

*(Online) ISSN 2424-6034*

**A PROPAGANDA RESEARCH MODEL FOR THE ANALYSIS  
OF RUSSIAN PROPAGANDA IN LITHUANIA**

*DARIUS BUINAUSKAS,  
VYTAUTAS KERŠANSKAS,  
LAURYNAS KASČIŪNAS*

The aim of this article is to provide an overview of the analysis of the evolution of propaganda through the 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> centuries and to propose certain research guidelines and an analytical model for the study of Russian propaganda in Lithuania. The propaganda analysis model is suggested through the following steps. Firstly, after analysing the development of the propaganda issue in the academic field and reviewing certain propaganda concepts introduced by distinguished scholars, a definition fitting most current circumstances was elaborated and grounded. Secondly, the assessment of the main characteristics of propaganda, such as the principles and objectives, were presented. Thirdly, an overview of features for recognition of propaganda were described. Fourthly, the context of the analysis was associated with the proposed propaganda model, seeking to demonstrate the validity of the model. Finally, the possible implications of the model and further analysis were presented. In recent years, the aggressive Russian actions in the region are being followed by an active Kremlin-supported propaganda campaign in Lithuania and other European countries. A hostile flow of information is part of a long-term strategy, which is intended to weaken the society and to divide the unity of the European Union and NATO countries. A broad overview

and deep case study analysis are required in order to suggest the long-term measures that would allow to reduce the possible impact of destructive propaganda. The propaganda methodology provided in the article fills a gap in this context and proposes specific steps based on an analytical framework for Russian propaganda in Lithuania.

### **EXISTENTIALIST FOUNDATIONS OF VYTAUTAS KAVOLIS' LIBERALISM**

*ALVYDAS NOREIKA*

The article deals with philosophical foundations of the theory of Liberalism developed by the Lithuanian-American sociologist and one of the leaders of the Lithuanian diaspora in the USA Vytautas Kavolis (1930–1996). It aims to clarify the problem of coherence, which Kavolis encounters while developing his political theory, and the way of dealing with it by him. The problem is conditioned by the fact that the thinker seeks to develop *Integral Liberalism*, which would encompass not only Liberalism, but other modern political ideologies as well, especially *Conservatism*. Taking fundamental differences between Liberalism and Conservatism into account, a question arises about the possibility of their reconciliation and of establishment of Integral Liberalism as coherent system of thought and action. It is stated that Kavolis looks for conditions of both possibilities in the area of philosophical anthropology.

### **ANALYSING BORDERS AND SPACES: INSIGHTS FOR THE ANALYSIS OF THE TERRITORIAL CONFLICTS IN EASTERN EUROPE**

*DOVILĖ JAKNIŪNAITĖ*

The territorial “frozen” conflicts in Eastern Europe, which exist in the territorially divided world of sovereign states, provide the empirical context for this article needed in order to develop theoretical arguments. The main problem raised is the (im)possibility of the existence of the unrecognised territorial entities. The article asks how the concepts of space, territory and borders and the relationship between the territoriality and statehood in

the current international relations practice and theory allow to understand the situation in these entities. Thus, the goal is to evaluate the theoretical discussions on territoriality and borders regarding their applicability for the analysis of the “frozen” conflicts. Namely, to understand the subjectivity conditions of these entities and to comprehend how such analysis provides any new problematisations of the situation, how it gives framework to explain their strategies, behavior and the tendencies of normalisation. Three concepts (space, territory, and borders) are analysed in the article by raising three questions: a) how each of the concepts define (and constrain) the social reality and international politics; b) how the concepts are problematised; c) how the concepts help and can be used to understand the situation and possibilities of the marginal subject, which tries to overcome its marginality, in contemporary international relations.

### **ONE OF THE THREE: THE STATUS AND ROLE OF A SEIMAS’ SPEAKER**

*SIGITA TRAINAUSKIENĖ*

The article analyses the role of a Parliament Speaker as a leader of one of the main institutions in representative democracy. The analysis is based on the premises of the theories of neoinstitutionalism and political leadership; the basic types of roles a speaker may have in different political systems are reviewed and the established Lithuanian practice is studied accordingly. There are constitutional, statutory, traditional and ceremonial, procedural, and administrative functions and powers that are usually attributed to the Speaker, but the primary function of the presiding officer of a parliament is to conduct debates in parliament, to control its agenda as well as to represent the institution. The role of a Speaker of the Seimas is analysed based on theoretical criteria. In view of the essential role of political leaders in the building of institutions, the analysis of a Speaker’s role in a new democracy seems to be especially meaningful, thus providing an important additional insight into the institutionalisation studies of legislatures.