

## **G. A. Cohen's Historical Materialism: a Feminist Critique**

Paula Casal | Journal of Political Ideologies

"...G. A. Cohen's reconstruction and defence of Marx's theory of history...claims to be able to explain the emergence and diffusion of different ideologies by their effects on productive development [but] cannot plausibly explain the presence of sexist ideologies...Cohen's orthodox version of Marxism is a conservative ideology...the idea of a right-wing Marxism no longer seems as odd as it sounds."

## **How the SPD Lost the Future: the Party's Crisis as a Loss of Future-Imagining**

Liam Byrne | German Politics

"...the German Social Democratic Party (SPD), once Germany's party of progressive change...has become disoriented ideologically, and structurally dislocated from swathes of its traditional constituency, because it has lost the capacity to imagine and pursue alternate futures...Its acceptance of the post-Fordist liberalisation project is partially a product of, as well as a contributor to, this loss..."

## **Food as a Weapon? The Geopolitics of Food and the Qatar-Gulf Rift**

Natalie Koch | Security Dialogue

"...Qatar's external logistics networks are essential for maintaining its food supply...The ongoing rift between Qatar and its neighbors in the Arabian Peninsula...raises a number of questions about an old idea: that of food as a 'weapon'...tracing the securitizing discourses about food security...[helps] explain the causes and effects of the food embargo in the ongoing Qatar-Gulf rift."

## **Pinochet in Prague: Authoritarian Visions of Economic Reforms and the State in Eastern Europe, 1980-2000**

Tobias Rupperecht | Journal of Modern European History

"[The] fascination with the military dictator Augusto Pinochet is an indicator for widespread authoritarian visions among various political and intellectual elites during the transition period...Pinochet served as a...source of inspiration for a non-democratic path to an efficient economy...the 'Chilean model' was used by anti-communists and liberal economists...as a source of legitimacy..."

## "A Revolution Is a Force More Powerful than Nature": Extreme Weather and the Cuban Revolution, 1959–64

Mikael Wolfe | Environmental History

"...the governments and media of both Cuba and the United States perceived environmental and geopolitical factors as being intertwined when explaining Cuba's socioeconomic travails. Although weather events alone did not determine the progression of the Cuban Revolution, their varied effects nevertheless shaped the formative years of the revolution by influencing Cold War-era national development..."

## Division D: Operation Rubicon and the CIA's Secret SIGINT Empire

Sarah Mainwaring | Intelligence and National Security

"The CIA is a popular topic of study for intelligence historians...scientific and technical intelligence emerged as a central theme, uncovering the work of the 'Wizards of Langley'...Exploring CIA's historic interest in communications intelligence...uncovers ways they controlled a significant proportion of the world's communications systems...[and] influenced important systems well into the twenty-first century."

## The Neoliberal Houdini Who Escaped from (Poverty and) Prison: Chapo's Narcocorridos, Political Communication and Propaganda

Juan S. Larrosa-Fuentes | Media, War & Conflict

"...how did Guzmán become a public figure without having public exposure?...criminal organizations use narcocorridos, a popular music genre, as a medium for propaganda...[to] spread knowledge in the form of stories about Guzmán...[and] create a mythology about the kingpin and the narco-world...picturing Guzmán as a great man and...suppressing any reference to the drug wars."

## Stalin's Well-Kept Garden: Horticulture, Aesthetics, and Soviet Statecraft

Robert Bird | The Russian Review

"In a widespread image of the late 1930s the Soviet state is represented as a garden tended by the wise and attentive Stalin...the image of the garden helps define Socialist Realism as a modeling aesthetic...directed at providing not only a mimetic microcosm, but also a means of governing the world...[as seen] in Aleksandr Dovzhenko's 1949 film *Michurin*...a science-fiction pastoral."

## The Enthusiastic Objectifications of Skaz : Mikhail Zoshchenko and the "Simple-Souled" Soviet Reception of Jazz

Jason Cieply | The Russian Review

"Skaz, an experimental narrative form popular in the early Soviet years...claimed to speak on behalf of proletarian writers, who, according to revolutionary vanguardist theory, could not yet speak for themselves...skaz do not enable their object to speak, but they do facilitate a movement toward it...Zoshchenko's 1927 "Simplicity of Soul"...is revealed to be a nuanced critical response to...the Soviet response to jazz."

## Playing the Bullshit Game: How Empty and Misleading Communication Takes over Organizations

André Spicer | Organization Theory

"Why is bullshit so common in some organizations?...bullshitting is a social practice that organizational members engage with to become part of a speech community, to get things done in that community, and to reinforce their identity. When the practice of bullshitting works, it can gradually expand from a small group to take over an entire organization and industry."

## Critical Reflections on America's Green New Deal: Capital, Labor, and the Dynamics of Contemporary Social Change

Alexander M. Stoner | Capitalism Nature Socialism

"The gap between increasingly sophisticated knowledge of [global climate change]...and our ability to transform society...highlights the importance of ideology...the U.S. political establishment ignores the underlying dynamic of capital and its drive toward ecological devastation and the hollowing out of labor...the potential of work time reduction (WTR) [is explored] as a strategy for overcoming capitalism."

## Company-States and the Creation of the Global International System

Andrew Phillips, JC Sharman | European Journal of International Relations

"...“company-states” [helped] to facilitate the move from contained regional international systems to the first genuinely global international system...actors like the Dutch and English East India Companies...succeeded in an era of weak sovereign states because of their relative efficiency in managing the transaction costs and principal-agent challenges of intercontinental trade..."

## A Great Little Man: the Shadow of Jair Bolsonaro

Jeffery R. Webber | Historical Materialism

"...Bolsonaro represents a weak and internally-fragmented far-right regime, with unenthusiastic and declining popular support. Dominant sections of international and domestic capital operating in Brazil lent Bolsonaro electoral backing...but so far, the new government has failed in sufficiently guaranteeing their most important interests and the markets are withdrawing approval."