State and Media in Russia: What's Propping Up “Putin’s Majority”

with

Sergei Parkhomenko, Radio Journalist, *Ekho Moskvy* (Russia)

This presentation will be conducted in Russian.

The aim of this presentation is to analyze the formation and maintenance of the state propaganda machine in “Putin's Russia.” Its creation is considered the most important condition for developing the doctrine of Russia’s present-day nationalism and isolationism. Participants will observe the evolution of the Russian state's relationship with journalism as a profession, with media as a business sphere, and with informational activity as a facet of societal life. Parkhomenko offers a discussion about why, over the course of the last fifteen years, authorities in Russia have all the more critically viewed this sphere as a threat to their existence. He tries to understand if new “civic media” (i.e. self-organized informational online portals) will be able to resist the government's attempts at establishing total control over information and public opinion.

Sergey Parkhomenko is a well-known Russian journalist, media executive, and publisher. In 1995 he founded *Itogi*, the first current affairs weekly in post-Soviet Russia, in close partnership with *Newsweek*. In 2009 he took the lead of *Vokrug Sveta*, Russia’s oldest continuously-published magazine, nicknamed the ‘Russian National Geographic.’ In the last three years his work has mostly involved organizing crowdsourcing projects, especially *Dissernet* (Dissertation Web), a civil network community dedicated to unearthing and fighting abuses of Russian science and education systems, and *Poslednyi Adres* (Last Address), a civil campaign helping people create a collective memorial dedicated to victims of political repression.

Monday, October 12, 2015
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E St. NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/parkhomenko