
General Review and Presentation
The purpose of this paper is to present the manual, based on the course of lectures on Modern and Contemporary History, which has been delivered by the author throughout 25 years to the students of Chernivtsi University, Department of History. The body of the book highlights the most significant events and trends in the historical development of Western civilization in between the two world wars period. The manual comprises a good deal of actual and practical materials thoroughly considered and
weighted summing up, and reasonable inferences. Moreover, it contains politicians’ brief characteristics and apt illustrations.

This edition is recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sports of Ukraine as a manual for the students of higher educational establishments and, simultaneously, is supposed to be used by lecturers and students of lyceums, colleges and high schools.

The manual consists of introduction, four chapters, conclusion and bibliography.

The introduction represents brief information about the reasons for both the Western civilization’s rise in the sixteenth – nineteenth centuries, and the all-encompassing deep crisis at the end of the nineteenth – at the turn of the twentieth centuries, and the climax of it – the First World War.

The first chapter canvases a profound and deep investigation of the World War I its after-results and consequences for the Western society. Furthermore, it concerns the essence and contradictions of the postwar world’s structure of the international relations known as Versailles-Washington System.

The second chapter reviews key trends and phenomena of social, political and cultural walks of life of the Western society and the peculiarities of public awareness and spiritual life (moral values), its cultural and scientific progress, social and political movements in particular.

The third chapter traces back the Western leading powers’ historical development in the interwar period, namely Germany, Great Britain, France, Italy, Spain, and the USA.

The last chapter presents the profound research of the international relations in 1924 - 1939.

The conclusions summarize the Western society’s advancement in the interwar period, being perceived as so-called “epoch of verity”, period of people’s pains and sufferings whilst facing the challenges of the twentieth century.