relationship between the center and the periphery in this case shifts outside of the borders of current Russia into the post-Soviet region. As for the Turkish intellectual movement of the analyzed concept, the author primarily explores the clashes between Turkism, Pan-Turkism, Turanism and Kemalism. The essential conclusion of this volume is the insistence on a strict differentiation between all existing branches of Neo-Eurasianism and the intellectual heritage of inter-war Eurasianism. Also, the assumption that Neo-Eurasianism is a comprehensive intellectual concept is severely challenged.

Jakub Andrle


The anthology “O nas bez nas” [About Us Without Us] consists of updated proceedings presented at the XVII General Assembly of Polish Historians in Cracow in September 2004 that among other things dealt with non-Polish historiographical approaches to Polish history. The aim of the volume is to grasp the image of Polish history given by foreign history books (including textbooks); the emphasis is placed especially on the choice of historical topics, usage of myths and stereotypes and the general perception of Polish history abroad. Apart from that, the volume attempts to expound the salience of Polish historiography, its future course, subjects of interest, methods and findings in foreign countries.

The conceptions of Polish history are analyzed in two geographical realms: in the so-called big countries (USA, France, Germany and Russia) and neighbouring countries (or historically neighbouring countries) of Poland (Czech Republic, Lithuania, Ukraine and Hungary). John J. Kulczycki brings an interesting analysis of the historical research on Poland in the USA. He primarily examines American textbooks and comes to the conclusion that Poland is mostly mentioned with relation to Western Europe. Likewise, turning points of Polish history are often misinterpreted or sketchily explained. The only realm that American historiography pays more attention to is the Jewish question. Daniel Beauvois contributed with a study on French historiography. He gives an overview of all prominent historians that have dealt with the topic but also refers to the role of non-historians that for example translated Polish fiction. Małgorzata Willaume in her paper even looked into Daniel Beauvois’s work.

Poland has a much more important place in German historiography. This is shown by Michael G. Müller on the examples of German historical research on
Poland in the past two decades. The dominant topic is the German-Polish problem; however, some new research themes emerge as well (especially on Lithuania and Ukraine). Swetłana Falkowicz examined the Russian perspective and chronologically analyzed the place of Polish history in Russian historiography since the mid-19th century until today. She focused mostly on Russian authors, research topics and educational institutions dealing with Polish history. Lithuanian historiographical view and the image of Poles and Poland in Lithuanian historical memory are presented by Alvydas Nikžentaitis. He concluded that given the phenomena such as Polonization of Lithuania and periods of anarchy, Poland has been by and large given negative connotations. Recently, though, some new and more positive topics have come up such as the civilizing role of Poland and its cultural heritage. In the following paper on Belorussian historiography, Olga Gorbaczewa asserts that Polish history is a recurring topic in Belorussian history textbooks due to the common past but is also evaluated mainly negatively. Unlike in the Lithuanian case, there is no tendency towards a study of topics that would bring a more positive account of Poland’s historical role. Leonid Zaszkilniak noted that Ukrainian historiography depicts Poland in very similar colours. This can be ascribed to the prism of Polish-Ukrainian relations, the influence of Russian historical research as well as the dominant stereotypes and Ukrajinocentrism. István Kovács added to the discussion with his study on Polish-Hungarian relations and the consequent interest for Poland in the Hungarian realm. The last paper of the volume written by Jiří Vykoukal offers an insight into the Czech historiography on modern and contemporary Polish history and its evolutionary trends, primary topics and research institutes. The impact of Czech/Czechoslovak environment is particularly noticeable in this case.

Any reader of the volume can gain a very clear image of Poland in the studied foreign historiographies. Moreover, the editors admonish Polish historians to publish more works on Poland abroad.

Michaela Kůželová


The doctoral thesis of Jana Nosková, a researcher in ethnology, was published in the scope of the programme “Building on the Past: European Doctorate in Social History of Europe and the Mediterranean” and was defended at the Institute of European Ethnology of the Faculty of Art at the Masaryk University in Brno in 2006. Nosková pursued a historical-ethnological research whose main aim was to