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Iryna Radionova¹

HISTORY EXPLAINING THE FUTURE: A STUDY OF THE CREATIVITY OF VSEVOLOD HOLUBNYCHY

A few years ago, a fundamental two-volume publication was published, dedicated to the work of a prominent Ukrainian economist and public figure of the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States, Vsevolod Holubnychy. This was made possible by the titanic efforts of a tandem of two scientists who worked on the scientific archive of V. Holubnychy, which is stored at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada): an independent researcher Ph.D. Olena Klishova and Doctor of Economics, Professor, Chief Researcher of the Department of the Institute for Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine Natalia Suprun.

The relevance of focusing on this work², in our opinion, can be explained by at least two circumstances. First, the lack of awareness of the Ukrainian academic and scientific community about the results of scientific research and contribution to economics by Professor Holubnychy. And these results are impressive and give reason to pride. After all, V. Holubnychy, as evidenced by a sketch of the history of his life, made by researchers of his work, always identified himself as a Ukrainian. Throughout his active scientific career (1947–1977), he studied Ukrainian economy and Ukrainian history. Being outside Ukraine in these years, the scientist had much better opportunities for objective analysis compared to those who lived in Ukraine.

Secondly, it seems to us that the work of the authors-compilers - Olena Klishova and Natalia Suprun - is not duly appreciated. After all, the research involved working with manuscripts of archives stored abroad, with translation of texts, with a search of relevant design for such a unique publication, and so on. Public recognition of the efforts and results of the study of the scientific heritage of foreign economic Ukrainika is important also because in this way we can shape high standards of quality of historical and economic research.

The two-volume book contains a presentation and a thorough analysis of V. Holubnychy's creative biography from the standpoint of modernity, highlighting the main directions of his research, a number of his previously unpublished manuscripts, comments on them, etc. This determines the uniqueness and fundamentality of this

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² Political economy of social progress of Vsevolod Holubnychy: monograph: in 2 volumes / ed. Dr. Econ. Sciences, Prof. Natalia Suprun; NAS of Ukraine, Institute for Economics and Forecasting. Kyiv: Naukova Dumka, 2017–2019. (ISBN 978-966-00-1603-3).

Vol. 1: Theory of economic systems development / O.B. Klishova, N.A. Suprun. Kyiv: Naukova Dumka, 2017. (ISBN 978-966-00-1604-0).

Vol. 2: Selected works / compiled: /Olena Klishova, Natalia Suprun. Kyiv: Naukova Dumka, 2019. (ISBN 978-966-00-1727-6).

two-volume edition. At the same time, each reader will find in it something especially interesting for himself and make his own focus.

In our opinion, especially interesting are the revealed by the author research tools applied by V. Holubnychy to the economy of Ukraine. Algorithms for substantiation of certain provisions and statements are characterized by extreme clarity, factual (statistical) verification, and impartiality of the prominent representative of Ukrainian scientific diaspora. For example, in order to prove the fact of conscious and deliberate organization of the Holodomor of Ukrainians in 1932–1933, an article published in 1958 provides a series of data on grain exports from the USSR. After analyzing these data, an impartial reader will reject propagandistic counter-arguments and Soviet narratives about the Ukrainian Holodomor. And the two-volume book has many similar examples of V. Holubnychy's use of the tools to prove statements, and to highlight certain tendencies.

No less impressive is V. Holubnychy's unique ability to focus on those problems, "painful points" of the Ukrainian economy and history, which remain relevant even half a century later. Conclusions and generalizations from some of V. Holubnychy's works, written in the 1970s, impress with their modern context. If we start from the fact that the key problems of Ukrainian reality are associated with the need for economic nationalism with the actual preservation of economic colonialism, it seems that some of V. Holubnychy's works were written in the 2020s. In particular, the second volume of the publication presents the following works from the scholar's archive: "On the question of the nationality of "local capital"", "The theory of economic colonialism and its application to Ukraine", and "National and economic interests of Ukraine in relation to Europe or Russia"³.

Certain steps have already been taken to popularize the publication by the Department of Economic History of the Institute for Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Interest in the publication was expressed in Canada and the United States, where the results of the study of Vsevolod Holubnychy's work were presented by researcher Natalia Suprun⁴.

Are these efforts sufficient for V. Holubnychy to finally "return to Ukraine"? Return in the sense that his scientific works join this country's domestic scientific activities and become part of our knowledge about ourselves? No, they are not. Because to attain the above goal, it is necessary to study the works of Vsevolod Holubnychy, and researches on his legacy, and understand and adapt the conclusions contained in them.

³ Political economy of social progress of Vsevolod Holubnychy: monograph: in 2 volumes Vol. 2: Selected works. P. 84-141.

⁴ Suprun Natalia. Vsevolod Holubnychy: life for the sake of science and Motherland. New Pathway. *Ukrainian news*. 2021. 14 January. № 2-3; Suprun Natalia. A life dedicated to the service of science and Motherland. *Svoboda*. 07/17/2021. URL: <https://svoboda-news.com/svwp/%d0%b6%d0%b8%d1%82%d1%82%d1%8f-%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%b8%d1%81%d0%b2%d1%8f%d1%87%d0%b5%d0%bd%d0%b5-%d0%bd%d0%b0%d1%83%d1%86%d1%96-%d1%82%d0%b0-%d0%b1%d0%b0%d1%82%d1%8c%d0%ba%d1%96%d0%b2%d1%89%d0%b8%d0%bd/>