

## SUMMARIES

of

the scientific works of Assoc. Prof., D. Sc. Borislav Nikolov Gradinarov, applied in the competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in the scientific specialty Philosophy, professional field 2.3. for the needs of the section "Social Theories, Strategies and Forecasts" of Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at BAS, announced in SG, issue 89 of 12/11/2019  
(prepared on the basis of Art. 4, Paragraph 13 of ZRARB)

01. **Gradinarov, Borislav, 2020, *Risk and Anti-Risk Strategies*, Sofia, ed. BISFRIM, ISBN 978-619-90757-5-3, COBISS.BG-ID - 1292392676, 304 pages.**

### (Summary)

The subject of scientific analysis in the monograph "Risk and Anti-Risk Strategies" (2020) is one of the central categories in risk science as well as in the scientific field of "security" - risk. This category has been known since Homer's poems, but as a sense of unexpected and unwanted coincidence, it is an unchanging companion of humankind from its formation to modern, high-tech, sophisticated, and increasingly interconnected societies. The main questions that the research raises are whether people pose a risk or does it exist independently of them? Who is ultimately responsible for the misfortunes that come down on us - the laws of nature, the fatal circumstances or our unsuccessful choices?

The book is divided into four chapters. The first focuses on the evolution of perceptions of what is a risk and on approaches to its design and use. The second proposes a new interpretation of risk and derives from it a classification along two intersecting axes on which two dimensions of risk are projected - its transitivity and/or distributability. Chapter three analyzes some of the risk strategies. And chapter four looks at the limits of the predictability of the future as a condition we must comply with if we are to keep from being unpleasantly surprised by the undesirable but likely events. In addition to answering these questions, the monograph sets itself the task of analyzing risk management options by developing risk strategies.

Our ideas about risk today differ significantly from those of Antiquity and the Middle Ages. This is due to the achievements of mathematics and the formation of new thinking, as well as the new type of economy (and ultimately a new society), whose foundations were laid in the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, during the Renaissance. First, it occurs in France, Italy and Germany, where science makes its

first attempts to emancipate itself from religion. It can be argued that this is the historical watershed that leaves faith in the destiny and divine providence of the church and imparts responsibility for human decisions to rational thinking and science.

Approaches to understanding the nature of risk vary depending on the field in which they are applied - in the economy, in sociology, in politics, in the environment, in technology, etc. The common thing among them is that, unlike luck games or natural disasters do not regard risk as something independent of us and unmanageable. Risk depends on our behavior, it is not an external framework or the limit of knowledge and action, such as the systemic factor (SF).

Risk is embedded in the specific-historical conditions in which society exists, depends on the behavior of individuals, but its harmful effects are a form of uncertainty. In this sense, the risk is the subjectively assessed possibility of the occurrence of undesirable changes, losses or consequences for the individual or the group (community). The new approach to risk presented in Chapter Two addresses it in its value and relational characteristics. Value in a book means the importance or significance of one thing or another for us, or the assignment of a particular meaning to an object or thing, according to certain criteria. The suggestion that risk should be matched by important, valuable for the subject states, objects, or needs is further stated by Daniel Bernoulli in "A New Risk Measurement Theory" (1738). His thesis is that it is not enough to know how likely they are to make an action based on mathematical expectations of certain events. We need to compare them with their usefulness (or harm) to the person who analyzes them.

There are two main approaches to risk research. The first, the realistic one, builds on the principle that risk is a danger or harm that is, in principle, amenable to quantification (quantitative analysis). From this point of view, it is defined as the likelihood of a hazard occurring, and the magnitude of the risk is determined by the severity or scale of its consequences.

The other approach, the social-constructivist one, unites the belief that risk as such does not exist objectively, but is generated by the interpretation of events by the particular subject. It is not an external threat, it is created, constructed by the attitude of people towards certain aspects of the future. The socio-constructivist position in understanding and defining risk is related to the perception of values as a manifestation of human needs and interests, but not in itself, but in relation to social facts (even in their broad sense as including the humanized environment). Future events are thought through their function of contributing to or complicating (and in some cases even threatening) the satisfaction of these needs and interests. Therefore, the way in which the subject, regardless of its characteristics, perceives objects or social phenomena cannot be value neutral. It depends on both the qualities of the objects, the social facts and phenomena, and the attitude towards them, an attitude that is value articulated, historically and socially conditioned and personally involved, even when the subject does not realize it. Hence the definition of risk - the socio-deterministic attitude of the subject (individual, group or corporate) to a

particular class of future, uncertain but probable events or circumstances that may adversely affect and threaten its existence, the satisfaction of important its needs or the preservation of its key values.

The "risk" relationship in this interpretation correctly fulfills the logical prerequisites of each relationship - comparing two different states or dimensions of a given magnitude on a common basis. This common ground is the entity that juxtaposes, measures, or compares its present personal social, economic, etc. status with its future state, altered by the occurrence of a particular probable event. At the end of Chapter Two, the relationship between risk and chance is discussed. These are two categories that are in opposition to each other. Chance is subject to success, fluke, luck, reward, achievement, but these are not entirely determined by one's personal abilities and qualities or by favorable social conditions. They must also be added to the "chance" factor or the unexpected and favorable set of circumstances that give a serious lead to the individual (or group).

Based on the definition of risk presented, a new, original classification is proposed in the second paragraph of Chapter Two of the book. It differs from the hundreds known so far in its practical orientation. In it, all risks, regardless of their origin, magnitude, duration, probability, etc., are located in a coordinate system based on one key criterion - whether people have the ability to avoid (limit, reduce) or not. Therefore, as diverse as their origins, nature, intensity, location, duration, etc. are, it is quite possible to classify risks on the basis of two indicators - transitivity and distributiveness.

Risk transitivity refers to the possibility that some of the negative consequences of an adverse event are in most cases the cost of repairing or restoring the damage or loss of significant values to the victim to be borne by another. In this case, the burden of overcoming them or the value of the repair, if possible, does not fall entirely on the person concerned. In all cases, the transitivity of risk is a prerequisite for creating a countervailing mechanism, a way of mitigating the consequences, a form of harm reduction and replacing the lost with something that can be considered as its (monetary) equivalent.

The distributability of risk expresses the possibility that its adverse effects may be distributed to more entities (or objects), thereby reducing their magnitude. Distributiveness expresses the risk-reducing property when its weight is borne by a group or multiple, homogeneous or equally aligned with the risk, objects or entities.

The Risk Classification Coordinate System proposed in the book shows how the future negative consequences of the occurrence of risk events are distributed based on their distributiveness and/or transitivity. This makes it much easier to assess what risk strategies are appropriate to consider and develop in each case.

Chapter three looks at several risk strategies based on the proposed classification. Insurance is one of them. In it, a qualitatively determined value (good) is replaced by another, quantifiable value (money) at the occurrence of the event stipulated in the insurance contract. Another such strategy is risk-sharing - distributing the burden of repairing or overcoming losses and damages from risk

events to everyone who participates in the system, not just the needy or injured individuals. A third strategy is the cultivation of social capital. Social capital is an expression of the positive value of informally organized human relations, relationships and interactions; it is a positive systemic factor (+ SF). It is linked to the ability of a person in a critical situation to rely on friendship, trust, solidarity, empathy and the assistance of the social community.

The second paragraph of Chapter 3 deals with the positive and negative aspects of Bulgaria's membership in the European Union as an anti-risk strategy. The problems of the relationship between national sovereignty and commitment to the community, participation in the euro area and the Schengen area, as well as the risks of division between different groups of Member States, are analyzed.

One of the most important characteristics of risk and the ability to select or design a particular, better or worse, strategy for dealing with the adverse effects of unrealized events is to be clear about them. Unsuspecting states of the future cannot participate in the 'risk' relationship because we know nothing about their qualitative and quantitative dimensions, nor about what values that would be of concern to us. Therefore, we need to be aware of the objective and subjective limitations of the predictability of the future. The fourth chapter of the book is devoted to these problems. It examines the possibilities of predicting approximately what is expected, without forgetting that the prediction of any activity is an approximate activity. It will always leave room for unexpected, unprecedented, and concealing unsuspecting dangers, events and combinations of circumstances.

02. **Gradinarov, Borislav**, 2016, *Media Law*,  
Veliko Tarnovo, ed. Faber, ISBN 978-619-00-0391-5, COBISS.BG-ID: 1276180452,  
264 pages.

**(Summary)**

The book *Media Law* (2016) is the result of both the theoretical work of the author in the field of media regulation and the impact of European Union law on national media law, and his practical experience as a legal advisor in the Electronic Media Council during 2000. 2007 and 2007-2010. It is divided into 12 chapters, each of which focuses on an important aspect of this relatively new legal sector.

Chapter one deals with the nature of media (print and electronic), the subject matter, method and system of media law, as well as its sources, both domestic and international. Particularly important is the second chapter, which outlines the general framework of media regulation, gives a brief overview of the legislation of the Liberation of Bulgaria (1878) so far, and presents the basic principles of constitution, work and powers of the current bodies in the field of Media Regulation - the Electronic Media Council (CEM) and the Communications Regulation Commission (CRC). This chapter also defines some relatively new concepts such as deregulation, self-regulation and regulation, a comparative analysis of the legislative practices of some EU Member States, and comments on Bulgarian experience with self-regulation on the basis of the Bulgarian Media Code of Ethics. Here, too, the definition of this will be media regulation - "a system of standards and rules for the activity of the media established by normative acts (domestic and international), as well as the procedure for monitoring their compliance" (p. 31). Chapter 3 deals with the basic principles of media work (mainly regulated media - radio and television), the definition of broadcasters, their classification, and the distinction and basic characteristics of public and commercial media.

The focus of chapters four through six in the book is on a more detailed presentation and analysis of the basic concepts in Bulgarian media law such as program, transmission, pluralism, credibility, linear and non-linear media services, child protection, as well as the prerequisites, procedures and the subsequent control in licensing and registry proceedings. Chapter six gives a detailed overview of commercial communications - advertising and sponsorship. Here, on the basis of the author's practical experience in the Electronic Media Council, a new and more complete classification of advertising messages has been proposed, oriented towards its practical use both in the actual media activity and in its regulation.

Also important is the analysis made in the fourth paragraph of Chapter Four of the conditions and mechanisms that lead to the deformation of the reliability of information. Market and non-market mechanisms for filtering information, which in their totality, can significantly erode the confidence of readers, listeners and viewers. They also largely explain the unfavorable rating of the Bulgarian media on freedom

of expression in the rankings of the NGO Reporters Without Borders - 113th place in 2016, 109th place in 2017 and 111th place in 2018.

Chapter seven and eight are particularly important. They are dedicated to digital media. There are a number of important distinctions and comparisons that are directly relevant to the transformation of the media environment in the Internet. The definition of digitalization is also given. This is "the process by which communications technologies are increasingly influenced by public life, whose essence is the ability to digitally encrypt information arrays to be easily and with minimal cost and loss transferred, classified, processed, stored and used" (p. 135). The advantage of digitalisation is that it allows a much wider range of components to be binary encoded. For example, multiplexing allows the distribution of completely different services on the same channel. This allows the same end devices to be used to receive both radio and television programs and telephony, access to the global information network (Internet), electronic games, business or other activities, including participation in public - political life.

The seventh chapter of the book makes an important distinction between the global communication network (Internet) and the global information network (World Wide Web). While the Internet is the digital communications medium or platform that makes communication possible, the World Wide Web (WWW) is its media essence. It is the WWW that enables the perception of digital electronic impulses distributed on the Internet as meaningful combinations of text, sound and static or dynamic images (video). However, decoding information in the WWW requires a Web browser (a program that presents information on the monitor screen in a way that it can be perceived by the user). Web pages opened by the browser are stored on Web servers, and access to them is possible thanks to a number of specific algorithms (protocols) that turn the huge amount of signals on the Internet into ordered and meaningfully defined information arrays.

The same chapter compares the different legal mechanisms by which the Internet and the WWW are organized and used. It is they who provide the main arguments for clearly distinguishing between these two networks. The virtual space (environment) is defined there and the peculiarities of the expression of the will in it are considered. New forms of transactions, legal regimes for expressing consent and its withdrawal are also briefly analyzed and the responsibility of the communication service providers is commented.

Chapter eight is devoted to second generation electronic media. These are a new class of intermediaries and media for publishing, information transfer, direct marketing, advertising, etc. based on the global communications network (Internet). The accessibility and democracy of the Internet make digital media (social networks, mobile communications - smartphones, tablets, etc.) not just a continuation or subspecies of traditional analogue-era electronic media (television and radio), but a qualitatively new type of mass media information. Liberal Internet access conditions allow anyone with basic computer skills to become an author of different genres of works, a mediator for transmitting a variety of messages, a user of a rich range of

media services and products, and of course an active subject of a new, digital economy. Under these conditions, the main question before media law is what the regulatory mechanisms are. In chapter eight of the book, they are classified as institutional and non-institutional, each of which is analyzed through its strengths and weaknesses.

03. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2007, *The National Populism between the Globalization and the Isolation*

in “Philosophy Bridging Civilizations and Cultures (Universal, Regional, National Values in United Europe)“, Sofia, IPhR, ISBN 978-954-91351-8-3, pp. 37-42.

(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the nature and role of national populism as a socio-political phenomenon in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The importance of the problem is due to the fact that in many countries, which changed their socio-economic and political model of development in the late 1990s, movements began to gain power in the early 21st century. a kind of symbiosis between nationalist ideas and populist speaking. They are proving to be serious and even in places the only alternative to the political status quo.

Populism is an ideology and political behavior whose main idea is that the interests of ordinary people, of the people are ignored, suppressed, unrealized by the existing political elite. And nationalism emphasizes the notion that all people belonging to a community, ethnically related to a common history, traditions, culture, language, must be united in a single country in a single territory. The symbiosis between the two ideologies for a considerable number of Europeans seems attractive, and this leads to the growing influence of these types of parties.

National populism is not a phenomenon that should be ignored. Its manifestations can be extremely important for the further progress of European integration. At the same time, one should not overlook the fact that national-populism hides certain economic and power interests. By offering simple and quick solutions to real societal problems, they also pose a real threat to the functioning of democratic institutions.

**Keywords:** National populism, European integration, globalization, civil society, socio-political crises.

04. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2007, *The Benefits and Risks of Network Society*,  
in „Catch-up in the Globalized Information Society“, Sofia, ed. of IFI-BAS,  
ISBN 978-954-91351-7-6, pp. 42-68.  
(Studio)

**Summary:** The studies look at the transformative impact of digital technologies on social processes. Based on the conceptions of Jan van Dyck and Manuel Castells, the general characteristic of the network society as the next stage of the information society is derived. The most important feature of this new situation, which seems to be most noticeable in the economy, is that the issues of the disorder of the world we live in, the uncertainty, the unpredictability of processes and the diminishing importance of established hierarchies come to the fore - not only in the individual being, but also in the communities and states.

The new technological paradigm (a concept developed by Carlotta Perez, Christopher Freeman and Giovanni Dozi), based on the pervasive power of information and the particular web-like structure of structures, is a possible clue and explanation for changes in transnational corporations dominated by transnational corporations. of the XX and the beginning of the XXI century. This gives reason to talk about the so-called network capitalism. The most definite events are in the field of information technology and finance. Both are closely connected to the Internet and in all likelihood this will be a universal infrastructure with a tremendous impact on the business of the 21st century.

On the one hand, the network type of social organization has some advantages - it is more democratic, it achieves Pareto efficiency more quickly, it can more fully benefit from the synergistic effect of the whole, it is more adequate to the new knowledge economy and so on. On the other hand, the network society creates new risks such as erosion of the nation state, crisis of identity, violation of human rights, etc.

**Keywords:** network society, new economic paradigm, synergistic effect, identity crisis, erosion of nation-state.

05. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2007, *The Philosophy of Law between the General and the Special*,  
in “Philosophy in the 21st Century”, Sofia, ed. “Prof. M. Drinov ”, ISBN 978-954-322-228-5 pp. 86 – 95.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the historical conditions under which the philosophy of law emerged - in the eighteenth century, with the birth of the philosophy of various more science-oriented philosophical disciplines such as philosophy of history, philosophy of religion, philosophy of the natural sciences, etc. Its separation is a product of the efforts of both philosophers and lawyers, and its justification as a separate legal discipline is associated with the name of the German lawyer Gustav von Hugo (1764 - 1844). Of course, Immanuel Kant and Georg Hegel have contributed most to its endorsement.

The emphasis of the article is on the particular synthesis of the two approaches - philosophical and legal. This synthesis is possible if one finds the intersection between the philosophical understanding of the universal, manifested by the just, the true, the due, etc., and the particular that is revealed in the legal approach through the analysis of categories such as the normative existence of morality, justice, coercion, will and interest. As a result of such a synthesis, the philosophy of law also defines its own subject - the study of the causes of existence, of the meta-legal prerequisites of law.

**Keywords:** philosophy of law, natural law, legal positivism, legal realism, history school of law.

06. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2008, *Bulgarian post-totalitarian capitalism as a cause of Bulgarian poverty*, in “Social Stratification and Social Conflicts in Contemporary Bulgaria”, Sofia, ed. Friedrich Ebert Foundation, ISBN 978-954-92194-2-5 pp. 180 - 194.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article proposes a possible answer to the roots of the phenomenon of poverty in the transition to liberal capitalism in Bulgaria in the last decade of the twentieth century. The analysis is based on the answer to the question how the current social stratification in Bulgaria is determined by the type of capitalism established in our country after the changes since 1989. For this purpose, post-totalitarian capitalism of Eastern European appearance was introduced in the development. It captures the most recurring features of looting of state property, criminalizing the economy and penetrating corruption in all levels of power, characteristic not only of Bulgaria, but also of Russia, the former Soviet republics, as well as Romania, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania.

There are many facts that the emerging model of Bulgarian post-totalitarian capitalism underlies the poverty and the poor quality of life of the Bulgarians. Some of them are directly aimed at looting the accumulated state property over the decades with the efforts of millions of Bulgarians. Such is the privatization of the 1990s. To the criminal sources of enrichment of part of the large Bulgarian capital we can mention the smuggling during the South-embargo, tax evasion, VAT drainage, organized crime, etc. Another group of reasons are related to the insufficiently prepared, party-dependent and permeable corruption in public administration. A third group of causes are the dictates of international financial institutions in the 1990s that led to the collapse of the Bulgarian economy and the financial system. The fourth group of causes is an under-prepared and active civil society capable of resisting the unfair process of redistributing public wealth.

At the end of the article, a forecast is made of the rise of national populism, which in the coming years becomes a reality that defines social situation even now.

**Keywords:** post-totalitarian capitalism, transition, political instability, corruption, national populism.

07. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2008, *Historians, historical time and historical coincidences*,  
in “History - Profession and Destiny”, Sofia, ed. Tangra, ISBN 978-954-3780-  
25-9, pp. 61 – 68.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the perception and description of events in historical science, as well as the role of random and unforeseen events and conflicts leading to a dramatic change in the historical trajectory. The question of the nature of historical time is also put to the analysis. The concept of linearly progressive unfolding of events or theories about the cyclicity of historical time is not the only one possible. The article also summarizes the benefits of a wave concept. It removes elements of the other two concepts, but also introduces the role of external or unproduced, system-relevant parameters, impacts - climate change, invasions and wars, the emergence of new cults and religions, the depletion of energy sources, or the opening of new ones, etc.

In terms of the wave concept of historical time, the role of individuals in the unfolding of events is different from the traditional one. They are no longer placed in the two-dimensional space of the positive and the negative, and their actions receive a much more nuanced appreciation, which is influenced by comparisons with other historical characters, with changing circumstances, by the biases of contemporaries and chroniclers. Therefore, it is much more appropriate to assume that there are no privileged estimates in history, that there are different perspectives, and perhaps different, alternative stories.

**Keywords:** historical time, wave concept of historical time, coincidences, relativity of estimates, alternative stories.

08. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2011, *Justice and its Importance and Place in Law*,  
in “The Law Collection”, Volume XVIII, ed. BSU, ISSN 1311-3771,  
pp. 32 – 48.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the category of justice and its importance in law. It is defined as our subjective assessment, our perception of the existence of harmony, the proportionality between two or more objects of social reality, and at the same time it is a requirement, a guarantee for maintaining the internal balance and harmony in society at a certain stage of its development.

Although it has the character of absolute value, justice does not have directly derivative legal content, it is not a legal category and cannot be defined legally. Nowhere in the law will we find its legal definition. However, it is an element of legal reality, fills in some gaps in the positive legal regulation of society, and is a sign of consensus and balance in it.

The article analyzes specifically the impact of moral justice on law, and vice versa, on the right on the ethical notion of justice. Particular attention is also paid to the constitutional principle of the welfare state as a positive legal projection of concrete historical understandings of justice.

**Keywords:** justice, law, legal category, ethical category, welfare state.

09. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2010, *Ethical Standards in Business as a Competitive Advantage in the Face of the Global Financial Crisis*, in “Ethics in the Bulgarian Economy”, Sofia, University Publishing House, ISBN 978-954-644-131-7, pp. 139-143.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article analyzes the importance of adhering to certain ethical standards when building a business model and using the means to achieve competitive success. In an economy where the intellectual element is gaining more and more importance, such as today's high-tech and dynamic economy, the human factor plays a key role. Its undervaluation causes serious problems for corporations.

The article argues that corporations with an effective moral standard not only have lower costs of hiring and retaining staff and securing their loyalty, but if they develop a strong corporate culture based on trust, respecting the moral standard becomes a source of competitive advantage.

At present, however, there is not a sufficiently robust mechanism for the selection of ethical from unethical methods by which corporations influence consumers and business partners. In any case, ethical standards in business are a factor that matters, and it is greater than the more irreconcilable violations of other economic agents - partners and suppliers, customers, professional organizations, non-governmental organizations, etc.

**Keywords:** ethical standards in business, competitive advantage, unfair practices, company culture, business standards.

10. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2012, *Will Ethnic Clashes Displace Class Conflicts in the 21st Century?*  
in Ponedelnik Magazine, Ed. Alexander Lilov Center for Strategic Studies,  
ISSN 0861-6620, Issue no. 7/8, pp. 63 – 69.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article aims to explore the form in which social opposition manifests itself in the age of globalization. The basic starting point is that social contradictions and conflicts are a fundamental, attributive characteristic of humanity and that eliminating the conditions for their exacerbation would be tantamount to eradicating the species *Homo sapiens* itself.

The basic principle of the concept of the inevitable nature of social conflict, as formulated in the critical theory of Karl Marx and in Max Weber's interpretive sociology, is that individuals and social groups are in permanent conflict. Its purpose is to redistribute available public resources by politicizing and revolutionizing society. These theories offer relatively simple and easy-to-understand recipes for social transformation, but often they conflict with historical facts. Class conflicts are just one of the historically limited and transitional forms of social contradiction. Their emergence and development needs specific conditions that require the coincidence or co-operation of many special circumstances. All this makes most revolutionary ideologies and movements, based on the axiom of permanent class conflict, utopian and ultimately unsuccessful social projects.

At present, ethnic contradictions and conflicts seem to be the most explosive. They have one huge "advantage" - they can easily be drawn into large groups because the "ethnic enemy" is easily distinguishable by skin color, language, lifestyle, clothing, etc. They do not need solid pre-organization and strong leaders like religious or class clashes. A small spark is enough to engulf a huge number of people and destinies in their fire. It seems that the ethnic conflicts of the 21st century will be what represented the class conflicts of the 21st century.

**Keywords:** conflicts, class oppositions, social inequalities, ethnic clashes, globalization.

11. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2012, *Ethical Considerations in Research - Advantage or Threat*, in “Ethics in Bulgarian Science”, Ed. UNWE complex, ISBN 978-954-644-347-220-2, pp. 92 – 96.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the relationship between the principles of professionalism and objectivity in scientific research, on the one hand, and ethical considerations, which often prove to be an implicit but important argument in the activities of scientists, on the other. Is it an advantage to adhere to the ethical requirements of the profession or is it a disadvantage?

A definition of scientific ethics is given - a system of rules, norms and moral principles that outline the general framework of behavior in the scientific community in order to preserve the value of this profession and its utility to society. It is also argued that scientific ethics, understood as the honesty and objectivity of research, the correct adherence to scientific methods and procedures, the intransigence of political or mercantile interests, etc., is an advantage for scientific research. But it becomes a threat when its principles and norms are replaced in such a way that they make it a convenient screen for interests and persons for whom objective truth is the last concern.

**Keywords:** scientific ethics, prevailing morality, good morals, reciprocity, objectivity of research.

12. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2013, *Professional Unsuitability as a Professional and Ethical Sanction in the Legal Professions*, in "Ethics in the Bulgarian Legal System", Ed. UNWE complex, ISBN 978-954 - 644-458-5, pp. 299 – 304.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the analysis of the concept of "professional unsuitability" as a professional and ethical sanction in the legal professions. The very concept of "professional unfitness" has no negative or punitive burden - it may indicate objective circumstances that impede a certain position or occupation of one or the other profession.

The problem of professional unsuitability arises when things cannot be measured by quantitative criteria, since they depend not on a single quality (e.g. health, sensory or advanced age) but on a whole complex of qualities or characteristics. This is how things are in the legal professions. Professional unsuitability for them means a mismatch between the professional requirements and the moral character of persons holding certain positions in the justice system.

The article also draws a comparison between rules and moral standards, as well as the importance of legal ethics as a self-regulatory mechanism.

**Keywords:** legal professions, professional unsuitability, morality, legal and moral standards, legal ethics.

13. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2011, *Poverty as a Motivating and Demotivating Factor*,  
in “Inequality and Poverty”, Sofia, ed. IIOS-BAS, ISBN 978-954-8765-08-4,  
pp. 252 – 257.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article explores poverty as a shortage of important material resources, as a function of a system of objective and subjective indicators, and as a relative condition dependent on comparison with other groups or individuals in which the shortage is smaller or larger.

Emphasis is placed on the motivating/demotivating potential of poverty. Comparison with more successful, more wealthy, better-performing people can drive powerful psychological mechanisms to strive for better personal well-being. Conversely, pessimistic attitudes driven by various factors (such as social injustice, inflationary trends, corruption, high crime, poor government) are the cause of prudence and contraction in economic activity, which in turn leads to recession.

The conclusion is that inequality (and poverty) do not, by themselves, qualify as positive or negative. They depend very much on the social context in which they are placed and are amenable to change. It depends mainly on the value attitudes and the degree of cohesion in society.

**Keywords:** inequality, poverty, motivation, demotivation, objective indicators, subjective sense of poverty.

14. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2013, *The Right to Communication as a Fundamental Human Right and its "Regulation"*, in "The Law Collection", vol. XX, Ed. BSU, ISSN 1311-3771, p.46-58.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The subject of analysis in the article is the place of communication right in the system of fundamental human rights. The right to communication was included in the group of fundamental human rights of the third generation in the late 1970s, along with the right to peace, to a common cultural heritage, to a healthy and favorable natural environment, and to the protection of personal data and environmental protection. But due to its nature and dependence on the available technological means and resources for its use in the individual countries and regions of the planet, it became crucial only at the end of the last century, and especially in the first decade of the 21st century.

The article argues that the right to communication is an indisputable fundamental right inherent in any democratic and pluralistic society, but it is not absolute. The key is whether we qualify it as a fundamental constitutional right or as a fundamental human right. In the first case, the system for its protection, as well as the regulation of its exercise, should be designed so that the public interests are given priority over the individual, as is currently the case in Bulgaria. Communication law is key to citizens' participation in the democratic process, and on this basis, everyone has the right freely to receive and impart information, except in cases explicitly provided for by law.

In the second case, if communication law is to be proclaimed a fundamental human right within the meaning of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we should treat it as a right that bears every human being. In this hypothesis, the hierarchy should be different - the individual interests and communication needs must be placed above the public ones, related to the preservation of the integrity and normal functioning of the whole.

**Keywords:** Communication Law, Human Rights, Constitutional Court, European Convention on Human Rights, Internet.

15. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2013, *Total Monetization as a Generator of Social Inequality*,  
in „Novo Vreme“ Magazine, issue. 7-8, Ed. Duma 2008 Ltd., ISSN 0323-9055,  
p.56-74.  
(Studio)

**Summary:** The study examines the importance and role of money in the resolution of financial crises, as well as the mechanism by which they generate social conflicts. The starting point is the definition of money as a social artifact, which it defines, gives a substantial expression of certain social relations. Problems arise when, from a function limited in functionality, serving a particular mode of economic activity under specific historical and social conditions, money is transformed on a global scale for all objects in public circulation - from necessities through intimate relations to moral ones. and aesthetic experiences. This is precisely what constitutes total monetization, a process in which a particular private phenomenon rises to the essence of the societies organized around commodity exchange and the free market principle.

Particular attention in the studios is given to the mechanism for “making money” formed through the 18th century through the granting of loans and the creation of debt. The amount entered in the policy that banks provide to their clients as a guarantee that the latter have the funds they need for their purposes must be repaid with interest after maturity. Here is the most important point - against the bank's promise to cover the paper loan, customers should produce real goods and services that, once valued during the exchange process, generate cash to repay the bank loan. Money generated under this mechanism is also called credit (or endogenous) money or money generated through debt creation. Since the advent of the banking institution as such, it has been the main way of making money.

It is this mechanism that underlies the partial reserve banking, the monetary and financial crises, the financial pyramids, etc. But more importantly, the total valuation of all elements of the modern economy (i.e. total monetization) benefits those social groups that control the banking system, which means the creation and movement of money. After all, it is also a mechanism for the unjust redistribution of the social product, and hence for the deepening of social inequality.

**Keywords:** money, debt, monetary crises, speculation, financial pyramids.

16. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2014, *Recipe or Utopia - Unconditional Basic Income Against Social Inequality*,  
in the „Novo Vreme“ Magazine, issue. 2, Ed. Duma 2008 EOOD, ISSN 0323-  
9055, pp. 5 – 28.  
(Studio)

**Summary:** The concept of unconditional basic income is analyzed in the studies as a possible solution to the deepening social stratification. The analysis is based on a critical examination of the hypotheses for the origin of social inequality - the geographical hypothesis, the cultural factor hypothesis, the institutional hypothesis and others. The evolution of the concept of property - in economic and legal sense - is also reviewed.

Unconditional basic income is placed in the context of guaranteeing a certain minimum material resources for the life of every individual as his or her basic human right. This right is also proclaimed in Art. 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It states: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and the necessary social care that is necessary to maintain his and his family's health and well-being ..."

The concept of unconditional basic income is based on the principle that in today's highly integrated economies well-being is the result of complex and multi-directional relationships and interdependencies between many individuals and social structures. Revenues generated by a particular business, bank, family shop or even from an individual are the result of synergies between many and seemingly unrelated areas such as education, administrative services, social security system, court, police, transport, banks, labor law, political stability, established commercial practices, trust (or distrust) between economic agents, etc. Market mechanisms for the distribution of created goods do not adequately reflect this complexity and interconnectedness. One possible solution is the unconditional basic income. It is a socio-economic policy, which consists in providing all citizens with the necessary material and intangible resources to cover their basic needs, regardless of their age, ability to work, education, health, talent, etc.

The studies also give an overview of the practice gained so far in applying this concept in different regions of the planet.

**Keywords:** unconditional basic income, human dignity, human rights, social inequality, socio-economic policy.

17. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2014, *Medical Duty and the Commercialization of Healthcare - between the Market and Morality*, in “European Ethical Standards in Bulgarian Medicine”, ed. Bulgarian Medical Association, ISBN 978-61990225-1-1, pp. 104 – 108.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article raises the question of how to understand healthcare - as an important and highly moral social activity or as a simple business? Can the rules of conduct and efficiency in a hospital look fundamentally identical to those of a car factory or a retail chain?

The reason to classify health as "inconvenient" areas for complete marketing is the fact that the medical profession existed long before the Lydians' money was invented in the 7th century BC. and it probably will be long after the modern way of valuing things is forgotten. It is a fact that in the care of the self-similar, in the effort to help the sick, the wounded, the dying, there is far more human compassion and morality than a cool calculated self-interest or any other interest. Therefore, making life and caring for it a commodity like any other, as is the case in modern healthcare systems, can take extremely ugly forms.

The article begs the question of what happens to medical duty when financial interest is brought out as a primary concern? Duty, including medical duty, is an imperative that requires a certain type of behavior without expecting something in return. Medical duty includes assistance for the life and health of everyone, whether he or she is a good citizen, a close relative, an enemy, or a criminal. In medicine, professional ethical standards are conditioned by the particular relationships of trust and respect that are established between the doctor and his patient. This is a basic condition for the existence of the medical profession, but it is deleted if the financial gain is first put and everything else is submitted to it.

There are too many arguments to call into question the total commercialization of healthcare-related professions. This does not mean that these professions should be seen as a utopian non-market territory where altruism is the sovereign master. The solution could be sought in the direction of limiting market fundamentalism in healthcare, as well as in other areas of importance to society, such as education, social activities, ecology and more.

**Keywords:** healthcare, commercialization, medical duty, monetary alternatives, social inequality.

18. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2014, *The Communication Environment as a Common Good - From Regulation to Protection*, in "The Law Collection", vol. XXI, Ed. BSU, ISSN 1311-3771, pp. 5 – 15.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article analyzes the communication environment as a common good, that is, as a resource that belongs to all members of society, accessible to all human individuals, and is vital to their existence. The communication environment belongs to those objects whose nature and functions are indispensable for the survival and prosperity of all who inhabit a territory.

The category of property, which is fundamental to property law and law in general, is discussed. In the foreground is the problem with the nature of things or resources that should not be privately owned - common goods such as soil, water, air, sunlight, air, language, culture, etc. The thesis that the communication environment is justified as a space in which communication rights are exercised, it should be part of the public sphere and be treated as a common good by law. If it is denied this status, it is impossible to exercise its right of communication as a fundamental human right.

The article draws the important distinction between public and common good. Assuming that the communication environment is a common good, it follows that it cannot be regulated, but protected as it is subject to protection and fundamental human rights.

**Keywords:** communication environment, human rights, common goods, regulation, protection.

19. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2015, *Commons and the Future of Capitalism*, in „Novo Vreme“ Magazine, issue 1/2015, ed. Duma 2008 Ltd., ISSN 0323-9055, pp. 13 – 31.  
(Studio)

**Summary:** The studios bring to the discussion an extremely important problem in contemporary societies based on market fundamentalism - the one about access to the common goods and the rules for their equal use. Common goods should mean resources, objects, services and more. that are governed by the community that created them or owns them and serves everyone in that community.

Studies make the legally important distinction between private and public property, on the one hand, and common goods, on the other. Private and public property may in some cases be transformed into one another, but in the case of common goods, changing their legal status is unacceptable. At the same time, common goods should not be seen as objects, resources, spheres that are anyone's and anyone can draw from them as much as they want. They are in unity with the community that creates and/or benefits them and the social norms that determine the rules for access to them.

It is argued that the common goods, whether they are of natural origin (air, sunlight, water, soil, flora and fauna, forests, genetic diversity, minerals, uncontaminated and healthy environment, etc.) or with socio-cultural genesis (language, knowledge, arts, communication environment, cultural institutions, cities, parks, road and communal infrastructure, etc.) should be preserved and protected from privatization and destruction. The main responsibility for this lies with the state, but an important role here is played by public attitudes and intransigence to capture them. It is becoming increasingly imperative to "upgrade" property and use rights by elaborating legislatively on the principles of regulation and protection, especially when it comes to common goods.

**Keywords:** common goods, property, privatization, market, regulation, protection.

20. **Borislav Gradinarov, 2015, *Legal Problems of Plagiarism***  
in “Plagiarism in Science”, ISBN 978-954-397-038-4, Ed. Union of Scientists in  
Bulgaria, p. 45 – 51.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article presents the main points in the development of legal provisions related to restrictions and sanctions on the appropriation of a foreign intellectual product. A brief overview of the Bulgarian legal practice as well as the imperfections of the current regulation is made.

At present, the Bulgarian legislature has chosen to impose more severe penalties for counterfeiting (recording, reproduction, distribution, broadcasting, transmission or use of copyrighted or related objects) than for the other two forms of criminal infringement of copyright (plagiarism and pseudo-authorship). The reason is likely to be greater lobbying during the adoption of relevant texts in the Penal Code by economically powerful corporations producing and distributing audio and video content.

The fundamental problem with the legal protection of authorship, especially in science, is that the same standards as the production of things cannot be applied to knowledge. Knowledge is created through the collective efforts of many subjects, even persons who have lived centuries ago, even for millennia. When attempts are made to protect the scientific achievements of a particular person, this can at best be done if there is demonstrable misappropriation (i.e. literally borrowed texts) of specific objects of his copyright.

As this is not easy at all, a key condition here is a well-functioning scientific community. It is its responsibility to create its own standards and instruments for self-regulation, which would act not with coercive power and punishing state authorities, but with the authority of scientific public opinion.

**Keywords:** copyright, plagiarism, counterfeiting, copyright law and related rights, self-regulation in the scientific community.

21. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2015, *The Challenges of Uncertainty*,  
in “Culture of Peace”, Ed. Duma 2008 EOOD, ISBN 9780954-92328-8-2, pp.  
231-240.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article analyzes uncertainty through two concepts - uncertainty and unexpectedness. The first is most often associated with the total or partial lack of understanding of the events, the blurring of their effects, the inaccuracy in predicting their parameters, and the second refers to the inability to capture the moment at which certain events may occur.

It is argued that the zones or elements of security in the world we live in today are the exception rather than the rule. This leads to the conclusion that the real problem is not security, but insecurity. Therefore, it is strategically more appropriate to focus on the consequences we know at this stage, rather than on the likelihood of the events themselves, for which we can only exceptionally say something definite.

The article also reviews one of the important sources of risks, conflicts and disasters - limited access to drinking water. Especially for poor countries in the African continent, but not only there, problems with access to this resource will become more and more explosive. Other risk factors such as energy insecurity, climate change, weak (failed) countries, and others are analyzed.

**Keywords:** uncertainty, risk, water crises, climate change, failed states.

22. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2015, *The Problems and Ambitions of the Turkish Tiger*,  
in “Geopolitics”, 1/2015, Ed. Bulgarian Geopolitical Society, ISSN 1312-4579, pp. 19 – 26.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the geopolitical and historical analysis of the causes of the rise of Islamism in Turkey from the late 1980s to the present. During this period, the restoration of religious political movements in Turkey and the attempt to dismantle the secular state became clearly and even at times threatening.

The rise of Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his Justice and Development Party (AKP) is being traced as a process of legitimizing political Islamism and gradually turning it into a banner for changing Turkish institutions and society. To a large extent, this evolution has been predetermined by the crisis in Turkey's political leadership over the last decade of the twentieth century, but it must also be attributed to the personal qualities of the current Turkish president. Favorable economic conditions in the first decade of the new century, as well as Erdogan's ability to consolidate the party nucleus, decisively eliminating dissenters, should not be overlooked. Hard actions to control the army, the police, the secret services, the judiciary, as well as the media, for a short period of time, created him a halo of unwavering and strong-willed, albeit authoritarian, politician bias among ordinary Turkish voters. For many citizens, especially in Asia Minor, especially in central Anatolia, Erdogan seems like the long-awaited leader who finally brings stability to the Turkish government

But despite the popularity of the AKP and the weakness of the opposition, as a country along the "fault line" (Huntington), Turkey will always have to balance in the political world between the Islamic world and Western civilization. Therefore, when its state leaders, such as Recep Tayyip Erdogan, try to foment conflict and deepen this rift, their political future will hardly be problematic.

**Keywords:** Turkey, Islamism, Kurdish problem, Erdogan, internal enemy.

23. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2016, *Scientific Review - Between Filter and Censorship*,  
in „Science“ Magazine, Issue no. 1/2016, ISSN 0861-3362, Publication of the  
Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, pp. 42 – 47.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article discusses the problem of adequate evaluation of scientific achievements. The practice of colleagues evaluating each other in the field of their competence dates back to the meetings of the first scientific societies in France and England in the eighteenth century. At that time, evaluation was a purely gentlemanly process based on such self-understanding values as good faith, integrity, respect and trust.

To review and evaluate the work of colleagues is, in reality, an extremely tedious, time-consuming and poorly paid job. But it is an indispensable element of the modern science production system. The authority of evaluation is largely determined by the moral authority of the evaluator. But it is not always enough.

The article argues that, although there are many reasons why the evaluation of colleagues' scientific achievements may be distorted, it seems that the greatest enemy of the evaluator's impartiality is the commercialization of science. Because quality research is difficult to develop without proper funding, scientists need to master the art of marketing. And he often comes into conflict with scientific integrity. This ultimately erodes public respect and confidence in science.

**Keywords:** scientific review, trust, authority, scientific reputation, commercialization of science.

24. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2016, *The Geopolitical Challenges to the European Union*,  
in "Will the European Union Break Up?", ISBN 978-619-00-0504-9, ed.  
Faber, pp. 57 – 66.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article analyzes the unfinished nature of the idea of the European Union. The model of a union of states based on liberal competition seems a logical conclusion from the fight against tyranny in its various forms and dimensions in the countries of the old continent. This model may have been apt in the face of a geopolitical puzzle of many different and mutually counterbalancing state-imperial ambitions. But it is difficult to apply and it is not constructively fruitful in a superstate super-union that is supposed to be able to form a single will, to show its own identity, and to control complex and multidirectional processes and conflicts in today's globalized world.

The European integration model must be rethought. There are serious problems, for example, in the external protection mechanism

borders of the Union. There is also a sharp deficiency in the ability to proactively engage with partners and opponents of the European Union, something that is particularly visible in both its immediate neighbors, Turkey and Russia, and its more distant partner, the United States. The general impression is that instead of moving towards the creation of a common European identity and legal personality, disputes and opposition between member states are exacerbated at times.

The European Union, in the second decade of the 21st century, lacks the ideological, economic and geopolitical comfort it was accustomed to in the 1990s and the beginning of the new millennium. As a result of the synergistic effects of a number of external factors beyond which Brussels has little or no control, the European Union is at risk of losing its civilization initiative.

**Keywords:** European Union, geopolitical challenges, integration, external factors, civilization initiatives.

25. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2016, *The European Union, the Migrant Crisis and the end of European Anti-fascist Immunity*, in “Neo-Fascism (Nature and Contemporary Events)”, Sofia, ISBN 978-619-7295-06-1, IC Earth, pp. 137 – 142.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article raises the question of whether the European Union is threatened by neo-fascist contagion? Such a question is not unfounded given the actions of some European political parties and movements such as the Greek Golden Dawn, the English Independence Party, the French National Front or the Austrian Freedom Party.

Based on the analysis of the nature and manifestations of fascism, the article concludes that fascism is a systemic phenomenon, which is closely dependent on both the socio-economic conditions that gave rise to it, as well as the nature of the political and cultural prerequisites to the particular historical moment (the 1920s and 1930s). When trying to decipher current political projects in the categories of fascism, we should bear in mind that they are at best an approximation or imitation. They have neither the intellectual nor the organizational resource nor the charisma of the new to produce significant social impact. But this does not mean that they should be ignored.

Another is the issue of national populism. Offering easy solutions to complex societal problems, trying to play the nationalist or ethnic strings, playing with the fears of Europeans, it has far more political trump card to revive some of the fascist practices. And so it is a much more serious challenge for a united Europe.

**Keywords:** fascism, totalitarianism, national populism, European Union, migration crisis.

26. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2016, *The Risks to Bulgaria in the 21st Century*, in "Global Change and the Fate of Bulgaria in the 21st Century", ISBN 978-619-90757-0-8, Ed. BISFRIM, pp. 221 – 228.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article sets out for the first time the definition of risk as the relation of existing to a given moment (usually the moment when a particular decision is made and action is taken) characteristics, advantages and disadvantages of a systemic entity (subject) to a particular class of future, unspecified events or circumstances that may adversely affect and endanger its existence, needs or values (p. 223). This formulation was further developed and enriched later in the monograph "Risk and Risk Strategies" (2020). Given the fundamental inability to control all conditions and cause and effect relationships, the combination of which leads to an event, it seems logical to try to influence the consequences of future possible events by starting with an objective assessment of the current situation and changing it, if we want to increase (or decrease) the likelihood of a future event in question.

The main risks that Bulgaria faces in the next one or two decades are considered. The first of these risks is the danger of ethnic confrontation and conflict. On the basis of statistics, it is argued that, under certain conditions, the relations between the three main ethnic groups in our country may sharpen and cause conflict. The second major risk for Bulgaria is geopolitical. As the Washington - Moscow axis sharpens opposition, the Balkan region, and especially Bulgaria, will increasingly fall into "no man's" land in which spheres of influence will change like the picture in a jumbled puzzle. Thirdly, we can point out the risks posed by the uncertainty of the processes in the European Union. For more than ten years Bulgaria has been an EU member, but during this period it failed to turn its chances into real achievements - it remains the poorest and most corrupt country, still waiting to be accepted into the Schengen area and the eurozone, and our political elite show serious skills and morale deficits.

**Keywords:** risk, national interests, ethnic conflicts, military opposition, migrant pressure.

27. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2016, *The Return of Russia to the Global Geopolitical Game*, in "Geopolitics", 1/2016, ISSN 1312-4579, ed. Bulgarian Geopolitical Society, pp. 43 - 51.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article analyzes the transformations taking place in Russia over the last two decades that ultimately lead to its return as a global factor in the global geopolitical map. The main factors that form the solid domestic support for the current Russian president are considered - the growing urban middle class, favorable economic conditions in the first decade of the 21st century, the upward trend in the well-being of Russian citizens. Based on socio-economic and political studies of the World Bank and the sociologists of the Russian Academy of Sciences, it is concluded that the nature of domestic support for the Putin-Medvedev tandem is such that social dissatisfaction is unlikely. Although some of the more authoritarian political methods are not supportive, the majority of Russian citizens are not prepared for revolutionary experiments.

The article also argues that US and EU policy towards Russia does not take into account the specifics of the situation in which the country's attitudes towards rehabilitation are dominant as a key foreign policy factor. Not only the Russian political elite, but many Russians have historically and culturally been programmed to survive in emergencies, they have accepted that crises and disasters are an indispensable companion in their lives and are not inclined to blame undemocratic political practices on them. Therefore, attempts at economic or military dictates from the outside are counterproductive.

The article also examines the Kremlin's role in the "nuclear deal" with Iran, Russia's involvement in the Syrian conflict, and its complex but indicative relations with Turkey. The conclusion is that the West needs to rethink the Cold War stereotypes that still hold weight in its dealings with Russia.

**Keywords:** Russia, geopolitics, USA, European Union, Syria.

28. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2017, *The Challenges to the "Perfect" Virtue*, in coll. "Morality and the Ethics of Justice in Modern Society," ISBN 978-619-160-749-5, ed. Avangarde Prima, Solidarity Society Foundation, pp. 152-160.

(Article)

**Summary:** The article raises the question of the roots of justice in its capacity as the "perfect" virtue (Aristotle). Justice has always attracted the attention of philosophers, lawyers, economists, political scientists, etc. The conceptual space around it is so distorted that it is very difficult to find a new projection of it. Ethologists, however, have succeeded in doing so, proving experimentally that justice is not human at all. There is a large body of empirical research on animals that demonstrates that a number of behavioral patterns considered to be inherent only in the species Homo Sapiens are not entirely his invention. The feeling of sympathy, of cooperation, of matching efforts and rewards received, of mutual assistance, of the correspondence between access to resources and the place in the social hierarchy is deeply rooted in most herds. That is, justice has much deeper roots than we realize.

The article also formulates a possible definition of justice. It is our subjective assessment, our perception of the existence of harmony, the proportionality between two or more social phenomena. As a social ideal, it is a requirement, a guarantee for maintaining the internal balance and harmony in society at a certain stage in its development. If through the moral categories "good" and "evil" we seem to evaluate a phenomenon depending on its meaning for us, then with the categories "just" and "unjust" we evaluate the relationship between two (or more) social phenomena.

The most difficult moment is finding the criterion against which the various phenomena can be compared. This criterion has specific historical dimensions and does not exist in an objective form. The article also discusses the extent to which retribution or retaliation is capable of repairing violated justice.

**Keywords:** justice, virtue, equivalence, retribution, revenge.

29. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2017, *Are the Balkans Destabilized?*, in “Geopolitics”, 4/2017, ISSN 1312-4579, ed. Bulgarian Geopolitical Society, pp. 20 - 28.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the complex and loaded with historical, ethnic and religious tensions between the countries of the Balkan region. The formula for so-called critical points or tipping points (Grodzins) is put forward for discussion. These are the stages in the development of a system, when not so significant events seem to lead to qualitative changes in it, causing a dramatic effect that completely changes the direction in which it has developed so far. In the Balkans, this formula has repeatedly proven its destructive power.

The causes and consequences of the failed coup attempt in Turkey since July 16, 2016 are analyzed, but more attention is paid to the events in Macedonia in the spring and summer of 2017. Ethnic tensions between Macedonians and Albanians are subject to special analysis, which are currently about one-third of the country's two million people. Their higher natural growth, their practice of forming relatively separate regional communities, mainly west of the Vardar River, combined with the proximity of Albania and Kosovo, create not only preconditions for future conflicts, but also nourishes their separatist ambitions. Insufficient tolerance of the two ethnicities against each other is a potential source of opposition that may cross the boundaries of what is permissible.

The article also looks at the political situation in Greece after the apparent reassurance of things as a result of the new loan agreement between the euro area countries and the Greek government of July 2015. The last section of the article is dedicated to Bulgaria and to the recent decade in Bulgaria the so-called competitive authoritarianism (Levinsky and Way). In his words, according to the two American authors, the head of the executive branch controls state institutions, and the media and the opposition are subject to increasing marginalization.

**Keywords:** Balkans, destabilization, interethnic conflicts, Turkey, Macedonia, Greece, Bulgaria.

30. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2017, *Civic Movements against the Party Status quo. The Balkan Contribution*, in "Party Systems, Political Order and Constitutional Reforms in Bulgaria and Macedonia: Experiences and Perspectives", Skopje-Sofia, ISBN 978-954-8765-14-5, p.105-112.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article analyzes the changes in the relations between civil society and the established form of representative democracy in almost all modern countries - participation in power through political parties and organizations. The outflow of membership and growing mistrust of party elites makes parties into oligarchically formed clientele groups. It is increasingly difficult for citizens to trust the existing system of participation in power and to a lesser extent recognize their interests in the statements and actions of state power holders.

This situation is increasing the importance of self-organizing civic initiatives and movements. In them, people are increasingly finding answers to such key needs as belonging, status, expression, recognition, communication and more. The emergence and organization of citizens' initiatives is greatly facilitated by the highly developed and influential system of today's mass media and, in particular, the global communications network (Internet). However, they rarely manage to generate prolonged pressure and effective change in the political status quo.

The article analyzes the Balkan countries' experience in this field. Although some of the civic movements are quite massive, they are often accompanied by riots and clashes with law enforcement, in which emotions take over the attempt to formulate constructive positions in public conflict and lack ideas to continue actions beyond the initial euphoria. At present, the party status quo seems to be able to adapt to the situation of extra-systemic pressure, and quite often to use civic energy to achieve its goals.

**Keywords:** political parties, civil society, crisis of representative democracy, clientelism, Dunbar numbers, extra systemic pressure.

31. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2018, *The War and its Future*,  
in "The European Union, Bulgaria and the Conflicts of the 21st Century",  
Sofia, BISFRIM, ISBN 978-619-90757-2-2, pp.15 – 25.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article analyzes the nature of war from a military-political and civilizational point of view. Two concepts of war are compared. The former is mainly related to the theses of Prussian Major General Carl von Clausewitz and is currently dominant. The second concept looks at war from its deeper legal and ethical grounds, and its origins can be traced back to the Roman Empire. Under this second concept, the emphasis is not on organized violence to achieve political ends, but on moral and legal norms about when the war should begin, who and whom has the right to kill, and under what conditions it is permissible to destroy completely the enemy.

The second part of the text deals with the new forms of war in the 21st century - implicit wars, total and global wars, indirect wars, as well as the dehumanization of war in the context of the widespread use of weapons with artificial intelligence elements.

**Keywords:** war, concepts of war, organized violence, implicit wars, total and global wars, indirect wars, dehumanization.

32. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2018, *The Hidden Traps of Inequality*, in "Morality and Ethics of Equality and Inequality in Contemporary Bulgarian Society", Sofia, ed. Avanguard Prima, ISBN 978-619-239-001-3, pp. 80-87.  
(Article)

**Summary:** This article examines the dimensions of two of the most important political, economic, legal and, above all, ethical categories - equality and inequality. Emphasis is placed on inequality. It has deep roots in human civilization and will most likely remain in it until its very end. There is nothing wrong with making people more influential, more famous, more powerful if they are deserved as a result of their own efforts, talent, ingenuity, and of course, if the rules under which the public competition goes are fair.

However, this is not the case in contemporary democratic societies, built on the principles of the liberal market. The article draws particular attention to the fact that tolerating societal inequality beyond certain boundaries can take on pathological dimensions. The main pitfalls that societies that neglect to control inequalities fall into are: small or accidental inequalities seem to have the capacity to become large; hidden inequalities show a lasting tendency to translate into overt; "Healthy" inequality, even when it seems logical and ideologically sound, has the potential to be transformed into pathological.

Many of the features of today's accepted economic and social inequality have serious pathological characteristics. It has neither evolutionary, nor economic, nor psychological justifications.

**Keywords:** equality, inequality, corruption, pathological inequalities, social stratification.

33. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2018, *Law and Ethics in Bulgaria - an (Un) Easy Coexistence*,  
in “Ethical Studies”, ISSN2534-8434, pp. 375-387.  
(Article)

**Summary:** The article analyzes the general socio-institutional origin of law and morality. Although the legal sphere is regarded as a key element of the modern state, the notion of its opposition to morality leads to a loss of legitimacy and effectiveness. The system of law cannot be self-sufficient because it does not have its own goals beyond those which the social system has developed in its specific historical and ethical parameters.

In Bulgaria, after the socio-economic changes since the early 1990s, most representatives of the legal profession have uncritically adopted the already outdated principles of legal positivism. Thus, the spirit of the law is suspended by the letter of the law, which ultimately compromises both confidence in the judiciary and public perceptions of justice.

**Keywords:** social institutionalization, law, morality, codes of ethics.

34. **Borislav Gradinarov**, 2018, *The Tragedy of Divided Labor*, in "The History and Philosophy of Political Economy," Sofia, Ed. UNWE complex, ISBN 978-619-232-068-3, pp. 136-142.

(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the problem of division of labor, with the reason for its writing 200 years since the publication of the work of David Ricardo's *Principles of Political Economy and Taxation* (1817). Refining Adam Smith's view of absolute benefits, Ricardo argues that it is proven that market forces will lead to a country producing different types of products and redistributing resources to those industries with the highest productivity. It will benefit by importing goods that it would itself produce at a lower cost than the importing country, provided it is even more efficient at producing other goods.

However, these arguments for the advantage of the division of labor between states have been subject to a number of adjustments in later theory and practice. The article argues that consumers are not always driven by economic benefits. Often, the preferences are influenced by the behavior of others, cultural attitudes, fashion trends, institutional factors, preferences of the group to which the person belongs, and so on.

The conclusion drawn from the analysis made in the article is that the idea of division of labor, whether international, general, private or even individually, needs rethinking. The reason for this is that the creation of economic well-being is a multifactorial process and it is far from exhausting finding the most profitable exchange. If a number of social, political, historical, situational, psychological, religious, and even climatic variables that influence preferences cannot be ignored, then deriving the economic benefit from the principle of division of labor is at least inaccurate.

**Keywords:** Ricardo, division of labor, comparative advantages, competition, political institutions, economic fragility.

35. **Borislav Gradinarov, 2019, *The European Union - From a Civilization Project to a Deal***

In “Europe and Brexit (What is the future of the European Union?)”, Sofia, BISFRIM, ISBN: 978-619-90757-3-9, pp. 48-58.

(Article)

**Summary:** The article deals with the problem of sovereignty and how the classical concept of it can be applied to a union of sovereign states, such as the European Union. The main thesis is that, by analogy with the theory of the public contract of J. Rousseau, when the contracting parties freely and voluntarily renounce certain manifestations of their national sovereignty in order to obtain other advantages which they are unable to secure on their own, sovereignty is not lost. The right to denounce (undo) the treaty and to influence common decisions strengthens, not limits, sovereignty.

The second part of the article addresses the question of whether the European Union is a civilization project or a bargain? It is argued that European politicians today, especially in France and Germany, see integration as a way to create a superpower in which they will dominate. To them, the European Union is a civilization project, while for the United Kingdom it has always been a bargain. A deal that is worth keeping only for as long as it is profitable.

**Keywords:** European Union, Brexit, sovereignty, civilization project, deal, future of European project.