

Summary

The dissertation aims to explore Ukrainian independence through the lens of Ukrainophilism discourse, which, in the broadest sense, encompasses the rise and development of Ukrainian national consciousness, society, language, culture, and statehood. It focuses on moments of Ukrainian identity formation and the realization of Ukraine's independence as the highest expression of national consciousness. The discussions in this work are based on the historical-philosophical concept of Ukrainian philosopher Viktor Petrov.

In the first chapter, due to the unique conditions in Ukraine compared to other European countries, some general insights are provided to facilitate understanding of Ukrainian reality in the context of the interpretation proposed in this study.

The second chapter delves into the "long 19th century" of Ukraine, divided into three phases, and introduces representative thinkers of that period. It highlights the Russian reaction to the emergence of Ukrainophilism discourse, leading to the concept of Ukrainian separatism.

The third chapter characterizes the era known as Ukrainian integral nationalism and attempts to showcase the diversity of Ukrainian nationalism, reinterpreting this phenomenon in the Polish context. Less-known philosopher-thinkers like Vassyian and Shlemkevych are referenced.

The ethical aspect of Ukrainian nationalists' activities is emphasized, proposing the "Shukhevych paradox" as a verification tool for the stance of its supporters and their actual knowledge of historical facts. The work interprets the figure and works of Stepan Bandera, a symbol of Ukrainian nationalism, and points out the reasons hindering reconciliation. It underscores that there is no contemporary real cause for Ukrainian-Polish conflicts.

In the fourth chapter, an attempt is made to analyze contemporary Ukraine, highlighting both internal and external factors that have led to the ongoing war. It draws attention to the phenomenon of Ukrainian Maidans and references to Ukraine in Russian imperial concepts.

The thesis posits that in a historical-philosophical sense, a new era in Ukraine's history began with the Revolution of Dignity in 2013. The formation of the New Ukraine is currently underway, which will shape Ukraine for the next few decades.