


## NGOs IN THE RUSSIAN RELATIONS WITH THE EU AND WEST

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### THE FIRST PERIOD: RUSSIAN NGOS IN THE 1990S AS PART OF DEMOCRATIZATION

- Liberal legislation on the NGOs 1991 – 1995-1996
- Western funding: USA, EU, EU member states (NGOs – state institutions, capitals – regions)
- Discourse on civil society:  
NGOs as the roots (NGOs)  
No appropriate political culture (social scientists):  
collectivism, paternalism etc.


## THE SECOND PERIOD: NGOs IN THE 2000S

- 2001, November: Civil Forum in Moscow
  - 2004: new discourse on civil society (good citizens)
  - 2005-2006: Public Chamber of the Russian Federation
  - 2006-2008: the spy scandals and the first wave of the reform on NGOs
  - Cleavage between the critical and non-critical NGOs
  - NGOs in the regions (advocacy and policy implementation)
  
  - Correlation with the Russian foreign policy
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## TURN IN THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY IN THE 2000S

- 2000, March: Presidential elections, Vladimir Putin
  - Not regional, but the central mass media support
  - 2004, March: the second elections, Putin
  - 2004, September: Terrorist attack on the school in Beslan (North Ossetia)
  - 2008, March: the presidential elections, Dmitry Medvedev
  
  - Reforms:  
Building of the 'vertical of power' / federation reforms  
Turn in the international politics  
Politics towards the civil society
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## REFORMING THE RUSSIAN FEDERALISM SYSTEM IN THE 2000S

- 2000: Building of the new administrative level (7 Federal Districts with the Plenipotentiary Representatives of the President of the RF)
  - 2000: bringing the regional legislation into accordance with the federal law
  - 2000: reform of the regional authorities
  - 2000: reform of the Council of Federation, decrease of regions' influence on the decision-making process in Russia
  - 2000-2004: weakening bilateral relationships "the centre – region", centralization of the resources and competencies;
  - 2004: abolishment of governors' direct elections
  - 2003 – 2007: reform of the local self-government
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## MEDVEDEV'S PRESIDENCY

- 2008-2012: Dmitry Medvedev
  - Liberalization of the policy on NGOs
  - Modernization policy
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## THE THIRD PERIOD: RUSSIAN NGOs ON THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA

- Cooperation with the international organizations (Council of Europe)
- EU-Russian Dialogue on the Human Rights
- EU-Russia Civil Society Forum
- Attempts to influence on the Russian authority through the international actors: NGOs Forum before the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in St. Petersburg, June 2012
- Legislation and implementation of the law on “foreign agents”
- New social movements

## NEW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

- NGOs: less funding from the West, more from society and business
- Civic initiatives (monetization in 2005, urban development, environment etc.)
- Volunteering (fires in 2010)
- Radical political groups: lefts, anarchists, rights, Strategy 31, alternative students movements etc.
- Social networking, new media
- Globalization

## THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN THE FIRST AND THE SECOND PERIOD

### The third for the NGOs

- Increasing role on the international arena
- Political mobilization, interest in the politics
- Volunteering: Petersburg' Observers, Aid to Krymsk
- Value change
- Infrastructure, new forms of activism

### The second period' answers by the government:

- Campaign against the foreign agents, libel etc.
- New laws restricting public participation and mobilization: demonstrations, volunteers, Internet, etc.
- New: conservative values!

