

Liberal theory emanates from the assumption that human beings stride for liberty, which leads to societal contracts that are based on the freedom of both individuals and collectivities. For years, this view has been hegemonic in the sense that scholars and a “Western” community in general have favored liberal democracy as the normatively superior form of government in the post-socialist space.

Generations of external democratizers have, in many cases with very limited success, tried to implant elements of the democratic toolbox like “free and fair elections”, judiciary assistance, and support for civil society. Despite these efforts, larger parts of the post-socialist space have not developed into the direction of liberal or democratic rule. Instead, countries like Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Uzbekistan have established authoritarian forms of government that are characterized by personalization, high levels of corruption favoring the state elites, and political repression.

At the same time, these regimes seem to be stable not only in the sense that their leaders have survived for a considerable amount of time. Many indicators also show us that the regimes are, at least in big parts of the according societies, accepted by the people. The workshop enquires into this strange con-figuration: Despite an obviously authoritarian character of political rule, majorities of the population in Eastern Europe seem to express at least partial support to the regimes and leaders that exert authoritarian rule. Are we facing a state of “legitimate repression”? And: What are the reasons for that improbable constellation?

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Venue

European University Viadrina,
Logenstr. 12
15230 Frankfurt (Oder)
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Thursday: Logensaal
Friday/Saturday: Seminarraum 101/102

Conference Language

English

Registration

office@dgo-online.org

Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der



EUROPA-UNIVERSITÄT
VIADRINA
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Frankfurter Institut für
Transformationsstudien



► Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Osteuropakunde e.V.

International Conference

Legitimate Repression in Post-Soviet States?

November 21-23, 2013
Frankfurt (Oder)

Thursday, 21 November

6.00 p.m. Panel discussion: Between discontent and disaffection – disenchantment with democracy in East and West

FEDOR LUKYANOV, Russia in Global Affairs, Moscow
GÜNTER VERHEUGEN, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

HANS-JÜRGEN PUHLE, University of Frankfurt /Main

Chair: ANDREI MELVILLE, Higher School of Economics, Moscow

8.00 p.m. Reception

Friday, 22 November

9.30 a.m. Workshop opening

GUNTER PLEUGER, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

HEIKE DÖRRENBÄCHER, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ost-europakunde e. V., Berlin

9.45 a.m. Opening lecture: On the improbable – can repression be legitimate?

TIMM BEICHEL, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

10.30 a.m. Coffee Break

11.00 a.m. Panel: The political theory of legitimate authoritarianism

DIRK JÖRKE, University of Greifswald
From Herodot to Montesquieu – why big states cannot be democratic

VALERY LEDYAEV, Higher School of Economics, Moscow
Power, authority and legitimacy

Chair: HANS-JÜRGEN PUHLE, University of Frankfurt/Main

1.00 p.m. Lunch

2.30 p.m. Panel: Autocratic endurance in the post-soviet space: comparative aspects

ANDREI MELVILLE, Higher School of Economics, Moscow
How durable/ vulnerable are post-Soviet hybrid regimes and new autocracies?

JOHANNES GERSCHEWSKI, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
Why do autocracies survive?

Chair: KLAUS MÜLLER, AGH University of Science & Technology, Kraków

4.30 p.m. Panel: Paternalism, repression and aggression – the socio-psycho-logical dimension

BERND SIMON, University of Kiel
When do individuals accept paternalism and repression?

MARK URNOV, Higher School of Economics, Moscow
Repression-generating social environment: impulses of aggressiveness and social institutions-transmitters of aggression

Chair: SUSANN WORSCHKECH, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

7.00 p.m. Dinner

Saturday, 23 November

9.00 a.m. Panel: Russian cultural history and post-soviet political culture

ANNETTE WERBERGER, European University Viadrina
Representations of political power in Russian literature and culture

BORIS MAKARENKO, Center for Political Technologies, Moscow

The demand side of non-democracy: political culture, agency factor in the elites and the public

CAMERON ROSS, University of Dundee

Sources of legitimacy in a hybrid regime: the paradox of Putin's popular autocracy

Chair: FELIX ACKERMANN, European Humanities University, Vilnius

11.00 a.m. Coffee Break

11.30 a.m. Panel: The actors of repression: state and security forces

ANDREAS HEINEMANN-GRÜDER, Academy of Conflict Transformation, Bonn

Security forces and their role for the survival of fragile and authoritarian regimes. The case of Central Asia

NIKOLAI PETROV, Higher School of Economics, Moscow
Technologies of political regime legitimization in present day Russia

Chair: HANS-HENNING SCHRÖDER, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin

1.00 p.m. End of the conference/Lunch