RESTAURATIONIST AND REVOLUTIONARY IMPERIALISM IN POLITICAL DISCOURSE OF CONTEMPORARY RUSSIA:
SHIFT OF THE POST-SOVIET IDEOLOGICAL SPECTRUM TO THE RIGHT
AND KREMLIN’S ANTI-WESTERN TURN

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Abstract. Most of the meso-level explanations of Putin’s authoritarianism, anti-westernism and irredentism are of political economic nature. This article is based on an alternative interpretation that analyzes Russian ideological spectrum. This method involves biographical micro-level research of the key persons, on one side, and historiosophic meta-politology dedicated to the “Russia’s Fate”, on the other. Radicalization of Putin’s regime can be explained not only through economic interests of the ruling elites, Putin’s and his allies’ biographies, or some deep patterns of Russian history. The evident shift of ideological spectrum to the right under Putin rule took place in the times of the rise of revolutionary imperialism. This ideology was shred by those who joined Zhirinovsky’s and Dugin’s parties. Although Putin’s regime remains reactionary, contemporary official ideology includes elements of revolutionary imperialism, and their barers are invited to main TV channels, conferences etc. Due to this, these ideas change the structure of the semi-open public discourse and influence Russia’s foreign policy.
Key words: Russia, imperialism, fascism, ideology, political specter.

Entire text of the article is accessible in Russian.