In any case, the Marxist tradition required of the first generation of Soviet historians that they produce a history based on socioeconomic class analysis, even where this required significant adjustment of the facts to conform with the conceptual framework. The leading historian of that period, M.N. Pokrovskii, accordingly set the tone that other historians followed in the 1920s. He identified instances of peasant uprisings against Russian colonial rulers as signs of national awakening, be they Babak in Azerbaijan, Bohdan Khmel'nits'kyi in Ukraine, or the *batyrs* of the Kazakh steppe. When, in the mid-1930s, the Marxist approach was abandoned, the new generation of historians, many of them so-called *vydvizhentsy* (peasants and workers plucked out and trained as the new intelligentsia), elevated these local leaders to the status of heroes in the creation of a national narrative. In part, argues Yilmaz, this was in response to international developments involving in particular Soviet relations with Germany, Poland, Turkey, and Iran.

A principal purpose of historical writing in the Soviet period was to demonstrate in each case a primordial connection between the population and the territory that it occupied, while also creating positive relations with Russia – based on historical experiences – and among the "fraternal" peoples of the Soviet Union. Stalin himself, regarded as an expert on national relations in the early years, supposedly served as the source of "scientific truth" in this regard (34). The author shows divergent approaches by well-trained historians from Moscow and first-generation local historians and their supervisors among the party *apparatchiki*, who added their influential contributions to the evolving arguments.

Finally, so successful was this effort in establishing national narratives acceptable to the populations, that they have retained their evident authenticity in the post-Soviet period – although some of the myths (such as that of the eternal friendship between the three Transcaucasian nations, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia) have not survived, and old animosities may again lead to conflict.

This book is convincingly argued, and is based on an impressive reading of archival and published sources in multiple languages, including those of the three nations under investigation. The study demonstrates both the origins and the enduring impact of what one might regard as a more positive side of Stalin's influence. While no one seriously believed the official propaganda of the late Soviet period that the "nationalities question" had been "solved," the establishment of ethnically based republics, with all the paraphernalia of statehood that this implied, probably facilitated the relatively smooth disintegration of the country along lines that the peoples concerned and the world at large could understand.

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Trafficking justice: how Russian police enforce new laws, from crime to courtroom, by Lauren McCarthy, Ithaca, NY, Cornell University Press, 2015, 304 pp., $39.95 (hardcover), ISBN 978-0801453892

Since the breakdown of the Soviet Union, Russia has faced a growing number of human trafficking cases, including labor and sex trafficking. In response to the international pressure, in

2003 Russia adopted laws that criminalize human trafficking under Articles 127.1 and 127.2 of the Criminal Code. However, to this day very little is known on how this new policy has been enforced and why Russia may not be successful in battling this transnational crime. In *Trafficking Justice: How Russian Police Enforce New Laws, from Crime to Courtroom*, Lauren McCarthy sheds light on Russia's issue with human trafficking by showing how law enforcement interprets and applies this new policy to day-to-day life. Instead of labeling these enforcement efforts on human trafficking as simply ineffective due to widespread corruption, McCarthy takes a more nuanced approach by discussing various challenges faced by Russian police and exploring how unique these challenges are to Russian society. Her manuscript follows a well-established tradition of looking at law enforcement members as "street-level bureaucrats" responding to the institutional incentives and organizational norms and practices. The book is based on an impressive amount of data, including the content analysis of 5500 Russian news articles and 136 interviews with judges, police officers, prosecutors, academic experts, and members of NGOs. From a compilation of media content, McCarthy constructed a database of 279 human trafficking cases that supplements her book and is available on the university website. McCarthy should be applauded for her enormous efforts to collect aggregate data on human trafficking in Russia and make it publicly available. The official statistics for these types of crimes is known to be incomplete, unreliable, or simply unavailable for most readers.

The book consists of six chapters drafted to provide interesting information for expert readers and those who have little previous knowledge about the Russian criminal justice system. The first chapter outlines the overall state of human trafficking in Russia by providing statistics and a brief description of the typical cases for domestic and international sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and child trafficking. In creating the data on human trafficking, the author relies on media accounts of trafficking cases that she verifies through existing official statistics. The second chapter focuses on the legislative efforts to criminalize human trafficking in Russia and offers the reader a detailed analysis of Articles 127.1, 127.2, 240, and 241 of the Criminal Code of Russia, which pertain to crimes of human trafficking and prostitution. Chapter Two concludes with a notion that, prior to 2003, the laws on the books were simply not sufficient enough to deal with human trafficking. The new laws, adopted in 2003 and amended in 2008, provide law enforcement with an opportunity to pursue human trafficking cases, but these statutes continue to suffer from legislative vagueness and confusing wording.

The third chapter discusses "the institutional machinery" of Russian law enforcement and delineates how criminal cases move through the Russian criminal justice system. This chapter will be especially helpful for those who are unfamiliar with Russian criminal procedures. The author provides a diagram of case movement, which makes it particularly easy to follow the information in this chapter. Chapter Three shows that "Russian law enforcement officials are not simply lawless, corrupt, willy-nilly enforcers of the law, or interested only in collecting bribes" (113). Instead, the author sees them as the "street-level bureaucrats" who respond to the institutional pressures for solving cases fast and providing their superiors with detailed reports on cleared cases.

The last three chapters in the book follow human trafficking cases through the criminal justice process and explore how these cases are identified and investigated by Russian law enforcement and how they conclude with criminal prosecution and conviction in the court system. Each chapter is accompanied by a comparative note, in which the author draws parallels to other country's efforts to combat human trafficking. I found these notes especially useful because they help us to understand how many issues faced by Russian law enforcement are common within the global context and attributable to the nature of the crime itself.

Chapter Four centers around the issue of human trafficking identification. The author suggests that most cases of human trafficking in Russia are identified by a victim's complaint to the police. However, these complaints are few and far between because many victims are fearful and distrustful of police. The other two sources for identifying human trafficking in Russia – the information from victims' assistance organizations and direct law enforcement action – are not a promising avenue at the moment. The new laws on "foreign agents" made functioning of many NGOs in Russia difficult and further scarred the relations between police and victims' assistance organizations. The author also reports that law enforcement has problems identifying the cases of trafficking because they are often complex, new, and resource intensive. To avoid these difficulties, cases are often initiated under a different criminal charge.

In Chapter Five, McCarthy outlines the major obstacles for criminal investigation of human trafficking. The chapter analyzes the main types of evidence used in such cases (victim's testimony, video of trafficking transaction, physical, and forensic medical evidence). The author contends that the victim's testimony is often the main source of evidence in such cases with little or no corroborating evidence available in the form of witness testimonies and physical and forensic evidence. The chapter also goes into the broader issues within Russian police (inexperience, lack of training, time limits, and jurisdictional constrains) that interfere with effective investigation of trafficking cases.

In the last chapter, McCarthy examines the issues of indictment, trial, and sentencing practices for trafficking cases. Chapter Six suggests that many cases of trafficking in Russia are indicted under alternative "old" charges such as the organization and solicitation of prostitution, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or illegal migration. These charges are often perceived as easier to investigate, and prosecutors and judges prefer these "traditional" old charges to the new laws on trafficking. The author reports that most convicted defendants in trafficking cases in Russia receive meaningful sentences with an average prison sentence of 7.2 years for sex trafficking and 6.4 years for labor trafficking.

In sum, McCarthy's book *Trafficking Justice* is a must-read for scholars who study transnational crimes and for those interested in the Russian criminal justice system. The book is lively, easy-to-read, and can be used as supplementary reading for both graduate and undergraduate students in courses on comparative justice and transnational crimes. The book also may appeal to a broad range of researchers with backgrounds in political science, sociology, criminology, anthropology, and law.

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Russia in the German global imaginary: imperial visions and utopian desires, 1905–1941, by James E. Casteel, Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2016, 264 pp., $28.95 (hc), ISBN 978-0822964117

James Casteel has written an often-fascinating exploration of German constructions of Russia, largely in the first half of the twentieth century. While German expansionism to