

РЕЦЕНЗІЇ / REVIEWS

UDC 930.85(477.4):37.014.25“18/19”
DOI 10.24919/2519-058X.35.332652

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DNIPRO UKRAINE REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CENTRES IN THE EUROPEAN INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

(peer-review of the monograph: Ivanenko, O. A. Integration of the Dnipro Ukraine Regional Scientific and Educational Centres into the European Intellectual Space (Second Half of the 19th – Early 20th Centuries). Kyiv: Institute of History of Ukraine of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 2024. 555 p.)

РЕГІОНАЛЬНІ НАУКОВО-ОСВІТНІ ОСЕРЕДКИ НАДДНІПРЯНЩИНИ У ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКОМУ МІЖКУЛЬТУРНОМУ ДІАЛОЗІ

(рецензія на монографію: Іваненко О. А. Інтеграція регіональних науково-освітніх осередків Наддніпрянської України до європейського інтелектуального простору (друга половина XIX – початок XX ст.). Київ : Інститут історії України НАН України, 2024. 555 с.)

During the 19th – early 20th centuries, Europe was the setting for a wide range of active intercultural contacts, which, in conjunction with socio-economic, material and technical factors, had a direct impact on the socio-political processes taking place in the

Russian Empire. It stands to reason that it was the universities, in particular those of Dnipro Ukraine, or Naddniprianshchyna, that served as the basis for contacts and cooperation in the European intellectual space. The study of the above issues is of great scientific and practical importance.

In late 2024, a solid academic paper by the well-known researcher Oksana Ivanenko – *“Integration of Regional Scientific and Educational Centres of Dnipro Ukraine into the European Intellectual Space (Second Half of the 19th – Early 20th Centuries)”* – was published in Kyiv. The monograph under review is undoubtedly a significant study of the contribution of Dnipro Ukraine to European intercultural communications as viewed through the prism of scientific and educational practices used in the Kyiv Educational District (second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries). The researcher also pays special attention to St. Volodymyr University as the centre of Kyiv Educational District. The author makes an attempt to show the role of Dnipro Ukraine in the European intellectual space from the Spring of Nations of 1848–1849 to the early 20th century.

The peer-reviewed monograph consists of Introduction, seven chapters (subdivided into 27 sections), Conclusions, and List of Literary Sources Used. Chapter 1 *“Historiography, Sources, Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of the Study”* (pp. 11–76) analyses the overall state of research on the issue, the source base of the study, and the methods used in it. The author has given an ample characteristic of the works by scholars who did relevant research in this field earlier. We believe, however, that it would have been worthwhile if the entire historiographical array had been classified.

The source base of O. Ivanenko’s research is quite extensive. She has studied documents from the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Kyiv (CSHAK), the State Archives of Kyiv (SAK), the State Archives of Odesa Region (SAOR), the State Archives of Kharkiv Region (SAKhR), and the Institute of Manuscripts at the V.I. Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine (IM VNLU). Trying to classify the research findings, O. Ivanenko provides a broad description of the main archival funds and the types of sources stored in them. The scholar also occasionally mentions the periodical press and its impact on the shaping of public opinion, the publication of memoirs, epistolary writings, and autobiographical materials. In total, the author of the paper has studied documents from 55 archival fonds. These included official correspondence, office records, memorandums, forensic records, and statistical data from the array of departmental and clerical documentation of government and public institutions, as well as sources of private origin from the personal fonds of public and cultural figures (p.p. 459–460). Out of a total of 1,156 items, the list of references contains 591 archival sources. The author emphasizes that the source base is representative and, accordingly, sufficient for achieving the set goal and objectives.

The research methodology chosen by O. Ivanenko is characterized by an original attempt to apply the philosophical developments of the German thinker K. Jaspers (who developed the category of “communication”), American scholars G. Trager and E. Hall (the concept of “intercultural communication”), H. Lasswell (structural and functional analysis of social communication), R. Collins (“theory of intellectual networks”), Canadian cultural scientist G. M. McLuhan (“communicative space”), Ukrainian scientists V. Vernadsky, Ya. Dashkevych, F. Shevchenko, P. Sokhan, and S. Vidniansky. In her work, the researcher used the problem-chronological, historical genetic, historical systemic, historical typological, and comparative historical methods. Simultaneously, she used the principles of historicism and systemic analysis, which, combined, enabled a high-quality research.

In Chapter 2 “*International Relations in Europe and Their Impact on Socio-Political Life in the Territories of Dnipro Ukraine in the Late 1940s – Early 20th Century*” (pp. 77–157), O. Ivanenko focuses on modernization processes in Europe in the 19th century, and describes in detail the events of 1848 – 1849 (Spring of Nations) and their impact on Dnipro Ukraine, as well as repressive and protective measures aimed at counteracting the spread of revolutionary ideas in the territories of the Russian Empire, the influence of the Eastern (Crimean) War of 1853 – 1856 on the intensification of anti-government sentiments in the Ukrainian lands (liberalization of socio-political and cultural-educational life, reforms in the public sector, economic modernization, and abolition of serfdom) (p. 96). Further, the researcher describes the main reforms (economic, judicial, military, etc.) that were implemented in the period under study. The author of the paper quite convincingly shows that during the Spring of Nations of 1848 – 1849, the tsarist government tried to prevent the spread of the influences of the pan-European revolutionary process in the Russian Empire, as a result of which the autonomy of the universities was limited and they found themselves at risk of being closed. However, from the second half of the 1850s to the early 1860s, on the contrary, the rights of universities were expanded. Notwithstanding this positive trend, there was no radical modernization of socio-political life in the Russian Empire, and the authoritarian principles of state administration persisted (p. 104). The author also emphasizes the rise of patriotic sentiments and the resistance to the Russian autocracy by the local Polish population against the backdrop of the intensification of national liberation movements in Europe throughout the 19th century (pp. 114). Specifically, the researcher shows the specific features of the Polish national liberation movement, in particular, public resistance to the repressive policies of the Russian Empire (p. 125), the activity of the Poles in the South-Western Territory on the eve of World War I, the influence on Ukrainian public and cultural life of national liberation movements in the Balkans in the 1870s, and etc. It should be pointed out that Chapter 2 contains a considerable amount of factual information.

Chapter 3 “*Universities of Dnipro Ukraine in International Scientific Relations during the Second Half of the 19th Century*” (pp. 158–251) is subdivided into five sections. In these sections, O. Ivanenko provides a thorough description of cooperation with foreign European scientific centres in the field of the Humanities in the 1960s (pp. 158–168), reveals interrelations in the field of history, philology and philosophy in the last third of the 19th century (pp. 169–191), law and economic disciplines in the 1970s – 1990s (pp. 192–202), nature study in the 1960s (pp. 203–215), and also focuses on cooperation in the field of natural sciences during the last third of the 19th century (pp. 216–240).

Chapter 4 “*The Place and Role of Universities of Dnipro Ukraine in the European Scientific and Educational Space in the Early 20th Century*” (pp. 252–316) appears perfectly relevant to the research topic. In particular, using the problem-chronological method, O. Ivanenko comprehensively describes the interrelationships between scholars and scientists working in different fields of science, such as history, philology (pp. 252–268), law, economics (pp. 269–279), physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology (pp. 280–294), and medicine (pp. 295–308), as well as their contribution to the development of international mutual interactions.

The researcher devoted the next three chapters to the participation of the Poles in the cultural and educational development of the Kyiv Educational District in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries (Chapter 5; pp. 317–344), the role of schooling in the life of the Jewish community in the 1860s – the early 20th century (Chapter 6; pp. 345–408), and the

cultural and educational activities of the Greeks, the Czechs and the Germans (Chapter 7; pp. 409–458).

The author argues that, despite the repressive and punitive policy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Department of Orthodox Confession, and the Ministry of Public Education, the spread of covert Polish schools and cultural and educational organizations continued throughout the second half of the 19th century and into the 20th century, including not only Catholics, but also Orthodox Christians in the orbit of their influence (p. 342). The researcher dwells, quite extensively, on the Russification policy in the field of education, which was aimed at the assimilation of youth, the implementation of a strategy of destroying the traditional life and cultural self-identification of the Jewish community (p. 376).

O. Ivanenko emphasizes the increase in the importance of charitable Jewish national and cultural organizations as centres for the fulfilment of the spiritual needs of Jews against the background of the discriminatory legislative policy of the Russian Empire towards people of this nationality (p. 405). Close attention is paid to the repressive national and educational policy of the state towards national minorities, which was coupled with discrimination on religious grounds (p. 472).

The author refutes the thesis about the ethno-confessional isolation of the cultural and educational activities of the German community in the Ukrainian lands, stressing the national and religious tolerance of the Germans primarily due to the diverse national composition in the educational institutions they had founded, where Protestants studied alongside with Orthodox Christians, Catholics, Jews, and Karaites (p. 475).

The general conclusions (pp. 459–476) in the monograph are original and summarise the main points of the information presented in its chapters. In our opinion, O. Ivanenko's research is an example of a thorough scholarly analysis of complex historical issues, rigorous collection and meticulous analysis of facts, interpretation of the role of Dnipro Ukraine in European intercultural communications through the prism of scientific and educational practices of the Kyiv Educational District of the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries.

The author made an attempt to theoretically interpret the issues under study by building a properly structured text within the specified chronological framework. Naturally, there are some minor inaccuracies and technical flaws in the monograph, but these shortcomings do not overshadow the positive impression of O. Ivanenko's monograph. We wish the author further achievements in her scholarly research.

*The article was received January 06, 2025.
Article recommended for publishing 30/05/2025.*