

A key contribution of Reszke's work is that it clearly shows the power of primordialist understandings of ethnic identity while demonstrating the extent to which and the ways in which identities are in fact constructed, as when one's identity can be reconfigured and one's life story re-narrated upon "discovering" a drop of Jewish blood. The question remains, though: why do these young adults, upon discovering they have some Jewish roots, decide to rebuild their identities as Jews? This query is two pronged: First, since it is safe to assume that many other Poles have also found that they have some kind of Jewish ancestry and have not acted on that knowledge, why did "finding out" matter for Reszke and her interviewees? This leads to the second part of that question: What is the meaning and valence of Jewishness for certain Poles in contemporary Poland? And is it used as part of a broader social project?

These questions are beyond the scope of Reszke's study, and to her credit the author is well aware of her sample's limitation. But these questions are important and deserve to be studied if we want to understand the place Jewishness occupies in Poland and the various modes in which the category of Jewishness is invoked by different social groups. Reszke's insightful analyses of the narratives that third-generation post-Holocaust Jews have created to explain, to themselves and others, their identifications and personal trajectories are an important contribution. It opens the path for studying the relationship between the Jewish revival and Polish philosemitism. As such, this book will be of interest to anyone interested in understanding this new twist in Jewish life in contemporary Poland and, more broadly, the complex dynamics of identity formation in societies that have endured radical traumas and ruptures.

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***The Transition to National Armies in the Former Soviet Republics, 1988–2005.*** By Jesse Paul Lehrke. New York: Routledge, 2013. xiv, 248 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Hard bound.

In this monograph the author examines the role of the Soviet military and its post-Soviet successors in civil-military relations during moments of acute political crisis. The goal of the book is not to examine Soviet and post-Soviet states' military capabilities but to address the armed forces' ability and willingness to maintain "domestic order through the suppression of riots, revolts, rebellion, and revolution" (x). Jesse Paul Lehrke focuses on the legacies of Soviet military culture in shaping the character of the Soviet successor states' armed forces. In so doing, he bridges the common divide between analyses of Soviet and post-Soviet military forces in order to examine the commonalities that link their periods. The result is an original and readable addition to the social science literature on civil-military relations.

The book is divided into three sets of paired chapters. Each set covers one time period, with one chapter examining the character of the military during the period under analysis while the second focuses on the way this character influenced military behavior during a particular political crisis. In the first section Lehrke reviews the state of the Soviet armed forces in their final decade and considers the impact of Soviet military culture on how the military acted when called upon to repress civilian protestors in Tbilisi, Baku, and Vilnius in the late perestroika period. The second section focuses on the transformation of the armed forces between 1989 and 1991 and how this transformation contributed to the Soviet military's unwillingness to repress protestors during the August 1991 putsch. The final section examines the reconstruction and evolution of the armed forces in four Soviet successor states up to the time

of each country's first major political crisis: Russia through the October 1993 shelling of its parliament; Armenia until its 1996 political crisis; Georgia up to the 2003 Rose Revolution; and Ukraine through the 2004 Orange Revolution.

In each of the three chapters examining the state of the armed forces, the author focuses on unit identity, leadership, organizational ties, and institutional loyalties, which come together to determine the extent to which a military organization is cohesive, loyal to the state, and willing to defend society. In each of the three chapters that address the armed forces' behavior during political crises, Lehrke addresses the militaries' perceptions of the situation, their preparations for a domestic policing operation, and the adaptations made during the operation. These three factors are in turn influenced by the orders given by the regime and the actions taken by the opposition to create an environment that is more or less conducive to repressive action.

Lehrke's analyses call into question many common coup-proofing strategies. Most significantly, elite forces favored with high pay and prestige were often unwilling to engage in domestic repression for any length of time. Due to their sensitivity to matters of honor, these forces resented being placed in situations in which they had to engage in domestic repression rather than the missions for which they had trained. Repeated orders to attack civilians usually resulted in these forces striking a deal with opposition leaders in the final moments of a confrontation. The implication of this finding is that authoritarian leaders are better off relying on dedicated security forces, rather than elite military units, to suppress domestic protests. This lesson appears to have been learned in the post-Soviet sphere, where Russia and several other countries emphasize interior ministry and internal security forces over the regular military.

Overall, *The Transition to National Armies in the Former Soviet Republics* provides a focused and readable account of the factors that have determined the extent to which Soviet and post-Soviet military forces have been willing to engage in the repression of civilian protesters. The book is well written and will be useful to students of civil-military relations throughout the world.

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***The Economic Sources of Social Order Development in Post-Socialist Eastern Europe.*** By Richard Connolly. BASEES/Routledge Series on Russian and East European Studies, no. 85. London: Routledge, 2013. 272 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Figures. Tables. Hard bound.

The main proposition of this book is that after the collapse of socialism diverse patterns of international economic integration resulted in (and were in part based on the legacy of) more or less intense competition within national economies, bringing about varying degrees of competition in the political realm as well. Put briefly, economies characterized by fierce competition in the main export sector(s) led to competitive politics, as no single economic interest group had the strength to monopolize access to political and policy decisions. By contrast, limited economic competition within the leading export sector allowed dominant businesses to capture state power and to rule in politics by excluding their rivals. More generally, it is argued that, taken together, these economic and political configurations conspired to establish two different social orders in postsocialist eastern Europe: an open-access order wherein decisions are made and conflicts are resolved via impersonal and universally applied rules, and a limited-access model according to which rules are applied selectively