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# AMONG SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND IDEOLOGY: POLISH HISTORICAL PERIODICALS IN EASTERN GALICIA OF THE 19th – EARLY 20th CENTURIES

(Review of the monograph: Lazurko Lidiia. Polish historical periodicals in Eastern Galicia of the 19th – early 20th centuries: typology, ideology, problematics. Cherkasy-Drohobych-Odesa: Publishing House "Helvetyca", 2020. 290 p.)

# МІЖ НАУКОЮ, ОСВІТОЮ ТА ІДЕОЛОГІЄЮ: ПОЛЬСЬКА ІСТОРИЧНА ПЕРІОДИКА У СХІДНІЙ ГАЛИЧИНІ XIX – ПОЧАТКУ XX СТ.

(Рецензія на монографію: Лазурко Лідія. Польська історична періодика у Східній Галичині XIX – початку XX ст.: типологія, ідеологія, проблематика. Черкаси–Дрогобич–Одеса: Видавничий дім "Гельветика", 2020. 290 с.)

The monograph, *Polish historical periodicals in Eastern Galicia of the 19th – early 20th centuries: typology, ideology, problematics*, has been recently published in Drohobych, the author of which is Lidiia Lazurko, Candidate of Historical Sciences (Ph.D.), Associate Professor of the Department of History of Ukraine, Drohobych Ivan Franko State Pedagogical University. It should be noted that the peer-reviewed monograph is a rather

noticeable phenomenon in the stream of Ukrainian Polish studies, as the study of Polish historical scientific journals of Eastern Galicia was not given enough attention. It is known that Polish scholars were engaged mainly in press studies, in which purely historiographical topics were on the margins of research attention. Instead, Ukrainian works on this problem were rather causal in nature, as they focused on clarifying historiographical specifics without attempting to generalize more broadly. Thus, despite the development of individual plots, before the publication of L. Lazurko's monograph, in the historiography there was no comprehensive elaboration of the phenomenon of Polish historical journals of Eastern Galicia as centers of professional realization and research communication platforms of the multinational intellectual community representatives of the region. By the way, the relevance of this monograph is noted in the reviews of Ukrainian historians (Pedych, 2020; Ianyshyn, 2020; Iaremchuk, 2020).

In the foreword (pp. 5–14), the author, first of all, analyzed the historiography of the problem, distinguishing four stages of historiographical studies. According to L. Lazurko, the first stage of the historiography formation of the researched question coincides in time with the studied period and covers the 19th – the beginning of the 20th centuries – the time when various historical scientific journals appeared and functioned, becoming the subject of understanding as a phenomenon of the general press movement and the media tribunes of the institutions they represent. During this period, individual aspects of the activities of scientific historical periodicals were studied in the context of the first synthetic studies of the history of the Polish press, the history of individual scientific institutions or large-scale periodicals. The second stage of historiography, according to L. Lazurko, dates back to the interwar years, when the historical science of independent Poland began to understand the role and importance of historiographical centers of the period of statelessness. In this context, considerable attention is paid to their periodicals. Among the achievements of this period there were the first attempts to summarize the fiftieth anniversary of the journal *Kwartalnik Historyczny*.

The third stage, according to the researcher, covers the time from the end of the Second World War to the 80's of the 20th century (period of existence of the Polish People's Republic (hereinafter - PPR). This is where the first synthesis of the history of the Polish press, the history of regional specialized publications in the context of studying the past of the organizations appeared, in which they operated and there was a significant increase in interest in the activities of individual journals. As L. Lazurko rightly noted, contemporary studies of historiographical issues were influenced by the Marxist ideology dominant in PPR, which prompted researchers to place certain conceptual accents. The fourth stage, according to the periodization developed by the author, covers the time from the early 1990s to the beginning of the 21st century. It is characterized by the emergence of a number of joint Polish-Ukrainian research programs (Lviv. City - Society - Culture (lasts since 1992), Multicultural historical environment of Lviv in the 19th and 20th centuries (2002 - 2007), Galicja 1772 - 1918 (lasts since 2010), etc.), aimed at studying the historical and cultural environment of the Galician region. They draw attention to the functioning of individual journals, the activities of their creators and historiographical discussions that unfolded in their columns, etc. Also the researches on the organization of historical science in the regional centers of Eastern Galicia intensified, which were studied by both Polish and Ukrainian researchers.

Outlining the source base of the study, L. Lazurko singled out three sets of sources. The first set of sources, in her opinion, includes research materials of publications (articles, reviews, polemics, sources, information messages) and chronic texts (reports, editorial

appeals). Scientific chronicles, obituaries, bibliographic descriptions, answers to questions from readers published in the pages of publications are very informative for the contexts reconstruction of the era. Among the sources of the second complex, there are important materials of archival preservation (archives of editions and documents from the personal funds of scientists), epistolary, diaries, memoirs of direct participants in the publishing process and historiographical studies. The author emphasized that archival documents of both journals and participants in the publishing process are quite fragmentary and scattered in institutions of different countries, as they were destructively affected by the First and Second World Wars. The third set of sources is represented by synthetic studies of the history of scientific life of the Galician region. General contexts are found in the works that appeared on the occasion of the anniversaries of various institutions. Contextual information is also contained in sources of personal origin (letters, diaries and memoirs) and gives a wide range of ideas about general socio-political phenomena and small, everyday sketches and nuances of human relationships, without which the overall picture would be much poorer.

Declaring the research methodology, L. Lazurko pointed out its specificity, due to the solution of the main epistemological problems, as well as the understanding of the subject and the problem field of scientific research. The general theoretical and methodological basis of the research was the sociocognitive approach proposed by T. Popova in addressing historiographical issues. It involves the study of the cumulative impact on the science development of internal (internalist, cognitive) and external (externalist, social) factors. The author considers the theoretical model of the new cultural and intellectual history to be the most expedient for the realization of the research tasks. Unlike the traditional history of historiography, this direction tends to methodological pluralism, interdisciplinarity, orients the researcher primarily to the study of intellectual activity and processes in the field of humanities, social and scientific knowledge in their specific historical socio-cultural context (pp. 11–12).

In the first section, *Cryptohistorical Periodicals*, L. Lazurko considered the activities of publications in Eastern Galicia of the 19th – early 20th centuries, most of the content of which concerned history. First of all, the object of her research attention was the scientific journal of the Ossolinski National Institute, which was established in 1828 and since then was published under different names and with breaks of varying duration until the end of the 60's of the 19th century. The author found that the first edition, related to the activities of the Ossolineum, was to spread the "light of science" in the spirit of the ideas of the Enlightenment, focusing on European models. In general, in the journals of the Ossolineum of the 40–60's of the 19th century, emphasis was placed on the importance of historical knowledge, which was to help unite the Poles divided by the borders of the three countries (pp. 15–30).

Later, the historian focused on the analysis of the historical and literary journal *Przewodnik Naukowy i Literacki*. L. Lazurko notes that this journal was interpreted by contemporaries as a means of spreading Polish culture not only in the Galician region, but also abroad. In the history of the publication, which appeared in Lviv in 1873 as a supplement to the government *Gazeta Lwowskiej* and was published before 1919, there are two periods of activity: 1873 – 1883 and 1883 – 1919. They coincide at a time when the editorial board was headed by V. Lozynskyi and A. Krekhovetskyi. The researcher claims that under the leadership of V. Lozynskyi the publication quickly outgrew its borders and became a powerful phenomenon of Polish intellectual life, serving during the 70's–early 80's of the 19th century as an unalterable source of dissemination of information, including historical one, about scientific achievements among a growing number of local intellectuals. In the initial period of

the journal's existence, as L. Lazurko noted, it was an unofficial body of the Lviv Historical and Didactic School of K. Liske and even reflected the state of Polish historiography at that time. Later, with the change in the market of intellectual periodicals in the late 19th century, *Przewodnik Naukowy i Literacki* came to the margins of scientific life (pp. 31–48).

The results of the author's research on the journals Przegląd Poświęcony Etnografii, Historyi i Literaturze Polski i Krajów Ościennych and Ruś are of particular interest. It is known that the creators of these journals – F. Dukhinskyi and F. Ravita-Gavronskyi – were lovers of history. The analysis of the topics on the pages of these journals testifies to their focus on the study of Ukrainian history as a component of the Polish past. L. Lazurko convincingly proves the influence of the worldviews of the authors of the projects on the interpretation of Ukraine's past: from capturing and declaring the need for its comprehensive study in Przeglądi... to denying the historicity of the Ukrainian people (Ruś). The author emphasizes that the publication Rus was called in the concept of nationalist-democratic ideology to awaken the patriotic feelings of Poles, remembering and raising the importance of their achievements in the cultural and civilizational progress in the east. The content of the publication was based on works on the history and culture of the eastern territories of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, mostly by Lviv authors who were nonprofessional researchers or made their first steps in science. At the same time, the author argues that the topics proposed for discussion on the pages of these publications did not received adequate support in Galician society (pp. 48-61).

L. Lazurko paid special attention to regional cryptohistorical publishing projects of scientific organizations of the late 19th – early 20th centuries, journals of Eastern Galicia, which functioned outside the capital, in the province, and had a historical and local lore character. This is, in particular, *Rocznik Kółka Naukowego Tarnopolskiego* – a periodical of the Ternopil scientific circle, which emerged in the early 90's of the 19th century and acted as an independent organization under the auspices of Lviv Historical Society. The journal was published during 1893–1895 with a circulation of 100 copies and had a distinctly historical and local lore character. It is important that the establishment of the journal was the result of consolidating the efforts of both Poles and Ukrainians (the Father P. Bilynskyi, the lawyer V. Luchakovskyi).

In addition, the author researched the *Rocznik Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk w Przemyślu* – a body of the Society of Friends of Science in Przemyśl (1909 – 1918). The main task of the publication headed by F. Pshyiemskyi, the first yearbook of which was published in 500 copies, was to inform the intelligent community about the various organizational, scientific and historical and protective activities of the Society, which determined its specific content (pp. 61–80).

The second section of L. Lazurko's monograph is devoted to the study of scientific societies publishing projects of certain branches of historical science, an important component of which were specialized journals designed to represent the goals and objectives of societies, present their achievements, provide scientific communication. Analyzing the *Przegląd Archeologiczny*, the author showed that this journal became the first special historical publication to present in Eastern Galicia an association of admirers of ancient artifacts – the National Archaeological Society (since 1875). The publication was created for educational purposes, the authors focused on informing about the latest achievements in the field of archeology, as well as special historical disciplines. The latter was due to the division of the Society into sections, which, in addition to pre-written and Christian archeology, anthropology and archaeological bibliography, were to deal with numismatics, paleography, heraldry, genealogy, diplomacy and sphragistics. A feature of the editorial

policy of this publication in the second period of activity was the involvement of Ukrainian scientists (A. Petrushevych, I. Sharanevych) (pp. 81–97).

Describing the publication of the Heraldic Society *Miesięcznik Heraldyczny* (since 1908), the historian described the activities of the editor V. Semkovych. It was his efforts that ensured the scientific level of the journal and realized the tasks set before him, the main of which was to acquaint researchers with the latest achievements in the field of auxiliary historical disciplines. In general, the author argues that despite the fact that the societies, which operated specialized publications, united around not only academics but also just interested people, the editors of the journals *Przegląd Archeologiczny* and *Miesięcznik Heraldyczny* tried to maintain a high level of scientificity of published materials (pp. 97–114).

The third and fourth sections of L. Lazurko's monograph are built around the publication *Kwartalnik Historyczny*. We should note that in 2010 the researcher published a special monograph on this historical journal (Lazurko, 2010). In general, the author outlined the formation of the editorial policy of the journal in 1887 – 1900, the main activities of the journal in 1901 – 1918. Of particular interest is the section devoted to the participation study of the authors of the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* in theoretical discussions. Considering the theoretical and methodological reflection on the pages of the journal, L. Lazurko singled out two types of publications: special (where theoretical and methodological reflection was the subject of special research) and applied types (where specific issues were discussed using theoretical and methodological constructions). And if there was little intelligence of the first type, the "applied theory" to some extent was inherent in almost all publications of the journal. The author presented, in fact, a methodological parable of the authors of this publication: from positivism to neo-romanticism.

In addition, the author outlined the main topics in the pages of this journal, in particular, finding out the reasons for Poland's loss of independence and attempts to restore it. According to L. Lazurko, this topic caused numerous studies and reviews on the pages of the Kwartalnik Historyczny to study the role of Western countries and Russia in the partition of Poland, and inspired discussions on the reception of the Polish question in Europe and hopes for its solution. In this light, the author noted the sharp polarization of the images of East and West, when on one side almost all European countries that acted as defenders of Poland's interests are lined up, and on the other one - the Russian Empire and Prussia as initiators and successors of its "non-existence". Therefore, in the coverage of the East-West discussions on the pages of the journal, those that flared up between Germany and Poland and Poland and Russia are marked with special sharpness. The dominant feature of these dialogues was the theme of civilizational expansion, the essence of which was accumulated in the concept of German historiography called "Movement to the East": Germany - to polish lands, Poland - further - to "barbaric" East, affected by Tatar influences. The key in this is the image of Poland itself, which in the historiosophical concepts of this period appears in the role of defender of Europe and its cultural and civilizational values. In the dominant (in times of statelessness) efforts of Polish scholars to defend their own national identity and the right to the historical past, they had to oppose the already established historiographical views, to delimit their own research field, which gave scientific controversy special urgency (pp. 139–173).

In our opinion, the following conclusion of L. Lazurko is important: the authors of the journal *Kwartalnik Historyczny*, one of the leading Polish national historiographical tribunes, despite its positioning as a purely scientific and politically unbiased publication, certainly could not avoid social challenges that oversaturated the life of the country, which sought to restore independence (p. 173).

The fifth section of the peer-reviewed monograph, *Representation of Ukraine and Ukrainians in the Columns of Polish East Galician Historical Periodicals*, is especially important for Ukrainian historians. L. Lazurko convincingly showed how the appeal to the "golden" age of the common Slavic past, which was observed in the middle of the 19th century, with the aggravation of Polish-Ukrainian relations, practically passed by the end of the century. Researchers were much more interested in the history of Ancient Rus' and its individual principalities, especially those located on the Polish-Ukrainian border. This provided food for reflection on the state and social system in these areas and discussions on whose – Polish or Ukrainian – element there was more (pp. 175–185).

The author noted that the central theme of the essays in Eastern Galicia of the 19th – early 20th centuries, which concerned the Lithuanian-Polish era, was the annexation of Russian lands, which was interpreted by Ukrainian researchers as an act of capture, and Polish – as incorporation. Accordingly, the understanding of the results of Polish colonization was different. Ukrainian scholars assessed it as destructive for the people, and the representatives of the opposite camp – as a special civilizational mission, which was first carried out by Poland and later the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in these lands. The implementers of this noble civilization mission were representatives of local noble families, through the prism of whose life the readers were presented with the history of colonization of the eastern frontiers – areas of uncertainty and special danger, which gave rise to real knights (pp. 185–196).

The most acute problem of the Polish-Ukrainian past, constantly discussed in the pages of periodicals of Eastern Galicia, was the history of the Ukrainian Cossacks. L. Lazurko believes that the Cossack era gave the largest number of controversial topics, which provoked discussions not only between Ukrainian and Polish researchers, but also among the latter was the epicenter of scientific confrontation. Assessment polarization of the Cossacks' nature was manifested, on the one hand, in its presentation as a result of spreading to the east through the high Polish culture of Western civilization with its ideas of noble chivalry, defending Christianity, and on the other hand – in spreading the image of wild and arbitrary, rebellious element, which emerged as a symbiosis of natural steppe conditions and "Turanian" blood. The activities of B. Khmelnytskyi and the history of the uprising under his leadership were presented in negative colors, which eventually led to the Ruin - one of the greatest tragedies of the Commonwealth of the 17th century. The Cossacks and their leader were portrayed as criminals who ravaged a prosperous country and led to its further decline. Only certain historical figures who chose compromise positions in the Cossack confrontation received positive assessments (A. Kysil, I. Vyhovskyi). The only thing that the authors of research and essays on the Cossack era agreed on was the assessments of the domestic policy of the Polish state, which was considered unbalanced in relation to the problematic, bordering eastern territories (pp. 196–210).

L. Lazurko also analyzed the reception by the authors of Polish East Galician publications of the issues of Ivan Mazepa uprising and peasant riots, as well as the image of Ukrainians during the Austrian rule. It is noted that the interpretation of the hetman's activity practically did not change during the 19th – 20th centuries, creating a romanticized and mysterious image of the "Prince of Rus" in the imagination of readers. Instead, Koliivshchyna and Haydamachchyna, in the representation of mainly F. Ravita-Gavronskyi, were seen as a dark page of the last years of Polish history, inspired by a hostile eastern neighbor. The rebels themselves became the descendants of arbitrary Cossacks, capable only of ruining and destroying, uneducated and superstitious. However, such a radical view of the causes of peasant uprisings provoked no less sharp criticism from professional historians (pp. 210–220).

Among the conclusions proposed by the author, we note the following: Polish scientific periodicals of Eastern Galicia for a long time (actually before the arrival of M. Hrushevsky in Lviv) were almost the only professional forum for representatives of Ukrainian historical science. In the columns of historical publications from the 30's of the 19th century, V. Levytskyi, I. Vahylevych, A. Petrushevych, I. Sharanevych, I. Franko, M. Korduba, O. Kolessa, K. Studynskyi and others published their works, which determines the importance of Polish scientific periodicals for the formation of Ukrainian professional historiography (pp. 220–246).

Analyzing the monograph positively, we should, in our opinion, make a few warnings. First, the author essentially used a network model to study the intellectual community of journal editors, scholars who rallied around journals and supported their editorial policies, but did not mention this in the first section of the monograph. Secondly, in the sixth section of the researcher's monograph, in our opinion, it was necessary to reveal the processes of development of ideas, which were discussed in the pages of iconic Polish historical journals of Eastern Galicia in the 19th – early 20th centuries, indicate their influence on further trends in scientific research. Unfortunately, the monograph is not equipped with a nominal index, which somewhat impoverishes its level.

Summing up, we should note that the peer-reviewed monograph is an original and indepth scientific study that contains qualitatively new research results. We can only wish L. Lazurko further success in the study of topical issues of historical periodicals.

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