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The article presents an analysis of negotiations between London and Brussels regarding the Brexit process. The author observes the counterparties' tactics and reveals contradictions which complicate the way to a mutually acceptable agreement. The inner British political struggle is also exhibited here. The author gives an overview of the Brussels' policy and negotiating strategy in connection with the EU's unity and integrity.

Keywords: *Britain – the European Union – Brexit – negotiations – information war – snap election to the House of Commons – the British political forces positioning – Theresa May – Jeremy Corbyn – Boris Johnson* **11**

Kalinkin V. A. Germany and China in Africa:
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Keywords: *Germany – China – Africa – G-20 – foreign trade – development assistance – neocolonialism* **40**

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Keywords: *the BRICS – international relations – multipolar world – the SCO – the EAEU – the ASEAN* **59**

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Keywords: *Turkey – the Syrian crisis – Turkey's foreign policy – the Middle East – the U.S.-Turkey relations – Russia-Turkey relations – Iran-Turkey relations* **74**

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Kukol S. U. Uzbekistan's Experience
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The Central Asian countries play an important role in illegal drug trafficking of Afghan opioids to Russia. Uzbekistan is of peculiar interest here as the biggest post-Soviet country of the region. The Uzbek leadership has managed to reduce the drugs trafficking through its territory considerably. The active backing of international community, most notably of key regional powers and the Russian Federation, can promote Uzbekistan to a landmark role in the Afghan opioids proliferation prevention in the northward direction.

Keywords: *Uzbekistan – drug menace – the Central Asian countries – Afghanistan – illegal drug trafficking* 97

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Keywords: *NATO summits – deterrence policy – hybrid threats – enlargement of NATO – the North Atlantic Alliance's partnership programs – the EU – the Baltic region – the Black Sea region – the Middle East – the Eastern Mediterranean – the Ukrainian crisis – Georgia* 119

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Keywords: *the U.S. economy – the tax overhaul – stock market – economic recovery – Donald Trump – debt – public opinion* 147

Nikulin A. A. Mineral Resource Sector as a Factor of Stable Economic Growth.

Natural resources abundance as well as their effective exploitation provides a boost for economic potential of a nation and for its global economic competitiveness.

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Keywords: *economy – sustainable development – mineral resources – resource curse – resource nationalism – resource security* 169

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Keywords: *Europe – central banks – ECB – monetary policy – negative interest rates* 189

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The article deals with the Cossacks' role in the colonization of Siberia. The author argues that Siberia by the XVIth century had become the collision point for the two countering colonization movements – heading out of Sibir and Moscow polities. Basing on the contemporary documents, the author undertakes a reconstruction of the Cossacs' social profile of the "Yermak era" following their transformation from rogue bands to the military estate.

Keywords: *colonization – the Cossacks – Yermak – Kuchum – the Khanate of Sibir* 214

Trepavlov V. V. Western Siberia on the Boundary of Epochs:
from the Horde Past to the Russian Future.

The article is dedicated to the history of conquest of Siberia by the Russian state from the end of the XVIth to the middle of the XVIIth centuries. The focus is on the struggle against Kuchum Khan's successors resistance. The native peoples did not support that movement and did not feel nostalgic for Kuchum's reign. The territorial annexation methods included both violent and peaceful ones. The Russians seized every opportunity to persuade (not coerce) the aboriginal people to come under their rule offering a wide range of concessions.

Keywords: *Khanate of Sibir – the conquest of Siberia – the Russian state – title – the Cossacks* 227

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Book review: *Clinton H.R.* Hard Choices / Transl. from English by Movchan K.A.
Moscow, Exmo, 2016. 736 p.

Keywords: *Hillary Clinton – the USA – foreign policy – diplomacy –
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Book review: *Portnoi M.A.* Money in National and World Economy.
Moscow: Magistr, 2017. 496 p.

Keywords: *goods – finances – credit money – debt – gold – cryptocurrency –
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Book review: *Andreenko T.I., Bartosh A.V., Bobylev S.N., et al.*
Bioeconomy in Russia: Prospects for Development / Ed. by S.N. Bobylev,
P.A. Kiryushin, O.V. Kudryavtseva. Moscow: Prospect, 2017. 176 p.

Keywords: *bioeconomy – new economic tendencies – biotechnologies –
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Book review: *Ladygin F.I., Afanasiev S.V.* Military Doctrinal Basis
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Keywords: *the USA – military doctrine – foreign policy – armed conflicts –
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