

My only criticism regards p. 249 where the Greek moderates, Kapodistrias among them, are said to have been in favour of Greece's liberation, but as they feared the revolutionary activities of the masses (...no bojac' revoljucionnyh gejtstvij narodnyh mass...), they sought national independence by other means. It is my belief, until the contrary is proved, that the moderate stand of Kapodistrias and the other Greek moderates did not stem from fear of the Greek people. However, G. L. Arš's work certainly fills a gap in the literature regarding Kapodistria's stay in Russia. S. Laskaris (*Kapodistrias avant la révolution grecque*, Lausanne 1918) and C. W. Crawley ("John Capodistrias and the Greeks before 1821", *Cambridge Historical Journal*, vol. XIII, no. 2, 1957) both wrote about Kapodistria's time in Russia, but neither of them had access to the Soviet Archives as G. L. Arš did.

The book is a smart and well-presented publication by the Nauka publishing house.

*Institute for Balkan Studies*

CONSTANTINE PAPOULIDIS

A. M. Stanislavskaja, *Rossija i Grecija v konce XVIII-načale XIX veka. Politika Rossii v Ioničeskoj Respublike 1798-1807gg.* (=Russia and Greece during the late XVIIIth and early XIXth centuries. Russia's policy in the Ionian Republic between 1798-1807), Moscow, ed. Nauka, 1976, pp. 376.

The diverse changes in their historical fate made the Ionian Islands a centre of diplomatic and military activity for many countries. If every occupying power (Venice, France, Turkey, Russia, England) today needs to explain its presence there and to justify its position, then Soviet scholars have a two-fold task: the first is the same as that of the scholars of the other countries; but the second applies specifically to the Soviet scholars who deal with Russia's foreign policy—because they have to look at their pre-revolutionary historical writings from a new angle.

This aim has been fulfilled by A. M. Stanislavskaja's work, which examines the situation in the Ionian Islands during the Venetian Occupation, the social and political extensions of the anti-feudalistic movement in the late XVIIIth and early XIXth centuries, the birth of the United Ionian Islands' Republic between 1798-1800, the anti-feudalistic movements and the role of the Great Powers between 1800-1802, Russia's policy in the Ionian Islands and the 1803 Constitution, the nature of Russia's 'protection' between 1804-1806, Russia's policy and its repercussions in North-Western Greece between 1800-1806 and finally Russia's relations with the Ionian Republic at the beginning of the Russo-Turkish war of 1806-1807. In particular Ms Stanislavskaja examines Russia's foreign policy in the Ionian Islands during the period 1798-1807—that is from the fall of the French monarchy to the Treaty of Tilsit. The central point of this study is a sociological examination of the role of the Russian administration, and of Admiral F. F. Ušakov in particular, and of the Russian state in the elaboration of the Constitutions of 1799, 1803 and 1806. The author intends to deal more extensively with Admiral F. F. Ušakov in a future monograph. Concerning the 1803 Constitution, the author notes characteristically that at that time in Russia it was easier for someone to devise the outline of a constitution for the distant Ionian Republic than to bring about certain facilitations for the Russians themselves within the Russian Empire (p. 365).

Ms Stanislavskaja has produced a composite work concerning Russia's foreign policy with particular reference to her presence and policy in the Mediterranean at a time when the

role of the Russian Empire was slight but involved many people. The author has used both published and unpublished material from the Archives of Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*Arhiv Vnešnej Politiki Rossii*) to which non-Soviets have no access. Whether or not one agrees with her (she maintains that the Ionian Republic's relations with Russia were the result of historical changes) the author has laboured hard to present historical, sociological and political science with well-reasoned and synthesised material. She is already well-known for her many articles on Russia's foreign policy in the Mediterranean and for her other work: *Russko-anglijskie otnošenija i problemy Sredizemnomorija 1798-1807 gg.* (= Anglo-Russian relations and the Mediterranean problems from 1798-1807), Moscow 1962. But if in 1962 she was concerned with England's conflict with Russia between 1798-1807, we can say that the work we are examining today deals with France's conflict with Russia in the Mediterranean at the same period.

One criticism concerns the title, which is not a true reflection of the subject dealt with; it was probably imposed for publishing reasons. Nevertheless, the monograph's sub-title expresses its content more exactly. On p. 90 she acknowledges that Greek literature has dealt with the social situation in the Ionian Islands between 1800-1802, unlike Soviet and Western literature, which have not paid sufficient attention to the subject. Regarding the author's wholly apologetic attitude towards the 1803 Constitution and Russia's liberal attitude, I should like to point out that at that time Russia did everything in her power to demonstrate not only to the vassals of the Ottoman Empire, but also to the antagonistic western powers—France and England in particular—that the Russian Empire's system of administration was superior to any other. This antagonism deepened between Tsar Alexander I and Napoleon the Great. A sociological analysis of this antagonism between two powerful European men might explain why they both wanted the Ionian Islands, and why, in the name of their antagonism, they gave their own people a few crumbs of internal freedom, yet never even mentioned external freedom with regard to the national independence of the Greeks of the Ionian Islands. In 1807 the Ionian Republic changed 'protector', which the author calls "an unexpected ending" (p. 362). The French came to take the place of the Russians after the Treaty of Tilsit. For the citizens of the Ionian Islands one aspect of their government was changed. As far as they were concerned, all these changes of 'protector' resulted in disappointment after all their high hopes of national independence. Only in 1864, with the unification of the Ionian Islands with the Greek mainland, did the storm of 'protectors' finally abate.

However, Ms Stanislavskaja's new monograph is indubitably a new contribution to Russia's foreign policy in the Ionian Islands between 1798-1807.