

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ БІОРЕСУРСІВ
І ПРИРОДОКОРИСТУВАННЯ УКРАЇНИ



Матеріали Міжнародної науково-практичної конференції

**ПРОДОВОЛЬЧА ТА ЕКОЛОГІЧНА БЕЗПЕКА
В УМОВАХ ВІЙНИ ТА ПОВОЄННОЇ ВІДБУДОВИ:
ВИКЛИКИ ДЛЯ УКРАЇНИ ТА СВІТУ**

*присвяченої 125-річчю Національного університету
біоресурсів і природокористування України*

**Секція 4. Якість освіти та гуманітарна наука в умовах війни
та глобальних викликів**

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У збірнику подано результати обговорення актуальних проблем, перспектив і шляхів забезпечення продовольчої та екологічної безпеки в умовах війни, плану відновлення України, сталого розвитку світу в контексті глобальних і регіональних викликів, трансформації суспільства та формування нової парадигми розвитку.

Редакційна колегія:

Ніколаєнко С. М. (відповідальний редактор), Кваша С. М., Кондратюк В. М., Ткачук В. А., Шинкарук В. Д., Барановська О. Д., Баль-Прилипка Л. В., Братішко В. В., Глазунова О. Г., Гриценко І. С., Діброва А. Д., Євсюков Т. О., Каплун В. В., Коломієць Ю. В., Кононенко Р. В., Васишин Р. Д., Мельник В. І., Остапчук А. Д., Отченашко В. В., Рудик Я. М., Ружило З. В., Савицька І. М., Тонха О. Л., Цвіліховський М. І., Яра О. С.

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RUSCISM: ETYMOLOGY AND FUNCTIONING

Daryna Falko, a bachelor student (darynafalko@gmail.com)

Ruscism, also known as Russian fascism, is an ideology that characterizes the ruling regime of Russia during the late 20th and early 21st centuries. It is based on the concept of the "special civilizational mission" of the Russians, the "seniority of the brotherly people," and intolerance to cultural elements of other peoples, mainly Slavic peoples, because they are easier to Russify, as well as to the peoples who lived in the Russian Empire or the USSR. Ruscism also includes ultranationalism, the use of Russian Orthodoxy as a moral doctrine, geopolitical instruments of influence, primarily energy carriers for European countries, and military force against countries within the sphere of influence of the Russian Federation.

While Ruscism shares some features with fascism and Nazism, such as a strong cult of personality, militarism, and totalitarianism, it has certain ideological innovations that have created a new ideology. One of the key concepts in the ideology of modern Russia is the "Russian world," which includes not only the history of Kyivan Rus but also the territory of the Russian Empire in the early twentieth century and the "greatness" of the USSR. However, it is unclear how these entities, which are different in spirit, content, and development, can be united. The only thing that unites them is the territory in the form of an empire and a great desire for new lands.

The term "ruscism" is a play on the consonance of the words Russia and fascism, and it is a type of totalitarian fascist ideology that justifies Russia's barbaric geopolitics aimed at occupying and annexing the territories of other states. It relies on local collaborationism and support for the Russian fifth column.

In addition to territorial expansion, ruscism also aims to preserve cultural backwardness and destroy developed civilizations. According to Oleksandr Sych, the historian, scholar, and politician from the Ivano-Frankivsk region, the core of the ideology of Ruscism is the preservation of cultural backwardness and the destruction of developed civilizations. This is because Muscovy has historically carried out aggressive expansion against countries that were much more advanced in cultural development.

In April 2022, Ukrainian President Zelensky called what Russia is doing Nazism and referred to Ruscism as a concept that will remain in history books: "What Russia is doing is Nazism. The way they killed, tortured, what they did to little children, the rapes, everything that happened is not even a manifestation, it is Nazism. Historically, the state will have a word in history that no one has invented, but everyone is already repeating it in Ukraine and in Europe: racism. There is a reason why everyone says that this is racism. Because for all these 80 years, if you analyze, there has simply been no such barbarism on our continent. That is why racism is a concept that will remain in historical books, in conditional Wikipedias, and in classrooms. And at their desks, little children all over the world will stand up and tell when racism began, on what land, and who won the struggle for freedom against this terrible concept" [3].

Ivan Ilyin, a Russian philosopher, once said, "Russia is the vilest, vomitously vile country in all of world history. By the method of selection, monstrous moral freaks have been bred there, in whom the very concept of Good and Evil is turned inside out. Throughout its history, this nation has been wallowing in shit and at the same time wants to drown the whole world in it". This statement sheds light on the Kremlin's actions, which are not aimed at building an empire, as it believes, but rather at taking away land and killing people.

The term was popularized, described, and widely used in 1995 by the president of the unrecognized Chechen state of Ichkeria, Dzhokhar Dudayev. He considered Russia's military actions in Chechnya to be a manifestation of a growing far-right ideology. According to Dudayev, Ruscism is a type of hate ideology based on Great Russian chauvinism, spirituality, and immortality. It is distinguished from other forms of fascism, racism, and nationalism by its greater cruelty to both humans and nature. Ruscism is based on destroying everything and everyone, using the scorched earth tactic. It is a schizophrenic form of the world domination complex, a special variant of slave psychology that grows like a parasite on fabricated history, occupied territories, and oppressed

peoples. It is believed that Dudayev borrowed the term from either the works of the Russian revolutionary and philosopher Alexander Herzen or the Russian philosopher and diplomat Konstantin Leontyev. After Dudayev's death, the term continued to be used by Chechen rebel leaders and ideologues, especially Aslan Maskhadov, who called Ruscism the main enemy of Chechnya in a 2004 interview, and the Chechen news website Kavkaz-Center published a regular column called "Ruscism."

The term "ruscism" gained more prominence in 2008 during the Russian-Georgian war and was used in the Ukrainian media after the annexation of Crimea by Russia, the downing of MH17, and the Russian-Ukrainian war in 2014. The Verkhovna Rada Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy supports the initiative to recognize the term "ruscism" at the national and international levels.

After the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, the terms "ruscism" and "rashist" became commonly used among Ukraine's military and political elite, as well as among journalists, influencers, bloggers, and ordinary citizens. In May 2022, a group of Kyiv-based creatives and communicators launched a campaign to have the word "ruscism" added to the Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries of the English language.

In conclusion, ruscism is a political ideology and social practice of the ruling regime of Russia based on the idea of the "Russian world" and the special civilizational mission of Russians. It is characterized by ultranationalism, a strong cult of personality, militarism, and totalitarianism, as well as the use of Russian Orthodoxy as a moral doctrine, geopolitical instruments of influence, and military force [1]. The concept justifies Russia's aggressive geopolitics aimed at occupying and annexing the territories of other states. The ideology of ruscism is a type of syncretic politics that justifies the preservation of cultural backwardness and the destruction of developed civilizations. It has gained traction in recent years due to Russia's actions in conflicts such as the First Chechen War, the Russian-Georgian and Russian-Ukrainian wars, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022. The concept of ruscism will undoubtedly continue to be studied and debated in history books, classrooms, and online resources for years to come.

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