

Articles:

Governing Balkanization: Liberalism and the Rhetorical Production of Citizenship

Ronald Walter Greene

Kevin Douglas Kuswa

The rhetorical globalization of Balkanization and its particular domestication in the United States points to the need to perform a “post-national” rhetorical analysis. Such analysis accounts for the argumentative process by which domestic problems get coded through frames provided by other parts of the world. This essay analyzes how the metaphor of Balkanization works as a rhetorical element in the “hygienic government” (Berlant) of U.S. public culture. Our contention in this paper is that the argumentative work being done by the metaphor of Balkanization sanitizes U.S. public culture by cleansing political controversies embedded in the racial and imperial history of the nation. In so doing, the metaphor of balkanization produces a form of American exceptionalism that imagines the United States as the exemplar of democracy displacing its own history of ethnic cleansing so as to offer itself as a model for other nations.

[Russian Language Version: Governing Balkanization: Liberalism and the Rhetorical Production of Citizenship}

Ronald Walter Greene

Kevin Douglas Kuswa

[Russian language abstract]

We’ll Guarantee Freedom When We Can Afford It: The Free Market, the Russian Constitution, and the Rhetoric of Boris Yeltsin

James A. Janack

This essay highlights the discrepancies between the Constitution that Russian President Boris Yeltsin proposed in a speech in June 1993 and the actual Constitution that Yeltsin’s team drafted and the Russian electorate adopted six months later. The apparent inconsistencies between

the speech and the constitution are explained through an analysis of Yeltsin's speeches in 1993 and 1996. Drawing on Kenneth Burke's dramatic pentad, the essay argues that Yeltsin's discourse emphasized scenic aspects in the form of economic conditions. The analysis of Yeltsin's rhetoric at important points in Russia's democratic development, the Constitutional drafting process and the 1996 presidential campaign, suggests that the Russian president's discourse conceptualized a democracy in which democratic acts were enabled by a prosperous market economy rather than constitutional guarantees.

Forum: Debate and Democracy-Building

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Debate and Democracy

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Argument and Environmental Advocacy

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The Blooming of Balkan Public Debate

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Debate, competition, and democracy: a gaming perspective

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[Russian Language Version: Forum:]

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Cooperative Argumentation: A Model for Deliberative Community, by Josina M. Makau and
Debian L. Marty
Reviewed by *Cindy L. Griffin*

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By Popular Demand: Revitalizing Representative Democracy through Deliberative Elections, by
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Reviewed by *David Droge*

Pros and Cons: A Debater's Handbook, 18th ed., edited by Trevor Sather
Reviewed by *Joe Bellon*