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### **Transitional social forms: western European and Russian experience**

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*The article aims at describing the ideas about the specifics of the transition epochs in the history of socio-economic, political, cultural development of Europe and Russia. It is examined the main features of the Old Order period as a Western European phenomenon in the transition from feudalism to capitalism, as well as features of the transitional era in Russia in the late 19th – early 20th century. It is emphasized that the transition epoch is a historical segment when various economic structures, modes of production, political institutions, ideological orientations, value points on both the social and individual scale are combining, intertwining, conflicting. Transitional social forms should be distinguished from derivative, regressive social forms which resemble them. Regressive social forms emerge in traditional societies in their later period of development, with “nonorganic” modernization.*

**Keywords:** *transitional era, transitivity, social order, Old order, New order, life style, way of thinking and outlook, transitional era in Russia, multiple modes of production, derivative (regressive) social forms, nonorganic modernization*

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