

Bulgarian Historical Review

Издание на Института за исторически изследвания при БАН

Bulgarian Historical Review XLIV (2016) 3-4, 52
ISSN 0204-8906

Russia, Bulgaria, the Balkans. Problems of Peace and War 18th–21st Century (Myths and Reality)

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Russophobia Rossica

(Abstract)

The conception of ‘Russophobia’ has traditionally been interpreted as an external phenomenon directed against Russia, no matter in what form it occurred or whether it was directed against pan-Slavism, in the nineteenth century, against Sovietism, in the twentieth century, or against Putinism, in the 21st century. However, there is also Russophobia as an internal, Russian-specific feature, which is the topic of this article. Our research focuses on the interesting phenomenon of Russophobia in Russia, a term coined as early as the nineteenth century by the diplomat Fyodor Tyutchev, better known for his poetry. Based on historical texts from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries found in memoirs, diaries, correspondence and journalistic clippings of Fyodor Tyutchev, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Pyotr Chaadaev, Vladimir Pecherin, Igor Shafarevich, Victor Astafiev, Nathan Eydelman, Alexander Panarin, Valeriy Rastorguev, Andrey Fursov and others, the author has created a typology of Russian Russophobia. The Russophobia in Russia is a Russocentrism, however, with a reverse sign, a combination of “phobias” that manifest themselves, to varying degrees and in different combinations, but have always been around, such as Christianophobia (fear of the Church); Poliitiophobia (fear of the state); Slavophobia (fear of pan-Slavism); Sovietophobia and Russophobia (fear, alienation from what is Russian).

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Keywords: Russophobia; Russocentrism; Christianophobia; Sovietophobia; Slavophobia; Fyodor Tyutchev; Vladimir Pecherin; Alexandar Panarin