

cynical hoax designed to beguile and ensnare the West, even though it does not, as yet, constitute a major revamping of ideological perspectives comparable to the far-reaching changes that Khrushchev pioneered in the 1950s. Even should he wish to escape the constraints imposed by the official ideology, Gorbachev cannot easily or quickly do so. For this reason, we cannot understand and evaluate the significance of the "new thinking" without a clear conception of the old.