

Review

CULTURAL PERCEPTIONS OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND EQUALITY
IN NATIONAL SYMBOLISMS
AS ONE OF THE STRUCTURAL FOUNDATIONS OF EASTERN POPULISM

Luka FILIPOVIĆ¹

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, Čika-Ljubina 20,

11000 Beograd, Serbia

email: filipovic.luka95@gmail.com

ABSTRACT:

Populism in the Balkans and Eastern Europe has unique structural basis that have arrived from specific social, political and cultural characteristics of these regions. Social perception of the ideas of democratization and equality, through its historical evolution in the West has been starting a kind of unique evolution in the East, where the social perception of the same ideas, passing through the sphere of cultural structures and incorporating itself in the unique mechanisms of social dynamics was creating many new historical phenomenon. These processes have created foundations for the future social and historical development of political and cultural structures of Eastern populism.

By using relatively young methodological principals of socio-cultural analyses of the symbols, which are in modern social sciences equally used by the schools of neo-structuralism and post-modern symbolism despite their theoretical differences, this text will try to offer a modest contribution to the enlightenment of long-term social and historical processes which have created modern Eastern populism, and at the same time shaped its mechanisms of evolution and self-preservation. And, by connecting historical evolution of the cultural symbolisms with the evolution of social structures, this text will try to give its contribution to the process of discovering patterns in the network of causes and consequences that we understand as our past, and of the ways in which these patterns transcend into the outer manifestations of long-term historical processes, which we comprehend as our political reality.

¹ **LUKA FILIPOVIĆ:** born in Užice, Republic of Serbia, in 1995. He graduated on the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, department of History in 2018, and gained Master`s degree in 2019. He does research in the feald of contemporary history, especially in the subjects of neo-liberalism, populism, precariat, social inequalities and labour movments.

KEY WORDS:

Democratization; Equality; Populism; Culture; Symbolism.

SAŽETAK:

Populizam na Balkanu i u Istočnoj Evropi karakterišu jedinstvene strukturalne osnove nastale iz društvenih, političkih i kulturnih posebnosti ovih regija. Društvena percepcija ideja demokratizacije i jednakosti kroz svoju istorijsku evoluciju na Zapadu pokretala je svojevrsnu evoluciju na Istoku, gde je društvena percepcija istih ideja prolazeći kroz posebnu prizmu kulturoloških okvira i inkorporirajući se u jedinstvene mehanizme društvene dinamike stvarala mnoge nove istorijske fenomene. Ovi procesi istovremeno su stvarali strukturalnu osnovu za docniji društveno-istorijski razvoj političkih i kulturoloških okvira Istočnog populizma.

Oslanjajući se na relativno mlade metodološke principe analize kulturoloških sadržaja i simbola, koje u savremenim društvenim naukama uprkos teorijskim neslaganjima podjednako primenjuju neo-strukturalizam i post-moderni simbolizam, ovaj tekst će pokušati da da skroman doprinos rasvetljivanju istorijskih i društvenih procesa dugog trajanja koji su doveli do nastanka savremenog Istočnog populizma, istovremeno izgrađujući mehanizme njegove evolucije i samoodržanja. Povezujući istorijsku evoluciju kulturoloških simbolizama sa evolucijom društvenih struktura, ovaj tekst pokušaće da doprinese otkrivanju pravilnosti u uzročno-posledičnoj mreži događaja koju shvatamo kao svoju prošlost, i u načinu na koji se one prenose na spoljašnje manifestacije istorijskih procesa, koje koncipiramo kao svoju političku realnost.

KLJUČNE RIJEČI:

Demokratizacija; Egalitarizam; Populizam; Kultura; Simbolizam.