Soviet Nationality Policies: Ruling Ethnic Groups in the USSR

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In fact, the late Soviet nationalities policy was inherited from the Stalin’s rule period. This finding revealed in other studies now gets statistical evidence. JEL Classification: H77 Keywords: nationalism, ethnicity, culture, USSR, SEM.

Industrialization and collectivization proved that Russians had been the most loyal ethnic group in the USSR. By the late 1930s, Stalin had radically changed the Soviet nationality policy. Local nationalism was attacked as “bourgeois” and “pro-capitalist” political movements, and Great-power Russian nationalism was endorsed as the new official policy. Yet different groups, and different people within the groups, used Soviet-sponsored ethnic group boundary definitions in different ways.

the goals of the book’s final section: “observing Soviet nationalities policies in action.” Swietochowski’s chapter is particularly interesting, for he summarizes hotly debated issues concerning the rise of nationalism among Islamic Azer-baijanians and Central Asians. Chapters by Sidney Heitman and Zachary Irwin on German, Armenian, and Jewish emigration should mention recent political and cultural revivals within these communities and could give greater credit to other scholars of emigre studies, such as James Millar.

The cumulative effect of these policy