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RUSSIA TRANSFORMED

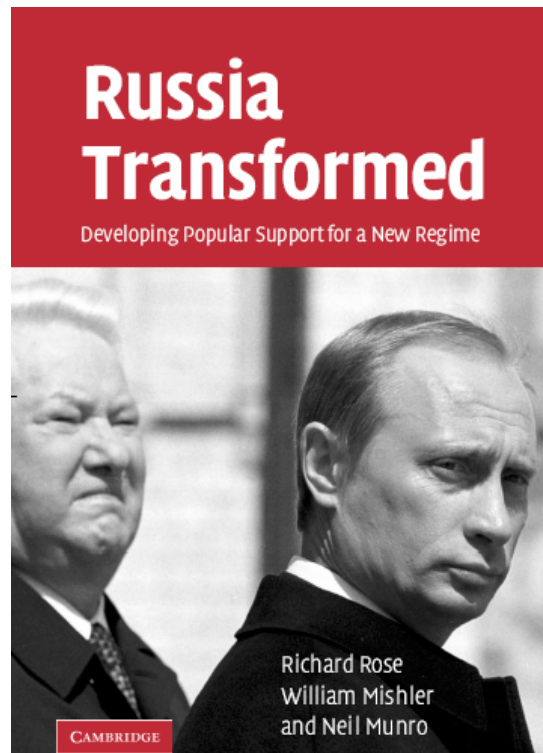
Developing Popular Support for a New Regime

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Since the fall of communism Russia has undergone a treble transformation of its political, social and economic system. The government is an autocracy in which the Kremlin manages elections and administers the law to suit its own ends. It does not provide the democracy that most citizens desire. Given a contradiction between what Russians want and what they get, do they support their government and, if so, why? Using the New Russia Barometer - a unique set of public opinion surveys from 1992 to 2005 - this book shows that it is the passage of time that has been most important in developing support for the new regime. Although there remains great dissatisfaction with the regimes corruption, it has become accepted as a lesser evil to alternatives. The government appears stable today, but will be challenged by constitutional term limits forcing President Putin to leave office in 2008.



Advance praise from James L. Gibson

Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government, Washington University in St. Louis

"Every serious scholar of comparative politics knows the value of paying attention to new research reports by Rose and Mishler, since these political scientists have contributed mightily to our theoretical and empirical understanding of the processes of transformation in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union - indeed, none has contributed more. With this landmark work on the Soviet transition, Rose, Mishler, and Munro provide the definitive analysis of how Soviet society changed, at the grassroots level, in the hearts and minds of the citizenry. Perhaps never in political science has such an impressive collection of original data been assembled and only rarely in political science have we learned as much from survey data, not just about the changes that have engulfed the former Soviet Union, but more generally about democratization, and most generally about fundamental processes of political change. Outstanding scholarship, from outstanding scholars!"



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Advance Praise

"Few, if any, students of post-Soviet Russia have a greater experience and skill in telling with numbers the story of the continuing giant transformation than Richard Rose, William Mishler, and Neil Munro. Their research is both scrupulous and insightful."

Leon Aron

Director of Russian Studies at the American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC and author of *Yeltsin: A Revolutionary Life* (2000)

"This is a landmark study on two counts. First, it gives a detailed empirical account of the development of popular regime support in post-Communist Russia. The evidence displayed comes from a unique database which combines fourteen representative sample surveys covering the period from January 1992 to January 2005. Second, and even more important, the study's theoretical approach and the models proposed are of general relevance for the dynamic analysis of mass response to regime transformation. A 'must read' for those interested in Russian studies and comparative research on political behavior and change."

Hans-Dieter Klingemann

Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)

"Another treat from Richard Rose and colleagues - a study full of ideas as well as numbers, which will be required reading for all specialists on Russian politics, and which has a lot for comparativists as well. I particularly like the discussion of the supply and demand of regimes, and this is certainly the best place to start for an understanding of the choices that Russians will face in 2008 when Putin comes to the end of his second presidential term and stands down. Or doesn't."

Stephen White

Professor of International Politics, University of Glasgow

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