

ters on communism in a number of Arab states in particular are among the best in the book. In short, this is an important volume which ought to stimulate more intensive scholarly analyses of this important, timely, but as yet vastly "underdeveloped" field.

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THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIET UNION IN UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: A POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS OF SOVIET STRATEGIES AND ASPIRATIONS INSIDE ILO, UNESCO, AND WHO. By *Chris Osakwe*. Leiden: A. W. Sijthoff, 1972. xvi, 194 pp. \$12.00, paper. Distributed by Humanities Press, Inc.

In the foreword we are told that the author "spent eight years at Moscow State University, completing his work for the degree of Candidate of Legal Sciences in 1970." A long time, considering the results. This study might more appropriately be titled "A Soviet View of Soviet Participation in . . ." Almost a panegyric, this book is certainly not scholarship. The author's main purpose is "to examine the mechanism of the close interplay of international law, international politics, and ideology in the zigzag process of Soviet participation in universal international organizations" (p. xi). The "mechanism" appears to be the writings of Soviet scholars, notably Professor G. I. Tunkin, under whom this thesis was written. The three specialized agencies selected for examination are the International Labor Organization, the World Health Organization, and UNESCO.

Chapter 1 tortuously sets out the Soviet juridical view of universal international organizations and concludes that Soviet participation is "halfhearted" because the USSR "cannot, by definition, take upon itself the full membership obligation . . . because such an obligation will sharply conflict with its dedication to the concepts of 'inevitability of ideological class warfare' and 'the possibility of (hot) war between the East and the West'" (p. 39).

The final three chapters deal successively with the ILO, WHO, and UNESCO. The handling of the ILO is typical: of the thirty-nine pages, nine discuss the role of trade unions in the USSR, eight deal with the Soviet boycott of the 1919-34 period, sixteen are about the Soviet position on credentials and conventions since 1954, and fewer than five are concerned with political infighting in the organization. More attention is devoted to the constitutional status of trade unions in the USSR than to actual Soviet policy in the ILO. The behavior and impact of the Soviet Union are not evaluated in any meaningful way. There is little evidence of any searching examination of the official proceedings of ILO. Instead the text is larded with quotations from Soviet legal texts, asides on peaceful coexistence, and reiteration of the tactical basis of Soviet participation and Moscow's use of the ILO "to reach the heart of the international proletariat" and demonstrate the superiority of Soviet "socialism."

Most of the research was completed by the mid-1960s; the analytical content is minimal; the footnoting is uneven; and the bibliographical citations are not systematically presented. It can be safely stated that this pedestrian work will not find a place on any active bookshelf.

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