

PUGWASH CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND WORLD AFFAIRS: CONTRIBUTION MADE BY VLADIMIR MIKHAILOVICH KHVOSTOV

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Abstract

Purpose: The article deals with the research activities and interests of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov, which were quite diverse. After analyzing numerous historiographical and archival sources, as well as available literature on this topic, it will be advisable to identify three areas of scientific interests of the scientist.

Methodology: The History of diplomacy and international relations; problems of General and national history (mainly the events of world wars); and the tasks of pedagogical science in General (including historical education). In any of the three presented topics of the study V. M. Khvostov managed to prove himself as a teacher, historian, and organizer of science.

Results: Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov studied relations between the world's leading powers, military clashes, and diplomatic history. However, the creative contribution of this scientist has not yet been the subject of special consideration. The article marks the contribution made by Academician Khvostov Vladimir Mikhailovich in the Pugwash movement, his reports, and talks at international congresses and conferences.

Applications: This research can be used for universities, teachers, and students.

Novelty/Originality: This paper analyzes numerous historiographical and archival sources and available literature on the research activities and interests of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov in the context of the History of diplomacy and international relations.

Keywords: *History, Historiography, Education, Pugwash movement, International congresses.*

INTRODUCTION

Vladimir Khvostov contributed and delivered reports at the XI International historians' congress in 1960, in the city of Stockholm – “Some issues of the relation background between Russia and Germany in 1880s; at the XII International historians' congress in 1965, in the city of Vienna; at the XIII International historians' congress in 1970, in the city of Moscow. The following papers are also well known: “Current status of disarmament problems”, the Pugwash conference in Stowe, 1961; “A Centenary of Italian Reunification” – Italy - USSR Friendship Society in Moscow. These outstanding reports drew a full house and were highly respected by conference participants and Mass media. V.M. Khvostov, a prominent historian, was widely known not only in our country but also beyond its borders. He was elected as a foreign member of the Academy of Sciences in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) and Serbian Academy of Science. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

During the period of ideological polemic between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of China in the 1960th China raised territorial claims for 1.5 million sq.km of the Soviet lands. Academician V.M. Khvostov presented a number of articles justifiably disproving the territorial claims to the Soviet Union having been stated by Mao Zedong in 1964 while the conversation with a delegation of Japanese socialists. [Paul, D., Intriligator, M. D., & Smoker, P. \(Eds.\). \(1990\)](#)

METHODS

The main methods of research were both General scientific methods (analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction) and special historical ones. The historical and genetic method allowed to recreate the creative portrait of Vladimir Khvostov in the chronological framework of the studied period – the twentieth century (1930-1970-ies); the historical and comparative method was used to highlight the new that V. M. Khvostov brought to the study of national and universal history; chronological, historical and biographical methods, methods of historiographical and source analysis were also used.

The basic principles of the study were the principle of historicism and objectivity in assessing the contribution of V. M. Khvostov to the study of the history of foreign policy of Russia and the USSR and international relations, in the teaching of Social Sciences, in the activities of the Academy of pedagogical Sciences in the period under review. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

RESULTS

Academician V.M.Khvostov did active social work. He had been a member of Soviet Peace Committee for many years, he assumed the position of Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of Academy of Sciences of the USSR in regards to conventional disarmament, member of International and Soviet Committee of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs on disarmament. Being one of the most active Soviet participants of this movement he and academicians M.D.

Millionschikov, L.A. Artsimovich, V.A. Kirillin, N.N. Bogolubov, A.A. Imsheneckiy, D.V. Skobeltsin, A.V. Topchiev took part in 12 conferences and symposia of Pugwash making reports and announcements. A good many of his papers were devoted to issues of disarmament and campaigning for peace. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

Active fight for peace, aspiration to do all possible to secure humanity against an outbreak of nuclear war leads Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov to Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. [Paul, D., Intriligator, M. D., & Smoker, P. \(Eds.\). \(1990\)](#)

V.M. Khvostov's participation in the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs began with the Moscow conference and continued till his last days. On the eve of a session Vladimir Mikhaylovich prepared a short, but substantial paper (about three author's pages) regarding "History of arms race and negotiations on disarmament. It's background". V.M. Khvostov's enormous historical knowledge, his exclusive scientific conscientiousness, and diligence came in full force. The author of the article, V.M. Haitsman, witnessed that Vladimir Mikhailovich had been full of enthusiasm and inspiration to work. He had been keen on studying of history of diplomatic negotiations on disarmament. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

It is necessary to attentively take Khvostov's remarks concerning a race of arms at the end of the XIX and the beginning of the XX centuries with its present state reveals huge and continuous escalation of this process. New types and arm of the service appear. At that, a tendency to develop the weapon having the increasing destructive force is apparent.

V.M. Khvostov constantly urged all the people of goodwill to give the vote towards peace and international cooperation, peaceful co-existence and disarmament. According to him, it would approach a celebration of the great idea of the highest humanism. Summarizing the talk at the VI Pugwash conference he addressed the outstanding scientists of the whole world with the statement "the science is obliged to serve the ideas of humanism. It was forced by circumstances to be a servant of war too often. Let's do everything that depends on scientists that the science, the thing next to our hearts, cannot serve a war, but the piece, not destruction, but life, not cruelty, but humanity". These words excellently describe a high-minded image of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov, an outstanding Soviet scientist, and public figure. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

At the VIII Pugwash conference in September 1961, in Stowe (the State of Vermont, the USA), V.M. Khvostov presented the report "A disarmament state after the VI Pugwash conference in Moscow". He was bound to say that due to reaction forces, especially in the USA, the international tension was being accelerated and the threat to peace was being created. He subjected to the detailed analysis the Soviet suggestions about international control of disarmament and noted that the United States' suggestion about control of disarmament was not disarmament and it had not contributed to peace. [Paul, D., Intriligator, M. D., & Smoker, P. \(Eds.\). \(1990\)](#)

At the IX Pugwash conference in Cambridge (England) at the end of August, 1962, V.M. Khvostov gave his lecture in "A modern stage of negotiations on disarmament" where he scientifically analyzed two mainstream documents of that time on disarmament: the Soviet draft of an agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict international control and the American scheme of basic provisions of the contract on universal over-all disarmament under the conditions of peace in the world. In detailed analyzing accurate and clear provisions of the Soviet project, Vladimir Mikhailovich demonstrated its indisputable advantage over the uncertain and formless recommendations of the American scheme. [Rotblat, J., & Pascolini, A. \(Eds.\). \(1984\)](#)

SUMMARY

V.M. Khvostov persistently urged to refuse the ill-natured notions of the past and search ways to disarmament and strengthening of international security. He also resolutely demanded to dismantle military bases on the territories of other countries and pull them out. He wrote: "Foreign military bases create a menace for political development for young emerging countries. The presence of foreign troops threatens safety and independence of that state where they are based. Scientists' duty is to support the movement to destruct foreign bases and military disengagement from other territories".

Vladimir Mikhailovich always encouraged scientists to serve the cause of peace and human happiness and to fight against those who aimed to use outstanding scientific discoveries for war and enslavement of people. [Rotblat, J., & Holdren, J. P. \(Eds.\). \(2012\)](#)

CONCLUSION

V.M. Khvostov encouraged scientists to join to Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. He wrote in the article devoted to the X Pugwash conference in September 1962, in London "extensive participation of the scientists from socialist countries as well as Asian and African scientists has made an extremely useful contribution to strengthening of the universal peace even now". Scientists of the socialist countries and representatives of scientific communities of Asia and Africa participated in this movement more and more actively cooperating problems solution of disarmament and strengthening of international security.

In July 1963, The International Committee of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs started to publish a quarterly journal in London. The first issue of the magazine presented the V.M. Khvostov's article in collaboration with

academician V.A. Kirillin about the participation of scientists in this movement

The XI Pugwash conference in September 1963, in Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia), took place after the Moscow agreement to ban nuclear-weapon tests in atmosphere, space and underwater had been signed. In their article about the results of this conference V.M. Khvostov and academicians L.A. Artsimovich and V.A. Kirillin noted: "The value of the Moscow agreement lies in the fact that it essentially promotes improvement of the political atmosphere and creates favorable conditions for further improvement of the international situation". The authors condemned opponents of the Moscow agreement and urged to also end underground nuclear weapons tests.

In 1963, V.M. Khvostov was elected as the vice-chairman of the Soviet Pugwash Committee and the member of the International Pugwash Committee. He was its member to the end of his life

Vladimir Mikhailovich took an active part in the XII Pugwash conference, January 27 – February 1, 1964, in the city of Udaipur (India). His reports called for easing of international tension and practical solution of vital problems of conventional disarmament.

The participants of the XIII Pugwash conference in September 1964, in Karlovy Vary (Czechoslovakia) were extremely concerned that nuclear weapons might spread and have negative ensuing consequences.

V.M. Khvostov made a substantial and purposeful speech at the XIV Pugwash conference in Venice (April 1965). He sharply criticized the plan of multilateral nuclear forces that, actually, gave access for the most reactionary and revanchist elements of West Germany to nuclear weapons. Considering disarmament problems Vladimir Mikhailovich noted that opponents of nuclear weapon destruction try to prove that allegedly not disarmament, but present military "balance" gave guarantees to international security. This theory of maintaining military "balance" leads to the continuation and strengthening of the arms race. However these concepts are not new. "You may meet them in international life during the interwar years and years preceding of the First World War I"

V.M. Khvostov made his report in the second workshop at the XVI Pugwash conference in September 1966, in Sopot (Poland). He told about issues of European security. He considered the first condition of strengthening of safety in Europe was refusal of any revision of the existing borders. The main idea was that as long as the government of West Germany refused unconditional recognition of the existing borders, including the border with East Germany (GDR), European people would not stand assured of their safety and safety of their countries. It did not only refer to Poland since other countries guaranteed inviolability of Polish borders. So did the Soviet Union. What disturbs the Polish people it also disturbs the people of the Soviet.

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