

# Newspapers, Ideology and National Liberation Movement in Azerbaijan (1988-1991)

Ilkin Salimov

Masaryk University, Czech Republic

## Abstract.

This article is the conceptual analysis of the history of the independent press in Azerbaijan. Article analyzes formation and ideology of independent press in Azerbaijan in the National Liberation Movement period (1988-1991). The importance of the article is to reveal the role of the press as constructors of national discourses in the National Liberation Movement. Major works written on formation of independent press are descriptive. Historical works on non-legal press (samizdat) were written by Nesiman Yaqublu. Audrey Altstadt gives the first brief analysis of political and ideological positions of the press. My goal is to make ideological analysis of major soviet and independent press based on content analysis and reveal their role in formation and dissemination of national narratives. Ideological contributions of such newspapers as 'Molodyoj Azerbaycana' (Youth of Azerbaijan) and 'Azadliq' (Freedom) and the major role of its creator- Necef Necefov were examined. I explore the influence of perestroika reforms of the Qorbachov and Nagorno-Karabakh conflict on Azerbaijani press and divide major soviet newspapers according to the influence of perestroika in two groups. Article explores the historical role of Necef Necefov-founder of modern azerbaijan independent press and his activity in the first oppositional newspaper 'Azadliq' (Freedom).

**Keywords:** Ideology; Nagorno-Karabakh; Narratives; Nationalism; Press