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The evolution of British Euroscepticism: from M. Thatcher to T. May

*Петрович И. С., студ. III к. БГУ,
науч. рук. Авдеева И. В., ст. преп.*

The interest in the British agenda for a European bias is reaching a new level today, and is caused by series of complicated political problems. Due to the increasing complexity of global processes and the new role of the European Union in the world community, the history of relations between the United Kingdom and continental Europe is a hot issue, since their relationship largely determined the vector of development of the European Union in one direction or another. Therefore, the current research is aimed at studying one of the fundamental factors that shape the UK's European Union policy – British Euroscepticism.

Since the adoption of the Single European Act (1986), which set out the task of transforming the European communities into the European Union, the countries of the European Economic Community have had to overcome numerous contradictions between national and pan-European interests. The complexity of integration processes encouraged a heated discussion among the European political elite.

The most striking manifestation of it was the speech “Great Britain and Europe” delivered by M. Thatcher at the European College of Bruges September 20, 1988. It is commonly believed that it was M. Thatcher's Bruges speech that demonstrated the final incompatibility of the European integration process with British national interests.

Thatcher was succeeded by John Major. During his administration, the issue of further development of the European integration became central to the Conservatives, since the Treaty on European Union was signed in 1992. The

Baroness was particularly indignant at her successor's unwarranted attempt to turn Britain into the "heart of Europe". Euroscepticism was rampant in the Conservative ranks, and Thatcher was its informal author.

Labour leader Tony Blair could not fail to take advantage of this. He promised to be the head of the British government committed to the EU, which would even consider the possibility of joining the Euro zone if the terms were acceptable. Looking back, the Blair years were the last years when Britain had a moderately comfortable relationship with Europe.

In the same light with Blair, Gordon Brown was a strong pro-European, but unlike him, Brown had serious doubts about the Euro. By the end of labor's first term, the issue was causing real tension, as Brown and his economic adviser pushed for strict checks. But as more European treaties, from Amsterdam to Lisbon, led to ever deeper integration, Tory Eurosceptics began to talk openly about leaving the EU.

In the 2010 General election, Tony Blair's successor, Gordon Brown, was crushed by David Cameron, ending 13 years of Labour rule and launching a coalition of Conservatives and Liberal Democrats

2013 brought the Euro crisis, the Greek debt disaster, calls for deeper integration of the Euro zone to prevent a reiteration of the debt crisis, and a deepening aversion to the decisions of the European Court of Human rights and the European Court of Justice – all meant an unstoppable Euroscepticism runaway across the political spectrum. Cameron's trust in the European Union was at best tolerant, at worst hostile and petty.

From the Thatcher years to the present, it is easy to measure the impact of constitutional and institutional changes brought about by European integration. Thus, the party organizational changes paved the way for the penetration of Euroscepticism into the entire party structure. Theresa May was more receptive to the pressure at the lower level and are more susceptible to populism. This is an indicator of how much the Conservative party has changed since Thatcher. Now, members of Parliament are much more sensitive to criticism than they were during the Thatcher period. Voters don't like divided parties, and if the various factions continue to drift apart, the days of their leaders may be numbered.

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Развитие концепции австрийского нейтралитета в контексте заключения Сен-Жерменского мирного договора 1919 г.

*Позняк М. И., студ. 1 к. БГУ,
науч. рук. Фрольцов В. В., д-р. ист. наук, доц.*

Сегодня редко приходится слышать, что австрийцы – «по существу те же немцы». С подписанием в 1955 г. Государственного договора о восстановлении независимой и демократической Австрии, а 26 октября того же года конституционного закона, провозглашающего вечный нейтралитет Австрии, она строила свою внешнюю политику отталкиваясь от принципа постоянного нейтралитета, который позволил ей (как и Швейцарии) укрепить осознание себя отдельным государством, а не «еще одними немцами». Это стало возможным в связи с окончательным формированием национальной идентичности. Проследим данный процесс в контексте подписания Сен-Жерменского договора 1919 г.

После окончания Первой мировой войны была принята декларация Национального собрания от 12 ноября 1918 г., второй пункт которой гласил: «Немецкая Австрия является составной частью Германской республики». Социал-демократическая партия Австрии традиционно (по заветам революции 1848 г.) выступала за объединение земель с немецким населением. За присоединение к Германии выступала и австрийская партия националистов. Сторонниками аншлюса были социал-христиане, чьи лидеры мечтали о воссоздании империи в виде «Дунайской федерации». 22 апреля 1919 г. Парижская конференция держав-победительниц заявила о недопустимости присоединения Австрии к Германии. Правительство К. Реннера продолжало отстаивать идею аншлюса, опираясь на программу послевоенного устройства мира президента США В. Вильсона, которая провозглашала право на-