Democracy and Myth in Russia and Eastern Europe

SUB Hamburg

Edited by Alexander Wöll and Harald Wydra

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group
LONDON AND NEW YORK
# Contents

*Notes on contributors*  
*Preface and acknowledgements*  

## Introduction: democracy in Eastern Europe – myth and reality  
*HARALD WYDRA*

## PART I  
**Leadership, communism, and identity-formation**  

1. **Mythology and the Trickster: interpreting communism**  
   *AGNES HORVATH*  

2. **The non-being of communism and myths of democratisation**  
   *ARPAD SZAKOLCZAI*  

3. **The power of second reality: communist myths and representations of democracy**  
   *HARALD WYDRA*

## PART II  
**Literature and representations of democracy**  

4. **‘Mazepa’ as a symbolic figure of Ukrainian autonomy**  
   *THOMAS GROB*  

5. **Misoteutonic myths: lopping noses in Hussite nationalism and love’s sweet cure**  
   *ROBERT B. PYNSENT*
Contents

6 The myth of the dialogue of myths: Russia and Europe  122
WALTER KOSCHMAL

7 Myths and democratic attitudes in Poland and Russia:
an intermedial comparison  141
ALEXANDER WÖLL

PART III
Myths, legitimacy, and civic identity in post-communist
democracies  167

8 Contested traditions? The usage of three national holidays
in contemporary Hungary  169
HEINO NYYSSÖNEN

9 The paradox of infra-liberalism: towards a genealogy of
‘managed democracy’ in Putin’s Russia  186
SERGEI PROZOROV

10 Myth and democratic identity in Russia  203
RICHARD SAKWA

Index  219