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Abstracts

ROBERTO VALLE, *Catilina a Pietroburgo. L'età classica del coup d'État in Russia (1725-1917)*

The classical age of the *coup d'état* is peculiar to the Petersburg period of Russian history, opened by «the era of palace revolutions» in the 18th Century and ended with the Bolshevik military uprising in October 1917. The era of palace revolutions was brought about by the law of succession to the throne laid down by Peter the Great on February 5, 1722. Peter the Great, according to Alexander Herzen, was a «terrorist and reformer» who had no respect for the legitimacy and, making a break with the autocratic tradition, had created an unstable system. With the rise of the Empresses Anna, Elizabeth and Catherine II, the palace revolution became permanent and, in institutional practice, there was a sort of legitimacy of the coup d'état as a succession to the throne. The Decabrist uprising in 1825 marked the transition from the palace revolutions to the *pronunciamento* (military rebellion). In the Russian revolutionary movement of the second half of the 19th Century, was affirmed a Blanquist guideline. The idea of the conquest of power by *manu militari* was made by Černyševskij and Tkačëv. The year 1905 inaugurated the phase of the permanent preparation of the coup d'état, which ended with the Bolshevik uprising. This phase revealed the terminal paradoxes of the Petersburg period in Russian history. In October 1917 Lenin and Trockij perfected the art of civil war as an original synthesis between the palace revolution, the military insurrection and the agrarian revolution.