

IS RUSSIA READY? DA? NYET?

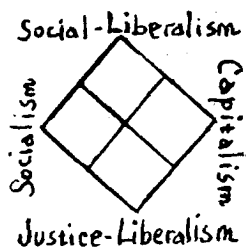
A conference was held in New York, August 22-24, on the social collection of rent in the Soviet Union. Thirty economists participated, from Britain, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the USA and the USSR. It was sponsored by the Henry George School under a grant from the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation.

A member of the USSR's Supreme Soviet from Estonia, Dr. Ivar Raig, was present and urged a study of land value taxation as the best means of transferring economies from central planning to free markets. "We must study George's theories," he said, "because we can use them in our countries . . . I propose that you teach George's ideas and translate them into Russian . . . If you take my suggestions, you have a chance to realize your ideas in practice in Eastern Europe.

Among other speakers were Alexander Mendorff from Moscow, Prof. Dick Netzer of New York University Prof. William Vickrey of Columbia University and from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Gene Wunderlich and Kenneth Cray. Also familiar friends: Steven Cord, Fred Foldvary, Ted Gwartney, Nicolaus Tideman.

There will be follow-ups: A trip to Eastern Europe by Ted Gwartney to explain land assessments; and the setting up of educational programs. Claude Arnold of Fairhope, Alabama is also travelling to Eastern Europe to explain land assessments.

The Danish Georgists are also active in approaching Eastern Europe. A large meeting was held on Bornholm (in the Baltic Sea), with representatives of several countries including Russia, Poland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. A presentation on Georgism by Einar Pedersen has been translated into Russian. To convey the choices before Eastern Europe, the following logo is used:



(The choice of Justice-Liberalism represents the Georgist choice.)

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