

MAKING AND BREAKING DEMOCRATIC TRANSITIONS

**THE COMPARATIVE
POLITICS OF
RUSSIA'S
REGIONS**

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Making And Breaking Democratic Transitions The Comparative Politics Of Russias Regions

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Making And Breaking Democratic Transitions The Comparative Politics Of Russias Regions:

Making and Breaking Democratic Transitions Vladimir Gel'man, Sergei Ryzhenkov, Michael Brie, 2005-01-12 Focusing on the vastly different outcomes of post Soviet regime transitions this study explores why some societies have become more democratic and some have not Based on in depth comparative analyses the book assesses political developments in six of Russia s regions Saratov Nizhnii Novgorod Volgograd Ryazan Ul'yanovsk and Tver oblasts since 1988 The authors consider the influence of Soviet governance systems on the emergence of cleavages and new actors in the post Soviet period They also analyze the impact of institutional changes on regional regimes and the success or failure of formal institutions as a framework for political competitiveness Placing their detailed field data within the larger comparative and theoretical context of political transitions the authors are able to explain the mixed outcomes of post communist regime change in Russia and other post Soviet nations With its innovative model of path contingent democratization and its new typology of political regimes and regime transitions this book will be essential reading for all scholars of democracy **Local Politics and**

Democratization in Russia Cameron Ross, 2008-10-27 This comprehensive study of local politics in Russia shows that the key reforms of local government and the struggle to forge viable grassroots democracies have been inextricably linked to the wider struggle for power between the regions and the Kremlin and to the specific nature of Russia s highly politicized and negotiated form of asymmetrical federalism During the Yeltsin era all attempts to create a universal and uniform system of local self government in the federation were a failure Under the protection of their constitutions and charters and the extra constitutional rights and powers granted to them in special bilateral treaties regional leaders particularly in Russia s 21 ethnic republics were able to instigate highly authoritarian regimes and to thwart the implementation key local government reforms Thus by the end of the Yeltsin era the number of municipalities their type status and powers varied tremendously from region to region Putin s local government reforms also need to be viewed as an integral component of his wider centralizing political agenda and his assault on the principles and practices of federalism With the instigation of his dictatorship of law and power vertical Putin has thwarted the development of grassroots democracy and overseen the creation of local electoral authoritarian regimes Putin s new system of local self government marks a victory for the proponents of the statist concept of local self government over those who championed the societal concept codified in Article 12 of the Russian Constitution Overall this book is an important resource for anyone seeking to understand politics in Putin s Russia **Politics Russia** Catherine Danks, 2014-01-14 Politics Russia provides the most comprehensive accessible and up to date introduction to all aspects of the political development of Russia in the post communist era Writing with the undergraduate student specifically in mind Danks fluent style and masterly grasp of complex material will make this an indispensable guide for many years to come Divided into five sections Politics Russia maps a clear path towards an understanding of Russia and its politics in the twenty first century In Part One the emergence of contemporary Russia is put

into context by a consideration of the end of the USSR and the move towards democratization under Gorbachev Part Two provides a clear sighted and stimulating overview of the nature of the executive and the legislature in contemporary Russia Part Three examines civil society the role of the media and the representative process Part Four is focussed on the policy process from foreign and defence policies to the development of domestic social policies from the provision of healthcare to education Part Five the final provides an overall consideration the contemporary state of Russia examining the development from Yeltsin to Putin to Medvedev and considers the possible futures of the region The book is supported by a host of pedagogical features including Annotated further reading lists Definitions of key political terms Short biographies of key figures

Causes and Consequences of Democratization Anastassia V. Obydenkova, Alexander Libman, 2015-05-22 In recent decades the regions of Russia have taken different paths of regime transition Despite the consolidation of an autocratic regime at national level and the centralization steered by Vladimir Putin s government the variation across sub national regimes persists Using an innovative theoretical framework this book explores both causes and consequences of democratization in the regions of Russia It is the first study in the field to systematically integrate structural and agency approaches in order to account for economic social historical and international causes of democratization and to trace its consequences By focusing on the challenging and under studied topic of sub national regimes the book provides a unique perspective on regime transition and the new theoretical framework contributes to a better understanding of democratization world wide The book will be of key interest to scholars and students of democratization sub national regimes East European politics comparative politics post communism and international relations

Routledge Handbook of Russian Politics and Society Graeme Gill, 2022-12-23 This second edition of the highly respected Routledge Handbook of Russian Politics and Society both provides a broad overview of the area and highlights cutting edge research into the country Through balanced theoretical and empirical investigation each chapter examines both the Russian experience and the existing literature identifies and exemplifies research trends and highlights the richness of experience history and continued challenges inherent to this enduringly fascinating and shifting polity Politically economically and socially Russia has one of the most interesting development trajectories of any major country This Handbook answers questions about democratic transition the relationship between the market and democracy stability and authoritarian politics the development of civil society the role of crime and corruption the development of a market economy and Russia s likely place in the emerging new world order Providing a comprehensive resource for scholars students and policy makers alike this book is an essential contribution to the study of Russian studies politics Eastern European studies politics and International Relations

Russian Regional Politics under Putin and Medvedev Cameron Ross, 2014-06-03 Many authors have alluded to the unique nature of Russia s dual transition and its difficult task of simultaneously reforming its economy and polity But there is in fact a third transition still far from completed that is of no less importance the need to reconfigure central regional relations and to create a stable

and viable form of federalism There are vast economic demographic and political variations across the Russian federation Therefore an understanding of regions and the causes and consequences of cross regional diversity is a vitally important dimension of Russian politics that should not be overlooked It is only by studying regional level politics that we can gain a full understanding of the complexities of Russia's protracted transition This edited volume examines regional politics and centre regional relations over the period 2000-2010 including the most recent developments which have taken place under the new dual leadership of Medvedev and Putin All eight chapters have been written by leading experts in the field of Russian politics In addition to chapters on regional elections parties regional governors and local politics there are three chapters devoted to the important developments which are currently taking place in the Caucasus This book was published as a special issue of Europe Asia Studies

Non-Democratic Federalism and Decentralization in Post-Soviet States Irina

Busygina, Mikhail Filippov, 2023-11-30 This book challenges the common perception of authoritarian regimes as incompatible with federalism and decentralization It examines how the leaders of Russia Ukraine and Kazakhstan have managed to exploit federalism and decentralization as useful instruments to help them preserve control avoid political instability and to shift blame to the regional authorities in times of crises and policy failures The authors explain how post-Soviet authoritarian regimes balance the advantages and risks and emphasize the contradictory role of external influences and threats to the institutional design of federalism and decentralization Advancing our understanding of how the institutions of federalism and decentralization are skillfully constrained but at the same time used by authoritarian incumbents they show that federalism and decentralization matter in non-democracies though the non-democratic character of the political systems greatly modifies their effects The authors show the implication of the COVID-19 crisis and current Russian war against Ukraine for the centre regional relations in Russia Ukraine and Kazakhstan This book will be of interest to scholars and students of post-Soviet politics decentralization federalism and modern authoritarianism

Politics in Russia Thomas F Remington, 2015-07-22

Highly regarded for its comprehensive coverage up-to-date scholarship and comparative framework Politics in Russia is an authoritative overview of Russia's contemporary political system and its recent evolution Area specialist Thomas Remington focuses on four areas of change in this text: state structure regime change economic transformation and identity to offer a dynamic context for analyzing the post-Soviet era With a consistent emphasis on the intersection of politics and economics and the tension between authoritarian and democratic trends no other text guides students through the complexities and ambiguities of Russian politics today like Politics in Russia

The Legacy Structure of Russia's One Hundred Year

Transformation David Foley, 2018-11-16 Research and analysis of the post-Soviet Russian experience of political economic and social change have generally focused attention on the complications and influences of the Soviet legacy on the transition process with most early main-stream studies emphasizing the difficulties of the adoption of the institutions of democracy and a free market economy to the centralized command and control legacy structures carried over from that adjacent system to

the more recent analyses that have attempted to explain why the Putinist hybrid authoritarian democracy emerged to take control of the Russian state The complex nature of the Russian experience of political social and economic change had yet to be explained as a long term legacy analysis until now with the linkages presented in this study of the legacies and structures that have defied attempts at reform by the Bolsheviks the Soviets and the modern Republicans The political geography of Russia represents a districting system that defines the people and places and represents an influential legacy structure that has had a long reach from the Russia of Imperialism to the Russia of Putinism and the twenty first century A clearer understanding of the influences the Imperial legacy brings to the Russian transformation enables the student of post Soviet Russian transition an opportunity to contextualize the strong linkages of historical governance structures with the one hundred years of Bolshevik and Soviet system capture and the struggles of transformation faced by the government and people of Russia today

The Politics of Sub-National Authoritarianism in Russia Cameron Ross,2016-02-24 By the end of the 2000s Russia had become an increasingly authoritarian state which was characterised by the following features outrageously unfair and fraudulent elections the existence of weak and impotent political parties a heavily censored often self censored media weak rubber stamping legislatures at the national and sub national levels politically subordinated courts the arbitrary use of the economic powers of the state and widespread corruption However this picture would be incomplete without taking into account the sub national dimension of these subversive institutions and practices across the regions of the Russian Federation After the collapse of the Soviet Union sub national political developments in Russia became highly diversified and the political map of Russia s regions became multi faceted The period of 2000s demonstrated a drive on the part of the Kremlin to re centralise politics and governance to the demise of newly emerging democratic institutions at both the national and sub national levels Yet federalism and regionalism remain key elements of the research agenda in Russian politics and the overall political map of Russia s regions is far from being monotonic Rather it is similar to a complex multi piece puzzle which can only be put together through skilful crafting The 12 chapters in this collection are oriented towards the generation of more theoretically and empirically solid inferences and provide critical evaluations of the multiple deficiencies in Russia s sub national authoritarianism including principal agent problems in the relations between the layers of the power vertical unresolved issues of regime legitimacy that have resulted from manipulative electoral practices and the inefficient performance of regional and local governments The volume brings together a team of international experts on Russian regional politics which includes top scholars from Britain Canada Russia and the USA

Russian Politics Today Michael Waller,2005-07-22 This introductory text written by an established authority on communist and post communist politics describes how Vladimir Putin has turned to those with backgrounds in the military and security structures to provide stability in today s Russian Federation following the democratising reforms of Gorbachev and the ensuing instability of the Yeltsin presidency Against the background of an increasing authoritarianism which has restored features of the Soviet

political system it examines the attempts by social and economic groups to assert themselves against the state using embryonic democratic forms that fall far short of pluralism The book s fourteen chapters offer an exceptionally broad coverage It will appeal to first and second year students in higher education but its deliberately accessible style will also make it attractive to the general reader

Presidents, Oligarchs and Bureaucrats Margarete Klein,Hans-Henning Schröder,2016-04-08 Over the last decade the transition paradigm which is based on the conviction that authoritarian political systems would over time necessarily develop into democracies has been subjected to serious criticism The complex political and societal developments in the post Soviet region in particular have exposed flaws in the claim that a shift from authoritarianism to democracy is inevitable Using case studies from the post Soviet region a broad range of international contributors present an original and innovative contribution to the debate They explore the character of post Soviet regimes and review the political transformations they have experienced since the end of the Cold War Through a combination of theoretical approaches and detailed empirical analysis the authors highlight the difficulties and benefits of applying the concepts of hybrid regimes competitive authoritarianism and neopatrimonialism to the countries of the post Soviet space Through this in depth approach the authors demonstrate how Presidents Oligarchs and Bureaucrats in the region lead their countries examine the sources of their legitimacy and their relationship to the societies they govern and advance the general theoretical debate on regime change and transition paths

The Estate Origins of Democracy in Russia Tomila V. Lankina,2021-12-16 Lankina traces the origins of Russia s inequalities over the past two centuries from the Tsarist institution of estates through communism to the present day

Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation Robert A. Saunders,2019-09-20 Straddling Europe and Asia the Russian Federation is the largest country in the world and home to a panoply of religious and ethnic groups from the Muslim Tatars to the Buddhist Buryats Over the past 40 years Russia has experienced the most dramatic transformation of any modern state The second edition of Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation provides insight into this rapidly developing country This volume includes coverage of pivotal movements events and persons in the late Soviet Union 1985 1991 and contemporary Russia 1991 present This second edition of Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation contains a chronology an introduction and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has over 700 cross referenced entries on important personalities politics economy foreign relations religion and culture This book is an excellent resource for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about Russia

Red to Green Laura A. Henry,2011-03-15 Environmental activism in contemporary Russia exemplifies both the promise and the challenge facing grassroots politics in the post Soviet period In the late Soviet period Russia s environmental movement was one of the country s most dynamic and effective forms of social activism and it appeared well positioned to influence the direction and practice of post Soviet politics At present however activists scattered across Russia face severe obstacles to promoting green issues that range from wildlife protection and nuclear safety to environmental education Based on fifteen

months of fieldwork in five regions of Russia from the European west to Siberia and the Far East Red to Green goes beyond familiar debates about the strength and weakness of civil society in Russia to identify the contradictory trends that determine the political influence of grassroots movements In an organizational analysis of popular mobilization that addresses the continuing role of the Soviet legacy the influence of transnational actors and the relevance of social mobilization theory to the Russian case Laura Henry details what grassroots organizations in Russia actually do how they use the limited economic and political opportunities that are available to them and when they are able to influence policy and political practice Drawing on her in depth interviews with activists Henry illustrates how green organizations have pursued their goals by recycling Soviet era norms institutions and networks and using them in combination with transnational ideas resources and partnerships Ultimately Henry shows that the limited variety of organizations that activists have constructed within post Soviet Russia s green movement serve as a fossil record of the environmentalists innovations failures and compromises Her research suggests new ways to understand grassroots politics throughout the postcommunist region and in other postauthoritarian contexts

Authoritarian Russia Vladimir Gel'man, 2015-07-01 Russia today represents one of the major examples of the phenomenon of electoral authoritarianism which is characterized by adopting the trappings of democratic institutions such as elections political parties and a legislature and enlisting the service of the country s essentially authoritarian rulers Why and how has the electoral authoritarian regime been consolidated in Russia What are the mechanisms of its maintenance and what is its likely future course This book attempts to answer these basic questions Vladimir Gel'man examines regime change in Russia from the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 to the present day systematically presenting theoretical and comparative perspectives of the factors that affected regime changes and the authoritarian drift of the country After the fall of the Soviet Union Russia s national political elites aimed to achieve their goals by creating and enforcing of favorable rules of the game for themselves and maintaining informal winning coalitions of cliques around individual rulers In the 1990s these moves were only partially successful given the weakness of the Russian state and troubled post socialist economy In the 2000s however Vladimir Putin rescued the system thanks to the combination of economic growth and the revival of the state capacity he was able to implement by imposing a series of non democratic reforms In the 2010s changing conditions in the country have presented new risks and challenges for the Putin regime that will play themselves out in the years to come

Waiting For Reform Under Putin and Medvedev L. Jonson, S. White, 2012-08-20 In September 2009 Dmitrii Medvedev unveiled the term that was to become the defining objective of his presidency modernization The contributors to this book drawn from the leading scholars in Russian affairs focus on the contested nature of the concept of modernization and the obstacles that arose in attempting to carry it out

Illiberal Practices Jacqueline Behrend, Laurence Whitehead, 2016-06-15 What drives the uneven distribution of democratic practices at the subnational level Within subunits of a democratic federation lasting political practices that restrict choice limit debate

and exclude or distort democratic participation have been analyzed in recent scholarship as subnational authoritarianism. Once a critical number of citizens or regions band together in these practices they can leverage illiberal efforts at the federal level. This timely data driven book compares federations that underwent transitions in the first second and third waves of democratization and offers a substantial expansion of the concept of subnational authoritarianism. The eleven expert political scientists featured in this text examine the nature and scope of subnational democratic variations within six large federations including the United States India Mexico Brazil Argentina and Russia. **Illiberal Practices** makes the case that subnational units are more likely to operate by means of illiberal structures and practices than as fully authoritarian regimes. Detailed case studies examine uneven levels of citizenship in each federal system. These are distributed unequally across the different regions of the country and display semi democratic or hybrid characteristics. Appropriate for scholars and students of democratization authoritarianism federalism decentralization and comparative politics **Illiberal Practices** sheds light on the uneven extension of democracy within countries that have already democratized. Contributors: Jacqueline Behrend Andr   Borges Juli  n Durazo Herrmann Carlos Gervasoni Edward L Gibson Desmond King Inga A L Saikkonen Celina Souza Maya Tudor Laurence Whitehead Adam Ziegfeld

International Handbook on Informal Governance Thomas Christiansen, Christine Neuhold, 2012-01-01. This volume provides a welcome overview of the diverse ways in which informal practices and norms shape policy in national states the European Union and international relations. The wide range of cases that feature in the volume point to the normative and substantive importance of informality. This volume is a valuable contribution to a fascinating and under researched topic. Gary Marks University of North Carolina Chapel Hill US and VU Amsterdam The Netherlands. Acknowledging that governance relies not only on formal rules and institutions but to a significant degree also on informal practices and arrangements this unique Handbook examines and analyses a wide variety of theoretical conceptual and normative perspectives on informal governance. The insights arising from this focus on informal governance are discussed from various disciplinary perspectives within different policy domains and in a number of regional and global contexts. This Handbook is an important contribution that will put informal governance firmly on the map of academic scholarship with its review of the range of the different uses and effects of informal arrangements across the globe. Bringing together multidisciplinary contributions on informal governance arrangements this Handbook will appeal to postgraduate students in political science and scholars within the field of political science and global governance.

Governing the Locals Tomila Lankina, 2006-11-24. This book examines the impact of Russia's local self governing institutions on nationalist movement mobilization in Russia. It is the first study identifying municipalities as central to explaining aspects of ethnic or broader social activism in post Soviet Russia. Because the

Reviewing **Making And Breaking Democratic Transitions The Comparative Politics Of Russias Regions**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is truly astonishing. Within the pages of "**Making And Breaking Democratic Transitions The Comparative Politics Of Russias Regions**," an enthralling opus penned by a very acclaimed wordsmith, readers embark on an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve in to the book is central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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