
From the Editor

Esteemed Colleagues, Dear Readers, the last issue of 2020 contained a review by Olga A. Bogdanova to Galina B. Ponomarevna's work (http://dostmirkult.ru/images/2020-4/DOST_2020-412-INTERN-262-272.pdf), and soon after the publication of the first issue of 2021 we were already mourning Galina, who passed away while working on her new book. It was difficult to interact with her, as she was sometimes quite conflictual, however, she always stood for what she believed in. During these last years, I learned to notice the tenderness, almost childlike, that was hidden behind her attacks, and to value her deep and sincere need to see her writings and her approach to Dostoevsky being useful to other people. I am happy to know that she had the time to receive and read Olga's extensive and benevolent review of her work. We are ready and willing to publish articles dedicated to her memory and memories of her.

Almost at the end of the preparation of this issue, we received news of the death of Inna A. Bityugova, researcher of the works of Dostoevsky and Turgenev, and part of the group at the Institute of Russian Literature that worked on the scholarly edition of Dostoevsky's *Complete Works* in 30 volumes. A bright, joyful, deep, and open person passed away during the Bright Week. We cherish her memory and wish her farewell. Her obituary by Nikolay Podosokorsky can be found at: <https://philologist.livejournal.com/11942457.html>

We, the Editorial Board and Tatiana V. Panyukova, apologize to Albina S. Bessonova, as in the following article: Panyukova, T.V. "Factual Sources in Research on the Biography of Fyodor Dostoevsky: From Documents to Facts and Interpretation". *Dostoevsky and World Culture. Philological journal*, no. 4 (12), 2020, pp. 158-196. (URL: http://dostmirkult.ru/images/2020-4/DOST_2020-412-INTERN-160-198.pdf), while reporting the metrical record of the baptism of baby Simon (pp. 166-169) out of ignorance we did not give the reference to its first publication. We rectify the inaccuracy here. Cf. Bessonova, A.S., "Unknown Darovoe (Based on Archive Materials)". *V Summer Readings in Darovoe*, ed. by V.A. Viktorovich, Kolonna, Liga Publ., 2019, pp. 198. (URL: http://darovoe.ru/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Blok_LCH.pdf)

On February 2-3, 2021, "Dostoevsky and World Culture" IWL RAS Research Institute organized the International Conference "**Dostoevsky's Novel *The Adolescent*: Current State of Research**". The program can be found here: <http://imli.ru/konferentsii/anonsy/4347-konferentsiya-roman-f-m-dostoevskogo-podrostok-sovremennoe-sostoyanie-izucheniya> (in Russian). The recordings of the conference are available on YouTube and Facebook:

First part: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fdj7---SOC0>

Second part: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddfWxDFO6f8&t=7493s>

Third part: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oAKi04ljCc>

In this issue, we continue the publications of works presented during the conference with articles by Olga Meerson, Liudmila Saraskina, Natalia Tarasova, Elena Stepanian-Rumiantseva, Tatiana Kovalevskaya. We are still collecting materials for the new tome of the series “Dostoevsky: Current State of Research”, dedicated to the novel *The Adolescent*, comprehending more than just the conference proceedings. We would like to collect detailed and in-depth research articles about this novel, which has been unfairly ignored by readers and researchers. The deadline for submitting articles for the volume was May 30, 2021, however, as Chief Editor I am ready to consider new papers for publication until August 15, 2021. We invite all our colleagues to cooperate. Works can be previously published in the journal “Dostoevsky and world culture. Philological journal”.

On April 20-22, 2021, **the XXIII International Readings “Dostoevsky’s Works in the Perception of 21st-Century Readers”**, jointly organized by “Dostoevsky and World Culture” IWL RAS Research Institute and Fyodor Dostoevsky’s House-Museum in Staraya Russa, were held for the first time under a new status and in a slightly changed format. This was due, on the one hand, to the fact that many participants grew up and even discussed their Ph.D. thesis, however, they still want to take part in the conference; on the other, to the decision of following a global trend that suggests the possibility and even the need to learn constantly during all life, notably, both discovering new abilities and perfecting long acquired skills.

How do we imagine the aim and the format of our conference? We surely imagine it neither as the occasion for scholars to present their annual work report, neither as a place where young people intending to enter the academic community show the first results of their research. There are a lot of conferences that are organized on these bases, and one of them is held every year in Staraya Russa in May. We imagine our conference as open International Readings (this year together with scholars from different Russian cities, we had participants from Italy, China, and Bosnia-Herzegovina), where you do not need to be professionally involved with Dostoevsky’s studies to participate in (a fact that does not lower the level of the conference, this should be noticed). It follows, that people of all ages – including the youngest – can take part in the conference **if they are interested in the hermeneutical reading of literature and are willing to learn it among like-minded people.**

We would like to organize a conference where each one can learn from the others and create a community, whose members see each other not as competitors on the academic field, but as comrades, understanding that each one of us represents for the others a field of new possibilities; that the other is not oppressing us, “grabbing” from the general field of research “his own topic”, and “imposing” his own perspective on it, quite the opposite: for the first time, each one can disclose to the others a new space, that is, his inner space, existing only with him and in him. In sharing his or her perspectives of perception, which would be unavailable to the others in any other way, each one radically expands our possibilities.

We would like to discover in one another new spaces of view and comprehension and to become one another's learner and teacher at the same time. Therefore, the program of our conference is organized with the aim of leaving more time to discuss the report, than to the report itself. It is important to us to shape the conference not as a sequence of isolated pronouncements, ending as soon as we stop speaking, but as a hermeneutic circle, unfolding from each presented topic. We intend the hermeneutic circle not only as a constant refinement in understanding the configuration of the whole through the analysis of details, and the meaning of details thanks to their place in the whole but also as the result of the connection of the inner spaces of the participants, discovering the work in a unique perspective. For this reason, the conference is always dedicated to a single work by Dostoevsky, and even if it is admitted to present reports on other novels the participants are compelled to re-read it all the same, in order to participate to the round table of the first day of the conference, where are presented only reports concerning the central work.

Next year's conference will be dedicated to the novel "Crime and Punishment".

The conference ends with a seminar dedicated to the methodology and methods of working with texts, where all relevant methodological issues arisen during the conference can be also submitted. Since participation in the conference is far from limited to the reading of a report, the official program specifies the names of those who came without a report to participate in the round table and discussions, as we consider them full-fledged participants of the conference. We recommend to people participating for the first time to come without a report to see the format of the conference and understand how to better define their topic and build a report for the following year. Each report lasts 10 minutes.

Recordings and materials from the conference are partly available here: <http://imli.ru/119-novosti-2021/4518-otchet-o-xxiii-chteniyakh-proizvedeniya-f-m-dostoevskogo-v-vospriyatii-chitatelej-xxi-veka> The journal maintains the section "Young Readings", without the specification "in Staraya Russa". The section is meant for papers by young authors, and it is characterized by works of lesser length and simplified requirements for the bibliography. Nevertheless, the research remains of academic interest, as it often gives new and important perspectives about the perception of Dostoevsky's works, as it happens in the two articles presently published.

I will not describe every article in this last issue: they are quite different from one another, but always strong and heuristic in their way. I just want to say that this is certainly one of the most brilliant issues of our journal.

The journal is on Facebook, Vkontakte, and Telegram (with already almost 4 200 followers). You can subscribe to our pages to follow news from both the Journal and Research Institute "Dostoevsky and World Culture". Among other things, all the recordings from seminars and conferences organized by the Institute are published here. Books and articles dedicated to Dostoevsky are also available for download.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dostmirkult/>

Vkontakte: <https://vk.com/dostmirkult>

Telegram: <https://t.me/dostmirkult>

We would like to thank the authors who sent their materials for our library, and we remind you once again that we intend to create a library containing works on Dostoevsky by contemporary scholars within the site of the Institute: you can send your previously published works to the address below in pdf format if you want them to be in the library. If your work was published in a miscellany or a journal, we kindly ask you to send only the pdf of your article and to indicate all the references of the publication if they are not in the file yet. We are going to publish all the already published articles that will be sent, without additional selection. While creating the library, works will be gradually published on our pages on social networks. All the texts will be open access, and we will try to make them easy to find with Yandex search. We hope to create one of the most frequented online collections of contemporary works on Dostoevsky.

The journal is published in cooperation with the Commission for the Study of Fyodor Dostoevsky's Artistic Heritage at the Academic Council "History of World Culture" of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Our work is carried out in close contact with the Russian and International Dostoevsky Society.

All quotations from Fyodor Dostoevsky's works, if not specified otherwise, are cited according to the *Complete Works* in 30 vols. (Leningrad, Nauka, 1972-1990), and references follow the format of the Russian Science Citation Index. In the Soviet edition the capital letters contained in the names of God, the Virgin, as in other holy names and concepts, have been lowered because of censorship; the original spelling is restored here in accordance with the editions published during Dostoevsky's life, *Dostoevsky's Complete Works in the Author's Spelling and Punctuation* (Petrozavodsk, Petrozavodsk State University, 1995 – continuing publication), and Dostoevsky's *Complete Works and Letters* in 35 vols. (2nd edition, revised and amended) published by IRLI RAS (Pushkin House) (2013 – continuing publication). The author's original emphasis in quotations (where not specified otherwise) is indicated by italics; the emphasis of the author of the article is indicated by bold font.

Our email address is dostmirkult@yandex.ru. The journal accepts articles in Russian and English. We accept submissions related to the subject of the journal from authors worldwide. The authors will be notified about the decision of the Editorial Board about acceptance or refusal within a month.