
Developments in **SOVIET & POST-SOVIET Politics**



**Stephen White, Alex Pravda,
and Zvi Gitelman, editors**

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Developments in Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics

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Stephen White

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Preface

In our preface to the first edition of this book we explained that this was above all a guide for students, but hoped it might be considered more than 'just' a textbook. As befitted a volume on developments, we made no attempt to cover every aspect of what could still be described as the Soviet political system; our aim, then and now, was to allow ourselves a little more room in which to concentrate upon the more important changes in a rapidly evolving system, and to deal with the (often controversial) issues of interpretation to which they give rise. We also thought it proper, dealing with issues of this kind, to allow for a diversity of approach within a common framework.

As we wrote in 1990, our assumptions about Soviet politics were 'changing almost daily'. But not even we could claim to have foretold the changes with which we deal in this second edition, with the end of Communist Party rule and of the USSR itself. This is accordingly a very different book: all of the chapters have been rewritten, most of them are entirely different, and several of the contributors as well as the subjects with which they deal are new to this edition. Our aim, however, remains the same: to offer an interpretive framework for what is now a group of political systems whose evolution – in an age of nuclear weapons and telecommunications – matters almost as much to the outside world as to their own citizens.

Once again, for this second edition, we would like to thank our chapter authors for their contributions and for their willingness to provide us with revisions almost to the date of publication so that this book can be as up-to-date as possible. We would like particularly to thank our publisher, Steven Kennedy, whose commitment to this series and to this book in particular has been a great inspiration. We hope that not just our students, but a wider circle of scholars and members of the general public, will find that the outcome justifies the effort that has been invested in it.

Stephen White
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Zvi Gitelman

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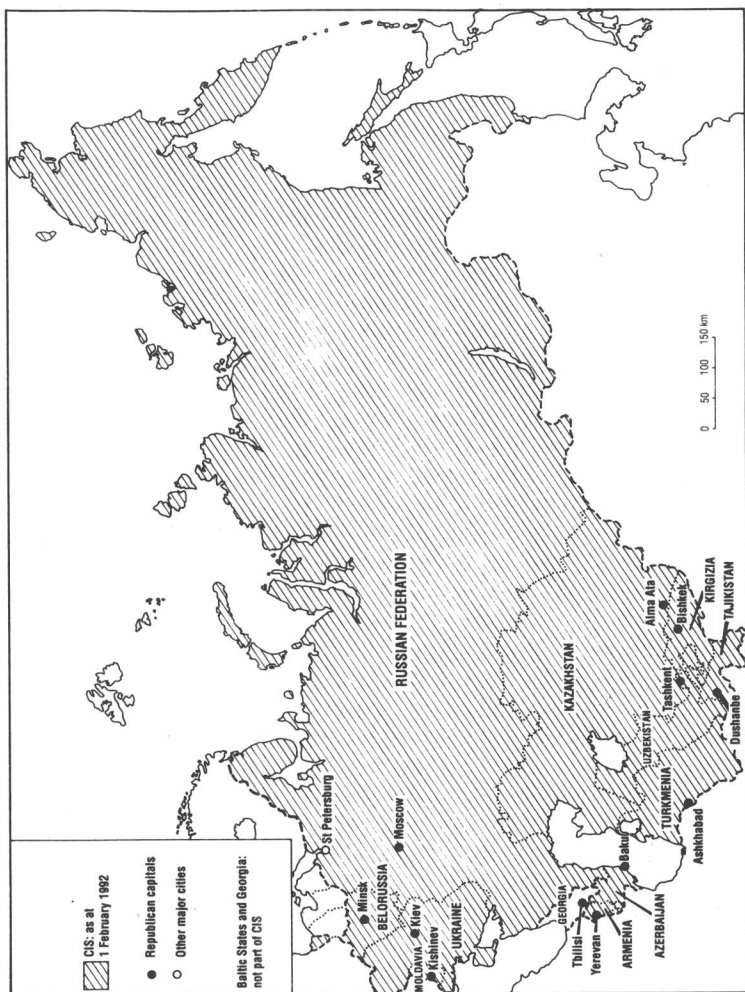
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Glossary of Abbreviations and Terms

<i>Advokatura</i>	Advocacy
<i>Apparat</i>	Party administrative apparatus
<i>Apparatchik</i>	Full-time party official
<i>Arbitrazh</i>	Tribunal system for disputes between state enterprises
<i>Bolshevik</i>	Radical ('majority') faction of Russian Social Democratic Labour (later Communist) Party
CC	Central Committee
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency (USA)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CPD	Congress of People's Deputies
CPE	Centrally planned economy
CPSU	Communist Party of the Soviet Union
CSCE	Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
<i>Glasnost'</i>	Openness, publicity
GNP	Gross national product
<i>Gorkom</i>	City party committee
<i>Gosagroprom</i>	State Agroindustrial Committee
<i>Gosplan</i>	State Planning Committee
<i>Gospriemka</i>	State quality control
<i>Gossnab</i>	State Committee on Supplies
<i>Goszakaz</i>	State order
INF	Intermediate-range nuclear force
<i>Ispolkom</i>	Executive committee of a soviet
Jurisconsult	Legal adviser to ministry, enterprise, etc.
<i>Kadry</i>	Cadres, staff
KGB	Committee of State Security
<i>Khozraschet</i>	Cost accounting
<i>Kolkhoz</i>	Collective farm
Komsomol	Young Communist League

<i>Krai</i>	Territory
<i>Menshevik</i>	Moderate (minority) faction of the Russian Social Democratic Labour (later Communist) Party
<i>NEP</i>	New Economic Policy (1921–8)
<i>Nomenklatura</i>	List of party-controlled posts
<i>Oblast</i>	Region, province
<i>Obshchestvennik</i>	Activist
<i>Okrug</i>	Area, district
<i>Perestroika</i>	Restructuring
<i>Plenum</i>	Full (plenary) meeting
<i>Podmena</i>	Substitution, supplantation
<i>PPO</i>	Primary party organisation
<i>Pravo</i>	Law (in general sense)
<i>Pravo kontrolya</i>	Party's right of supervision
<i>Raikom</i>	District party committee
<i>RSFSR</i>	Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic (now Russian Federation)
<i>Sblizhenie</i>	Drawing together (of nationalities)
<i>Sliyanie</i>	Fusion (of nationalities)
<i>USSR</i>	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
<i>Val</i>	Gross output
<i>WTO</i>	Warsaw Treaty Organisation
<i>Zakon</i>	(Statute) law
<i>Zastoi</i>	Stagnation



MAP 1 The Commonwealth of Independent States

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