

**MARIJA DJORIC, “EXTREME LEFT-WING: IDEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF LEFT-WING EXTREMISM”, SCIENCE AND SOCIETY OF SERBIA, BELGRADE, 2016.**

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Here stands before us the third monograph of a young, but already acknowledged researcher of violent crimes in relation to politics, assistant professor PhD Marija Djoric.

After conducting remarkable studies on the topic of phenomena of politicized hooliganism in sport and around it and extreme right-wing as a worldly phenomenon, Marija Djoric expanded her research field to extreme left-wing, from which emanated this very valuable monograph called “Extreme left-wing: ideological aspects of left-wing extremism”.

Course of her research is hence proven to be completely methodologically correct, since it was more natural to research extreme right-wing first, since it is a relatively new and politically urgent phenomenon, and then the extreme left-wing, due to the fact that left-wing institutional and state establishment has for decades been a disturbing factor in the domain of every region, even in the domain of research awareness, even in the case when research was purposed to collect knowledge on the topic of extreme left-wing. Temporal distance from the times when left-wing was the lord of life and death, both prosecutor and the judge to not only these, but also in wider regions, which was followed by the time of its ideological and consequently institutional titubation, ended in mutual fight amongst left-wingers, who transformed into leaders of national so-called elites, and whose fight brought them and their fight not only statehood, but also the mere idea of left-wing into the part of history which is rarely entered, as all the museums regarding recent history are. However, Marija Djoric does not belong to those who are attracted to the mere fact of recent past, but to those who have a primarily phenomenological orientation in the vista of her research work. Hence her interest for extreme left-wing is not coloured with local interest, or with local social need, but has a wider meaning, which is confirmed by the fact that, in this work, she researcher extreme left-wing as a general worldly and historical phenomenon.

This is also confirmed by the structure of this monograph on the extreme left-wing phenomenon. Based on her previous research paper on the extreme right-wing, the author is confidently swimming in the ocean of drawing contours of the extreme left-wing as an historical and developmentally understood phenomenon. By avoiding the classical methodological approach, which is a typical sign of recognition of school work, Marija Djoric expressed research confidence in the form of direct drifting into the sea of researching, where this phenomenon, so well-known at a first glance, but in fact covered with political darkness and various different unknowns of extremism in the domain of which we believe to be the idea and praxis of the left-wing, is floating.

Left-wing has had, without a doubt, a turbulent past, marked by a series of excesses, more or less with a socially important consequence, and hence noted and remembered in the appropriate dimension. However, excessiveness of the left-wing cannot be equalized with its extremism. By mere equalizing violence intended or conducted by left-wing and its supporters, and what we theoretically see as left-wing extremism, we would come to simplification and offering of a mono-causal explanation of this extremely complex and extremely dynamic political phenomenon. Marija Djoric avoided such trap by not only determining the praxis of violence, which is without a doubt the emanation form of every extremism, including left-wing extremism, but also ideological premises and programmatic guidelines and political slogans which have, regardless their value level, left a historical trance as an ideological weft of left-wing extremism.

The fact that Marija Djoric attempted to redefine her scholar definition of political extremism, given in her doctorate and used in her book on the phenomenon of right-wing extremism is worth the praise. The need for constant redefining of this term is conditioned by evident changes in the reality, which is constantly transforming everything, especially political phenomena.

After writing the chapter where the author tends to provide a definition of left-wing as a common political phenomenon, and in which she has in short and very interesting way explained the emergence of left-wing and also conducted a classification of left-wing and theoretically open issue of phenomenological relation between the right-wing and left-wing, which is complementary to the research task, the author accessed the main task of her work – scientific description and explanation of the phenomenon of left-wing extremism. After determining this term and establishing its important characteristics which make it not only an

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historical, but also a contemporary phenomenon, Marija Djoric explained left-wing extremism as an ideologically unique generator of political violence in a separate chapter. For this purpose, she used models of co-relation of idea and ideology, relation of science and ideology, as well as determination of types of ideologies, but also historical examples of the so-called „ideological turns“ which were daily basis for conducting violent acts against „sinners“ in the times of historical domination of left-wing.

Socialism, anarchism, ecologist movement and feminism were presented in a separate chapter as historically new constant or new-born ideological bases of left-wing extremism, which the author used as a stepping point for researching ideologically funded relations between extremism and globalisation.

This monograph is, logically, concluded with the analysis of presence of contemporary left-wing extremism in various parts of the world.

All in all, PhD Marija Djoric has, by writing his new work, confirmed not only her interest for less researched phenomena, but also her research qualities, providing a new, valuable pearl for our still humble treasury of political science.