

Conclusion. Thus, from the earliest days of the Soviet state, the political caricature, along with other satirical genres, evolved from a free art form into the means of control and an instrument of totalitarian propaganda. The cartoonists (in most cases prepared by the Department of Agitation and Propaganda of Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union) were aware of almost all the pressing domestic and international issues and would timely take on all the missions from the Party, praising the Soviet way of life, exposing the everyday problems, interpreting the “peaceful policy” of the USSR in the foreign affairs, etc.

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THE FUTURE OF THE POST-REFORM PERIOD RUSSIAN NOBILITY IN THE WORKS OF RESEARCHERS BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

Introduction. The results of revolutionary moments in the history of mankind are always a kind of uncertainty in the society regarding its own future. Special attention should be given to the study of the nobility in the Russian Empire, which had to adapt to the post-reform state of things in the country. This issue is interesting as the research on the status of the nobility occurred simultaneously with its continuous activities in the Russian Empire, allowing us to track the changes in attitudes of the researchers. Russian opinion journalism during the boundary of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries proposed the three scenarios of a looming future for the nobility.

The objective of the paper is to discuss the future of the post-reform period Russian nobility in the works of researchers before the revolution.

Despite the significant loss of economic position of the nobility, its confidence in the future was tenacious enough, maintaining that its position won't change. For example, a historian and an opinion journalist K. Kavelin in his brochure "The Nobility and the Liberation of the Peasants" noted that the primary matter of public importance is to determine the likely future leading group in the Russian Empire [2]. He argued that knowing the present and looking to the future, one could determine the future path of the nobility, to identify the ways to avoid difficulties without losing their values, but adapting to the new conditions. For this, in his opinion, they should look up to the aristocracy of England, as it did not enjoy exclusive privileges, taking care not only of themselves, but also of other social groups, yet changed according to the circumstances and has maintained the highest position in the country.

I. Porai-Koshits in the "Essay on the History of Russian nobility from the second half of the 9th century till the end of 18th century. 1862 – 1896" emphasized that the nobility as the leading social group in the country tried to protect its dominion through economic and moral advantage, and not the strictly estates-based one, as previously [5]. The author claimed that the nobility should have the right for its own future – namely, the "moral right to participate in the further fate of Russia".

A. Pazukhin, the author of "On the Current State of Russia and the Issue of the Estates of the Realm", noted that the leading role in the country should continue to belong to the nobility. He emphasized that the *zemstvo* and urban reforms were the most damaging to the Russian Empire and they must be changed, as the nobility started to lose its significance as the power beyond the government among the estates of the realm [4].

Concerns about the realm's loss of its "eternal serving estate" were expressed by a representative of the conservative nobility, A. Elishev [1]. According to him, the nobility ended in "complete disarray" in the second half of the 19th century, as it can only exist while its official rights and duties in the state are preserved.

Among the public figures a nobility representative M. Semenov wrote that the government should strengthen the estates system, as the hasty equalization of the estates without an adequate replacement of it was a danger to the state. In his opinion, the decline of the nobility would lead to the fall of the monarchy itself, as one is impossible without the other [6].

The liberal view is represented in the works of P. Liashchenko. He notes that the holdings of the nobility were merely subjected to the inner-estate mobilization, as the nobility is not only a major vendor in the land market, but also an active buyer. The researcher particularly noted the activity of sales of landed estates in the South, which was due to, on the one hand, the high demand for land, and on the other, difficulties of production process [3].

M. Iablochkov represents a radical view on nobility. Considering the history of the nobility, he stated that the government has kept this leading estate of the realm only out of respect to its ancient origins and its future should be that of a mere "relic of antiquity" [7].

Conclusion. Thus, the works of pre-revolutionary researchers reveal three distinguished approaches to solving "the issue of nobility" in the country, which has barely achieved any hope for reform. Most researchers saw value in maintaining

rights and privileges of the nobility; the continuation of their participation in the life of the country; some even suggested counter-reforms that would result in nobility's regaining of its importance.

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UNDERSTANDING THE LIBERAL AND REALISTIC APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Introduction. The relevance of the paper is to understand the liberal and realistic approaches to international organizations as the modern world order is being formed in international relations. *The objective* of the paper is to discuss the liberal and realistic approaches to the international organizations.

International Organizations have become a very important part of international relations playing a significant role in mutual relations of the states. As globalization and interdependence between different countries rises, the importance of international organizations increases as well. We find the international organizations at the heart of all of the political and economic challenges of the XXI century.

While the new world order is being formed, the presence of international organizations has shaped the way for actors to interact positively with each other on the international arena. The international organizations might be a main platform for the state actions, moreover, they also themselves have become the international actors. International organizations are organizations with international memberships