
EDITORIAL

Vatlin A.Y.¹, Rogoulev Y.²

Message to the reader

The centennial anniversary of the Russian Revolution of 1917 again put this event at the center of socio-political discussions and gave historians a chance to present the results of their scientific research to a wide readership. One of the first international conferences devoted to the anniversary was the meeting of Russian and German historians at the Academy of Political Education in the Bavarian city of Tutzing, which took place on October 14-16, 2016. The theme of the conference designated as "The harbinger of a new era: the October Revolution of 1917 and its consequences" allowed to cover a wide range of scientific problems and historical plots that characterize the present state of the historiography of the Russian revolution.

This issue of our journal presents articles from participants in the conference from Russia and Germany which demonstrate the diversity of approaches and genres that allow us to analyze the root causes and global consequences of the Russian revolution - a revolution that opened the era of modern history. Among them are biographical sketches written in the context of the era, studies on the active forces of the revolution, response to its events in Germany, the transformation of the memorial remembering of the events of 1917. The articles presented in this issue of the journal don't claim full coverage of the declared topic, but they are part of the scientific discourse on the Russian Revolution which is developing in the creative dialogue of historians of various countries.

The organizers of the conference which became one of the platforms for such a dialogue were the scientists of the Lomonosov Moscow State University, the Working Group of Russian Historians-Germanists, the Academy of Political Education in Tutzing. Its successful conduct would have been impossible without the support of the Foundation for the Study of the dictatorship of the SED (German Democratic Republic) and the Russian-German Museum Karlshorst in Berlin. The representative office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Moscow assumed a significant part of the organizational and substantive preparation of the conference, including the translation of the articles of its participants.

¹ *Vatlin Alexander* - Sc.D. in History, Professor of the Department of Modern and Contemporary History, the Faculty of History, Lomonosov MSU (e-mail: vatlin@mail.ru)

² *Rogoulev Yuri* – Editor-in-chief, Ph.D in History, Associate Professor of the Department of Modern and Contemporary History of European and American Countries, the Faculty of History, Lomonosov MSU (e-mail:rogoulev@hist.msu.ru)

Also in the "articles" section there is an article written by O.V. Dubrovina in which the author for the first time in Russian historiography makes an attempt to follow through on a concrete example of the work of the Plenipotentiary representative office in Rome the implementation of Soviet foreign policy in the 1920s. The working conditions of the Roman Mission were aggravated by the fascist regime and its attempts to restrict Soviet propaganda. The author comes to the conclusion that despite the objective difficulties and unimportance for Moscow of the Roman representative office diplomats still managed to achieve certain results in the policy of creating a positive image of the USSR, although their success can't be comparable with the results of the anti-communist propaganda of the fascist regime.

In the "Events, Exhibitions, Anniversaries" section of our journal you will find an article devoted to the centenary of the United States' entry into the First World War. It examines the reaction of the French press of a different political orientation to this event which occurred in April 1917.

In other sections of this issue the reader will be able to read the reports of two conferences held recently at the Faculty of History. We are talking about the roundtable "Consequences of BREXIT for the United Kingdom and the European Union" and the international scientific conference "III Martian Readings". In addition, in our traditional "reviews" section you will find a very interesting survey of the latest research on the role of music in international relations.