

Eurasianism and the European Far Right: Reshaping the Europe-Russia Relationship. Ed. Marlene Laruelle. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2015. xv, 276 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Index. \$95.00, hard bound.

Until recently, neither Eurasianism nor the European radical right were significant topics within international political analysis. To be sure, right-wing extremism—mostly in its political-party manifestation—had been attracting at least some attention in western social sciences and contemporary history within general study of extremism, nationalism, fascism and racism. In contrast, classical Eurasianism and Aleksandr Dugin’s so-called “neo-Eurasianism” had, until 2013, been of deeper interest to only about a dozen researchers who mostly have never had permanent employment at a university or think-tank. Since 2014, however, a number of projects that claim to be “Eurasian” and the European radical right have both turned into matters of high politics and international relations, including, for instance, the emergence of a crypto-imperial Eurasian Economic Union in the post-Soviet sphere or the rise of—often pro-Putin—right-wing populist and extremist parties in Europe. Arguably, the surprising appearance, increasing salience, and grave effects of these increasingly threatening phenomena were eased by the under-representation or plain absence of such topics as right-wing extremism or Russian nationalism in the teaching of mainstream western political science programs, as well as in the investigations by European mass media, governmental organs and independent institutes.

Against this sad background, the appearance of this volume, edited by Marlene Laruelle, perhaps the world’s foremost researcher of neo- and classical Eurasianism, is highly welcomed. Laruelle’s essay collection is especially valuable as it combines a wide range of specific topics with particularly rich descriptive case analyses. In Part I, Anton Shekhovtsov outlines the beginnings of Dugin’s relationship to the west European New Right in 1989–1994, and Vadim Rossman details the context and determinants of Dugin’s temporary appointment at Moscow State University’s Faculty of Sociology. In Part II, Jean-Ives Camus illustrates Dugin’s especially close relationship to France. Giovanni Savino’s paper provides a particularly informative and well-documented survey of Dugin’s connections in Italy. Nicolas Lebourg outlines the “difficult establishment of neo-Eurasianism in Spain.” In Part III, Vügar İmanbeyli surveys the fascinating rise and fall of Dugin’s networks in Turkey while Umut Korkut and Emel Akçali provide glimpses into Hungary’s flirtation with Turanism and Eurasianism. Sofia Tipaldou provides a detailed and comprehensive survey of the Greek Golden Dawn’s transnational links. In Part IV, finally, Anton Shekhovtsov adds a revealing analysis of western far-right election observation missions in the service of the Kremlin’s foreign policy in post-Soviet space.

The volume’s decidedly empirical focus is currently, in so far as many of the facts and details of the rise of Dugin’s “neo-Eurasianism” and its relation to the international far right are yet unknown, unconfirmed and/or under-researched. The problem of distinguishing between fact and fiction in these, sometimes semi-clandestine, sometimes openly presented processes is heightened by a tendency of actors like Dugin to overstate their actual social support, intellectual originality and political impact. As a result, some of the recently proliferating newspaper and magazine articles about the ever more popular Dugin are, in their allegations about his allegedly large influence in Russia, speculative. A somewhat similar story certainly pertains to the overly-alarmist warnings about the growing interaction between Russian nationalists and western far-right activists or politicians. Obviously, we need to moni-

tor carefully, and expose quickly, these contacts and/or cooperation. Yet, before we interpret, theorize, and think about how to solve these problems, we need to know what is actually going on. How significant and organized are the groups involved in these interactions? How deep, sustainable and consequential are their relationships? Which alliances are worth worrying about and which may be ephemeral and demand less attention?

This volume's collection compiled by Laruelle fills a whole number of gaps in the mosaic of Russia's increasing integration into transnational extreme-right-wing networks. These well-researched papers provide, with the partial exception of the less detailed chapter on Hungary, sufficient starting points for more directed research into specific episodes in neo-Eurasianism's relationship to the countries covered here. In a next step, one would like to see more detailed explorations of Dugin's complicated relationship with, for instance, Alain de Benoist, or on affirmative treatments of Dugin's and his pupils' writings in Russian as well as western academia. Laruelle's volume also raises our appetite for more similar country surveys on neo-Eurasianism's connections and adherents in, for example, Germany, Great Britain, Austria, Romania, Japan, Ukraine, Iran and the United States. Laruelle and her authors are to be congratulated for having, with this outstanding volume, given a crucial impulse to the emergence of a new sub-discipline of Russian nationalism studies that could be labelled "neo-Eurasianism studies."

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The Palgrave Handbook of Slavic Languages, Identities and Borders. Ed. Tomasz Kamusella, Motoki Nomachi, and Catherine Gibson. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015. xxii, 561 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Chronology. Index. Figures. Tables. Maps. \$210, hard bound.

This handbook, motivated by the notion that "a quarter of a century after the fall of communism and the breakups of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia, it is high time to re-evaluate the imprint these processes have left on the linguistic landscape and on the interface between the linguistic and political" (1), contains a brief forward (by historian Peter Burke), a programmatic introduction by the editors and twenty-four learned articles by twenty-five authors, divided into three sections: (I) "North Slavs and Their Languages," (II) "South Slavs and Their Languages," and (III) "A Glimpse into the Future." Aside from the four future-oriented chapters—Sarah Smyth on speakers of Russian in Ireland, Anna Novikov on Russian in Israel, Dieter Stern on language in postsocialist cross-border retail markets, and Tomasz Kamusella on Polish speakers in Ireland—the majority of the chapters focus on historical phenomena. Paul Wexler's chapter on "Cross-border Turkic and Iranian Language Retention in the West and East Slavic Lands and Beyond: A Tentative Classification," covers more than a millennium of developments, while most of the others focus on the nineteenth century to the recent past. A central concern is the ethnolinguistic "equation": language=nation=state that informed the emergence of new central European states in the last decades of the twentieth century (2), as exemplified by chapters on Czech and Slovak (Mira Nábělková), Slovak (Alexander Maxwell), Slovene (Andrej Bekeš), Croatian (Anita Peti-Stantić and Keith Langston), and Bosnian-Serbian-Montenegrin (Robert D. Greenberg). Elena Marushiakova and Vesselin Popov provide a wide-ranging overview of Roma communities, both Romani-speaking and