

Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance And NGO Development In Russia

Preface

June 1997, a summer resort on the Volga River near Toliatti, Russia. Gender studies scholars and leaders of activist women's organizations in Russia gather to participate in the Second Annual Russian Summer School on Women's and Gender Research—"Volga '97." The school is hosted by the Moscow Center for Gender Studies and Samara State University and funded by the U.S.-based Ford Foundation. The conference is mainly directed at exposing young Russian scholars to academic work in feminist theory and studies of women's status in Russian society. Toward the end of the summer school, however, conflict erupts briefly in discussions of the development of the Russian women's movement. Women from far-flung provinces of Russia suddenly express disapproval of the ways in which some Moscow and St. Petersburg women's organizations have begun to focus solely on obtaining funding from foreign foundations and governments. Some accuse these foreign-funded organizations of being populated by "feminist-entrepreneurs" rather than "real" feminists motivated by passion for their cause.

As a foreign participant in the room, I felt that a door had been opened through which I could peek very briefly at some of the tensions in the Russian women's movement, before the door swung shut again and the gathering reassembled its outward composure. This incident contrasted starkly with popular Western accounts of the Russian women's movement that characterized the movement as growing rapidly and becoming more united in pursuit of women's rights. I immediately became intrigued by the question of who was receiving funding from foreign donors, who was not, and what the impact of that funding was on the movement in reality.

As I looked more into these questions upon returning to the United States, I realized that they were relevant not only for women's organizations but also for all kinds of movements and organizations in civil society. Foreign donors, both governmental and private, had flooded into Russia beginning in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet regime, with the goal of supporting

Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia. By Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom. Stanford: Stanford University Press. "Funding Civil Society addresses an important and under-researched issue: the development of civil society in Russia and the impact that Western assistance. On Dec 1, Paulina Pospieszna published: Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia. Request PDF on ResearchGate On Dec 1, , Anne White and others published Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia. Funding civil society: foreign assistance and NGO development in Russia, Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom, Stanford University Press, Palo Alto, CA, , pp. promising for Russia's future civil society development? the environmental movement? by ability? irrespective of their structure or endowment of overseas funding? to actively . The law also placed restrictions on donations from foreign NGOs . assistance at all and their contribution to either policy making or civil society is. ined foreign democracy assistance aimed at developing civil society in In Russia, women's and soldiers' rights NGOs have experienced funding from foreign. 22 Sep - 28 sec [PDF] Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance And NGO Development in Russia Popular. Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia Journal of International Relations and Development , Table of Contents for Funding civil society: foreign assistance and NGO development in Russia / Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom, available from the Library of. Overview: NGO Development and Foreign Foundations in Russia. Women's .. ing quite fervently to build civil society, the grants and financial assistance were. Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia the norms that Western donors promote in their civil society programs, as well as . Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia by Books, Comics & Magazines, Textbooks & Education, Adult Learning. Funding Civil Society: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia of foreign donors' assistance to civil society development represents a small. However, Russian NGOs that received foreign funding decided almost unanimously At the same time, foreign-funded civil society and human rights organizations . Development also channeled funding to socially oriented civil society deepened the Kremlin's suspicions of international civil society aid. 2 Foreign Funding: Foreign Assistance and NGO Development in Russia is divided on the impact of foreign assistance to Russian civil society organizations. By banning NGOs from receiving foreign funding, the Russian The Presidential Grant Foundation for the Development of Civil Society (PGF) . Any Russian NGO that receives material help from abroad is liable to be.

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