**Why should we teach and study the History of Medieval West?**

**Annotation**. Medieval History is academic discipline which is traditionary being taught and studied as a part of the course of World History in the universities and other academic institutions in Russia. But the causes of its presence in the University education and in the sphere of Humanities in Russia were changing historically. The fact of inclusion of Russian empire into the system of international relations in Europe of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries was the main cause of the Medieval studies inclusion into the Curricula and research plans of Russian universities before 1917. The perception of Russian empire as one the European states explains the perception of its history (including the Medieval one) as a part of European history with a special attention to the history of the main partners / enemies – France, Germany and Great Britain since the times of T. N. Granovksij. This the Marxist historiosophy installation caused the change of the paradigms in the Soviet period since 1930s. The Middle Ages was precepted as a period of the “feudal mode of production” domination and the discipline was being taught and studied as a part of the genesis of capitalism process. The founding father of Soviet medievalism (E. A. Kosminsky, S. D. Skazkin, N. P. Gratsiantky, A. I. Neusykhin) promoted the “social and economic history” as a main object of study (its real connection with the Marxist theory was under the great question). In the same time the traditional attention of medieval studies on the spheres like political, legal, cultural and (specially) Church histories was changed by the marginalization of these objects of study. This disbalance was appeared clearly in the time of departure from life of professors and scholars of the old generation educated before 1917. The vision of medieval Western civilization promoted by the young generation of teachers and scholars since 1960s was very uneven (and fragmentated in some aspects) (with the exclusion of Byzantine studies, but this case was very special and must needs a special research). The studies in the objects which were outside of the “social and economic history” was not prohibited officially but de facto it was seemed as a kind of the scholar “dissidence” as in the case of famous Soviet medievalist Aron Gurevich. The fall of the Soviet medievalism was a part of crisis of the Soviet project itself based on the Soviet conception of human nature. This fact took place more than 30 years ago, but the general problem of the presence of Medieval studies in the post-Soviet Curricula and research plans were not discussed till now. The aim of my presentation is to demonstrate and to analyze the main causes of this situation in the University education and in the Academic studies in history.