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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

(FOUO 6/82)



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INTERNATIONAL

BOOK CRITIQUES BOURGEOIS THEORIES ON INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

Moscow MEZHDUNARODNYY KONFLIKT in Russian 1981 (signed to press 16 Jun 81) pp 1-2, 181-183

[Table of contents and brief description of book by N.I. Doronina]

[Excerpts] Title Page:

Title: MEZHDUNARODNYY KONFLIKT (International Conflict)
Publisher: Mezhdunarodnyye otnosheniya
Place and year of publication: Moscow, 1981

Signed to Press Date: 16 June 1981

Number of Copies Published: 10,000

Number of Pages: 183

Brief Description:

The author critically analyzes bourgeois theories on international conflict and examines Western scientists' ideas on managing conflict-crisis situations. Some of these questions are examined in Soviet literature for the first time. The author introduces a number of materials that had not been used previously. The book is intended for specialists in the field of international relations and other branches of social sciences.

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NATIONAL

INTERREPUBLICAN DIFFERENCES IN TREATMENT OF ECONOMIC CRIMES SCORED

Kishinev IZVESTIYA AKADEMII NAUK MOLDAVSKOI SSR: SERIYA OBSHCHESTVENNYKH NAUK in Russian No 3, 1981, pp 46-50

[Article by A. A. Barbinyagra: "An Improvement of the Legislation on Responsibility for Petty Theft"]

[Text] The Soviet state carries out the comprehensive safeguarding of socialist property and wages a consistent struggle for strengthening it. The USSR Constitution which was adopted on 7 October 1977 established that the basis of the USSR economic system is made up of socialist ownership of the means of production in the form of state (public) and kolkhoz-cooperative property (Article 10). "For it is in the field of economics," the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted in the Summary Report of the CC CPSU to the 26th Party Congress, "that the foundation for the solution of social problems is laid . . . the foundation for an active foreign policy."¹

The effectiveness of the legal protection of socialist property depends upon improving the legal regulation of the social relations which develop in the field of the production and distribution of material goods and the state of the practice of the application of the legal norms which are aimed at struggling against encroachments of socialist property.

One of the most widespread and dangerous encroachments is represented by petty thefts of state and public property which cause socialist society considerable economic and moral damage. This is why it is necessary to constantly improve the criminal, administrative, and public means of influence for their perpetration.

In order to struggle against petty theft in recent years the Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of the union republics have changed the content of the laws dealing with responsibility for this type of encroachment on public property. Thus, by virtue of the 17 March 1978 Ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Moldavian SSR, Article 124 of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR is set forth in the following redaction: "The petty theft of state or public property by means of larceny, misappropriation, embezzlement, abuse of one's official position, or swindling, committed by a person against whom, because of the circumstances of the case and of personality, measures of public or administrative influence cannot be applied is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of up to six months or by corrective labor for a period of up to one year, or by a

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fine of 100 rubles. The same act committed by a person who had been previously convicted of petty theft, or had previously committed a theft of state or public property or of the personal property of citizens as stipulated by Articles 119-123 (1), 145-147, 149, 225 (2), and 227 (1) of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of two years or by corrective labor for one year, or by a fine of 200 rubles."

The laws on criminal responsibility for petty theft have also been changed in the Criminal Codes of the RSFSR, Belorussian SSR, Kirghiz SSR, and Uzbek SSR. For example, according to Article 85 of the Criminal Code of the Ukrainian SSR, a person who has committed a petty theft of state or public property can be brought to criminal account if during the course of a year he has been subjected twice to administrative punishment or measures of administrative and public influence for the same actions. For the perpetration of petty theft with aggravating circumstances the guilty party, in accordance with Sanction Part II, Article 85 of the Criminal Code of the Ukrainian SSR, may be subjected to deprivation of freedom for a period of one year, corrective labor for the same period, or a fine of 100 rubles.

In order for a perpetrator to be brought to criminal account, in accordance with Article 96 of the Criminal Code of the Turkmen SSR, it is also required that the guilty party has been subjected during the course of a year to measures of administrative or public influence for petty theft. The sanction of the above articles stipulates the punishment in Part I--deprivation of freedom for a period of one year, corrective labor for the same period, or a fine of 100 rubles, and in Part II--deprivation of freedom for a period of two years.

Punishment by corrective labor is not provided for in the sanctions in Part II, Article 87 of the Criminal Code of the Azerbaijan SSR, Article 95 of the Criminal Code of the Kazakh SSR. Article 77 of the Criminal Code of the Cossack SSR. Article 94 of the Criminal Code of the Estonian SSR established the maximum and minimum limits of the fine which may be exacted: Part I--from 30 to 50 rubles, Part II--from 50 to 100 rubles.

Article 98 of the Criminal Code of the Lithuanian SSR consists of one part which states that the petty theft of state or public property committed for a second time in a year either by a person who has previously been convicted for such a theft or for the theft of the personal property of citizens as stipulated by Articles 90-95, 232 (2), 146-148 or 151 of the Criminal Code of this republic is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of two years, corrective labor for one year, or a fine of 100 rubles.

There are also other differences in the disposition and sanctions of the articles of the Criminal Codes of the union republics which stipulate responsibility for the petty theft of socialist property. The most successful is the disposition of Article 96 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR, Article 124 of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR, and of other union republics in which in order to bring a guilty party to criminal responsibility it is not possible to apply to him (in keeping with the circumstances of the case and of person) measures of public or administrative influence.

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With this kind of construction of the law the agencies of preliminary investigation and inquiry have more possibilities for giving comprehensive, full, and objective consideration to the circumstances of the deed which has been committed, to collect and evaluate data about the personality of the guilty party, and after this to decide to which form of responsibility to bring the person who has committed the theft.

To tie the question of the initiation of a criminal case to the fact that the guilty party must have been subjected twice during the course of a year to administrative punishment or measures of administrative and public influence does not correspond to the goals of the effective defense of socialist property. The distinctive characteristics of the construction of the norms of the law which have been noted lead in court practice to different judicial evaluations of the very same criminal encroachments on socialist property and to the setting of different measures of punishment.

The above-noted differences in the Criminal Codes of the union republics are hardly to be explained by reasons of a local, national, or territorial character, and, of course, do not help to strengthen socialist legality at the current stage of the construction of developed socialism in the USSR. The laws on petty theft have to be uniform, for, as V. I. Lenin wrote, ". . . law cannot be Kaluga and Kazan' law, but has to be uniform . . . for the entire federation of Soviet republics."² In our view, not all of the circumstances which aggravate guilt in connection with the perpetration of petty theft are provided for by the legislation in effect. Thus, the commission of a petty theft by an especially dangerous recidivist (if he was not previously convicted for a theft) will not be considered as a circumstance aggravating his guilt and his actions are subject to qualification in accordance with Article 124 Part I of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR. In such a case the guilty party will bear a punishment in the form of deprivation of freedom for a period of six months, corrective labor for a period of one year, or a fine of 100 rubles.

The role of aggravating circumstances manifests itself in a different manner when what is involved is theft of personal property, including thefts of insignificant dimensions. A larceny committed in preliminary agreement with a group of people or with the use of technical means is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of five years, while a larceny committed by a dangerous recidivist is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of ten years. Here, in accordance with the sanction in the article, there is no place either for corrective labor, or for a fine, or, especially, for the use of measures of public influence. But the repeated petty theft of state or public property, regardless of the means used for committing the crime or of the fact that the person who has committed this act is recognized as an especially dangerous recidivist, is of no legal significance at all. Thus, when repeated thefts are committed by an especially dangerous recidivist in one case (the theft of personal property) the legislator recognizes this as an aggravating circumstance, while in another case (petty theft) this circumstance plays no role.

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The legislation on responsibility for petty theft should stipulate additional responsibility for the existence of aggravating circumstances (the commission of the theft in preliminary agreement with a group of persons or with the use of technical means).

The necessary conditions for an improvement of the legal regulation of the relations which take shape in the process of ensuring the safekeeping of socialist property are: a reflection in the legal norms of socialist property's true significance in the life of society; complete coverage by legal regulation of the social relations which take shape in the sphere of dealings with socialist property; the punctual improvement of legal norms in accordance with the economic and social processes occurring in the life of society; and the accessibility of the legislation to officials and citizens.

Thus, the following formulation of Article 124 of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR, in our view, would be the most correct and in accord with the goals of socialist legislation:

The petty theft of state or public property by means of larceny, misappropriation, embezzlement, the abuse of an official position, or swindling which has been perpetrated by a person to whom, in view of the circumstances of the case and of personality, measures of public or administrative influence cannot be applied is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of one year, corrective labor for a period of one year, or a fine of 200 rubles.

The same act committed in preliminary agreement with a group of persons or with the use of technical means, and also by a person who has previously committed a theft of state or public property or of the personal property of citizens as stipulated by Articles 119-123 (1), 145-147, 149, 225 (2), and 227 (1) of the present Code is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of three years.

The same act committed by an especially dangerous recidivist is punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of five years.

The relationships of socialist property are also regulated by the norms of administrative law. Administrative responsibility for the petty theft of state and public property was established for the first time by the 29 April 1969 Ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Lithuanian SSR "on strengthening responsibility for the petty theft of state and public property."³

With the introduction of administrative responsibility for the petty theft of socialist property the struggle against such violations of law grew stronger and its forms and methods were improved.

Thus, Article 1 of the 17 March 1978 Ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Moldavian SSR "On Administrative Responsibility for the Petty Theft of State or Public Property" states: "Be it established that a person who has committed a petty theft of state or public property, if his actions do not entail criminal responsibility, is subjected to administrative responsibility in the form of a fine of

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from 10 to 50 rubles, or measures of public influence including compensation for material damage."⁴

An analysis of the administrative law of the union republics on responsibility for petty theft shows that there are important differences in the legislation which has been adopted. Thus, one of the measures of administrative responsibility being employed at the present time for petty theft is an administrative fine: from 10 to 50 rubles in the RSFSR, Moldavian SSR, and the Ukrainian SSR, and from 10 to 30 rubles in certain other union republics. In addition, corrective labor for one or two months is provided for in the Lithuanian SSR, the Georgian SSR, and other union republics.

The existence of so many serious differences in the legislation of the union republics regarding this type of violation of law is hardly justifiable. The success of the struggle against encroachments on public property demands a further improvement of this legislation.

The legal basis for the application of measures of administrative punishment against people who have committed petty thefts is their release from criminal responsibility on the basis of Article 48 (1) of the Criminal Code of the Moldavian SSR. In accordance with the latter, a person who has committed a crime which does not represent any great public danger and for which the law provides a punishment in the form of deprivation of freedom for not more than one year or some other milder punishment may be released from criminal responsibility if it is acknowledged that administrative influence is sufficient for his reformation.

The following measures of administrative punishment may be applied to people who have been released from criminal responsibility in accordance with Part I of the above article: A fine of 50 rubles, corrective labor at the guilty party's work site for a period of from one to two months with 20% of earnings withheld, or arrest for a period of 15 days. This law has the task of ensuring a more differentiated approach to the responsibility and punishment of persons who have committed crimes which do not represent great public danger. Thus, the legislation on petty theft is a complex of different types of responsibility which are frequently not identical in their content in the union republics.

Present-day conditions objectively demand a greater role for law and the well-organized juridical regulation of social relations. A strengthening of legality and law and order and an improvement of the legislation represent one of the lawful processes of a mature socialist society and are a necessary precondition for accomplishing the tasks of communist construction.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress," Moscow, 1981, p 31.
2. V. I. Lenin, "Complete Works," Vol 45, p 198.

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3. "Bulletin of the Supreme Soviet and Government of the Lithuanian SSR," No 12, 1969, p 114.
4. "Bulletin of the Supreme Soviet and Government of the Moldavian SSR," No 3, 1978, p 30.

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NATIONAL

NEW TASKS, PROCEDURES FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS OUTLINED

Moscow VESTNIK AKADEMII NAUK SSSR No 11, Nov 81, pp 24-41

[Article by Academician P. N. Fedoseyev: "The XXVI CPSU Congress and the Important Tasks of the Development of the Social Sciences"]

[Excerpts] The XXVI Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union opened up a new period of active social and political life in our country. The Summary Report of the Central Committee of the CPSU which was delivered by the General Secretary of the CC CPSU, comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and the decisions of the Congress give a theoretical substantiation of the prospects for Communist construction and world development which makes it possible to carefully collate the plans and methods for our work with the aims of the Party forum which concern all of the areas of the domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

The importance of the documents of the XXVI Congress for intensifying and increasing the effectiveness of the research work of Soviet social scientists is exceptionally great.

The results of the work of humanitarian institutions were discussed in sufficient detail at the General Meeting of the Academy of Sciences, at meetings of its branches and at a session of the Social Sciences Section which took place immediately after the XXVI Congress.

For this reason, consideration should be given chiefly to the tasks of social scientists which have to be accomplished by them in the next few years.

The greater integral and overall nature of social development under mature socialism gives rise to the necessity for a deeper study of the spiritual life of society, of the basic tendencies and factors in the strengthening of the material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life, and of the problems of the formation of the new man.

In recent years there have appeared quite a few works in which the essence of the socialist way of life, its structure, and certain laws of its formation and development are revealed. However, the practical value of these works is substantially lessened by the fact that they do not have in them a clear system of indicators which reflect all of the aspects of the development of Soviet society

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and which are essential for the needs of social planning and management. The questions of the interconnection between the material well-being and spiritual and moral wealth of people and of a growth in their culture and political consciousness are also in need of theoretical interpretation. Especial importance is also being acquired by the question connected with the cultivation of reasonable needs and interests in the individual, for, as was noted at the XXVI Congress, "our party sees one of the important tasks of its social policy in their active and directed formation."

In the present situation a more sober and scientific approach to the formation of social expectations is needed; for life convinces us of the fact that the propagandizing of unrealistic promises engenders exaggerated social claims and social delusions.

Social scientists have to make a deep analysis of the state of public opinion and of the mass consciousness and behavior of people, following Lenin's instruction regarding the necessity for "soberly keeping track of the real state of the consciousness and preparedness of precisely the entire class (and not only its Communist vanguard), of precisely the entire toiling mass (and not only its advanced people)."¹

In the field of the social sciences, as in other areas of knowledge, scientists possess a large potential which has to be used efficiently and fruitfully.

Substantial work is being performed in the Academies of Sciences of the Union Republics on studying the important problems of the economic, socio-political, and spiritual development of socialist society and of international relations. The decisions of the XXVI Congress have become a powerful stimulus for increasing the effectiveness and quality of the work of the Republic academies. With regard to the tasks posed by the Congress, the Republic academies have decided to deepen their study of the basic tendencies which are changing the social structure of Soviet society and perfecting the political system and spiritual life of developed socialism.

Steps are being taken in the Academies of Sciences of the Union Republics for a scientifically substantiated development of a long-term program of overall development and scientific and technological progress for their republics for the period until 2005-2010. A study of the problems of the socialist way of life, of the education of youth, and the formation of the family occupies an important place in the republic scientific research plans. Attention is merited by the initiative in organizing a study of the principles, ways, and forms of realizing the constitutional rights of citizens and labor collectives, of the legal problems of the organization of production and labor, and of the realization of the rights and duties of workers and employees in the sphere of labor activities.

In the light of the theses which were worked out at the XXVI Party Congress, the problems of the scientific and technological revolution and of its social consequences will be studied on a deeper level. During the Eleventh Five-Year Plan, it is planned to intensify the opposition to various bourgeois ideological

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conceptions, and to develop on a broad front the criticism of nationalism and of religious and other survivals in the consciousness of people. Attention to the international education of the workers and to a development of the principles of socialist internationalism will increase.

It has to be noted, however, that there are still considerable reserves for increasing the effectiveness and quality of scientific work. It still does not happen often enough that the research of republic scientists rises to a high all-union level of generalization and to the level of results which are of general importance for all of Soviet science. For example, in the academies of certain republics, quite meticulous studies are going forward of the processes of the social and spiritual life of the village, but this question, unfortunately, is not posed sufficiently broadly--the coming together of town and country--and it does not bring the scholars out to the problems connected with it.

Nor should it be forgotten that much of the work on important scientific problems is being conducted in the country's leading vuzes, both in the center and in the localities. This work must, without question, flow into the common stream of the research by the social scientists of the entire country.

The realization of the program of scientific research in the light of the decisions of the XXVI CPSU Congress depends, to a large extent, on the level of the scientific organization of the labor of social scientists and upon the state of the coordination of scientific research work.

Today Soviet social science possesses a large detachment of qualified organizers of science: around 40 scientific councils and commissions on the most important problems have been created in the system of social sciences. However, it is not yet possible to say that everything is in good order with the coordination of research, ensuring its overall nature, and in the concentration of the efforts of social scientists on the creative solution of the most urgent problems. There are still quite a few cases of duplication, petty topics, and completely unjustified tendencies to direct efforts toward the solution of local problems which have no significance for theory or practice. This was discussed, in particular, at the 1981 General Annual Meeting of the USSR Academy of Sciences and at the sessions of the Coordination Council (including at a recently held travelling session in Tashkent).

The work to clarify and improve the system of scientific councils is far from completed. The Social Sciences Section and its divisions have to take all of the necessary measures to complete this work as rapidly as possible. The necessity for a further improvement of the coordination of research and for creative cooperation is dictated by the overall character of the problems being studied which require unification of the efforts of not only the different detachments of social sciences, but also of representatives of the creative unions, natural scientists, and technicians. Let us recall that last year, when there was a discussion of the ideological educational role of historical sciences at a meeting of the Social Sciences Section, the Division of History of the USSR Academy of Sciences was urgently recommended to establish strong contacts

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with the USSR Union of Writers, the Union of Cinematographers, and with other creative unions and organizations.

The insufficiently wide introduction of the results of research into practice remains a weak point in our work; moreover, relations with, so to speak, clients are still insufficiently permanent, and frequently the orders themselves are poorly grounded.

In planning any kind of work in the field of sciences, it is necessary to know by whom and for what it is needed. In a word, the kind of system of organizing scientific work has to be conceived which will make it possible to approach an overall problem being studied concretely and by subjects.

We already have a certain amount of experience in this kind of organization and planning of scientific work within our institutes (for example, in the Institute of Economics, in the Institute of World Economics and International Relations, and in the Institute of the History of the USSR of the USSR Academy of Sciences). Attention should be given, for example, to the experience in realizing jointly with the sections of the Moscow City Committee CPSU of a long-term plan for the participation by the humanitarian scientific institutions of the USSR Academy of Sciences in solving the problems of the socio-economic and cultural development of Moscow. We have to try to achieve the same kind of situation in other spheres of scientific activity also. The practice of creating authors' collectives for the writing of major scientific works became established long ago. However, it is clear that it would be useful in necessary cases to create creative collectives for the development of important topics with the participation of representatives of the appropriate party and state agencies. The system of contracts with ministries and other practical organizations which is practiced by natural scientists produces palpable positive results both in revealing the level of the effectiveness of the research being performed and in the efficient introduction of its results. We have to actively struggle for the realization of the results of scientific research and for the recommendations worked out on their basis (if, of course, they are deserving of this).

The development of science is a fruit of collective common labor. For this reason, a regular creative exchange of opinions among scientists is an urgent need for science today. In April of this year an All-Union Conference on the Philosophical Problems of Contemporary Natural Science took place with great success. Suggestions on holding a new All-Union Conference of Historians (the last conference took place more than twenty years ago) merit attention. In considering the important tasks of social science we are fully aware of the role of historical research and generalizations for science and social practice, for the ideological arming of our cadres, and for the spiritual life of society and the education of the masses.

The work of methodological seminars is an important form of Marxist-Leninist education, and of scientific intercourse and of the creative exchange of opinions. At these seminars scientific workers and vuz teachers discussed the philosophical problems of scientific knowledge, of the contemporary scientific and technological

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revolution, and of economic and social progress, the important problems of the social, natural, and technical sciences, and the dialectics of their interconnections and interaction. The representatives of the artistic intelligentsia should be enlisted in the work of the seminars which have been created in institutes and which are engaged in studying the problems of literature and art; a broad discussion could be organized here of the problems of the development of socialist culture and literature and art and of the creative improvement and application of the method of socialist realism. A critique of bourgeois ideology has to be an important direction in the work of the seminars.

Without greater activeness by the scientific public, science cannot become a genuine "disturber of the peace," to which the XXVI Party Congress called scientists. The academic journals in the social sciences have to fully become "disturbers of the peace." In addition to treating the achievements of science and providing a scientific information service and a coordinating role, they have to be a kind of "instigator" for the holding of creative discussions, discussions of important problems, and for the organization of "round table" meetings.

Unfortunately, in recent years, such materials have become much rarer. Quite a few reviews on the pages of our journals, unfortunately, are more reminiscent of simple notations: it is extremely rare that one can find a detailed analysis of the content of the books being published, not to speak of the fact that reviews of weak works have altogether vanished (and such works, unfortunately, are also published).

In order to overcome the complacency which exists in certain scientific collectives, resolute measures have to be taken so that every academic subdivision is dominated by an atmosphere of creativity, mutual comradesly exactness, and ardent searches.

During the past five-year period, the USSR Academy of Sciences and the academies of sciences of the union republics continue to deepen and perfect their multi-lateral and bilateral scientific relations with the academies of science and other scientific organizations of the socialist countries, which made it possible to achieve important scientific results.

However, the process of socialist integration which is being dictated by law is setting the task of seeking qualitatively new forms of cooperation and of singling out top-priority topics. In this connection, the work plans of the bilateral commissions on the social sciences have to be clarified. The fulfillment of the long-term cooperation program of the scientific institutions of the socialist countries in the social sciences is of great importance.

The rather complex situation in international politics and international scientific cooperation has in recent years somewhat reduced the intensity of scientific relations with the capitalist countries.

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For this reason, an increase in the effectiveness of scientific assignments abroad is becoming even more important. As a result of the difficulties which have arisen in the development of scientific cooperation with American scientists, it would be useful to take steps aimed at a certain reorientation of our scientific relations toward the scientists of those countries which have a favorable attitude towards scientific cooperation with the USSR.

It must not be forgotten that scientific research in the field of Marxist social knowledge has to always contain a powerful aggressive ideological and propagandistic charge.

FOOTNOTES

1. V. I. Lenin, "Complete Works," Vol 41, p 42.

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NATIONAL

LABOR PRODUCTIVITY TIED TO SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Moscow VOPROSY FILOSOFII in Russian No 11, Nov 81 pp 51-63

[Article by I. T. Levykin, T. M. Dridze, Z. A. Orlova, and Ya. V. Reyzema: "Theoretical-Methodological Foundations for the Comprehensive Study of the Socialist Way of Life"; In a 10,000-word article, the four authors define "way of life" (obraz zhizni) as a "definite system of stable and repeating modes of life activity which possesses an internal unity." Drawing on the writings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Soviet social scientists, they analyze this concept into its various constituent parts and discuss its application at such different levels of analysis as the individual, class, and society as a whole. In conclusion, they emphasize that all parts of this system are interrelated and that investigations in this area should proceed "from the individual to the social-typical."/]

[Excerpt] In organizing the "environment of his own habitation" and constantly deciding questions of vital importance for him, a person over the extent of his entire life expends on this his own mental, emotional, and physical energy. Moreover, the "environment of habitation" can scarcely be reduced to this or that sphere of activity; like the way of life this is not just a simple set of uncoordinated spheres (types) of activity, existing, as it were, outside of the social subjects. /Way of life is an integrated system of activity, a person's communion and inter-action with his social and natural environment/ [in boldface], and hence extraordinary expenditures of his energy in one unit of this system will immediately (or after a certain amount of time) inevitably affect its other units, knock the system out of kilter, and bring about stoppages somewhere. It may be assumed that potentials for a growth in labor productivity and quality, as is also the case for an increase in labor resources, are concealed not only in the sphere of labor (although also there) but likewise in freeing up and retaining those energy expenditures which go into forms of activity which, at first glance, are not directly connected with labor. In other words, only a complex of measures with regard to improving the entire system of activity, communion and inter-action between people, taking into consideration all the vitally important problems demanding everyday attention, answers the demands of the times.

A more profound study of the nature of the vital problems confronting various people and the ways chosen to solve them will facilitate in the future a more precise formulation of the tasks to be done in working out the most adequate methods of controlling and regulating social relations, both on the level of social groups as well as on the level of society as a whole.

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Within this schema the informational capacity of the concepts "concrete-historical situation," "social situation," "life situation," and "problematical life situation" is very great. On the basis of these concepts we can formulate an entire series of contents-type and methodological hypotheses, allowing us to empirically study the way of life in its real dynamic connections. These concepts are essential for the classification and typology of the way of life, for revealing the principal tendencies of its development.

* * *

The theoretical-methodological principles set forth above allow the authors to make the transition from a general analysis of the concept "way of life" to an analysis of its components and the inter-connections between these components within the framework of certain situations and, consequently, to a further differentiation of the categorial apparatus of study. In the course of the empirical study of the socialist way of life they will facilitate the solution of a whole range of general and specific problems. In particular, they will allow us to discover the general, type-forming factors of the socialist way of life, the chief traits and tendencies of its development, as well as the factors determining the differences in the types of the way of life of classes, other social groups and communities within a socialist society. They will help us to work out the typology (fixation, manifestation of structure, and description) of the social situations which are the most characteristic for various groups of the population, as well as the life situations of individuals who are members of these groups; to determine the nature of the connection between the type-forming factors of the socialist way of life, the social situations of diverse groups of the population, and the life situations of individuals who are members of these groups; to carry out a composite analysis of such situations for the purpose of finding the general and the specific in their structure and contents. All this will help us to discover the most urgent socio-economic, socio-cultural, and ideological-educational problems connected with further perfecting the socialist way of life.

As follows from what has been set forth above, the basic principle of the given approach to studying the socialist way of life has proved to be the principle of /ascending from the individual to the social-typical;/ **/in boldface/** from studying the life and problem life situations at the level of the individual personality to an analysis of social situations at the level of classes, other social groups and communities, and to the discovery of the type-forming factors of the socialist way of life at the level of the concrete-historical situation of society as a whole.

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NATIONAL

CONFERENCE ON PROPAGANDIZING SOVIET WAY OF LIFE HELD IN BELORUSSIA

Moscow VOPROSY FILOSOFII in Russian No 11, Nov 81 pp 165-166

[Article by Ye. M. Babasov, corresponding member of the BSSR Academy of Sciences, and L. A. Gutsalenko: "Methods of Studying and Propagandizing the Advantages of the Soviet Way of Life"]

[Text] The theoretical conference entitled "Methods of Studying and Propagandizing the Advantages of the Soviet Way of Life in the Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress" was held in May 1981 in Minsk. Like its two predecessors, it was organized by the Minsk Obkom of the CP of Belorussia, the Belorussian State University imeni V. I. Lenin, the Institute of Philosophy and Law of the BSSR Academy of Sciences, the Belorussian Divisions of the USSR Philosophical Society, and the Soviet Sociological Association.

The conference was opened by the secretary of the Minsk Obkom of the CP of Belorussia, A. I. Zhil'skiy. He noted the great theoretical and practical importance of the questions which were posed at the conference. The joint efforts of scholars, all workers of the ideological front in studying and propagandizing the historical advantages of developed socialism will facilitate the execution of the tasks set forth by the 26th CPSU Congress with regard to further developing the material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life, as well as the formation of the new man.

The materials and decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, noted R. P. Platonov (Minsk), constitute the theoretical-methodological basis for studying contemporary social development, its contents and principal directions; they provide the key for examining the problems of perfecting the Soviet way of life.

Extremely important for the activity of the party, the state, and public organizations with regard to strengthening the material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life is the conclusion that the establishment of a classless societal structure will take place within the historical framework of mature socialism. Of great methodological importance for a scientific understanding of the grounds for the development of the Soviet way of life are the conclusions of the 26th CPSU Congress concerning the inter-relationship between education and the party's social policy, an increase in the role of labor in the life of Soviet society, perfecting distributive relations and the unceasing observance of socialist principles therein, the place of interests and needs within the multi-faceted development of the individual personality, and the necessity for overcoming negative phenomena

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which are alien to the socialist way of life. The ideological-theoretical richness contained in the materials of the 26th Congress is today a powerful weapon in the struggle of the party and the people to ensure a well-planned and harmonious development of all aspects of social life on the path to building socialism.

The report by corresponding member of the BSSR Academy of Sciences Ye. M. Babosov examined the socialist way of life as a specific means of vital human activity. This way of life has developed under concrete socio-economic, political, and spiritual conditions of socialism and is directed at carrying out those forms of vital activity which, within their own dialectical inter-action, lead to the formation of a universally developed personality. Of importance for this approach is the use of the method of ascent from the abstract to the concrete--from the most general laws of societal formative movement, as embodied in the specific characteristics of developed socialism, through the study of the special grounds for the development of this system's separate spheres--the means of production, the basis, spiritual life of society, everyday life, etc.--to the concrete manifestations of socialism's universal activity in various modes of vital activity, as expressed not only in their common traits but also in the specific, individual forms of the manifestation of these traits in specific personalities, in their value orientations, interests, inclinations, and acts.

By utilizing the methodological principles of this approach, the author considers, we can more concretely and precisely picture to ourselves the contents, structure, and dynamics of this way of life, as well as differentiate the most important theoretical and practical cross-sections of its structural-functional analysis--with respect to its modes and forms of vital activity, its conditions and spheres, subjects of vital activity, specifics of the socio-spatial organization of vital activity, etc. Structural-functional analysis as a component part of a systemic study of a way of life should be organically combined with a contents analysis of this complex and multi-faceted social phenomenon.

Academician of the BSSR Academy of Sciences K. P. Buslov noted that social relations, class relations, and the establishment of a homogeneous way of life constitute dialectically inter-connected social phenomena. A change in the socio-class structure determines the dynamics of the Soviet way of life. This is conditioned by the following objective characteristics of Soviet society at the contemporary stage of its development: 1) the complexity, integral nature, and multi-faceted development of socialism; 2) the increased inter-relationship of economic, socio-political, and spiritual progress; 3) further development of the class and national structure and, accordingly, their increasing reciprocal influence; 4) perfect socialist statehood, democracy, and forming the culture of an integrated Soviet people. The Soviet people's way of life, based on an integrated socialist economy, ideology, and culture, in turn, facilitates the drawing together of classes and of all social groups.

G. F. Davidyuk noted that among the criteria characterizing a way of life, along with economic, moral, and world-view elements, political criteria must be present; it must be indicated that the way of life pertains to a specific class.

The report by L. A. Gutsalenko (Minsk), entitled "The New Man as a Subject of the Soviet Way of Life," noted that in the way of life, which represents primarily the activity aspect of historical development, what is central is the subject of the

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given process. Ya. I. Rubin (Minsk) spoke about the important theoretical and practical significance of the position taken by the 26th CPSU Congress in advocating the activization of a demographic policy in the country.

L. F. Yevmenov (Minsk) thoroughly analyzed the various types of contemporary bourgeois ideology, which distort the Soviet way of life and falsify the spiritual traits of Soviet man.

There were several sections operating at the conference. The participants in the section entitled "Methodological Problems in Studying and Propagandizing the Advantages of the Soviet Way of Life" examined the following questions: the specifics of development, correlations, and inter-penetrating influences at the stage of developed socialism of objective conditions and the subjective factor of the Soviet way of life; the grounds for forming a well-rounded and harmoniously developed personality, the characteristics of the principles and social norms of the Soviet way of life; the enhancement of the ideological-moral principles of the Soviet way of life and the characteristics of the development of a philosophical, political, and moral culture; the socio-psychological and humanistic aspects of the way of life; the development by the 26th CPSU Congress of the Leninist ideas of propaganda, a comprehensive approach to propagandizing the advantages of the Soviet way of life; an enhancement of the role played by literature and art in forming the new man and in propagandizing the values of the Soviet way of life.

At the sessions of the section devoted to the topic "Criticism of Bourgeois Concepts and Propaganda of the Way of Life" the speakers mentioned the need to step up the aggressiveness and argumentativeness of the criticism directed against bourgeois falsifications of the Soviet way of life.

The work of this conference facilitated the detailed analysis of the methodological foundations of studying the advantages of the Soviet way of life and the methods of propagandizing it; it also stimulated the further development of this, one of the most important problems of contemporary social science and the practice of building communism.

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