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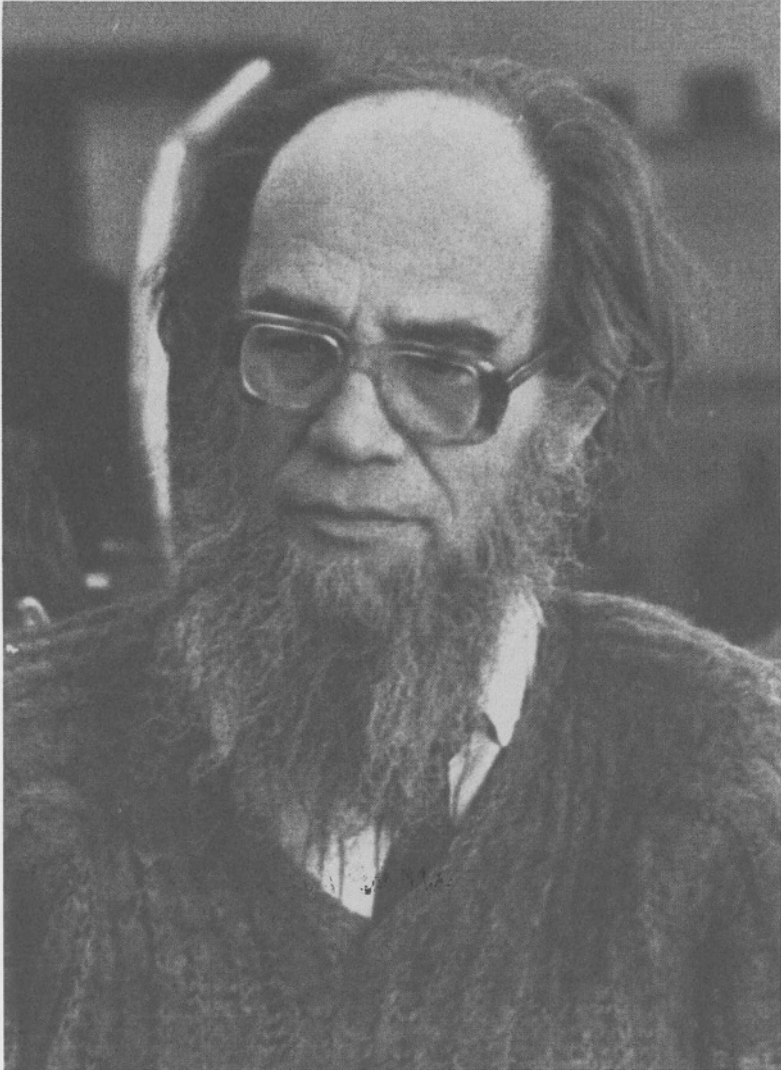
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VLADIMIR ALEXANDROVICH SMIRNOV
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PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC AND LOGICAL PHILOSOPHY

Essays in Honour of Vladimir A. Smirnov

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Preface

Vladimir Aleksandrovich Smirnov was born on March 2, 1931. He graduated from Moscow State University in 1954. From 1957 till 1961 he was a lecturer in philosophy and logic at the Tomsk University. Since 1961 his scientific activity continued in Moscow at the Institute of Philosophy of Academy of Sciences of the USSR. From 1970 and till the last days of his life V. A. Smirnov was lecturer and then Professor at the Chair of Logic at Moscow State University.

V. A. Smirnov played an important role at the Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Sciences being the Head of Department of Epistemology, Logic and Philosophy of Science and Technology, and the Head of Section of Logic. Last years he was the leader of the Centre of Logical Investigations of Russian Academy of Sciences. In 1990–91 he founded a new non-government Institute of Logic, Cognitive Sciences and Development of Personality for performing research, teaching, editorial and organization activity in the field of humanities. At the Department of Philosophy of Moscow State University and at the Institute of Philosophy V. A. Smirnov and his close colleagues have founded a Russian logical school which brought up many talented researchers who work at several scientific centres in various countries.

Undoubtedly, V. A. Smirnov was one of the most prominent figures in logic and methodology of science in the former USSR and Russia. He published two books – “Formal Deduction and Logical Calculi” and “Logical Methods of Analysis of Scientific Theories” which have become classics for Russian logicians and are well-known in several countries. Interesting ideas and results are contained in his 150 published articles and numerous manuscripts. He worked fruitfully in many fields of modern logic, especially in non-classical logics and its applications to various scientific disciplines, and obtained a number of original results pertaining to different forms of logical deduction, interconnections between syllogistics, predicate logic and algebra, logical structure of scientific theories, fundamental properties of formal logical systems, etc. He proposed non-standard solutions to various philosophical and methodological problems concerned with the interconnection between empirical and theoretical levels of scientific knowledge, the status and functions of ideal objects, and features of rational creativity. Recently he was successfully elaborating the theoretical and methodological foundations of intellectual computer-based systems.

What is to be especially mentioned is V. A. Smirnov’s organizational activity. On the one hand it promoted increasing influence and impact of logic and rational philosophical methods in the scientific community of the former Soviet Union. He was one of the main organizers of All-Union Conferences in Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Sciences from the early 1960s. During the last fifteen years he was the leader of the Scientific Seminar in Logic at the Institute of Philosophy where the newest logical results were presented and discussed by the leading

logicians from Russia and many other countries. These were precisely the Conferences and Seminars that gave a good impetus for scientific collaboration of logicians, philosophers, mathematicians, scholars in linguistics and computer sciences. On the other hand, his constructive efforts were very important for carrying out the fruitful scientific contacts between logicians from the former USSR and other countries. He was one of the organizers of the Soviet-Finnish, Soviet-Polish, Soviet-Japan Logical Conferences and Soviet-American Joint Scientific Seminar in Philosophy and Computer Sciences. He was the active participant in many World and International meetings. In particular, he took part in every International Congresses of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, from the third to the tenth Congress.

Initially we intended to publish this Collection in honour of Vladimir Aleksandrovich Smirnov on occasion of his birthday. However, serious illness attacked him suddenly. He knew about it, he fought against it and worked till the last minutes of his life. He died on February 12, 1996.

Vladimir Smirnov is still alive in the hearts and memories of his friends, colleagues and pupils from many countries. The authors of this Collection would like to pay homage to this remarkable man as a scholar, colleague, teacher and friend. All the essays of this Collection touch upon topics in the sphere of logic, methodology and philosophy of science in which V.A.Smirnov has taken an interest. Now they are published in his memory.

Peter Bystrov
Jaakko Hintikka
Vadim Sadovsky