Russia’s “Winter of Discontent” triggered hopes that a “snow revolution” might be in the making. For a while it did look as though the regime was going to retreat. But today little remains of such hopes. The next “window of opportunity” is not likely to arrive before 2018. The remaining question is if there has been a sufficient shift in values and expectations to warrant optimism about true change next time around.

Stefan Hedlund is Professor of Soviet and East European Studies at Uppsala University, Sweden. A long-standing specialist on Russia, and on the Former Soviet Union more broadly, his current research interest lies in economic theories of institutional change. As a complement, he also has a devouring interest in Russian history, which he has sought to blend with more standard theories of economic change. He has been a frequent contributor to the media, and has published extensively on matters relating to Russian economic reform and the attempted transition to democracy and market economy more generally. His scholarly publications include some 20 books and close to 200 journal and magazine articles, to which may be added more than 300 op-ed pieces. His most recent publications include Russian Path Dependence (Routledge, 2005), and Invisible Hands, Russian Experience, and Social Science: Approaches to Understanding Systemic Failure (Cambridge University Press, 2011).

Thursday, April 11, 2013
4:00 – 5:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/Hedlund

This event is on the record