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## **Presentation of the editors: *Kant in Eastern Europe***

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The monographic section of *Con-Textos Kantianos (International Journal of Philosophy)* No. 4 entitled *Kant in Eastern Europe* provides an insight into the work of authors dealing with Kant's philosophy in Russia and other Eastern European countries. As shown by the 12<sup>th</sup> International Kant Congress in Vienna 2015, which was also connected with the exhibition and publication called "Detours. Approaches to Immanuel Kant in Vienna, in Austria, and in Eastern Europe", the theme is worth exploring not only due to the fact that Kant was studied in these countries in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century despite strong censorship, but also that there is a vivid interest in Kant's philosophy in Eastern Europe nowadays.

The section consists of eleven papers (ten of them in English, one in German) and the appendix with three texts providing further details about the Kantian research in Eastern Europe. Authors who contributed to the monographic section come from Russia, Slovakia and Poland.

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In Russia, for over two hundred years Kant's philosophy was seen as one of the pinnacles of Western thought to be studied, borrowed from, and questioned. From early reception (first translation, of *Groundwork*, was published in 1803) to contemporary complex and technical theories, Kantian philosophy has become an integral part of Russian intellectual culture. It would be impossible to choose one topic to represent the breadth of Russian Kantian studies, so instead this selection covers different grounds, proving once again that Kant's heritage is an important juncture for contemporary philosophies of all sorts.

Dr. Valentin Balanovsky has authored a number of works, dealing with interpretations of Kant by Russian philosophers, particularly by Vladimir Solovyov and Alexander Bogdanov. His most recent works are dedicated to study of Kantian trends in C.G. Jung's analytical psychology.

Dr. Vadim Chaly has been studying the reception and interpretation of Kant's ideas in analytic philosophy, translating some works by P.F. Strawson along the way. His most recent research is dedicated to Kantian arguments in political philosophy, sparked by John Rawls' "A Theory of Justice". The paper presented here is part of research project on rationality in early modern political philosophy.

Prof. Elena Dragalina-Chernaya is the author of over 100 publications in logic, epistemology and philosophy of language. Her recent monograph, *Ontology for Abelard and Eloise*, presents ontology for standard and deviant quantification. It is part of the project of restating logic as formal ontology, opening way for its phenomenological justification. The paper presented here examines Kant's logic from the perspective of current discussions in philosophy of logic.

Dr. Serguei Katrechko is a logician, dedicating efforts to interpreting and developing Kant's transcendentalism in logic and philosophy of science. He is the author of works on Kant's constructivism in mathematics, on Kantian arguments in analytic philosophy, on connections between Kant's and Popper's hypothetico-deductive method. He is the editor of recent monograph on Kantian theory of imagination.

Dr. Ludmila Kryshchtop's research is centered on reception of Kant's ethics and philosophy of religion in other philosophical traditions. Her recent works compare Kant's philosophical anthropology and his view of evil with that of Sun Tzu, compare Kant's and Mendelssohn's approaches to relations between state and church.

Dr. Alexey Salikov is the author of works on history of Kant's reception in Russia. The paper presented here is specifically dedicated to studying the publications in *Kant-Studien*, which mirrored the spread of Kantian thought among Russian philosophers. His more recent interest is philosophy of Hanna Arendt, another thinker from Königsberg. Dr. Salikov works as a deputy director of Kant Institute in Kaliningrad, organizing philosophical events and overseeing the publication of "Kantovsky sbornik".

Andrey Zilber is the author of works on Kant's political philosophy, and also on history of Kant scholarship in XIX-century Königsberg. The topics of his research include democratic peace, existential liberalism of V. Gerhardt, political dimensions of the

Enlightenment. He has also worked as translator of Kantian literature and recently translated Wasianski's biography of Kant.

Authors from Slovakia, who contributed to the collection, are all young researchers participating on the research projects devoted to the study of Kant's legacy at the University of Prešov in Prešov led by professor Ľubomír Belás as the principal researcher who started the cooperation with Kant-Forschungsstelle and other research institutions and universities in Germany, Czech Republic, Russia, and Poland more than fifteen years ago.

Dr. Kristína Bosáková in the paper *Kantian Turning Point in Gadamer's Philosophical Hermeneutics* points out the way Kant influenced H.-G. Gadamer and claims that the turning point in Gadamer's hermeneutical thinking does not occur only in the field of aesthetics, but also in the field of metaphysics and of ethics.

Dr. Ondrej Marchevský deals with *Matej Szlávik's Analysis of Kant's Moral Philosophy* at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in The Kingdom of Hungary (Slovakia did not exist as a separate country) and focuses on Szlávik's critical reflection of Kant's ethics that was influenced by Szlávik's religious views. Szlávik was one of influential professors of theology at the Evangelical College in Prešov, today's Slovakia.

The next two papers from the Slovakian authors deal with Kant in connection with G. Simmel and H.-G. Gadamer. Dr. Peter Kyslan in the paper *What is Culture? Kant and Simmel* tries to compare both thinkers concerning the issues of cultural theory, philosophy of history, as well as ethics and society and shows the inspiratory sources of Kant's thought in the work of G. Simmel.

Dr. Sandra Zákutná deals with the very first Slovak scholar who dealt with Kant's philosophy. Her paper, *Stephan Tichy on Incorporating Kant's Philosophy into University Education at the End of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century*, reflects how Tichy reacts to Kant in his anonymously published work *Philosophische Bemerkungen über das Studienwesen in Ungarn*, published in 1792.

The appendix consists of three papers. Prof. Ľubomír Belás and dr. Sandra Zákutná take a closer look at the Kantian Research in Slovakia, prof. Adam Grzeliński and prof. Tomasz Kupś describe the Kantian research in Toruń, Poland, and the last text goes back to the activities connected with Kant and Eastern Europe during the 12<sup>th</sup> *International Kant Congress* in Vienna 2015.

We hope that the monographic section *Kant in Eastern Europe* of CTK 4 will find its readership and enrich the international cooperation in Kantian research in the future.

