

graphic novels, and animated films; Jade McGlynn's study of military history camps and tours in Russia; and Karoline Thaidigsmann's examination into Polish children's books. These approaches are nicely complemented by the inclusion of inquiries using other novel qualitative and mixed-method approaches. Krawatzek's own chapter into young Belarusians' socio-cultural memories drawing on two cross-sectional online surveys and the use of narrative-biographical interviews with youth of ex-Yugoslav backgrounds in Dilyara Müller-Suleymanova's study are noteworthy examples. Although the volume draws on diverse methodological approaches and disciplines to study how young people engage with their nations, the authors do an impressive job of speaking across these divides. Whereas this consistency is indeed the outcome of good penmanship and communication across contributors, credit is especially due to the editorial team for their remarkable efforts and leadership in ensuring the book's solidity.

Despite the cohesion of the text itself, it is worthwhile to consider whether there are incongruences in how "Europe" is defined and understood by the volume's contributors and readers alike. As a book centered on youth and "issues spanning the European continent" (2), the inclusion of some countries not typically considered to be "European" in popular discourses seems slightly peculiar, particularly Russia and Belarus. Whereas the project's incorporation of countries outside of the European Union, and Yugoslavia as a dissolved state, encourages an important expanded conceptualization of "Europe," some readers may not agree that all countries included in the volume are located in "Europe" as the title suggests. The Russo-Ukraine war acutely reminds us of the long-standing split loyalties between Europe and the former Soviet Union, as well as the complexities in defining where Europe begins and ends. Notably, several references embedded in individual chapters do engage with this issue, and point to possible changes in modern young peoples' views about Europe, such as Krawatzek's claim that young Belarusians feel "a higher self-identification with Europe rather than Russia" (56). As this nuance is significant for understanding both historical and contemporary political events, it could have perhaps been addressed more explicitly, either in the book's introduction or in the framing and titling of the volume.

Nevertheless, *Youth and Memory in Europe* still very much achieves its aim of promoting "a future research agenda that pays more attention to the production and reception of historical narratives" (17). By accentuating how young peoples' engagements with historical narratives shape past, present, and future notions of state- and nationhood, the book elevates the perspectives of individuals who are often disregarded in academic studies. Beyond serving as a laudable contribution to a necessary intellectual endeavor, *Youth and Memory in Europe's* publication comes at a time when the voices of youth in Europe need to be heard more than ever before. The significance of this volume will accordingly remain for generations to come.

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***Russia and the Dutch Republic 1566–1725: A Forgotten Friendship.*** By Kees Boterbloem. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2021. xiii, 251 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Chronology. Glossary. Index. Photographs. Maps. \$100.00, hard bound; \$45.00, e-book.

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In the seventeenth century, one of Russia's most important relations with other countries was with the Dutch Republic. Primarily this was a commercial relationship, since the Dutch became the largest trading partner with Russia at the end of

the sixteenth century and remained so until Peter's time. Political relations were not trivial, though much less important than Russia's involvement with its immediate neighbors, Poland, Crimea, Sweden, and even Denmark. Kees Boterbloem has done historians of early modern Russia a serious service in providing a swift overview of all the main events and issues in this period of a hundred and sixty years.

The book is in part a continuation of the unfinished work of Jordan E. Kurland, who tried to grapple with the Dutch embassy of 1664–65 but never managed to finish the work. Boterbloem's survey is exactly that, based mostly on published sources and secondary literature, with some archival supplements for the later years of the seventeenth century. The reader senses some disappointment on the part of the author that the political relationship did not develop, but he is right to explain this is in the simple fact that both the Dutch Republic and Russia had more pressing issues to confront. They were also not always on the same side in the Baltic, for the Netherlands tended to favor Sweden over Denmark. Boterbloem perhaps exaggerates somewhat the bad relations between Russia and Sweden. After the Stolbovo treaty, Russia and Sweden got along quite well for decades and Sweden even had the first permanent representative in Moscow whose reports still rest in the Swedish archives. The war of 1656–61 did not produce permanent estrangement, and again relations were good until August II of Poland persuaded Peter to join him in attacking Sweden. More fundamentally, the Dutch republic's interests were in western Europe, Asia, and the New World, while Russia was mainly preoccupied with its neighbors. The result was that most of the embassies were not very successful, even on commercial matters, but the surviving records of the interactions have a great deal of interest.

Dutch economic historians have done useful work in recent decades in uncovering the networks of Dutch merchants in Russia but also in northern Europe generally. Many of these families were effectively international. Boterbloem successfully integrates their findings to provide a more lively and more nuanced portrait of the Dutch merchants and entrepreneurs than that found in the older literature. He also looks for cultural relationships, which he finds came mostly at the end of the seventeenth century. After the 1590's, for example, few of the tsar's doctors were Dutch in spite of the definite leading role of Dutch universities in medicine.

He is perhaps too modest about the Dutch role in Europe and the world in the later seventeenth century (104–5). The earlier decades, as he notes, were different. Jonathan Israel noted long ago that the Dutch merchants who traded at Archangel went on to establish the East India Company, perhaps the best argument for the significance of the Russia trade. The eighty-year long war of the Dutch republic against Spain did much to paralyze the hegemonic power in Europe, to the great benefit of England and France. The Dutch had no way to stop the return of France as a great power nor the rise of English commerce, but they held their own until the early eighteenth century. Occasionally his judgements on Russia history seem a little old-fashioned, such as his statement that the Russian trade goods were squeezed out of an enserfed peasantry. In fact, the peasantry of northern Russia and the Urals was not enserfed, and in any case, it is difficult to square the notion of squeezing the peasantry with the doubling of the population in the course of the seventeenth century (45–46).

None of these strictures lessen the value of the book. He provides for the Slavist reader the necessary background in the history of the Republic as well as a solid overview of the relationship between the two countries. His bibliography is particularly useful (including that in the notes to the introduction), providing references to the Dutch literature as well as to that in other western languages and Russian. He

is probably right that it has become a “forgotten friendship,” and has done well to remind us of its importance.

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***The Kingdom of Rye: A Brief History of Russian Food.*** By Darra Goldstein. California Studies in Food and Culture, vol. 77. Oakland: University of California Press, 2022. xviii, 200 pp. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Illustrations. Maps. \$24.95 hard cover. doi: 10.1017/slr.2023.135

*Kingdom of Rye* is a concise history of the everyday and extravagant foods of Russia from earliest times into the 2010s. It begins with an all-too relatable story of the author being dissuaded by her graduate school advisers from writing on such a “trivial” subject as food, and redirected into more, as it were, standard fare. As the further readings section at the end of this book demonstrates, those professors were proven wrong about the significance and popularity of food as a subject of investigation. As well as historical cookbooks—which Goldstein has also produced—there have now been a number of volumes on food in Russia, all adding to our understanding of social and cultural history by examining a fundamental part of human life. *Kingdom of Rye* contributes to that literature by presenting an up-to-date and accessible introduction to the topic.

*Kingdom of Rye* is divided into three chapters. The first deals with traditional foods, beginning with the rye bread from which the volume takes its title. This chapter takes us through the ingredients and methods of preparation for historical Russian foods and drinks, often in substantial detail. Chapter 2 tackles the darker subject of hardship and famine, covering major topics such as the Holodomor. This chapter remains focused on the issue of ingredients and processes, recounting such stories as how “candies” were made from sugar melted into the floor of a bombed-out factory during WWII. The third chapter moves us in the other direction, to excess and extravagance, looking at how tsars and nobles sought to impress their guests with surprises and culinary delights. The book finishes with a coda on Post-Soviet Russia, tracing the rise and fall of the popularity of western foods, from the queues outside the first McDonalds in 1990 through to the destruction of foreign imports contravening countersanctions during the 2014 Annexation of Crimea. This is an engaging work providing a fascinating glimpse of the everyday realities of how Russians have eaten in the past and eat today.

However, the book’s framing of what constitutes “Russian” is sometimes troubling. Despite the recent—and important—trend in Russian Studies scholarship towards interrogating and revising a concept of Russia based on the experiences of Moscow and St. Petersburg, this book harkens back to such earlier views. Goldstein talks about the northern cold but also discusses Astrakhan and Kyiv; there is extensive coverage of the Siege of Leningrad but no mention of the Kazakh famine. The minorities and colonies of the Russian empire are given little treatment, and when they do it is as a brief note on how their traditional dishes entered Russian cuisine. This work would have benefited from an explicit consideration of what it considers to be “Russian,” and how to square that concept with Russia as an empire.

More concerning is the treatment of Kyivan Rus’. This book of Russian history follows many others and begins in pre-Christian Kyiv, which is not necessarily a problem; there certainly were notable continuities between this southerly principality and Moscow’s later development to the north. The problem begins when