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УКРАЇНСЬКЕ МИНУЛЕ ПЕРШОЇ ПОЛОВИНИ ХХ СТОЛІТТЯ В ДЗЕРКАЛІ ПОЛЬСЬКОЇ ІСТОРІОГРАФІЇ: НОВА АНАЛІТИЧНА СТРУКТУРА

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**UKRAINIAN PAST
OF THE FIRST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
IN THE MIRROR OF POLISH HISTORIOGRAPHY:
NEW ANALYTICAL STRUCTURE**

Monograph Review:

Morozova O. Studies of Ukrainian History of the 1st Half of the 20th Century in Contemporary Polish Historiography: Trends, Concepts, and Discussions : monograph. Mykolaiv : Black Sea National University, 2020. 432 p.

The intensification of Polish-Ukrainian relations over the last thirty years has been accompanied by the constant growth of Polish Ukrainian studies. This shows itself in the permanent widening of the scope of the studied issues and the efforts to learn more about the essence of the problems. A rethinking of historical experience connected with the rejection of established myths and stereotypes has become an urgent issue for both Polish and Ukrainian historiography.

The author of the book is a well-known researcher of modern Polish historiography, Ukrainian-Polish relations, director of the Ukrainian-Polish Research Institute of the Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University, a member of the Polish Historiographical Society, the Club

of absolvents of the Eastern Summer School at Warsaw University, a scholar of the Queen Jadwiga Foundation of the Jagiellonian University, the Foundation of Krzysztof Skubiszewski, a participant of the Summer School of Historians of the Eastern Europe Studies of the Warsaw University, the Summer School of Historians of the Wroclaw University. The author of 4 collective monographs, 2 textbooks and more than 100 publications in leading scientific journals of Ukraine, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Moldova, an active participant of regional, national and international scientific conferences, symposia, an organizer of international conferences "1919 in History of Central and Eastern Europe: to the 100th anniversary of the proclamation of the unification of the Ukrainian People's Republic and the Western Ukrainian People's Republic «and» Ukrainian-Polish relations: to the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Pilsudski-Petliura agreement". The researcher's active scientific activity in the international arena, in particular in Poland, is highly appreciated by the foreign public.

The author's significant contribution to historical science is confirmed by the scientist's monograph, which is characterized by innovation and scientific scrupulousness. At the same time, in the process of working on the book, Olha Morozova did not avoid discussing the difficult problems of the common Ukrainian-Polish history.

In her book, the scientist raised a very important research dilemma. The author analyzed the state of modern Polish historiography on the problems of Ukrainian history of the first half of the twentieth century. This is a rather dramatic period in Ukrainian-Polish relations, characterized by great emotional tension, outbreaks of irreconcilable confrontation and elements of political and ideological pressure. The work is full of depictions of contradictory events and highlights the accumulation of stereotypes and "white spots" around the Ukrainian-Polish past. It is important to note Olha Morozova's monograph is dedicated to all those who stand on the position of Ukrainian-Polish dialogue and reconciliation.

Judging by the text of the peer-reviewed monograph, the researcher has conducted extensive research and analytical work, working out on a large array of historiographical sources presented by scientific research and popular science literature of Ukrainian and Polish historians over the past 30 years. 1.959 names of sources and references show great diligence in the study of the problem. It is important to

emphasize that the source base of the book is enriched with materials of interviews with Polish historians on the issues raised in the book.

Olha Morozova's book is novel and reflects modern trends in historical science. It is based on a comprehensive analysis of a wide source base. The main historiographical achievements in the coverage of the chosen topic are characterized by problematic, institutional and personalistic aspects. In view of the interdisciplinary nature of the work, in the process of research was used an interdisciplinary approach, involved elements of the analysis of historical memory, the processes of mythologizing and stereotyping of history, the politics of memory.

The structure of the monograph corresponds to the tasks. The material is presented logically and consistently. A general view of the structure of Olha Morozova's work gives grounds to note that the author presents the material not only in the eventual key, but in a geopolitical perspective, analyzing the achievements of modern Polish scholars and drawing parallels with the work of Ukrainian historians and representatives of the Polish and Ukrainian diaspora. In addition to the introduction, the work has five chapters, conclusions, a summary in English, a list of sources, biographies of Polish Ukrainians and a nominal index. The structure chosen by the author made it possible to perform a fully completed study.

The author's formulation of the object and subject of research, its purpose and tasks, geographical boundaries, as well as the practical significance of the research do not cause any remarks. The novelty of its results is evidenced by the involvement of a wide range of diverse historiographical sources and carried out on their basis a comprehensive comparative analysis of the features of the discussion of multifaceted issues of the Ukrainian past of the first half of the twentieth century in modern Polish historiography. Technical design of the text and the scientific apparatus of the work also accord the necessary requirements.

In the first chapter, considering historiographical, source and methodological aspects, the author focuses on the general state of the problem. According to her, a critical approach to the common past has diversified the research topics of Polish scientists, supplemented them with source material. Jerzy Giedroyc, a supporter of Polish-Ukrainian understanding and cooperation, made a significant contribution to the intellectual environment of the Poland Republic. B. Osadchuk's letter

to L. Walesa also had a significant influence on the formation of the vision of Polish-Ukrainian relations. A certain place in the search for joint assessments of the past was taken by the Polish-Ukrainian Commission of Historians. The researcher proposes to divide the modern Polish historiography of the history of Ukraine of the first half of the XX century into seven periods. A turning point in the study of the common past was the emergence of scientific centres, such as the St. Vladimir's Foundation, the Southeastern Research Institute in Przemysł, the Institute of Central and Eastern Europe in Lublin, and others. The analysis of the works of Polish historians of Ukrainian origin attracts attention.

In the first chapter, the author shows that the most extensive is the historiographical literature on modern research on certain problems of Ukrainian history in the first half of the twentieth century. In the second part of the first chapter, the researcher turns to the analysis of the source base of the study. She rightly points to the peculiarity of the source basis of her work, as the array of diverse texts is relevant and growing, and the creators of the analyzed works are often people who witnessed the events under study or whose relatives suffered as a result of the Ukrainian-Polish confrontation during World War II. Based on the origin, content, specificity and nature, the source base of the study Olha Morozova rightly divided into printed and electronic arrays.

The methodological part of the first chapter of the monograph is marked with due completeness. Olha Morozova describes in some detail, with proper explanations, a set of principles and methods of historical research that their combination made it possible to realize the goals and objectives set in the work.

The second chapter is devoted to a review and analysis of the institutional development of research centers on Ukrainian issues in modern Poland, highlights the activities of Polish scientific and educational institutions, identifies the place and role of periodicals and describes the personalities of Polish historians. The researcher rightly emphasizes the fact of the institutional heritage of modern and diasporic Polish Ukrainian studies. The paper identifies and describes the leading research centers on Polish-Ukrainian issues, their achievements, publications, human resources. The characteristic of the contribution of separate scientific and research institutions in development of problems, and also the personal contribution of separate scientists, such

as: V. Serchik, J. Moklyak, A. Novak, E. Koko, G. Motyka, S. Stempen, R. Wnuk, E. Maternitsky, A. Smolinsky, T. Srogosh and others. It is important to note that the authors' works did not go unnoticed by Polish historians of the Ukrainian origin: R. Drozd, O. Wishka, B. Halchak, I. Galahyda, R. Zherelik, O. Kolyanchuk, S. Kozak, G. Kupriyanovych, V. Mokry etc. We are witnessing the internationalization of science in general and historical science in particular. Therefore, it is commendable that the author conducts a detailed analysis and comparison of the achievements of not only Polish but also Ukrainian scientists on the problems of the first half of the twentieth century: L. Zashkilnyak, V. Kalakura, M. Lytvyn, I. Ilyushin, V. Komar, J. Hrytsak, M. Henyk, E. Sinkevych, V. Telvak, N. Yakovenko et al. The works of representatives of the Polish diaspora – E. Giedroyc, O. Halecki and others – complement the general picture of the book. In the context of the above, it is quite organic to analyze the work of the Ukrainian diaspora, represented by the works of R. Koropetsky, G. Grabovych, T. Hunchak, B. Osadchuk, V. Kosyk, R. Shporliuk and others.

The monograph gives due place to the analysis of scientific periodicals, because in the conditions of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, Ukrainian studies abroad is an important tool in spreading interest in the past of the Ukrainian people. The researcher gives a special place to the Polish magazines published in exile: "Kultura" and "Zeszyty historyczne". Thanks to these magazines, progressive ideas of European-level thinkers penetrated into the Polish public environment, which had a positive effect on the general atmosphere in the intellectual circles of the Poland Republic. The author also offers the reader an important attempt at a prosopographic portrait of modern Polish researchers of Ukraine.

The third, fourth and fifth chapters draw attention to a number of controversial problems of Polish-Ukrainian relations, in the approaches to which there are fundamental differences between Polish and Ukrainian authors, in particular: the formation of the Western Ukrainian People's Republic and the Polish-Ukrainian war of 1918–1919; activities of the OUN and UPA; 'Volyn tragedy'; post-war resettlement of Poles and Ukrainians; 'Operation Vistula' and others. At the same time, a number of valid opinions were expressed regarding the avoidance of confrontation and the search for ways to understanding.

The third chapter raises the issue of the conflict between Poles and Ukrainians in 1917–1920, when the confrontation in the western Ukrainian lands escalated into a real war for L'viv and Galicia in 1918–1919 as well as short-term moments of Ukrainian-Polish cooperation. The fourth chapter describes the achievements and problems of Polish historiography in covering the interwar period, especially the situation of Ukrainians in the Polish state, the situation in the USSR, in particular, the Holodomor and Ukrainian emigration to the West. In the fifth chapter, Olha Morozova touches on the most irritating issues of Ukrainian-Polish relations during the Second World War and Operation Vistula. The Volyn tragedy is singled out.

As a result of the research, the author was able to solve a largely new, important and relevant problem from the historiographic and scientific point of view. Based on the reconstruction of the historiographical process, analysis of the variability of historiographical situations in the period 1989–2020, a fairly holistic picture of the transformation of Polish historical science in the post-totalitarian era and the reflection of Ukrainian history in it was created.

The thorough and extensive conclusions (pp. 259–263) pleasantly surprise. They conceptually set out the most important provisions and generalizations of the final nature. The author's conclusions are important for a modern understanding of the historiographical process in Poland and the possibility of borrowing some positive experience. At the same time, it should be emphasized that some of them are debatable.

The researcher concludes that, despite the existence of a wide array of Polish Ukrainian scientific literature on key aspects of the twentieth century, there is still no holistic understanding of all Polish literature about the facts and events of the Ukrainian past of the first half of the twentieth century, there are numerous mythological plots of the problem and their analysis, that interfere with a calm Polish-Ukrainian professional dialogue, Polish historiography depends on the state policy of historical memory, the use of irritating topics in political actions and their manipulation. The problem of both Polish and Ukrainian historiography of the modern period is the tendency to descriptive facts, the existence of radically opposite views in assessing even the most important events and phenomena, in the works of historians, the nation-state idea often dominates historical objectivity.

Olha Morozova noted the factors that positively influenced the formation of the Polish historical narrative on the problems of the history of Ukraine of the first half of the twentieth century such as the activities of Polish emigration centres of Ukrainian studies, for instance, activities of joint Polish-Ukrainian (Ukrainian-Polish) commissions, conferences, symposia, workshops, round tables etc.

The problem of the Ukrainian-Polish confrontation during the Second World War and the first postwar years became especially acute among Polish historians. Even today, Ukrainian issues in Poland revolve primarily around the tragic pages of the Ukrainian-Polish past. The common past, captivated by numerous myths and stereotypes, has been the object of political manipulation. This not only leads to the stagnation of the dialogue between Polish and Ukrainian scholars, the permanent deterioration of the image of the neighbour and forms new myths, but also creates many risks for the prospect of rapid harmonization of positions and relations between Poland and Ukraine.

The author claims that contemporary Ukrainian Studies of the first half of the twentieth century in Poland are not homogeneous. The most popular and controversial topics of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century are the Polish-Ukrainian confrontation in Eastern Galicia during the Western Ukrainian People's Republic, the union of J. Pilsudski and S. Petliura, and the Holodomor in Soviet Ukraine. Discussions of historians focus around the problems of socio-political and cultural life in the Dnieper Ukraine region, Ukrainian political emigration, Ukrainian-Polish relations during World War II and the postwar period, in particular the activities of the UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army) and its relations with the Home Army (Polish Home Army), the Volyn tragedy, Operation Vistula, etc.

According to Olha Morozova, some difficulties in studying the history of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century should be taken into consideration, related to subjective and objective factors, for instance, scientific schools have not been formed yet, some research centres are in an unstable position, and some of the institutions have ceased to exist. Recently, there has been significant political pressure on Polish researchers dealing with Ukrainian issues. Polish historians of Ukrainian origin are forced to defend their rights to their own views.

In turn, the researcher assures that certain political and social circumstances, including the activities of the so-called "Kress" societies,

there have been the interpretation of events by non-professional historians and the widespread distribution of propaganda literature, the use of history in political interests etc., complicate and delay the process of qualitative study and analysis of the Ukrainian past, perception of certain parts of history by citizens who are not indifferent to their past, the formation of an established image of some events, that is often so far from the historical truth.

Olha Morozova claims that joint work of Ukrainian and Polish historians helps to reconcile many difficult moments of the Ukrainian-Polish heritage, the development of Polish-Ukrainian scientific dialogue, which, in turn, is the basis for normalizing relations between Ukraine and Poland.

Regarding the Ukrainian problems of the interwar period, the book's author notes that Polish scholars marked the complicated and unresolved national issue in interwar Poland as a whole and the importance of the Ukrainian question in the international politics of that time. Polish historians focus on the problems of those Ukrainian lands, that at one time were incorporated in the Polish Commonwealth (Galicia, Volyn, Podlasie, Lemko region, etc.).

The most popular topics on the theme of Western Ukraine in 1919–1939 are the problem of the Ukrainian university, the destruction of Orthodox churches in Kholm and Southern Podlasie in 1938, and the Ukrainian parliamentary representation in the Sejm and the Senate.

One of the most studied topics is the Polish-Ukrainian union of 1920. The special objects of studies of the Polish historical science are Soviet Ukraine (particularly, the famine of 1921–1923, the NEP, Ukrainization, industrialization, collectivization, the Holodomor 1932–1933, Soviet crimes, repression, etc.), and the activities of Ukrainian political emigration.

According to the book by Olha Morozova, the most popular and comprehensive study among Polish historians of the problems of Ukrainian-Polish relations of 1939–1947, have become such topics as the Volyn tragedy and Operation "Vistula". A special place in the modern Polish discourse on the Second World War is occupied by the activities of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army. Existent pluralism of views and assessments, deep and long discussions on the acute moments of Polish-Ukrainian relations contribute to the search for new facts and the formation of a more objective view of the events of the past.

Polish historiography has not yet formed a homogeneous picture of the history of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century, in particular the Polish-Ukrainian conflict. The scientific achievements of modern Polish historians demonstrate thematical and conceptual diversity and reflection of national, political, and scientific approaches, testify to the state of the study of the problem, and its impact on the consciousness of Ukrainian and Polish societies.

The researcher notes that the essential features of Polish historiography on the history of Ukraine of the first half of the twentieth century are the following: significant interest of Polish scholars in the Ukrainian past, the constant growth of Ukrainian studies, diversification of topics for study, focusing on the use of diverse source material in research, especially from Ukrainian archives; formation of historiographical discourse with Ukrainian intellectuals; use of works of Ukrainian colleagues, refutation of some myths and stereotypes, growing objectivity of modern Polish Ukrainian studies.

At the same time, the lack of a holistic understanding of all Polish literature on the facts and events of the Ukrainian history of the first half of the twentieth century, the unevenness of the topics and the level of their analysis, the presence of numerous mythological plots that hinder a calm Polish-Ukrainian professional dialogue, dependence of Polish historiography on the state policy of historical memory, the use of irritating topics in political manipulations. The problem of both Polish and Ukrainian historiography of the modern period is the tendency to descriptive facts, the existence of radically opposite views in assessing even the most important events and phenomena, in the works of historians, the nation-state idea often dominates historical objectivity.

It is very good that in the point 6 of the concluding part of the monograph, the author gives recommendations of scientifically promising topics of future research of Polish and Ukrainian historians on the history of Ukraine. The proposals concerning the ways of intensifying the Ukrainian-Polish dialogue of historians in order to openly and productively comprehend the key issues of the common history of Ukraine and Poland deserve special approval.

According to the author of the book, as for Polish historians, promising topics in the history of Ukraine of the first half of the twentieth century are the study of the everyday lives of Ukrainians, the

economic and cultural situation in Ukraine in the interwar period, the socio-economic causes of the Ukrainian-Polish conflicts, interethnic relations, the geopolitical context, Polish cooperation with Soviet troops in the fight against the Ukrainian resistance, etc. The problem is the regional dimension of Polish-Ukrainian relations, prosopographical research, and publication of sources. Polish scholars should study these difficult topics in constant dialogue with their Ukrainian colleagues, and new studies should take into account the achievements of both Polish and Ukrainian historiographies. This will bring professional discourses closer together and help to overcome historical fallacies and myths.

The researcher thinks that a specific feature of historiographical discourse is that during the last thirty years the study of the mentioned problems has often been used to achieve certain political goals, and the concepts and paradigms developed by historians have played an extremely important role in shaping state and social ideologies. The analysis of Polish historiography on the history of Ukraine of the first half of the twentieth century will help researchers achieve objectivity in various issues.

According to Olha Morozova, in order to make the Polish-Ukrainian dialogue more open and productive, it is necessary to continue the discussion on understanding the key issues of the history of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century, write the special works on aspects of the topics that are poorly covered in the scientific literature, as well as generalizing interdisciplinary research on the history of Ukraine of the first half of the twentieth century based on the existing scientific discourses and involve both Polish and Ukrainian and foreign scientists, study the issues of the history of Ukraine, Polish-Ukrainian relations on the basis of objectivism and pluralism of approaches in order to understand each other in the international context, to promote depoliticization, demythologization of the historical past; while studying the controversial moments of the Ukrainian-Polish past, the arguments of both parties should be considered and avoid non-scientific criticism in order to look for ways to unite the analytical approaches to the events; avoid emphasis on the negative aspects of Ukrainian-Polish relations, and emphasizing the common positive historical experience (for example, the union between Pilsudski and Petliura); move on the construction of neighborly Polish-Ukrainian

memory based on understanding and forgiveness; remember that history should be a unifying factor, but not a tool for fomenting new conflicts.

Of course, Olha Morozova could not avoid in such a large and meaningful monograph certain shortcomings, which are due to the fact that sometimes in the text there are statements that could be developed into separate plots. There are some repetitions in the work from time to time, although it is possible that the author uses them deliberately to state clearly his position on the key issues raised in the monograph. However, our comments are of a recommendatory nature and do not affect the overall positive and high scientific evaluation of the peer-reviewed work.

Summing up, we note that judging by the monograph of Olha Morozova, she has prepared a serious scientific study that enriches modern knowledge of Polish historical thought and science, encourages Ukrainian and Polish historians to look at the history of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century in a new perspective. We believe that the work "Study of the history of Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century in contemporary Polish Historiography: Directions, Concepts, Discussions" makes a significant contribution to both Ukrainian and Polish historiography.

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