

Vedrana Šimić, MA history
Department of History
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Sarajevo

RUSSIA IN THE ERA OF PETER THE GREAT

Summary

This paper will discuss a very important period of the Russian state, a period that remained known for the ruler who left an immense impact in Russia, as well as in the rest of the world. This ruler is Peter the Great. Except for the occasion to live at the time when Europe was ruled by great and important rulers, he succeeded in accomplishing his goals by implementing significant reforms. Since common people have accepted those reforms, he adopted the nickname „Great”. The aim of this paper was to show the conditions of Russia just before Peter the Great’s coming to the throne. Furthermore, the aim was to show which were the important events that have marked his reign, as well as his life, and lastly, to show the transformation of Russia in relation to the West throughout the reign of Peter the Great.

This paper will put in focus the biographical approach and the political history. The paper is segmented in five chapters. The first chapter depicts the life of Peter the Great, starting with his childhood and the beginning years of his reign. The second chapter discusses the beginnings of modernization of the Russian state, i.e. the abandonment of the tradition that has marked the existence of the Russian Empire before the reign of Peter the Great. In the third chapter, the state of disorder is described, which ultimately lead to reforms and to a war. The restoration period is covered in the chapter four, in this period Peter the Great arrives as an enlightened ruler, while the fifth chapter is dedicated to the last moments of his reign and his life.

Key words: *Russia, Peter the Great, reforms, society, enlightened ruler, modernization*