” forum gave a new impetus to Germany-Russia relations – 60

Alexander Rahr’s article was written on the occasion of the XIII “Petersburg Dialogue” forum of civil societies of Germany and Russia held in Kassel early in December 2013. The forum focused on exploring opportunities for improving relations between Germany and Russia. The author highlights the reasons behind Germany’s failure to achieve real rapprochement with the European Union, on the one part, and post-communistic Russia, on the other part, over the last 25 years. He believes that nowadays conditions have taken shape for improving significantly the relations between Europe (including Germany) and Russia.

Aleksandr Yarkov

Russians and Islam: compatibility problems and mutual survival in Siberia – 64

Aleksandr Yarkov proves that Siberia gained unique experience of conflict-free coexistence of Orthodox and Muslims. This experience sharply contrasts with the experience of Orthodox-Muslim relations in the North Caucasus, which throughout the century and a half after the end of the Caucasian War continue to be strained. However, there are some problems in Siberia. In particular it is in this macro-region emerged a phenomenon of Muslims with Russian ethnic origin, who often become adepts of radical forms of Islam.

Interview with Evgeny Fiodorov

“Russia will immediately become power number one provided it breaks free of external control” – 80

A member of the State Duma, a member of the United Russia fraction and a member of the State Duma Committee for Budget and Taxes, Evgeny Fiodorov dwells upon the need to remove from the effective Constitution of the Russian Federation a number of provisions which, in his mind, make the country a non-sovereign state. The interviewee also focuses on other aspect of the present day – the West-dependent-state of Russia – and specifies the ways for the Russian Federation to win back the status of a fully sovereign participant in the world politics.

DEVELOPMENT THEORY

Evgeny Balatsky

Technology and Institutes: Closing the Loop of Interrelationships – 96

Evgeny Balatsky views the global system wherein technology and institutes stand out as the development determinants. The article shows that the principal law of development, i.e. transformation of physical risks into social risks, has a reverse effect – transformation of social risks into physical ones. The author discusses the impact of the phenomenon of economic growth and demographic factors on this process and outlines the new development model based on the reduced population size.

Igor Gundarov

On the culture of governance by quality of life criterion – 106

Article by Igor Gundarov substantiates the necessity of turning the concept of “quality of life” into evaluation criterion for practical politics. The author explains this concept in details. Then he gives concrete suggestions to embed it as an essential item to statements of the existing power system. The final part of the article shows the practical effect on the development of the country that can be achieved by such a correction to the existing control mechanisms.

HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT

Karen Swassjan

History of the Templars. In memory of a deserted temple – 114

Karen Swassjan represents the main milestones of the Templars history and describes their massacre at the beginning of the 14th century in detail. The author points to the inability to understand the phenomenon of Templars, to understand the causes of their conflict with the French king and evaluate the truth and fiction in the charges brought to the Order based only at academic historical studies. Karen Swassjan demonstrates the opportunities provided for historical reconstruction by going beyond the source, reference to the social and cultural codes of the era and accounting to the features of the human psyche. The article is dedicated to the 700th anniversary of the execution of the head of the Templars Jacques de Molay in March.

CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Boris Mezhuev, Aleksandr Neklessa, Sergey Cherniakhovsky

Attempted Flight from the Olympus, or the Inhabited Island of Russia – 130

The talk between Boris Mezhuev, Aleksandr Neklessa and Sergey Cherniakhovsky on the occasion of the release of Alexey German’s film “Hard to Be a God” based on the same name novel by the Strugatsky brothers. The experts dwell upon various aspects of the fantasy authors’ writing including representation of the Soviet times reality in the most famous works and the fantasy writers-envisioned scenarios of the future of Russia and the world future on the whole.

Osmonakun Ibraimov

The Cross and the Scaffold. Chingiz Aitmatov as the Last Writer of the Empire – 152

The profile by Osmonakun Ibraimov represents Chingiz Aitmatov in the context of the era. The boom and collapse of the great Soviet empire were stamped in Aitmatov’s biography. The writer took to heart all periods in the history of the USSR. As stated by Ibraimov, the key philosophical problem raised by Aitmatov in his works is ethical salvation of a human being, salvation of the human principle in a human being, deep belief in a human being and at the same time frustration that a human being is not capable of overtopping history and overcoming the doom.

Vladimir Baturin

Dostoevsky: nine actual thoughts about the true development of Russia – 160

Vladimir Baturin, starting from Dostoevsky statements about the power of the Church, nihilism, peculiarities of Russia’s development of national idea, and other topics, considers

the problem of development retrospectively. Author did serious work to think up on how to adapt the ideas of the writer systematized by him to the challenges of modernity. The main challenge is to identify the constants through our history and explain on their basis, the very special way in which Russia is developing.

SPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Interview with Yuri Borisionok

“The Olympic Games in Sochi will be yet another testimony to the existence of new Russia that is able to hold Winter Games even in the subtropics” – 166

A candidate of historical sciences, the editor-in-chief of “Rodina” (Motherland) magazine, one of the authors of the book “The History of Russian Sports” tells about participation of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union in the Olympic Games and dwells upon the key issues of modern Russian sports. The interviewee highlights various aspects of the elite sports representation in mass media.

Aleksandr Belkin

Luzhniki: Caution – renovation! – 186

Aleksandr Belkin gives a brief history of the main Moscow Luzhniki sports complex. He talks about how the decision to build it here in the bend of the Moskva River was made. The article quotes fragments of the memoirs of persons who designed and implemented this large-scale construction. The essay lists the most interesting sports and cultural events held at Luzhniki Stadium during less than 60 years of sports village, including the Moscow Olympics of 1980.

POSTANALYTICS

Dmitry Andreev

The Vydrin Code – 190

Dmitry Andreev analyzes the books of the political scientist Dmitry Vydrin in the context of the political crisis in Ukraine. The article shows to what extent the analysis of forces distribution between the key groups of the Ukrainian elite performed by the political scientist a few years ago has manifested itself in the present-day crisis. The author tries to figure out if Vydrin’s analytical findings can help predict further development of political confrontation in the Ukrainian society.

ANNOTATED TABLE OF CONTENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Results and Perspectives – 208

Founders of the literary miscellany sum up the issue’s materials and announce the main themes of the following issue.