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## SUMMARY, No. 3 (78), 2009

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The March issue is dedicated to the Belarusian Democratic Republic (BNR, or Bieiaruskaja Narodnaja Respublika in Belarusian) political, cultural and military heritage. It was proclaimed on 25 March, 1918, and existed shortly in Belarus and later in exile.

The issue begins with a documental research by **Uładzimier Sakaloŭski** entitled 'Mission of the Belarusian Democratic Republic in Germany,' which describes the unsuccessful efforts of the young Belarusian state to be recognized by the great European powers between 1918 and 1925. Although Germany and other major geopolitical actors have never recognized the Belarusian Democratic Republic, its diplomats in Berlin and other European capitals managed to finance their activity by foreign credits, issuing Belarusian passports and making informal contacts.

A Hrodna-based historian **Andrej Čarniakievič** shows, in his 'Between Bickering and Fighting. Belarusian Political Nationalism in Hrodna (1918—1921),' how Hrodna became the second capital of Belarusian Democratic Republic. A German researcher **Joachim Tauber** in 'No Allies': The Lithuanian Taryba and The National Minorities 1916—1918' examines the attitude of the Lithuanian Taryba to Belarusians and other national minorities in Lithuania.

Historian **Anatol Sidarevič** argues, in his 'Moŭčadź Belarusians and the Belarusian Democratic Republic,' that the Republic enjoyed the support from some local communities. The publication named 'The Forecasts by Anton Łuckievič' consists of the Belarusian translation of the Belarusian Democratic Republic prime minister pamphlet 'The Eastern Question and Belarus,' which was published originally in Polish in Warsaw (1920).

A Kyiv-based historian **Olha Yamkova** and her Belarusian counterpart **Valancina Lebiedzieva** in their 'Belarusians write to Šapoval' present the correspondence of a prominent Ukrainian politician Mykita Šapoval with the Belarusian Democratic Republic leaders.

Historian **Michał Gałędek** from Gdansk University in his 'The Belarusian Politics in Middle Lithuania' reconstructs Belarusian activities in the Republic of Central Lithuania, a short-lived puppet state created in 1920. The publication is based on secret police reports and governmental sources. **Algimantas Kasparavičius** from the Lithuanian Institute of History in his 'The Project of the Secret Agreement between the Lithuanian Republic and the Belarusian Democratic Republic in 1923,' unveils the top secret document, which has never been signed by parties.

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**Aleś Paškevič** in his 'Vilnius or Minsk. The Tragic Choice of Vaclaŭ Łastoŭski,' explains the motivations, which urged the Belarusian Democratic Republic prime minister to emigrate to Soviet Minsk in 1927. In 1930 he was arrested and sent to Saratov, where he was murdered in 1938.

**Claire Le Foll** from l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris, France) in her 'The "Belarusianisation" of the Jewish Population during the Interwar Period: Discourses and Achievements in Political and Cultural Spheres' scrutinises the impact of the nationalities policy of the Belarusian Democratic Republic for the crystallisation of a Belarussian-Jewish identity.

Archivist **Mikałaj Ilkievič** in his 'Last Case of the Insurgent Prakulevič' tells on shooting case, falsified by NKVD regarding one of the Belarusian Democratic Republic political leaders **Uładzimier Prakulevič**. In 1938 he was executed as a Polish spy.

The issue ends with a collection of literature pieces, written in 1918 by various Belarusian authors, and sentence by Brest Regional Court, taken on 25 February, to declare ARCHE issue #7-8 of 2008 extremist and liable to be destructed.