

SUMMARY

The Society with Limited Imputability (by Lev Gudkov). The processes of transformation of post-totalitarian Russia go on extremely unevenly in different segments of society. Fast changes in economy, mass culture, communications system and other social spheres which do not deal directly with symbolic structures of national identity are in sharp contrast with scarcely changing, rigid institutions of power and State authority. To understand the nature of their conservatism it is necessary to analyze the values and moral notions of the Russia's population. The author asserts that the main reason for sluggishness of the Russian society and its resistance to modernization is a long-lasting experience of adjusting to repressive Soviet State that has deformed public morals and the very ability for collective solidarity and mutual understanding between people. Today's political authoritarianism relies on unusually high significance and legitimacy of violence in Russian society which are breaking down universalistic morals. Violence is not just inertia of traditional cult of imperial past, heroic conquests, and militarism but is a consequence of devaluating human life during communist terror. Preserving non-differentiation of institutional system, subordination to the present authoritarian power of all other spheres of social life – from economics to education – suppresses the possibilities of individual's autonomization and emancipation from the State control, of acknowledging self-sufficiency of human rights and freedoms. Mass cynicism and amorality of post-totalitarian society may be viewed as a result of acknowledging the legitimacy of power arbitrary rule and the failure of the 1990-s reforms in dividing power branches and consistent differentiating social institutions.

Life Values of the Russian Population: Similarities and Differences in Comparison to other European Countries (by Vladimir Magun, Maxim Rudnev). Vladimir Magun and Maxim Rudnev present the data of international comparative European Social Survey in 2006-2007 analyzing the values of Russian population in comparison with those of the inhabitants of 19 European countries. An average Russian as compared to the inhabitants of other countries is characterized by a higher caution (or

even fear) and the need in protection by powerful State, the needs in novelty, creativity, freedom and independence are less expressed in average Russians, they are less inclined to taking risks and striving for merriment and pleasures. In terms of the importance of the enumerated values average Russians are like representatives of a number of other countries, primarily post-socialist ones. They aspire to wealth and power, as well as to personal success and social recognition (but creativity and innovation are less important for them). Strong orientation to individual self-assertion leaves in the consciousness of these people, as compared to the representatives of other countries, less space for concerning about equality and justice, tolerance, nature, for taking care of the close people (lower significance of the indicators of «universalism» and «goodwill»).

The Idols of the Square Place (by Larissa Kosova). Larissa Kosova analyzes the data of Levada Center surveys on the Russians' attitudes to such different notions as «communism», «capitalism», «market relations», etc. and with the help of factor analysis develops three types of respondents naming them «derzhavniki» (supporters of powerful State), communists and democrats. The author shows that the adherents of all the three types of attitudes display rather peculiar understanding of «democracy». Thus they are rather tolerable to the hypothetical alteration of the Constitution for the sake of retaining Putin as the President of the country, the years of Putin's governing being considered democratic more often by those of the respondents who has managed to achieve relative success during this time.

2007 in the Russians' Public Opinion: Threat to Stability (by Denis Volkov). The author scrutinizes the evaluations of the changes having occurred during the recent year in various spheres of life (social security, ecology, ethnic relations, work of law-enforcement agencies, etc.). The majority of them are negative and the population, particularly its younger section, considers the only achievement of this pre-elections year (so called «Putin's achievements») to be the possibility to earn more. The inhabitants of the capital express the most critical attitudes. Willingness to vote for the party of

the power somewhat improves average evaluations but does not change their vector. Thus stability proclaimed by the authorities and admitted by the population proves to be fragile and people's behavior to be arch: on the one hand they demonstrate the high level of supporting the President's image, the candidate for his successor and the Party of the Power, and on the other hand, people's dissatisfaction with what's going on is increasing.

Unemployment in Population's Evaluations: Apprehension and Expectations (by Irina Perova). Using the data of Levada Center surveys the author describes the changes in perceiving the issue of unemployment by various groups of the Russian population. In 2008 the threat of remaining unemployed is no longer evaluated by the majority of the Russians as the most acute issue, the most urgent ones being now «prices growth», «poverty», «inaccessibility of many kinds of health services». This threat is still thought to be more acute by women and the unemployed believe this problem to be the most important. The expectations concerning the situation in the labor market in future also became more positive, particularly among young people. At the same time 90% of the respondents kept on thinking the duty of the State is to provide citizens with job and 60% believe it should provide a decent level of life for the unemployed.

Trans-National Interaction and the Quality of Human Capital (by Irina Krutyi and Irina Zanguiyeva). The paper is concerned with the way a person's life changes after moving to another country. It summarizes the findings of the survey of

Russian specialists with higher education and high professional qualification living in Japan (2007). The authors show that strong social interconnections within Russian community in Japan have not developed; rather interaction with friends, relatives, and acquaintances left in Motherland gets more intensive. Stability of social ties both with country fellows and Japan colleagues is not high. Differences in basic temporal notions in Russian and Japanese cultures account for slow making up the stable professional structures. A certain part of newcomers to Japan prefer mutual cultural non-interference. Internet is actively used for enhancing both interpersonal and professional nets; it is also a means of getting additional professional education and increasing one's own human capital through it.

Population's Attitude to Health and Public Health Care (by Valentina Bodrova). In this paper the author analyzes the data of the research carried out by the Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences, in Lipetsk, Tumen, and the village in Lipetsk area. The respondents attach high value to health but self-evaluations of health in Russia remain lower than those of representatives of other countries (Great Britain, the USA, Finland), the minority of respondents turning to a doctor for help when they fall ill, the rest preferring to cure themselves with domestic facilities or buy drugs on the advice of friends and acquaintances. The majority of the respondents (46%) evaluate the work of Health Care Centers only as satisfactory (but not as good or excellent). Only 1% of respondents are satisfied with the present level of providing primary medical aid.