

Journal of Sociological Context 6/3 (December 2025), 580-586 Book Review

# Russia: Revolution and Civil War 1917—1921, by Antony Beevor (trans. Arif Kaplan)

(İstanbul, Kronik Kitap, 2024), 619 pages, ISBN: 978-625-6774-45-2

ROR: https://ror.org/05fd1hd85

#### **Abstract**

This study consists of a book review of Antony Beevor's Russia: Revolution and Civil War 1917-1921, in which, with his characteristic narrative power and impartiality, he presents a panoramic and heartbreaking story of the disintegration of a vast empire. By moving seamlessly from the high command of Lenin and Trotsky to the desperate struggles of ordinary peasants and partisans, he vividly maps the vast landscape of the conflict. The book relentlessly depicts the atrocities committed by all sides, arguing that this violence was not a deviation from the Bolshevik revolutionary project, but a logical continuation. He demonstrates that the vast, complex, and brutal civil war that shaped the Soviet Union foreshadowed the controversial Soviet policies of the 20th century. The book shows that the Bolshevik victory was achieved through ruthless organization, while internal strife and divisions within the Whites contributed to this victory.

#### Keywords

Russia, Soviet Union, Bolshevism, Revolution, Civil War

### Citation

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