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SOCIAL
HARD TIMES
A Novel of Liberals and Radicals in 1860s Russia

VASILY SLEPTSOV
Translated by MICHAEL R. KATZ

“If you are convinced that ‘leftist’ nineteenth-century Russian literature is long-winded and boring, prepare yourself for a big surprise. Hard Times makes for an excellent read and offers a well-informed and realistic picture of life in the Russian countryside after the abolition of serfdom in 1861. Thanks to Michael Katz’s compelling translation, this gem of Russian realism is now finally available to the English-speaking reader.” —Otto Boele, Leiden University

“Michael Katz’s translation makes available an important component of Russian literary and cultural history of the mid-19th century. Sleptsov’s novel, and the questions it poses, very much follows in the tradition of Sander’s Jacques, Herzen’s Who Is To Blame? and Chernyshevsky’s What Is To Be Done?” —Andrew M. Drozd, University of Alabama

Vasily Sleptsov was a Russian social activist and writer during the politically charged 1860s, known as the “era of great reforms,” and marked by Alexander II’s emancipation of the serfs and the relaxation of censorship. Popular in his day, Sleptsov’s contemporaries Leo Tolstoy and Anton Chekhov praised his writing: Chekhov once remarked, “Sleptsov taught me, better than most, to understand the Russian intelligent, and my own self as well.”

The novella Hard Times is considered Sleptsov’s most important work. It focused popular attention on the radical and liberal movements through its fictional setting, where the characters contend with constantly evolving political and social dilemmas. Hard Times was immediately recognized as a vibrant and compelling depiction of pre-revolutionary Russian intellectual society, full of lively debates about the possibilities of liberal reform or radical revolution that questioned the viability of a political system facing massive social problems.

This is the first English language version of Hard Times, expertly and fluidly translated by Michael Katz. Highly readable, it provides important historical insights on the political and social climate of a volatile and transformative period in Russia history.

“A gem of Russian realism.”
Greetings, Pushkin!
Stalinist Cultural Politics and the Russian National Bard

JONATHAN BROOKS PLATT

“Greetings, Pushkin! is the first comprehensive analysis of the celebrations of the centenary of Pushkin’s death, the climax of the cultural turn towards traditional nationalism in the USSR during the 1930s. Prodigiously researched, lucid, nuanced, and captivating, this is truly an interdisciplinary study that analyzes the visual and literary arts as well as ideology, education, and cultural politics.”
—Evgeny Dobrenko, University of Sheffield

“A mature and serious work that will make a significant impact on the field. With confidence, Platt’s voice negotiates historical contexts, contemporary perceptions of Pushkin, and Pushkin scholarship across almost a century. His mastery of the philosophical and historical discourse enables him to take the everyday stuff of the jubilee year (and years on either side of it) and present it to readers anew.”
—Angela Brintlinger, Ohio State University

In 1937, the Soviet Union mounted a national celebration commemorating the centenary of poet Alexander Pushkin’s death. Though already a beloved national literary figure, the scale and feverish pitch of the Pushkin festival was unprecedented. Greetings, Pushkin! presents the first in-depth study of this historic event and follows its manifestations in art, literature, popular culture, education, and politics, while also examining its philosophical underpinnings.

Jonathan Brooks Platt looks deeply into the motivations behind the Soviet glorification of a long-dead poet—seemingly at odds with the October revolution’s radical break with the past. He views the Pushkin celebration as a conjunction of two opposing approaches to time and modernity: monumentalism and eschatology. Monumentalism—in pointing to specific moments and individuals as the origin point for cultural narratives, and eschatology—which glorifies ruptures in the chain of art or thought, and the destruction of canons.

In the midst of the Great Purge, the Pushkin jubilee was a critical element in the drive toward a nationalist discourse that attempted to unify and subsume the disparate elements of the Soviet Union, supporting the move to “socialism in one country.”

“Prodigiously researched, lucid, nuanced, and captivating.”
THE SOVIET GULAG
Evidence, Interpretation, and Comparison
Edited by MICHAEL DAVID-FOX

“This deeply-researched collection brings together many of the world’s best Gulag scholars. Their new research challenges the old paradigm of the Gulag existing outside Soviet society by placing it squarely in a dynamic and interactive relationship with it. These chapters allow a more nuanced understanding of the Gulag, Soviet society, and the nature of the communist experiment.”
—Deborah Kaple, Princeton University

Before the collapse of the Soviet Union and the subsequent archival revolution, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn’s famous “literary investigation” The Gulag Archipelago was the most authoritative overview of the Stalinist system of camps. But modern research is developing a much more thorough and nuanced understanding of the Gulag. There is a greater awareness of the wide variety of camps, many not isolated in far-off Siberia; prisoners often intermingled with local populations. The forced labor system was not completely distinct from the “free” labor of ordinary Soviet citizens, as convicts and non-prisoners often worked side-by-side. Nor was the Gulag unique when viewed in a global historical context.

Still, the scale and scope of the Soviet Gulag was unprecedented. Intrinsic to Stalinist modernization, the Gulag was tasked with the construction of massive public works, scientific and engineering projects, and such mundane work as road repairs. Along with the collectivization of agriculture, the Soviet economy (including its military exertions in World War II) was in large part dependent on compulsory labor. The camp system took on an outsized economic significance, and the vast numbers of people taken in by zealous secret police were meant to fulfill material, not just political, goals. While the Soviet system lacked the explicitly dedicated extermination camps of its Nazi counterpart, it did systematically extract work from inmates to the verge of death then cynically “released” them to reduce officially reported mortality rates.

In an original turn, the book offers a detailed consideration of the Gulag in the context of the similar camps and systems of internment. Chapters are devoted to the juxtaposition of nineteenth-century British concentration camps in Africa and India, the Tsarist-era system of exile in Siberia, Chinese and North Korean reeducation camps, the post-Soviet penal system in the Russian Federation, and of course the infamous camp system of Nazi Germany. This not only reveals the close relatives, antecedents, and descendants of the Soviet Gulag—it shines a light on a frighteningly widespread feature of late modernity.

Overall, The Soviet Gulag offers fascinating new interpretations of the interrelationship and importance of the Gulag to the larger Soviet political and economic system, and how they were in fact parts of the same entity.
Socialist Fun
GLEB TSIPURSKY

“Fascinating, original, and superbly researched. The emphasis on state-sponsored leisure culture is particularly important because it opens a window in the interactions between the state and ‘ordinary’ Soviet youth, that is, those who were not members of the intelligentsia.”
—Denise Youngblood, University of Vermont

“Exciting work. Based on a breathtakingly wide research base, Tsipursky combines multiple archives with extensive interviews from former participants in cultural programs, from the late 1940s to early 1960s, to unlock private memories, photographs, and other rare materials to give a unique perspective on post-Stalinist youth culture.”
—Lynn Mally, University of California, Irvine

Most narratives depict Soviet Cold War cultural activities and youth groups as drab and dreary, militant and politicized. In this study Gleb Tsipursky challenges these stereotypes in a revealing portrayal of Soviet youth and state-sponsored popular culture.

The primary local venues for Soviet culture were the tens of thousands of klubs where young people found entertainment, leisure, social life, and romance. Here sports, dance, film, theater, music, lectures, and political meetings became vehicles to disseminate a socialist version of modernity. The Soviet way of life was dutifully presented and perceived as the most progressive and advanced, in an attempt to stave off Western influences. In effect, Socialist fun became very serious business. As Tsipursky shows, however, Western culture did infiltrate these activities, particularly at local levels, where participants and organizers deceptively cloaked their offerings to appeal to their own audiences. Thus, Soviet modernity evolved as a complex and multivalent ideological device.

Tsipursky provides a fresh and original examination of the Kremlin’s paramount effort to shape young lives, consumption, popular culture, and to build an emotional community—all against the backdrop of Cold War struggles to win hearts and minds both at home and abroad.

“Fascinating, original, and superbly researched.”
RUSSIA IN THE GERMAN GLOBAL IMAGINARY

Imperial Visions and Utopian Desires, 1905–1941

JAMES E. CASTEEL

"Casteel argues that German images of Russia in the modern period reflected not only this international relationship but also more widely were influenced by concepts of Germany’s status in world politics, in ‘a world of empires.’ This is an important insight, and Casteel covers the subject thoroughly. He extends earlier scholarship to a global scale, and thus this is a valuable contribution to globalizing German history.”
—Vejas G. Liulevicius, University of Tennessee

This book traces transformations in German views of Russia in the first half of the twentieth century, leading up to the disastrous German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941. Casteel shows how Russia figured in the imperial visions and utopian desires of a variety of Germans, including scholars, journalists, travel writers, government and military officials, as well as nationalist activists. He illuminates the ambiguous position that Russia occupied in Germans’ global imaginary as both an imperial rival and an object of German power. During the interwar years in particular, Russia, now under Soviet rule, became a site onto which Germans projected their imperial ambitions and expectations for the future, as well as their worst anxieties about modernity. Casteel shows how the Nazis drew on this cultural repertoire to construct their own devastating vision of racial imperialism.

"Casteel covers the subject thoroughly.”
In this innovative study of the aftermath of ethnic cleansing, Eagle Glassheim examines the transformation of Czechoslovakia’s Sudetenland from the end of the Second World War, through the Cold War, and into the twenty-first century.

Prior to their expulsion in 1945, ethnic Germans had inhabited the Sudeten borderlands for hundreds of years, with deeply rooted local cultures and close, if sometimes tense, ties with Bohemia’s Czech majority. Cynically, if largely willingly, harnessed by Hitler in 1938 to his pursuit of a Greater Germany, the Sudetenland’s three million Germans became the focus of Czech authorities in their retributive efforts to remove an alien ethnic element from the body politic—and claim the spoils of this coal-rich, industrialized area. Yet, as Glassheim reveals, socialist efforts to create a modern utopia in the newly resettled “frontier” territories proved exceedingly difficult. Many borderland regions remained sparsely populated, peppered with dilapidated and abandoned houses, and hobbled by decaying infrastructure. In the more densely populated northern districts, coalmines, chemical works, and power plants scarred the land and spewed toxic gases into the air. What once was a diverse religious, cultural, economic, and linguistic “contact zone,” became, according to many observers, a scarred wasteland, both physically and psychologically.

Glassheim offers new perspectives on the struggles of reclaiming ethnically cleansed lands in light of utopian dreams and dystopian realities—brought on by the uprooting of cultures, the loss of communities, and the industrial degradation of a once-thriving region. To Glassheim, the lessons drawn from the Sudetenland speak to the deep social traumas and environmental pathologies wrought by both ethnic cleansing and state-sponsored modernization processes that accelerated across Europe as a result of the great wars of the twentieth century.

“pioneering study.”
Tangible Belonging
Negotiating Germanness in Twentieth-Century Hungary
JOHN C. SWANSON

“In this engaging and well-researched study, Swanson tells us not just about the varieties of Germanness in the twentieth century, but also how minority identities are formed. The book is magnificent in its ‘thick description,’ and one gets a tangible sense of what it was like to be in a German village in interwar Hungary.”
—Winson Chu, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, author of The German Minority in Interwar Poland

Tangible Belonging presents a compelling historical and ethnographic study of the German speakers in Hungary, from the late nineteenth to the late twentieth century. Through this tumultuous period in European history, the Hungarian-German leadership tried to organize German-speaking villagers, Hungary tried to integrate (and later expel) them, and Germany courted them. The German speakers themselves, however, kept negotiating and renegotiating their own idiosyncratic sense of what it meant to be German. John C. Swanson’s work looks deeply into the enduring sense of tangible belonging that characterized Germanness from the perspective of rural dwellers, as well as the broader phenomenon of “minority making” in twentieth-century Europe.

The chapters reveal the experiences of Hungarian Germans through the First World War and the subsequent dissolution of Austria-Hungary; the treatment of the German minority in the newly independent Hungarian Kingdom; the rise of the racial Volksdeutsche movement and Nazi influence before and during the Second World War; the immediate aftermath of the war and the expulsions; the suppression of German identity in Hungary during the Cold War; and the fall of Communism and reinstatement of minority rights in 1993.

Throughout, Swanson offers colorful oral histories from residents of the rural Swabian villages to supplement his extensive archival research. As he shows, the definition of being a German in Hungary varies over time and according to individual interpretation, and does not delineate a single national identity. What it meant to be German was continually in flux. In Swanson’s broader perspective, defining German identity is ultimately a complex act of cognition reinforced by the tangible environment of objects, activities, and beings. As such, it endures in individual and collective mentalities despite the vicissitudes of time, history, language, and politics.

“engaging and well-researched.”
Kosovo and Serbia
Contested Options and Shared Consequences
Edited by Leandrit I. Mehteti and Branislav Radeljić

“This volume covers multiple aspects of the Kosovo conflict in extraordinarily thorough ways. These include historical interpretations of the origins of the ethnonationalist conflict, the internationalization of the Kosovo problem, the impact of international agencies in post-1999 Kosovo, the Kosovo question in post-2001 Serbian politics, questions of minority rights, and the prospects of economic cooperation between Kosovo and Serbia in regional context.”
—Besnik Pula, Virginia Tech University

Following the 1992 breakup of Yugoslavia, the region descended into a series of bloody conflicts marked by intense ethnic and religious hatreds. Kosovo emerged at the epicenter of these disputes and the site of innumerable human rights violations, as Serbia, united with Montenegro at the time, sought to remove the Albanian presence. Kosovo (roughly ninety percent Albanian) declared independence in 2008, and although it is recognized by over one hundred UN member states, it is still not recognized by Serbia.

This volume brings together scholars of Serbian, Albanian, Christian, and Muslim backgrounds to examine the Serbian-Albanian dynamic in Kosovo through historical, political, economic, and social perspectives. The contributors offer fresh insights on the consequences of internationalizing the conflict, the impact of international agencies and institutions since the 1999 intervention, the continuing human rights violations, present day party politics, and the prospects for economic cooperation with Serbia, among other topics. Kosovo and Serbia will inform scholars and students of the region, exploring the nature of a tragic political and strategic struggle that has existed for centuries and drawn the attention of the entire international community.

“covers multiple aspects of the Kosovo conflict in extraordinarily thorough ways.”
THE HOLOCAUST IN CROATIA

IVO GOLDSTEIN and SLAVKO GOLDSTEIN

“Anyone looking for an objective treatment of the Croatian Holocaust need look no further than The Holocaust in Croatia. Based on extensive archival research, as well as energetic and comprehensive use of contemporary newspaper accounts and secondary sources, this volume, written by two of Croatia’s preeminent historians, tells the story of the Jewish community in Croatia from earliest times up through the Second World War, focusing especially on the Jewish community in Zagreb. This riveting account belongs in every university library.”
—Sabrina Petra Ramet, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

“At last, this nuanced synthesis of the Jewish community in Zagreb before and during the Holocaust is available in Nikolina Jovanović’s masterful translation. After a survey of the early twentieth century, the Goldsteins parse the bureaucracy that was put into place by the Croatian fascist state to disenfranchise Zagreb Jews and strip them of their property, their livelihood, their lives. Drawing on thousands of archival documents, they trace the fates of Zagreb’s Jewish families and institutions and capture how the Holocaust played out in this small but important Central European city.”
—Ellen Elias-Bursac, prize-winning literary translator

The Holocaust in Croatia recounts the history of the Croatian Jewish community during the Second World War, with a focus on the city of Zagreb. Ivo and Slavko Goldstein have grounded their study in extensive research in recently opened archives, additionally aided by the memories of survivors to supplement and enrich the interpretation of documents. The authors’ accessible narrative, here available in English for the first time, has been praised for its objectivity (including rare humane acts by those who helped to save Jews) and is complemented by a large bibliography offering an outstanding referential source to archival materials. As such, The Holocaust in Croatia stands as the definitive account of the Jews in Croatia, up to and including the criminal acts perpetrated by the pro-Nazi Ustasha regime, and adds significantly to our knowledge of the Holocaust.

“The Holocaust in Croatia is a nuanced synthesis of the Jewish community in Zagreb.”

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THE STATE AS INVESTMENT MARKET

Kyrgyzstan in Comparative Perspective

JOHAN ENGVALL

“A superb study that fundamentally challenges our perception of the post-Soviet Central Asian state. Engvall’s thesis is the most novel and convincing account of post-Soviet Kyrgyz state formation of the past decade.”
—Eric McGlinchey, George Mason University

Based on a detailed examination of Kyrgyzstan, Johan Engvall goes well beyond the case of this single country to elaborate a broad theory of economic corruption in developing post-Soviet states regionally—as a rational form of investment market for political elites. He reveals how would-be officials invest in offices to obtain access to income streams associated with those offices. Drawing on extensive fieldwork over an eight-year period, Engvall details how these systems work and the major implications this holds for political and economic development in the region. Often identified and criticized simply as obstacles to development by scholars, Engvall instead argues that these systems must be reinterpreted in the context of a standardized and entrenched method of organizing the state. He also shows how private actors have been unsuccessful in buying preferential treatment directly from the state. Instead, public officials have become the predominant conduit to influencing policy process and monitoring the sale of protection, property rights, and other privatized “public” goods.

“A superb study that fundamentally challenges our perception.”
THE FORCE OF CUSTOM

Law and the Ordering of Everyday Life in Kyrgyzstan

JUDITH BEYER

“Judith Beyer has done a magnificent job of unfolding current notions of legalism among the Kyrgyz of Talas province. Her prose is crystal clear, her ethnography is rich, and her theoretical engagement is stimulating and accessible. This book deserves a place on readers’ shelves alongside the best works on the anthropology of post-socialist Eurasia.”
—Paolo Sartori, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna

Judith Beyer presents a finely textured ethnographic study that sheds new light on the legal and moral ordering of everyday life in northwestern Kyrgyzstan. Through her extensive fieldwork, Beyer captures the thoughts and voices of local people in two villages, Aral and Engels, and combines these with firsthand observations to create an original ethnography.

Beyer shows how local Kyrgyz negotiate proper behavior and regulate disputes by invoking custom, known to the locals as salt. While salt is presented as age-old tradition, its invocation needs to be understood as a highly developed and flexible rhetorical strategy that people adapt to suit the political, legal, economic, and religious environments. Officially, codified state law should take precedence when it comes to dispute resolution, yet the unwritten laws of salt and the increasing importance of Islamic law provide the standards for ordering everyday life. As Beyer further reveals, interpretations of both Islamic and state law are also intrinsically linked to salt.

By interweaving case studies on kinship, legal negotiations, festive events, mourning rituals, and political and business dealings, Beyer shows how salt is the binding element in rural Kyrgyz social life, used to explain and negotiate moral behavior and to postulate communal identity. In this way, salt provides a time-tested, sustainable source of authentication that defies changes in government and the tides of religious movements. Beyer’s ground-level analysis provides a broad base of knowledge that will be valuable for students and researchers of contemporary Central Asia.

“stimulating and accessible.”
David W. Montgomery presents a rich ethnographic study on the practice and meaning of Islamic life in Kyrgyzstan. As he shows, becoming and being a Muslim are based on knowledge acquired from the surrounding environment, enabled through the practice of doing. Through these acts, Islam is imbued in both the individual and the community. To Montgomery, religious practice and lived experience combine to create an ideological space that is shaped by events, opportunities, and potentialities that form the context from which knowing emerges. This acquired knowledge further frames social navigation and political negotiation.

Through his years of on-the-ground research, Montgomery assembles both an anthropology of knowledge and an anthropology of Islam, demonstrating how individuals make sense of and draw meanings from their environments. He reveals subtle individual interpretations of the religion and how people seek to define themselves and their lives as “good” within their communities and under Islam.

Based on numerous in-depth interviews, bolstered by extensive survey and data collection, Montgomery offers the most thorough English-language study to date of Islam in post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan. His work provides a broad view into the cognitive processes of Central Asian populations that will serve students, researchers, and policymakers alike.

“An impressive piece of work.”

—Maria E. Louw, Aarhus University, Denmark
Islam, Society, and Politics in Central Asia

Edited by Pauline Jones

“Islam, Society, and Politics in Central Asia tackles a topic of crucial concern for scholars and policymakers alike. Moving well beyond the punditry that characterizes most discussions, this truly interdisciplinary endeavor provides much-needed scholarship about Islam built upon well-considered fieldwork. In doing so, it makes a powerful case for grounding our knowledge in the realities of the region.” —Edward Schatz, University of Toronto

During the 1990s, there was a general consensus that Central Asia was witnessing an Islamic revival after independence, and that this occurrence would follow similar events throughout the Islamic world in the prior two decades, which had negative effects on both social and political development. Twenty years later, we are still struggling to fully understand the transformation of Islam in a region that’s evolved through a complex and dynamic process, involving diversity in belief and practice, religious authority, and political intervention. This volume seeks to shed light on these crucial questions by bringing together an international group of scholars to offer a new perspective on Central Asian states and societies.

The chapters provide analysis through four distinct categories: the everyday practice of Islam across local communities; state policies toward Islam, focusing on attempts to regulate public and private practice through cultural, legal, and political institutions and how these differ from Soviet policies; how religious actors influence communities in the practice of Islam, state policies towards the religion, and subsequent communal responses to state regulations; and how knowledge of and interaction with the larger Islamic world is shaping Central Asia’s current Islamic revival and state responses.

The contributors, a multidisciplinary and international group of leading scholars, develop fresh insights that both corroborate and contradict findings from previous research, while also highlighting the problem of making any generalizations about Islam in individual states or the region. As such, this volume provides new and impactful analysis for scholars, students, and policy makers concerned with Central Asia.

“A truly interdisciplinary endeavor.”
**DESPITE CULTURES**

Early Soviet Rule in Tajikistan

**BOTAKOZ KASSYMBEKOVA**

“Kassymbekova’s book is a highly innovative contribution to the historical study of Central Asia. Her analysis of the predicaments of establishing Soviet rule in Tajikistan is compelling. In striking detail she manages to uncover the Bolsheviks’ simultaneously radical and compromising attempts at mundane state building in the country.”

—Dr. Till Mostowlansky, University of Sussex

“Kassymbekova offers a rich and much needed history of the early Soviet era in Tajikistan. Her archival research provides a detailed insight into people’s everyday lives. The nuanced analysis of her findings is the primary strength of this book, giving historians and students of Central Asia a chance to connect Soviet cultural policies with ordinary citizens in this previously overlooked region.”

—Ali Igmen, California State University, Long Beach

Despite Cultures examines the strategies and realities of the Soviet state-building project in Tajikistan during the 1920s and 1930s. Based on extensive archival research, Botakoz Kassymbekova analyzes the macro- and micro-level tactics of Soviet officials at the center and periphery that produced, imitated, and improvised governance in this Soviet southern borderland, and in Central Asia more generally. She shows how the tools of violence, intimidation, and coercion were employed by Muslim and European Soviet officials alike to bring about the Soviet objectives of modernization and industrialization.

In a region marked by ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity, the Soviet plan was to recognize these differences while subsuming them within the conglomerate of the Soviet state culture for the enlightenment of all. As Kassymbekova reveals, the local ruling system was built upon an intricate network of individuals, whose stated loyalty to Communism was monitored through a chain of command that stretched from Moscow through Tashkent to Dushanbe/Stalinabad. The system was tenuously based on the power and insecurity of individual leaders who struggled to decipher the language of Bolshevism, yet found common ground through violent repression.

“**A highly innovative contribution.**”
WHITE SPOTS—BLACK SPOTS
Difficult Matters in Polish-Russian Relations, 1918–2008
Edited by ADAM DANIEL ROTFELD and ANATOLY V. TORKUNOV

“A remarkable book. Analyzes most of the big issues between the countries, from the Polish-Soviet war following the Bolshevik Revolution, through the Soviet occupation of eastern Poland in September 1939, the mass murder of thousands of Polish officers by Soviet security forces at Katyn in 1940, all the way to relations between Putin’s Russia and today’s Poland, a leading member of NATO and the EU. This is a specific Polish-Russian story, but we all have our difficult matters—whether in a country, a community, a company, or a family. As in this example, the search for historical truth is both cause and symptom of better political understanding.”
—Timothy Garton Ash, The Guardian

SOVIET SPACE MYTHOLOGIES
Public Images, Private Memories, and the Making of a Cultural Identity
SLAVA GEROVITCH

“This book makes an invaluable contribution to the myth and memory, as well as the actual fact, of the experiences of the cosmonauts in the space race era, and with it Slava Gerovitch establishes himself as a major scholar on the subject.”
—Roger D. Launius, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution

“Soviet Space Mythologies makes a major contribution to the history of Soviet space flight and culture. It places the story of Russian space conquest into the broader history of space flight—including references to pioneering scholars in the history of NASA.”
—Andrew Jenks, California State University, Long Beach
AUTHORITARIAN RUSSIA
Analyzing Post-Soviet Regime Changes
VLADIMIR GEL’MAN

“Gel’mann is one of the most astute observers of Russia’s political development. In this excellent monograph he has analyzed Russia’s post-Community regimes, bringing together thorough research with a broad synthesis of recent theoretical work on authoritarianism. The produce is a valuable statement of Russia’s political situation, offering both sobering analysis of the Putin elite and some hope for the future.”
—Russian Review

“Provides an insightful account of political decision-making in Russia since the start of transition and largely advances our understanding of the logic behind regime change in the country. . . . An excellent and very timely attempt to understand what is behind regime change in Russia. Provides deep insights into Russian policy-making and definitely deserves readers’ attention. It greatly contributes to the scholarship on political transition and will be especially intriguing to political scientists and to everyone interested in Russian politics.”
—East European Politics

CROSSING BORDERS
Modernity, Ideology, and Culture in Russia and the Soviet Union
MICHAEL DAVID-FOX

“A provocative work on modernity, ideology, and culture in the Russian revolutionary period through Stalin’s era. This outstanding contribution to the literature delves deeply into the politics and culture of the early Soviet experience.”
—Choice

“Crossing Borders offers new perspectives on the nature of Soviet society (through the Stalin period) and its relationship to the world. This highly original and richly researched collection of essays challenges so many of the clichés of the historiography with great grace.”
—Katerina Clark, Yale University
BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA
The Origins, Theories, and Legacies of Russian Eurasianism
Edited by MARK BASSIN, SERGEY GLEBOV, and MARLENE LARUELLE

“Goes a long way toward meeting the need for a multidisciplinary and multiethnic understanding of this important and fascinating current in modern Russian history. [These essays] advance our understanding of Eurasianism’s origins, the contexts within which it took shape as a movement among emigre and exile circles in interwar Europe, and its legacies across time and space—from interwar Japan to late Soviet and contemporary Russia. This volume should help readers formulate their own answers to key questions on Russia’s historical identity and the future trajectory of the post-Soviet space and the peoples that inhabit that space.”
—Russian Review

2015 • 280 pp.
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ANGUISH, ANGER, AND FOLKWAYS IN SOVIET RUSSIA
GÁBOR T. RITTERSPORN

“Makes a great contribution to our understanding of everyday life in the Soviet Union. With nuance and insight, it outlines key emotive, discursive, and tactical practices that officials and average citizens, peasants and workers, supporters and opponents, victims and perpetrators used to navigate and ultimately undermine the Soviet system.”
—The Russian Review

“Using a wide array of archival sources, Rittersporn offers new insights into the workings of the Soviet Union. His attention to the depth and breadth of conspiratorial thinking in the early Soviet period and to the generation of specifically Soviet folkways are especially noteworthy.”
—Choice
THE HOLOCAUST IN THE EAST
Local Perpetrators and Soviet Responses
Edited by MICHAEL DAVID-FOX, PETER HOLQUIST, and ALEXANDER M. MARTIN

“The essays are excellently researched empirical investigations into the Holocaust in the former Soviet Union, specifically from the point of view of local perpetrators and Soviet authorities as well as of local contemporary memory, all of which continue to provide avenues for further explorations. The editors deserve praise for collecting them together in one highly readable and inspiring volume.”
—Slavic Review

“This valuable collection, the result of foresight by its outstanding editors, is an important milestone on the way toward a fuller scholarly understanding of the Holocaust in the East—and thus of the Holocaust itself.”
—Timothy Snyder, Yale University

BREAD UPON THE WATERS
The St. Petersburg Grain Trade and the Russian Economy, 1703–1811
ROBERT E. JONES

“Provides a superb overview of eighteenth-century agriculture and trade in Russia and should be essential reading for those interested in the empire’s economic history.”
—Russian Review

“As a study of internal market dynamics, Robert E. Jones’s work offers new insights for anyone interested in not only economic history but also social and political history of the eighteenth century. By focusing on the grain trade, Jones recovers the history of one of the largest sectors of the Russian economy and examines the equally important issue of logistics and supply within the empire.”
—Slavic Review
SOVIET MASS FESTIVALS, 1917–1991
MALTE ROLF
Translated by CYNTHIA KLOHR

PRAISE FOR THE GERMAN EDITION

“In his innovative and stimulating book, Malte Rolf explores with subtlety and insight the complex and contested processes of festivities, festivals, and parades through which the Communist Party and the Soviet state tried to legitimize themselves. It adds much to our knowledge of the cultural history of the Stalinist period in general and marks a welcome departure in scholarship on Soviet festivals and celebrations in particular.”
—Russian Review

“ Innovative and well-written. It should interest scholars of the Soviet Union and of other state socialist societies as well as those exploring the role of festivals and choreographed displays of power in nonsocialist societies.”
—Slavic Review

2013 • 336 pp.
978-0-8229-6239-7 • Paper $28.95
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FIRST FILMS OF THE HOLOCAUST
Soviet Cinema and the Genocide of the Jews, 1938–46
JEREMY HICKS
Winner of the 2013 Vucinich Book Prize

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—Choice

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