

Научная статья

УДК 32.019.5

<https://doi.org/10.37493/2307-910X.2025.4.21>

## Современное теоретико-методологическое прочтение политических категорий «Элитарии» и «Элитариум»

Марина Анатольевна Романцова<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Северо-Кавказский федеральный университет (д. 1, ул. Пушкина, г. Ставрополь, 355017, Россия)

<sup>1</sup>[natapro@mail.ru](mailto:natapro@mail.ru); <https://orcid.org/0000-0000-000-000>

\*Автор, ответственный за переписку

**Аннотация. Введение.** В статье проводится концептуальный анализ и дается авторское определение термина «элитарий» (élitaire), который активно используется в публицистике и научной литературе, но не имеет четкого терминологического значения. **Материалы и методы.** Автор предлагает понимать элитария как представителя слоя, близкого к элите, но не являющегося ею: это лицо с элитарными наклонностями и потенциалом, которое, однако, не обладает достаточным авторитетом, ответственностью и известностью, чтобы считаться полноценной элитой. **Результаты и обсуждение.** Введена система классификации («субъект элиты», «человек элиты», «личность элиты») для более точного описания стратификации внутри элитных групп. Раскрыта роль элитариев как «и.о. элиты» в условиях кризиса традиционных элит, исследует понятие «элитариум» как символическое пространство функционирования элит и проводит различие между политическим и культурным элитариумами. **Заключение.** На основании проведенного исследования можно сделать вывод, что подмена истинной элиты элитариями является ключевой характеристикой современного политического кризиса.

**Ключевые слова:** Элитарий (élitaire), элитология, политическая элита, элитариум, протоэлита, субъект элиты, человек элиты, личность элиты, кризис элит, истеблишмент, меритократия, псевдоэлита, политическое закулирье, культурная элита.

**Для цитирования:** Романцова М. А. Современное теоретико-методологическое прочтение политических категорий «Элитарии» и «Элитариум» // Современная наука и инновации. 2025. № 4. С. 182-187. <https://doi.org/10.37493/2307-910X.2025.4.21>

**Конфликт интересов:** Автор заявляет об отсутствии конфликта интересов.

Статья поступила в редакцию 01.10.2025;  
одобрена после рецензирования 01.11.2025;  
принята к публикации 01.12.2025.

Research article

## Modern theoretical and methodological interpretation of the political categories "Elite" and "Elite"

Marina A. Romantsova<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (1, Pushkin street, Stavropol, 355017, Russia)

<sup>1</sup> [natapro@mail.ru](mailto:natapro@mail.ru); <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-1111-1111>

\*Corresponding author

© Романцова М. А., 2025

**Abstract. Introduction.** The article provides a conceptual analysis and the author's definition of the term "elite", which is actively used in journalism and scientific literature, but does not have a clear terminological meaning. **Materials and methods.** The author suggests understanding an elitist as a representative of a stratum close to the elite, but not one of them: this is a person with elite inclinations and potential, who, however, does not have enough authority, responsibility and fame to be considered a full-fledged elite. **Results and discussion.** A classification system is introduced ("elite subject", "elite person", "elite personality") to more accurately describe the stratification within elite groups. The role of elitarians as "acting elites" in the context of the crisis of traditional elites is revealed, and the concept of "elitarium" is explored as a symbolic space for the functioning of elites, with a distinction made between political and cultural elitariums. **Conclusion.** Based on the conducted research, it can be concluded that the substitution of the true elite by the elitists is a key characteristic of the current political crisis.

**Key words:** Elite, elitism, political elite, elitium, proto-elite, elite subject, elite person, elite personality, elite crisis, establishment, meritocracy, pseudo-elite, political backstage, cultural elite.

**For citation:** Romantsova MA. Modern Theoretical and Methodological Reading of the Political Categories "Elitarii" and "Elitarium". *Modern Science and Innovations*. 2025;(4):182-187. (In Russ.). <https://doi.org/10.37493/2307-910X.2025.4.21>

**Conflict of interest:** the author declare no conflicts of interests.

The article was submitted 01.10.2025;  
approved after reviewing 01.11.2025;  
accepted for publication 01.12.2025.

**Introduction.** The current stage of development in socio-political science is characterized by an active search for and refinement of conceptual frameworks capable of adequately reflecting an increasingly complex social reality. One of the key areas requiring conceptual clarity is elitology, which studies the structure, mechanisms of formation, and transformation of elite groups in society. Recently, the term "élitaire" has become firmly established in scholarly and journalistic discourse. Despite its frequent use, it remains vague and has not received universal academic recognition. Its spontaneous use to describe a wide range of phenomena—from the elite's inner circle to marginalized individuals aspiring to elite status—creates terminological confusion and complicates scholarly analysis.

For modern elitological science the clarification of this or that new term is of fundamental importance, then case emerging V scientific literature, or V Media. Sometimes introduced terms turn out to be unsuccessful and non-viable. Sometimes happen obvious terminological advances, and the new category accurately describes a specific objective reality. Therefore, we should also clarify which objective reality exactly reality describes term "élitaire" ("elitist/elitistries") [5].

**Materials and methods.** The methodological basis of the study was a qualitative analysis of textual sources. The research materials included scientific publications on the problems of elitology, political science and sociology, materials of elitology congresses, encyclopedic publications, as well as journalistic works in which the analyzed term is actively used. The main methods of the work were: conceptual analysis, allowing to identify the semantic core and contexts of use of the term "elitist"; the comparative method applied to compare and differentiate related categories ("elite", "pseudo-elite", "proto-elite", "establishment"); the classification method used to construct a typology ("elite subject", "elite person", "elite personality"); as well as an institutional approach, which contributed to the understanding of the "elitarium" as a symbolic space and institution of elite functioning. The combination of these methods allowed for a comprehensive theoretical analysis and the author's interpretation of the political categories under consideration.

This concept is found in journalism and some scientific works, but it still hasn't received a clear terminological meaning. Therefore, we will take the liberty and responsibility of providing a preliminary description of this term.

**Research results and their discussion.** Judging by context, term elitist is used for designations close to the elite, but still somewhat different from it, a layer of political and cultural figures [1; 3]. This is the elite's inner circle, a potential reserve of elite personnel, but still not quite the elite itself. Finally, the elites are the public that surrounds the elite and whose opinions (advice) the elite takes needs or pretends to be in need. [6, p. 112-128; 7, p. 96]

An elitist (*élitaire*) is a person with elitist tendencies, with elite aesthetic tastes and ethical views; bearer of elite cultural and professional values, endowed with elite abilities (certain professional skills), which pursuit (having potential) become an elite and who, when the opportunity arises, pretends to be an elite or takes a position some elite position (job title), but without proper grounds for it. What is not what it takes for an elitist to become an elite is authority, positive (constructive) fame, and the courage to take responsibility for being a real human being. (A Not subject) of the elite.

In this regard, we introduce three warrants for understanding the essence of the elite: (1) "elite subject", (2) "elite person" and (3) "personality elites."

1. "Subject *elites*": private nothing Not notable representative elites, more often total imitating her presence, those. Direct analogue the concept of "elitist".

(2) "Elite *Man*": an actively and independently acting representative of the elite, making responsible decisions and bearing personal responsibility for them responsibility; pro higher class.

(3) "Personality *elites*": face, with which it is personified elite - leader, leader, guru (spiritual leader, classic).

In the general context of our article, we are talking specifically about the "subjects" of the elite, about elites.

The elitist does not live the full life of an elite man, he only exists and survives on the threshold of the elite; he only breathes the feeling of the advent of elite status. The uncertainty of his position (status) forces him to balance on the boundaries of the elite and pseudo-elite.

An elitist is someone who has access to elite values or resources possessed by the elite and who, by virtue of this, poses as an elite; a defective elite, an imitation of an elite; a situational subject of the elite. This classification applies falls under concept "establishment", and "intelligentsia". But V difference from them, the elite still strives for power and very often gets it. In contrast from them, elitist has opportunity to play in "acting" elite", but they hasn't [4].

But an elite can also be a marginal person (in the past a wandering poet, philosopher, hermit), not included in any of the existing his time of elite groups, but by its nature - "elite man." History often classifies rear number to elite specific historical time such "radicals" falling out from existing classifications. Such elites Singles are the exception to the rule; they are the most positive example of how Even if you are not elite, you are still elite in spirit, in the degree of your personal dignity, by vocation.

In political practice, in the absence of a real (genuine) elite, the elites begin to play the role of the elite, i.e. to perform the functions of "acting elite" (G.K. Ashin), filling the resulting empty space. In the context of the global crisis of political elites, we see this everywhere today. Today there is no such a country in world where would be elites Not took top over the elite.

Elites transform V elites Then, When turn out to be helpless IN the chaos of the world and cannot cope with the challenges of their time. They show their bankruptcy, their helplessness, their disillusionment, and their indifference to what's happening. Eclecticism reigns in the elites' minds, and they find it difficult to establish a logical order in their thinking. From here all their spiritual qualities are mixed up values. Due to this deficiency, various values appear in science every now and then. Genus Job, discrediting concepts "elite" And "meritocracy" because they are not describing elites or meritocracy at all, but rather that "something" that is them accepted.

The elitists have always existed as a vague premonition of the emerging elites. The elite circle is always structurally unformed individuals with the potential and aspirations to be elite. Elites can unite into pressure groups and lobby for certain interests. But more often than not, this is a Browniana movement of individual people. As soon as they manage to organize themselves,

V their structure an early elite emerges. [7, p. 234]

Thus, *the elitists are not yet the elite, but they are no longer the masses* (simple ordinary person); this inferior, failed elites, proto-elites; a kind of "elite broth" from which the elite may one day be born. More often In general, the elites remain faceless and unknown "trash of history." Having had the opportunity, but never realizing itself in history as a full-fledged and a self-sufficient historical figure.

Analysis political realities shows, What from Togo, Who before us Whether one is "elite" or "elite" depends on the specific point of view – so, for local population This will "elite", A For federal structures authorities - "elitist." Those above see shortcomings better than those below. From below, shortcomings may seem insignificant or even look like virtues. The opposition may even abuse criticism and demonize. Those who are not - on the contrary, it is beneficial for them that the elite looks like elite.

Elitarium is thus understood by us as the location of the elites in a specific political space. Elitarium should also be understood as a club of elites, the place (or places) where they most often meet and interact. Each the political national elite has such symbolic places: in Russia - this is the Kremlin, V USA - White house And Congress, in Germany - Reichstag, in Great Britain – Parliament... This symbolism predetermines the ritual practices of the elites and forms a specific etiquette of their behavior. The existing ritual of the elites reveals their essence.

**Conclusion.** Thus in this way, elitarianism reflects essence political cultures their own countries. This Part spectacular political show, sometimes transforming into an outright farce and carnival of the great political space. And than the more comfortable the elites feel in this space, the more boldly they behave in their "political masquerade." The Elitarium is the place where all the elites – they wear their masks; backstage is that exclusive space where they do these things. Sometimes they take off their masks. If the elitism is open to elitological research, That V political behind the scenes access only by special passes.

In contrast to the political elitism, the elitism of cultural elites and cultural elites represents by yourself highly organized community creative minorities, V which are saved And are developing cultural values and assets designed to ensure the spiritual security of all humanity. This space also has its own "radicals" who throw a challenge to the entire society and seeking to disrupt and destroy the established bonds of this spiritual communication. In totalitarian systems, these two elitisms strive for complete fusion; in liberal systems, they find a way to coexist. Regardless Friend from friend. Exactly by ratio these spirit elite worlds we can judge by the kind of society we live in and what kind of political mode reigns in a specifically taken country.

An analysis of recent political realities shows that that it is precisely this kind of elite that is taken for the elite. Crisis the elite became possible in many ways due to the fact that the elites replaced themselves elite.

#### Список источников

1. Геворкян К. «Элитарии всех стран, соединяйтесь!» // Фонд Нораванк. [Электронный ресурс]. URL: [https://noravank.am/rus/issues/detail.php?ELEMENT\\_ID=3107](https://noravank.am/rus/issues/detail.php?ELEMENT_ID=3107) (Дата обращения: 24.07.2025).
2. Душа элитария. // PolitRussia. [Электронный ресурс]. URL: <https://politrussia.com/politkasha/dusha-elitariya-508/> (Дата обращения: 15.07.2025).
3. Макашов В. «Элитарии» и «пролетарии» - идеология исключительности и комплекс низкой самооценки. // LiveJournal. - [Электронный ресурс]. URL: <https://korobok12.livejournal.com/669188.html> (Дата обращения: 20.07.2025)
4. Моллаев З. Х., Нелепов М. В. Поиски залежей УВ Восточного Ставрополя на основе концепции блокового строения осадочного чехла. Геология, геофизика и разработка нефтяных и газовых месторождений. 2004. № 7. С. 21–22.
5. Российская элитология: инновационные ответы на вызовы современного мира: материалы Третьего Всероссийского элитологического конгресса с международным участием 15-16 февраля 2019 г., Ростов-на-Дону. Ред.-изд. гр.: А.Ю. Шутов (руков.), О.В. Локота, А.В.

- Понеделков и др. Изд-во ЮРИУ РАНХиГС, 2019. Т.1. 480с.; Т.2. 468с.
6. Нелепов М. В., Томашев Д. В., Папоротная А. А. Оценка влияния трещиноватости коллекторов на эффективность проведения геолого-технических мероприятий в продуктивных отложениях Восточного Ставрополя. Нефтепромысловое дело. 2019. № 7 (607). С. 28–33. [https://doi.org/10.30713/0207-2351-2019-7\(607\)-28-32](https://doi.org/10.30713/0207-2351-2019-7(607)-28-32)
  7. Элитология России: современное состояние и перспективы развития: материалы Первого Всероссийского элитологического конгресса с международным участием, 7-8.10.2013 г. Ростов-на-Дону. Ред.-из. В.В. Рудой (руков.) и др. Ростов н/Д.: Изд-во ЮРИФ РАНХиГС, 2013. Т.1. 928с.; Т.2. 832с.; Т.3. Донское книжное издательство, 420с.
  8. Элитология: Энциклопедический словарь. /Под ред. проф. П.Л. Карабущенко. М.: Экон-информ, 2013. 618 с.
  9. Элиты и лидеры: стратегии формирования в современном университете. Материалы международного конгресса. 19-22 апреля 2017 г. / Под редакцией проф. А.П. Лунева и проф. П.Л. Карабущенко. Астрахань: Издательский дом «Астраханский университет». 2017. 364с.
  10. Hayes, Christopher. Twilight of the Elites: America After Meritocracy. Crown Publishing Group (NY), 2012. – 304p.

### References

1. Gevorkyan K. «Ehlitarii vseh stran, soedinyayets'!» // Fond Noravank. [Elektronnyi resurs]. URL: [https://noravank.am/rus/issues/detail.php?ELEMENT\\_ID=3107](https://noravank.am/rus/issues/detail.php?ELEMENT_ID=3107) (Data obrashcheniya: 24.07.2025).
2. Dusha ehlitariya. // PolitRussia. [Elektronnyi resurs]. URL: <https://politrussia.com/politkasha/dusha-elitariya-508/> (Data obrashcheniya: 15.07.2025).
3. Makashov V. «Ehlitarii» i «proletarii» - ideologiya isklyuchitel'nosti i kompleks nizkoi samoosenski. // LiveJournal. - [Elektronnyi resurs]. URL: <https://korobok12.livejournal.com/669188.html> (Data obrashcheniya: 20.07.2025)
4. Mollaev Z. KH., Nelepov M. V. Poiski zalezhei UV Vostochnogo Stavropol'ya na osnove kontseptsii blokovogo stroeniya osadochnogo chekhla. Geologiya, geofizika i razrabotka neftyanykh i gazovykh mestorozhdenii. 2004. № 7. S. 21–22.
5. Rossiiskaya ehlitologiya: innovatsionnye otvety na vyzovy sovremennogo mira: materialy Tret'ego Vserossiiskogo ehlitologicheskogo kongressa s mezhdunarodnym uchastiem 15-16 fevralya 2019 g., Rostov-na-Donu. Red.-izd. gr.: A.YU. Shutov (rukov.), O.V. Lokota, A.V. Ponedelkov i dr. Izd-vo YURIU RANKhIGS, 2019. Т.1. 480с.; Т.2. 468с.
6. Nelepov M. V., Tomashev D. V., Paprotnaya A. A. Otsenka vliyaniya treshchinovatosti kollektorov na ehffektivnost' provedeniya geologo-tekhnicheskikh meropriyatii v produktivnykh otlozheniyakh Vostochnogo Stavropol'ya. Neftpromyslovoe delo. 2019. № 7 (607). S. 28–33. [https://doi.org/10.30713/0207-2351-2019-7\(607\)-28-32](https://doi.org/10.30713/0207-2351-2019-7(607)-28-32)
7. Ehlitologiya Rossii: sovremennoe sostoyanie i perspektivy razvitiya: materialy Pervogo Vserossiiskogo ehlitologicheskogo kongressa s mezhdunarodnym uchastiem, 7-8.10.2013 g. Rostov-na-Donu. Red.-iz. V.V. Rudoi (rukov.) i dr. Rostov n/D.: Izd-vo YURIF RANKhIGS, 2013. Т.1. 928с.; Т.2. 832с.; Т.3. Donskoe knizhnoe izdatel'stvo, 420с.
8. Ehlitologiya: Ehntsiklopedicheskii slovar'. /Pod red. prof. P.L. Karabushchenko. M.: Ehkon-inform, 2013. 618 s.
9. Ehlity i lidery: strategii formirovaniya v sovremennom universitete. Materialy mezhdunarodnogo kongressa. 19-22 aprelya 2017 g. / Pod redaktsiei prof. A.P. Luneva i prof. P.L. Karabushchenko. Astrakhan': Izdatel'skii dom «Astrakhanskii universitet». 2017. 364s.
10. Hayes, Christopher. Twilight of the Elites: America After Meritocracy. Crown Publishing Group (NY), 2012. – 304p.

### Информация об авторах

**Романцова Марина Анатольевна**, соискатель кафедры зарубежной истории, политологии и международных отношений Северо-Кавказского федерального университета, [nataprob@mail.ru](mailto:nataprob@mail.ru)

### Вклад автора:

**Романцова Марина Анатольевна**

Проведение исследования – сбор, интерпретация и анализ полученных данных.

Утверждение окончательного варианта – принятие ответственности за все аспекты работы, целостность всех частей статьи и ее окончательный вариант.

**Information about the authors**

**Marina Anatolyevna Romantsova**, is a candidate of the Department of Foreign History, Political Science and International Relations at the North Caucasus Federal University, nataprob@mail.ru

**Contribution of the authors:**

**Marina Anatolyevna Romantsova**

Conducting research – data collection, analysis and interpretation.

Approval of the final manuscript – acceptance of responsibility for all types of the work, integrity of all parts of the paper and its final version.