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***Unappreciated dimension  
of Carl Schmitt's thought***

*Linas Jokubaitis*

The aim of this article is to put forward a new interpretation of the thought of Carl Schmitt. It is argued that by gaining a better understanding of his conception of political romanticism we can see his entire work in a new light. By looking at “Politische Romantik” as a political critique and the first attempt of German thinker to understand relationship between politics and metaphysics we will see that his discipline of political theology stands in direct opposition to political romanticism. The article claims that we have to understand political romanticism in terms of what Schmitt called “concrete opposition.”

***Analysis of Lithuanian political science field: explaining  
different perceptions of political science***

*Justė Strakšaitė*

On purpose to analyse a certain part of social world it is useful to apply a concept of *field* introduced in the field theory of French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu. Field is a structure of relations between the objective positions occupied by its agents. Lithuanian political science field was chosen as the object of the research. The main problem analysed in the article is the “origin” of different perceptions of political science. If only individual experience affects these perceptions, how could we explain the fact that some

beliefs are more typical to certain groups of scientists and are not inherent to other groups? The investigation using semi-structuralized survey method was executed. Eighty-eight Lithuanian political scientists took part in the research. Received data was analysed by multiple correspondence analysis technique and other methods of statistical analysis. It was identified that those political scientists who own the highest academic and scientific capital tend to support a vision of political science not oriented towards practical politics.

These results might be interpreted as demonstrating the above mentioned interests to impose such perceptions of political science which could be the most useful to the scientists and as confirming the hypothesis of the research.

***Why the Baltic countries chose not to devalue their currencies:  
the political perspective***

*Vytautas Kuokštis*

The article addresses the question of why the Baltic countries chose internal devaluation over external devaluation in response to the economic crisis of 2008–2010. After describing the situation in the Baltics and the two main choices, the paper argues that economic explanations are insufficient in accounting for the choice. Several political explanations for the choice are laid out based on external pressure arguments, society-oriented perspective and institutional perspective. The paper finds that the external pressure hypothesis is unable to account for the Baltic decision, which rather reflected a very strong domestic consensus on the importance of safeguarding fixed exchange rates. This consensus in turn was based on both widespread support by the general society and concentrated producer groups. Nevertheless, society-oriented perspective cannot fully explain the Baltic choice either – economic policies pursued during the crisis can only be fully understood when analyzing specific historical conditions under which the fixed exchange rate institutional system and its supporting elements were created. Over time, self-enforcing effects of the system became apparent both in the ideational sphere (principled beliefs about nationhood as well as particular causal beliefs) and in the material one, largely through the credit channel

(indebtedness in euros). The current crisis also witnessed tendencies largely reinforcing the institutional equilibrium that supports the fixed exchange rate system.

***Cultural heritage, nation state and globalization:  
mutual relations and influences***

*Vytautas Jarutis*

This article aims to reveal the role of political power in the construction of collective identity through the collective memory. Three aspects is seeking to “hook” in the theoretical level: the determined trends of globalised current time, the national state as a homogeneous “imagined” community and cultural heritage as a historical reality and factor of joining together communities. According the theoretical analysis of these three elements is trying to deny the assumption that collective memory and collective identity is only a fiction, an ideologically totalitarian construct and that objectively exist only an individual memory, which is socially constructed only in the individual level.

***The relationship between politicians and bureaucrats:  
who governs?***

*Vytautas Dumbliauskas*

This article aims to answer the question, why different modern scholars undertake different positions towards who should govern – the politicians or the bureaucrats. The answer is based on the analysis of power struggle between the politicians and the bureaucrats in the field of public policy. This power struggle is dominated by one side or the other because domination is fluid and flexible, dependant on various factors. Scholars who view public servants as more dominant emphasize the need to strengthen the political control of bureaucracy. And those who view politicians as more powerful see bureaucrats as a tool to control politicians and prevent abuse of power.