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**Central Dossier**

History and Historiography of Communism: Debates and New Approaches

Rolando Álvarez

Keywords: Communism, Historiography, Social Sciences, Multidisciplinary

Abstract

This article analyzes the main historiographical debates about communism and how they have contributed to the opening of new lines of research. Through a strong imprint of specifically multidisciplinary approaches between the humanities and the social sciences have been renewed analytical categories on the subject, nurturing other epistemic frameworks linked to the study of social and political organizations of different signs and objectives.

Rejected Loyalty: José Antonio Arze and Moscow. Bolivia, First Half of the 20th Century

Andrey Schelchkov

Keywords: Comintern, Bolivia, José Antonio Arze, Latin American Intellectuals

Abstract

The relationship between the left-wing intellectuals and the International Communist movement, the comintern, is one of the most complicated issues in the history of the Latin American revolutionary movement. The intellectuals were more often than not disappointed with the Communists’ politics and joined the camp of their opponents but there were cases, like the bolivian José Antonio Arze, who maintained his loyalty to and admiration for the ussr and communism all his life. This fact was not really appreciated by the comintern authorities, which lead to a series of errors and failures in Bolivia, where the rejected arze created one of the most successful workers’ parties, acquiring great influence in the country in a very short time. The decision to accept Arze’s group as communist, or not, stemmed from the authorities at the Buenos Aires South American secretariat, whose attitude in many respects was based on personal animosity and the dogmatic conviction of the rectitude of their position against the declared intellectuals during the “bolshevizationˮ of the parties in the region and Moscow did not question it, as it followed a policy of granting the regional authorities the right to said decisions.

Culture, Society, Daily Life and Politics During Stalinism: A Historiographical Essay

Miranda Lida

Keywords: Stalinism, Historiography, Daily Life, Cultural Practices

Abstract

Last years, there were great progresses on the studies about the sovietic era. We introduce on this article a historiographical approach on several studies developed on the last decades -since the collapse of Soviet Union- at the anglo-saxon historiography focused pn the study of value systems, cultural and social practices at the time of the Stalin regime. The sovietic society had to deal with deep economic transformations as the results of the first five-year plans, the political purges and the utopia of a new sovietic man. Stalinism supposed a great transformation for a country that still remained mostly rural on 1917. The depth of this revolutionary change can be observed not only on government and economy, but also on ordinary life, society, culture, values and costumes. These are the axes that more contributed to illuminate the new discussions on this issue.

Was the Collectivization Really Neccesary? Recent Contributions to a Long Debate

Jorge Saborido

Keywords: Stalinism, Collectivization, Collective Farms, Modernization

Abstract

This paper proposes the revision of the last contributions to the long debate linked with the collectivization of the soviet agriculture ordered by stalin in 1929. Beyond the appalling social consequences, also object of historiographical debates, we discussed if his objective, the creation of collective farms destined to the modernization of the country, effectively fulfilled that function.

**Articles**

"Disputes in the Recent History of Argentina: Notions, Accounts and Interpretations on the Last Military Dictatorship (1976-1983) "

Jorge Campos

Keywords: Recent History, Dictatorship, Terrorism, Genocide

Abstract

The present work takes a look at those notions, stories and interpretations that make of this recent past a conflictive and difficult story to reconstruct, given the diverse approaches and centers of intellectual preoccupation that concern the historiographic production around the last argentine military dictatorship (1976-1983). We will focus on four major issues that have marked the construction of meanings in relation to the recent argentine past: anti-subversive struggle, the application of a neoliberal economic plan, state terrorism and the qualification of genocide; finally, the role of the working class and the mass movement.

"The Book of the Chilean Huaso". The Institute of Information of Peasant and Mobilizations of Peasant (1939-1943)

Nicolás Acevedo

Keywords: Popular Front, Paternalism, Institute of Information of Peasant, The Book of Chilean Huaso

Abstract

"The following article discusses the work of the institute of peasant information, an organization created in the government of Pedro Aguirre Cerda, through the publication called The Book of Chilean Huaso what was destined to education and acculturation of farmers in the central zone. Our hypothesis is that the Popular Front government made a patronizing agricultural policy, annulling the union not only by repressive means, but also through an educational and cultural strategy that promoted modernization in the field, without breaking with the harmony in relations between capital and labor. On the other hand, by analyzing letters to the institute of information of peasant, we argue that the reception of the peasant masses often had the character of denunciation or required union advice, which the government institution not realized in its publications, but if they were derived other institutional bodies".

**Research Notes**

Introduction to the First Spanish Edition of Vera Zasulich’s "The Terrorist Tendency in Russia" (December 1902)

Daniel Gaido, Maximiliano Jozami

Keywords: Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (RSDLP), Individual Terrorism, Lenin, Vera Zasulich, What is to be done?

Abstract

We present to the reader a critical edition of Vera Zasulich's article on the russian Socialist Revolutionary Party, written shortly after its creation and hitherto untranslated to spanish, originally published in two installments in the theoretical journal of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, die neue zeit, edited by Karl Kautsky. Zasulich’s article is preceded by the editors’ introduction, which contextualizes the document and draws a parallel between the russian narodniki (populists) and eserists (socialist revolutionaries), on the one hand, and latin american foquism in the 1960s and 1970s on the other hand. The first part shows that the ideas contained in Lenin’s book what is to be done? (published in march 1902) were not some new form of party organisation concocted by Lenin but a reflection of the ideas of the whole group that edited the journal iskra about the organisational needs of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (RSDLP). The second part of the article shows that the russian marxists’ struggle was directed against the revival, not only of the tactics of individual terrorism and armed propaganda as the title indicates, but also against the old “peasant way to socialismˮ of the populists in a new guise.

**Reviews**

Andrew Barnard. El Partido Comunista de Chile, 1922-1947

José Ponce

Manuel-Reyes García Hurtado (ed.). El siglo XVIII en femenino. Las mujeres en el siglo de las luces

Tamara Araya

Jorge Troisi Melean. Socios incómodos. Los franciscanos de Córdoba en una era de transformaciones (1767-1829)

Alejandro Chiliguay