Applicability

and the U.S. focus controlled by the ONR-W are neglected. However, the U.S. focus controlled by the ONR-W is also not neglected. An argument can be made that the ONR-W has a different focus than the ONR-W's focus controlled by the ONR-W. However, the ONR-W's focus controlled by the ONR-W has a different focus than the ONR-W. Therefore, the ONR-W's focus controlled by the ONR-W’s focus controlled by the ONR-W is also not neglected.

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John A. Armstrong, the author of a classic study of Ukrainian wartime nationalism that came out in a third revised edition in 1990, provides an analysis of German-Ukrainian relations from 1917 to 1944 and reflections on the post-1986 period. His stated aim is not to study the perceptions and foreign policy of either Germany or Ukraine, but “the effect of geopolitics and ideology on both.” This aim is achieved, but unfortunately at the cost of clarity.

For most of its existence the Ukrainian SSR was not at war with Germany. Bohdan Krawchenko studies the years 1920–39, while Yaroslav Bilinsky covers the postwar period. Krawchenko focuses on economic and political relations and makes profitable use of Soviet sources, such as the work of the Ukrainian historian I. M. Kulychnych. He ends with the observation that cultural and intellectual relations should be studied as well, if only because to many intellectual circles in Ukraine the West was Germany. Bilinsky discusses not only Ukraine’s postwar relations with Germany, but also those with France and the United Kingdom. This study, the longest in the book, provides much information about the state visits to Kyiv—on their way to Moscow—by British Prime Minister Macmillan (1959), President de Gaulle (1966), and Federal Chancellors Schmidt (1974) and Kohl (1983). The visit to Germany by the Politburo member and Soviet trade-union leader Aleksandr Shelepin in 1975 caused a stir because of a Ukrainian issue. As the head of the KGB in the late 1950s, Shelepin had been responsible for, or at least involved in, the Soviet assassinations of Stepan Bandera and Lev Rebet in Munich. In a postscript, Bilinsky finds that Ukrainian-German relations were more substantial in 1993 than Ukraine’s relations with France or Britain.

The book has an index of names and places, but lacks a subject index or information about the contributors. Geographic names are spelled according to the current state language of their location, which is to be applauded. (The exceptions are Taganrog and Zamość.)

It is to be hoped that this collection will attract other scholars to the topic. One could argue that the prospects are good because Ukraine’s and Russia’s archives have opened up. But it remains to be seen how many serious studies will appear, for few North American and Ukrainian historians of modern eastern Europe are able to read German, and few German scholars are able to read Ukrainian. It is one more reason to appreciate this important contribution to the study of German-Ukrainian relations.

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Book Review


The Ukrainian scholarship in Western German universities received a new edition of an important study on the history of Ukraine. Dobrovols’kyi’s writings on the history of Ukraine are a reliable source of information, and indispensable for students and scholars of this period. The book begins with some first appearances in 16th century Europe and then turns to the 17th century. This approach is quite original and useful for understanding the development of the Kyivan Rus’ society and its role in the development of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the later formation of the Russian empire. The book covers the history of poetry with a particular focus on the period of the Cossacks.

Among the many topics covered in the book are the development of Ukrainian literature in the 17th century. The book covers the period from 1648 to 1814. It is considered to be one of the best books on the subject and provides a detailed treatment of the period.

The discussion of the role of the Russian Cossacks in the development of Ukraine as a nation is one of the most insightful. The book provides a clear and concise overview of the development of the Ukrainian nationhood. The book concludes with an analysis of the role of the Ukrainian Cossacks in the development of the Russian empire. The book is highly recommended for anyone interested in the history of Ukraine.