
MATVIY STAKHIV’S WORK IN SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CENTERS IN EMIGRATION

Abstract. The purpose of the research is to clarify and characterize Matviy Stakhiv’s main directions of scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activity during the post-war emigration period. The methodology of the research is based on the principles of historicism and scientific objectivity. The principle of historicism allowed us to analyze M. Stakhiv’s period of scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activity in dynamics, taking into account concrete historical conditions and chronological sequence. The principle of scientific objectivity has been used in the involvement of the whole set of facts and allowed for a holistic, unbiased study of the subject of the research. The scientific novelty is that for the first time the attempt was made to study M. Stakhiv’s scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activities during the post-war emigration period comprehensively. Owing to the analysis of his works, reports and speeches, it was possible to elucidate his views on the Ukrainian historical science and the Ukrainian statehood issues. The Conclusions. M. Stakhiv developed an active
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scientific publishing, editorial and teaching activities during the postwar period when he was in exile in Germany and the United States (USA). On the European continent, M. Stakhiv mastered a new specialty – a teacher. A number of Ukrainian educational institutions in Germany invited M. Stakhiv to teach, which allowed him to earn money in order to provide for his family. After moving to the United States, he carried on his scientific publishing and editorial journalistic work, as well as established contacts with the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) leading members. As head of the American department of the ShSS (1969 – 1973), M. Stakhiv tried to overcome conflicts in the Ukrainian emigrant scientific community. Among the main directions of scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activity of M. Stakhiv during the post-war emigration period it is necessary to single out three most important ones: 1) work in the ShSS; 2) preparation of scientific research for the “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine” and publication of multivolume publications on the history of Ukraine; 3) teaching work.

Key words: M. Stakhiv, the Ukrainian Free University, the Shevchenko Scientific Society, “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine”, emigration period.

The Problem Statement. After Ukraine gained independence, the subject of scientific research of historians was the public and scientific work of many Ukrainian figures of the last century. However, M. Stakhiv’s scientific publishing and editorial activities, which took place during the emigration period in Western Europe and the United States, are of utmost importance to the researchers and the wider Ukrainian community because they clearly reflect the complexity of social and national factors of the Ukrainian National Liberation Movement, which were not sufficiently covered by domestic and foreign scholars.

The Analysis of Recent Researches and Publications. Numerous researchers focused on the renowned personality’s work. In his research, N. Stetsiuk covered fragmentary
M. Stakhiv’s social and scientific life in exile (Стрічок, 2008), in which there was mentioned the period of teaching at the Ukrainian Free University (UFU), the Ukrainian Technical and Economic Institute (UTEI) and participation in the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS), the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (UWCC). Matviy Stakhiv’s attitude to the significant problems of the Ukrainian statehood formation at the beginning of the XXth century and his views on the initial stage of existence of the Directory of the Ukrainian People’s Republic (UPR) became the subject of consideration in the publication by O. Malets (Malets, 2009). In addition, the publication edited by O. Shablii “Volodymyr Kubiyovych. Memoirs. Reflections. Selected Letters” (Shablii, 2000) can be considered as an important source for studying the scientific heritage of the Ukrainian national figure. The correspondence between V. Kubiyovych and M. Stakhiv, which was published in the above-mentioned edition, provided valuable information concerning the joint preparation of the “Encyclopedia of Ukraine” and the tense relations in the organization work of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS).

The purpose of the research is to clarify and to characterize Matviy Stakhiv’s main directions of scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activity during the post-war emigration period.

The Main Material Statement. M. Stakhiv began his scientific and pedagogical activities in Munich (Germany) after World War II. There, from 1946 to 1949, he conducted lectures at the Ukrainian Free University (UFU), the Ukrainian Technical and Economic Institute (UTEI), the Ukrainian Economics High School (UEHSH), and other educational institutions. At the same time, M. Stakhiv published his lectures on Sociology in German in two volumes. In 1946 he became an Associate Professor at the UVU, and later on, M. Stakhiv received the status of Professor of Science of State and Constitutional Law (Stercho, 1985, p. 889).

It should be mentioned that M. Stakhiv came to the UFU, when it was in the prime of life: the number of scientists was constantly increasing; the number of students was constantly growing. In 1947 – 1948, about 500 students studied at the university, and the teaching staff consisted of 44 Professors, 16 Associate Professors and 18 Teachers and Assistants (Yaniv, 1980, p. 3418). The contemporaries put emphasis on the fact that the university was a much respected scientific institution, and on this occasion the UFU was officially recognized by the Bavarian Ministry and was equated its diplomas with diplomas of the German universities. According to the decision, issued by the Ministry for Education of Bavaria No. XI 60710 on the 16th of September in 1950, the UFU was authorized to award scientific degrees of Master, Doctor and Doctor Habilitated (Shafoval, 2011, p. 33).

The UFU was active in publishing, in particular, University Professors prepared for publication a series of the Ukrainian studies textbooks for the Ukrainian universities. Hence, M. Stakhiv also prepared “Textbooks on Public Administration and Administrative Law” (Stercho, 1985, p. 889). According to P. Stercho, “Professor M. Stakhiv was connected with the UFU and to some extent with the UTEI until his death on the 2nd of June in 1978” (Stercho, 1985, p. 889).

P. Stercho stated the following: “Hundreds of Ukrainian intellectuals in different countries of the free world received their higher education under the leadership of M. Stakhiv. They mention him as the one who emphasized the need to acquire and consolidate perfect knowledge in the chosen field of science, because the Ukrainian nation needs highly qualified specialists, and in the world only perfect knowledge can ensure the acquisition and consolidation of prominent positions in science, industry or administration, not to mention free professions” (Stercho, 1985, pp. 889–890).
In the 1960’s in the United States, there was a significant development of the Ukrainian professional and academic life. During the above-mentioned period, a number of professional organizations and research institutions began their activities. On the 2nd of September in 1961, the Ukrainian-American Association of University Professors (UAAUP) was established in Parma, a suburb of Cleveland. Owing to the UAAUP publishing house, which was called, “The Professor News” M. Stakhiv, as the Shevchenko Scientific Society American Department President, addressed the American Research and Publishing Center of the Ukrainian Studies with a request to order and distribute “all editions of the ShSS in the American scientific world as well as to order it for the Center” (Humetska, 2008, p. 32). In this context, the editorial board of “The Professor News” put emphasis on the following: “Each book sold brings new income that can be used immediately to publish the next work. Let us remember that the ShSS, like the UFU or another Ukrainian institution, will be as good as we want and are able. Quitting work at our institutions and talking cynically about them requires neither courage nor wisdom, because anyone can be a cynic, but to support and cooperate for improvement are worth noting” (Humetska, 2008, p. 39).

It should be highlighted that M. Stakhiv’s important area of scientific activity was his work in the Historical and Philosophical Section of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS). M. Stakhiv was a regular member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv since 1931. He was elected a full member of the historical and philosophical section in 1942. In Munich, M. Stakhiv was one of those who resumed the activities of the ShSS in exile. In 1947, at the general meeting of the ShSS on March 30, in Munich, M. Stakhiv informed, “that after the withdrawal of the Bolsheviks from Lviv, the ShSS resumed its activities, despite the lack of permission from the German authorities” (Vynar, 1973, p. 18). After moving to the United States, he served as a member of the Board, First Deputy Chairman, and later Chairman. In particular, at the general meeting of the ShSS, which took place in Munich, in 1949, M. Stakhiv joined the Control Commission (Zvidomlennia, 1954, p. 7).

In the USA the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) scientific activity was carried out in the sections and commissions, which arranged scientific conferences and reports. Within the Historical and Philosophical Section, there were 8 Commissions. Moreover, in three of them, M. Stakhiv was the Chairman of the Commissions in New York, in particular, the Commission on Law and Social Sciences, the Commission on the Ukrainian-Jewish Relations, and the Commission on the Borders of Ukraine. The first Commission studied the history of state building and defense during the existence of the Ukrainian sovereign state in 1917 – 1920. The second Commission prepared materials on the history of the Ukrainian-Jewish relations from the beginning of the Jewish settlement in Ukraine to 1914. The third Commission collected materials on Ukraine’s borders on the basis of ethnographic, legal, economic, and defense documents (Naukove tovarystvo, 1963, pp. 20–21).

In the diaspora the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) scientific activity took place in three sections, which united all Ukrainian scholars: Historical and Philosophical Section (a director I. Mirchuk, in the USA – M. Stakhiv); the Philological Section (H. Luzhnytskyi); the Mathematical Natural Medical Section (M. Zaitsev) (Popovych, 2009). In 1969 the latter was divided into Mathematical Physical Section (O. Andrushkiv, since 1974 – V. Petryshyn) and the Chemical Biological Medical Section (O. Archimovich, since 1974 – R. Osinchuk). Since in 1969 M. Stakhiv headed the Shevchenko Scientific Society department in the USA, in the same year the Historical and Philosophical Section was headed by O. Ohloblyn, and later by V. Lentsyk; Philological Section – by V. Lev (Lev, 1972, p. 28). Each section was
divided into Commissions with narrower tasks. In addition, the Society maintained formal relations with many Ukrainian organizations through its clerks, in particular, in the Ukrainian Workers’ Union (UWU) the liaison officer was M. Stakhiv (Diialnist, 1960, p. 11).

It should be mentioned that in 1955, with a change in the structure of the Society in exile, the organizational period in its history came to an end: departments in Europe, the USA, Canada and Australia were transformed into autonomous regional societies, and the Main Department was named the Main Council of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) (Kushnir & Feloniuk, 2019, p. 70). In 1969, as the Shevchenko Scientific Society Chairman in the USA, M. Stakhiv was delegated to the Main Council of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. The Main Council united and directed the scientific work of the members of all four sections. Ye. Vertyporokh became the President of the Council, and M. Stakhiv became the Deputy (Lev, 1973, p. 32).

The relations in the Shevchenko Scientific Society, in particular in the Historical and Philosophical Section, were quite tense, due to the ideological diversity of the leading members of the Society, geographical diversity (the Galicians and the Dnieper Ukrainians) and differences in views on the future development of the leading Ukrainian emigration institution. For these reasons, M. Stakhiv chaired the Society for quite a short time – only five years. In 1973, the preparation for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the society in New York was led by a new Chairman – O. Andrushkiv (Padokh, 1990, p.7).

M. Stakhiv’s activity in the Shevchenko Scientific Society fell on an extremely difficult period of this organization (initially M. Stakhiv was the Deputy Head of the American department (headed by R. Smal’-Stotskyi). It should be emphasized that 10 meetings took place, which can prove rather intensive Society work (Zvidomlennia, 1954, p. 23).

However, in a letter to R. Smal’-Stotskyi dated April 5, 1950, V. Kubiyovych wrote openly about the disappointing situation in the Shevchenko Scientific Society: “Things are not very pleasant. As you know from our bulletins, 4 issues of the “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine” were published, the 5th is out of print, and we can say that our work is over. We do not have money for other publications, but we will try to find the way out somehow. Annoying incidents occurred with the American department. You know about all these cases from the materials that we sent to the government, as well as from a letter that I will allow myself to send to you and, in addition, to several colleagues (I. Vytanovych, Shandruk, Shlemkevych, Padokh, Stakhiv, Okinshevych and, perhaps, some others – these are letters to my good acquaintances)” (Shablii, 2000, p. 357).

In a letter to M. Stakhiv dated on the 17th of September in 1950, V. Kubiyovych called the financial crisis one of the main problems of the Shevchenko Scientific Society activity. “Therefore, we must,” V. Kubiyovych emphasized, “have as many new subscribers and Notebook funders as possible in the USA and Canada. The case of your $ 600 is almost SOS for us. Soon we will also launch an urgent campaign to increase the number of subscribers, we will contain a number of articles about the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, and in those cases we will ask you for help. We also ask you to help us with the collection sheets that are on the way to America. Thank you so much for raising $ 15 to the Encyclopedia of Ukraine press fund (Shablii, 2000, p. 265).

The Shevchenko Scientific Society development issues are the main topic of correspondence between the two scholars. It should be noted that M. Stakhiv took a rather active part in the work of the Society. In particular, he chaired the Commission on Law and Social Sciences, where during the period of 1950 – 1953 he delivered three speeches and presented reports: “Sociological and Legal Quality of Modern Dictatorships” (August 26, 1950);
“Sociological Characteristics of the Ukrainian Parties” (February 17, 1951 and April 24, 1951); “The Provisional Constitution of the Ukrainian People’s Republic from January of 1919” (January 31, 1953). (Zvidomlennia, 1954, p. 28).

It should be mentioned that M. Stakhiv, while corresponding with V. Kubiyovych, not only reported on the results of work on the American continent but also discussed the prospects for the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) development, increasing the Society influence on the Ukrainian emigration. For instance, M. Stakhiv asked to collect materials about Zakerzonnia and the UPA in a letter to V. Kubiyovych dated October 10, 1950. Hence, V. Kubiyovych wrote the following, as a reply letter dated October 22, 1950: “It is not all that you wanted to have, but still it has some value. However, these materials were not easy to get. It is a pleasure for me to serve my friends” (Shablii, 2000, p. 268). V. Kubiyovych also touched upon the issue of relations between the Ukrainian Free Academy of Science (UVAN) and the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS). According to the author of the letter, “all talks about the merger of the Ukrainian Free Academy of Science (UVAN) and the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) will end in complete disaster for us. After a while, we will be majorized and a new emigration from the Eastern lands will solve the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) issue or take it into their own hands. I wrote about this to Chubatyi. In my opinion, there can be only talks about the cooperation of both institutions, but never about merging into one” (Shablii, 2000, p. 269).

V. Kubiyovych expected a piece of advice from M. Stakhiv on the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) further activities in France in another letter dated January 2, 1951: “At the ShSS, next to the EU (Encyclopedia of Ukraine), we will not do anything, because we have to postpone all things until France, but even with the departure there are a lot of trouble. Our financial base is extremely modest. By the way, I ask you to advise practically in what way it is possible in the territory of America and from what establishments to receive financing for this purpose the so-called the House of Ukrainian Science in Paris, because that’s what we call our institution. This is, in fact, the only most respected scientific plant, and it will die without help. Understanding the mentality of Americans, I think it will not be easy to get money…” (Shablii, 2000, p. 715).

Attempt to reform the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) was also made during this period. The Presidium of the Scientific Society created a separate Statutory Commission, the legal section of which included M. Chubaty, Ya. Padokh, Yu. Fedynsky and M. Stakhiv. The discussions on the project lasted until July of 1953, which helped to develop the optimal structure of the organization (Zvidomlennia, 1954, pp. 16–17).

The political component was the vital component of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) members’ correspondence. As a result, V. Kubiyovych informed M. Stakhiv confidentially that he would perform some functions for the State Center of the Ukrainian People’s Republic in exile and that it might even contain a cultural center there in one of his letters. At the same time, M. Stakhiv was informed of the most important news in the ShSS in the second half of 1950: “#11 EU Notebook (Art) was published, and some of the missing Notebooks 7, 8, 9 and 12 are already in stock, so we completed about 70% of the first part” (Shablii, 2000, p. 206).

Consequently, M. Stakhiv invited V. Kubiyovych to the United States as he was unable to organize adequate financial support for the Society. In a letter dated March 21, 1951, V. Kubiyovych thanked M. Stakhiv for the offer to take part in the meeting of the ShSS members in New York, at the same time emphasizing: “I am writing a message to the three of you, because of the ShSS matters, and here I will raise a few cases on the margins briefly.
You must make every effort to win our cause. I will say quite frankly and sincerely that I have the greatest hopes for you, and this is because you have the greatest experience, tact, and in particular, common sense… The most important thing is to organize the elections at the general meeting not by correspondence because there is no need for it. However, different opinions must fight with themselves in a frank battle. You need to think carefully about your suggestions on the composition of the ShSS Department. I think it would be best if you took the post of a secretary, as you would have taken the post in the General Department at the time, if you had not gone to America…” (Shablii, 2000, p. 312).

However, V. Kubiyovych’s friendly tone of letters addressed to M. Stakhiv at the end the 1950s and the beginning of the 1960s changed to aggressive. In particular, informing V. Yaniv about the conflict of Professor O. Ohloblyn with M. Stakhiv, V. Kubiyovych emphasized the following: “Prof. Ohloblyn threatens to leave the ShSS in connection with the continuation of the line of the deceased head by a new one – by prof. Stakhiv. But prof. Smal’-Stotskyi still had other traditions than Dr. Stakhiv” (Shablii, 2000, p. 876).

The establishment of a section on the History of Ukraine was also a stumbling block among the members of the ShSS. In this regard, I. Kedrin, another Ukrainian historian and politician, a full member of the ShSS, expressed his opinion on the events of that time, mentioning in his memoirs that: “Dr. Matviy Stakhiv was angered by the anomaly that the vast majority of full members of the Historical and Philosophical Section are in the USA, and the directorate of that Section is permanently in Europe with prof. V. Kubiyovych, as a director. Dr. Stakhiv – and not only he – was angry with the demand of prof. Kubiyovych to bring to the level of full members of the ShSS several of our scholars, who were among 35 teachers of American universities, who signed the “Application”, which seemed to be a visible sign of readiness for a “dialogue” with the Kremlin rulers. Against this background, Dr. Matviy Stakhiv came up with the idea to create a new section of the Ukrainian history at the ShSS. The Main Council of the ShSS at the chairmanship of prof. Yevhen Vertyporokh also approved the new section at its meeting on May 6, 1972” (Kedryn, 1976, p. 585).

In turn, V. Kubiyovych noted that “The abolition of the illegal resolution of the Main Council in the case of the so-called Section of the History of Ukraine at the suggestion of the acting chairman of the American Shevchenko Scientific Society, prof. Stakhiv is just the beginning of our possible cooperation. The IF Directorate of the Section and the membership of this Section may not permit the American Shevchenko Scientific Society to hinder its work – to discredit its elected members” (Shablii, 2000, p. 885).

V. Kubiyovych in a letter dated February 13, 1974, addressed to V. Stetsiuk, dwelled on the conflict situation in the ShSS. “It is good that you went to the meeting of the Board of ShSS together; it is difficult for me to say that you did the right thing by leaving the meeting (you are an important person – the secretary). Mr. Stakhiv and his assistant, Mr. Stercho, as well as the others, are attacking you and us. Who is the initiator of this action? It is important to know this (Shablii, 2000, p. 893).

It should be emphasized that the conflicts in the Society did not affect the efficiency of its work and scientific activities. In particular, on February 11, 1967, the ShSS in America organized a scientific conference in New York, dedicated to the scientific and political activities of M. Hrushevskyi. In addition, M. Stakhiv made a report “Hrushevskyi’s view on Federalism”, in which he noted, “that the so-called federalism of M. Hrushevskyi was completely state-oriented” (NTSh vshanuvalo, 1967, p. 1). On March 10, 1973, a conference of the ShSS dedicated to Taras Shevchenko was held in New York. V. Lev, O. Andrushkiv,
M. Stakhiv made reports. M. Stakhiv stated in his report “In the Spirit of Shevchenko’s Testament Mykhailo Hrushevskiy Wrote and Created the History of Ukraine” clarified the figure of M. Hrushevskiy as an outstanding historian and creator of the Ukrainian historical school and noted his important work as the Head of the ShSS in Lviv, as the Chairman of the History and Philosophy Section and the author of “History of Ukraine-Rus” (NTSh vshanuvalo, 1973, p. 1).

Subsequently, on November 23 – 25, 1973, the Jubilee Scientific Congress was organized in New York to mark the 100th anniversary of the ShSS. At the plenary session, M. Stakhiv, the Chairman of the Main Council of the ShSS, addressed the participants of the Congress with an introductory speech. Noting the great merits of the Society on the development of the Ukrainian science, he emphasized that the ShSS together with the Ukrainian people over the past 100 years experienced a period of prosperity and difficulties, as well as the forcible liquidation by the Soviet authorities. At the second final plenary session of the Congress on November 25, M. Stakhiv made a report, which was called “The Status of the Ukrainian SSR in the USSR System”. In addition, at one of the meetings, his plans were announced to publish in English “History of Ukraine-Rus” (V Niu-Yorku, 1973, pp. 1, 5).

M. Stakhiv was one of the editors of the EU prepared by V. Kubiyovych. The latter enthusiastically repeatedly stated the following: “If everyone had helped me in editing of the EU as you [M. Stakhiv – the authors], it would have been much better. But the majority of people do not help, but do harm. People do not have a clear notion of editing (this concerns departmental editors), and not less evil – they have no political sentiment” (Shablii, 2000, p. 130).

Despite numerous obstacles, the contacts between the two scholars concerning the preparation of an encyclopedic publication intensified during the 1950s. V. Kubiyovych expressed gratitude to all the reviews of the articles in “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine” prepared by M. Stakhiv: “I have to make every effort to make the latest history as good as possible, and this can only be done with joint efforts. Because the Latest History and Law are not ready yet, we have printed 10 notebookss now. Later it will be 11 and 12, and only later we will do 7, 8 and 9. I am glad that you like the division of the general part into 3 volumes. The rapid printing we have embarked on and the emigration of most emigrants, including subscribers, to America are the cause of the financial crisis in which we find ourselves” (Shablii, 2000, p. 868).

Moreover, quite often V. Kubiyovych informed M. Stakhiv of the state of writing of other articles of “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine”: “With the Law Section in the EU, it’s getting dark. Very good are the articles written by Dr. Tsiutsiura on the Soviet Law. He is an open mind and it will be interesting. It is a pity that he is going to America. He should be taken care of. We have to change Yurchenko’s article (it’s entrusted for you), i. e., to rewrite it, because Okinshevych claims that this is a good article, but it is outright scandalous”. At the request of V. Kubiyovych, M. Stakhiv prepared a section “The State System of the Ukrainian State in 1917 – 1920” for “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine”. It should be also noted that in the letters of V. Kubiyovych to M. Chubatyi, V. Kaye-Kisilevsky, J. Padokh, S. Smal’-Stotskyi the situation with the publication of “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine” was discussed, and M. Stakhiv was mentioned as a reviewer of the section “Sociology” (Shablii, 2000, p. 840).

The Conclusions. M. Stakhiv developed an active scientific publishing, editorial and teaching activities during the postwar period when he was in emigration in Germany and the United States (USA). On the European continent, M. Stakhiv mastered a new specialty – a teacher. A number of the Ukrainian educational institutions in Germany invited M. Stakhiv
to teach, which allowed him to earn money in order to provide for his family. After moving to the United States, he carried on his scientific publishing and editorial journalistic work, as well as established contacts with the Shevchenko Scientific Society (ShSS) leading members. As the head of the American department of the ShSS (1969 – 1973), M. Stakhiv tried to overcome conflicts in the Ukrainian emigrant scientific community. Among the main directions of scientific publishing, editorial journalistic and teaching activity of M. Stakhiv of the post-war emigration period it is necessary to single out three most important ones: 1) work in the ShSS; 2) preparation of scientific research for the “The Encyclopedia of Ukraine” and publication of multivolume publications on the History of Ukraine; 3) teaching work.

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