

**Abstract: “Mæþ hund ok bughæ”. Hunting and its regulation in medieval Sweden.**

General books about the history of medieval Sweden and Finland tend to give differing views on the importance of hunting as a livelihood. In this article, the author analyses medieval Swedish law in order to investigate whether the laws can reveal something about the importance of hunting. The sources consist of medieval Swedish provincial laws, as well as laws that pertain to the entire realm. Close reading and comparison shows that provincial laws differ from each other. They, for instance, take into account local circumstances regarding fauna. Laws for the whole kingdom, on the other hand, indicate the Crown's desire to control hunting, for example by stipulating which species could be hunted and when. However, the laws do not cover all aspects of hunting, and many game animals are not even mentioned in the laws. The author suggests that in order to discern the significance hunting had for local communities, in-depth studies including archaeological investigations should be made in various locales. In addition, a thorough investigation of the fur trade could cast light on the importance of hunting in medieval Sweden.

**Keywords:** hunting, medieval, law, game, livelihood

**Abstract: “We will teach everyone a memorable lesson”. On the studies of national operations of the Great Terror.**

As a rule, researchers address the “national” operations of the Great Terror mostly in the general context within the analysis of wider issues. Despite the presence of a number of research publications on specific operations, this phenomenon in its entirety is still not deliberated in the historiography. In this article, based on documents in Karelian archives, the author discusses a number of disputed issues, such as theses on ethnization of the Great Terror and the “fifth column”, the causes of expanding of the mass operations' scale and the role of foreign policy factor in the intensification of repressions.

**Keywords:** Great Terror, NKVD national operations, ethnization of the Great Terror, “fifth column”, espionage, Karelia, Finns.

**Abstract: Under pressure from international developments. Refugee politics of the Centre Party, the National Coalition Party and the Social Democratic Party, 1973–2015.**

This study is the first account of Finnish political parties' refugee policy statements covering the last four decades. It analyses the official policy statement documents of the three electorally most successful parliamentary parties of the era, i.e. the Centre Party (CP), the National Coalition Party (NCP) and the Social Democratic Party (SDP). The main contribution of the article is the distinguishing of three distinct periods in the formulation of refugee politics from the early 1970s to the 2010s that reflect the parties' policy goals. These are: *the period of international politics and single issues* (1973–1987), *period of reactivity and strengthening of rights* (1988–1998) and *period of the European Union and restrictive policy* (1999–2015). The article shows that these parties have framed refugee policy issues significantly similarly during these periods. However, the SDP has stood out from the other two by putting more emphasis on international solidarity and basic rights deriving largely from its background as a socialist and working-class movement. The CP and NCP have shared some of the SDP's views concerning integration, basic rights and Finland's international responsibility, but in the 2000s, the two parties have adopted more right-wing and conservative approaches, such as emphasizing law and order issues, and cutting public spending.

**Keywords:** Finland, political parties, refugees, refugee policy, asylum seekers, immigration

**Abstract: The Extreme Right in Finland at the End of the Cold War. The National Radical Party and Anglo-American influences.**

At the end of the Cold War, the Finnish extreme right was at a crossroads. Its former main enemy, communism, had faded almost into oblivion, and in order to justify the existence of the movement, new enemies were desperately needed. Fortunately for them, new enemies were soon “found” to replace the old arch-enemy – refugees arriving from Somalia, leftists promoting tolerance, etc. – and on this process of enemy-building, Anglo-American influences played an important part, as did conspiracy theories of Jewish world dominance and the alleged origins of egalitarianism. This article focuses on the rhetoric of one Finnish party of the extreme right, the National Radical Party. The thematic analysis follows their argumentation against mixing of races, liberal politics and Jewish influences, and it traces the origins of several conspiracy theories they promoted in order to find support for their political goals. Certain aspects of the renewed rhetoric

were new for the Finnish extremist milieu, but, when setting the new themes in the international context, it may be argued that the main elements had actually been part of extreme right discourse since the 18th century.

**Keywords:** extreme right, conspiracy theories, Finnish nationalism, anti-Semitism

Hanna Korsberg

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**Abstract: Helsinki as a scene of the Cold War. The Congress of the International Theatre Institute in 1959.**

In this article, I will discuss the Eight Congress of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) organized in Helsinki in June 1959. The congress was financially supported by the state of Finland yet it was organized by the Central Association of Finnish Theatre Organizations, which was also the Finnish branch of the ITI. It was the first time the participants discussed artistic questions and the keynote was given by the playwright Eugène Ionesco. Ionesco's keynote, which topic was avant-garde later known as absurd drama, divided the audience according to the frontlines of the Cold War. Despite of the bruising debate, the congress in Helsinki draw new members to the ITI.

**Keywords:** International, co-operation, Cold War, Theatre, Finland

Mari Isoaho

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**Abstract: From the details to the larger historical perception. Häme in early history in Finland.**

In recent years, Professor Jukka Korpela has done great work in showing how early Finnish history was linked to global history, especially in his latest research concerning Russian slave traders' movements in medieval Finland and Karelia. As much as the coherent larger picture of historical tendencies is welcomed, one should not seek this at the expense of accuracy when it comes to the use of historical sources. This article points out the nature of the early contacts between Novgorodians and the Finnic group of Häme people that the Russian chronicles refer to as *Yem* in the light of the *Novgorod I Chronicle*. It presents how the Novgorod contacts with *Yem* grew elementary on the basis of Scandinavian tradition, where the young elite men set sail to rob and win fame. It further points out how the nature of the raiding changed after the establishment of the Treaty of Nöteborg (Pähkinäsaari) in 1323, after which awareness of the history of the *Yem* people changes, distorting the actual memory of their being and whereabouts in the 15th century chronicles.

**Keywords:** Novgorod, Häme, medieval Russian chronicles