

# Social Movements, Elections and Ephemera Collections

## Primary source materials from elections in the former Soviet Union

Democracy can be a lurching process, with the beginning clear but the end never near. Because democracies constantly adapt to endure, they can seem messy. Political campaigns and elections create a unique but fleeting flotsam of materials that capture this essence of democracy in action. The democratic experiment since the collapse of the Soviet Union is no different. Elections in these countries still remain one of the most important sources of information for outside scholars and analysts to gauge both evolving voter sentiment and tectonic electoral shifts as ruling parties and opposition groups put out reams of campaign materials to influence voters.

East View's Social Movements, Elections and Ephemera series brings to the researcher an unprecedented collection of fleeting election material from countries of the former Soviet Union, preserved for easy digital access. Representing a vast repository of primary source material from both presidential and parliamentary elections, this series embodies a unique "first stop" for policy analysts and observers of electoral politics in the countries of the CIS. Central to this series is the unique election ephemera including party programs, propaganda materials, special newspaper editions, handbills, sticks, and literature produced by all political parties or candidates.

East View's Social Movements, Elections, Ephemera series eliminates the need to acquire, catalog and shelve thousands of campaign materials that are fleeting by nature and challenging to obtain. Examples of typical materials available by country and type of election (presidential or parliamentary) include:

- Candidate biographies and financial disclosures
- Campaign statements, stickers and advertisements
- Complaints of fraud and election irregularities
- Election programs and political party charters
- Photographs from campaign events
- Political posters and brochures
- Precinct address lists and protocols
- Voter bulletins, handouts and leaflets

The collection of these materials is done in primarily two ways:

- East View researchers on the ground (sometimes in adverse political circumstances such as during the Euromaidan protests), systematically canvass prime locations (government offices, party headquarters, mass protests) to collect all physical materials—including handouts, posters, pamphlets, and special election issues of newspapers. Occasionally our staff may even photograph mass demonstrations or other important events to add important context to the materials collected.
- Back at headquarters, East View staff scours through the Internet looking for relevant websites, social media accounts, etc. downloading relevant material (statistical and financial data, official documents and pronouncements that are for various reasons available only online).

After the collection of all the relevant materials, our staff analyzes and classifies what is central for the collection from what is

tangential and lacks intrinsic research value. All significant materials are then scanned, "OCRd," and converted into an archivable PDF with searchable metadata created for every item, including the date of the creation of the item (where available), the date and the location of when and where said item was obtained by East View, a brief descriptor of the item, the type of the item (poster, brochure, booklet etc.), as well as its size and the amount of pages the item contains. After the collection is uploaded into East View's Universal Database platform, it is indexed to make the database searchable by type and by source. Finally, each item is assigned a permanent URL for citation purposes.

## Available Collections

### **Abkhazia**

Parliamentary Election, 2017

### **Armenia**

Parliamentary Election, 2012

Presidential Election, 2013

Parliamentary Election, 2017

Velvet Revolution, 2018

### **Azerbaijan**

Presidential Election, 2018

### **Belarus**

Presidential Election, 2010

Parliamentary Election, 2012

Presidential Election, 2015

Parliamentary Election, 2016

Parliamentary Election, 2019

### **Georgia**

Parliamentary Election, 2012

Presidential Election, 2013

Parliamentary Election, 2016

Presidential Election, 2018

### **Kyrgyzstan**

Parliamentary Election, 2015

Presidential Election, 2017

### **Russia**

Russia in Transition, 1990s

Soviet Coup Attempt, 1991

Russia Referendum, 1993

Constitutional Crisis, 1993

State Duma Election, 1993

State Duma Election, 1999

State Duma Election, 2007

Presidential Election, 2008

State Duma Election, 2011

Presidential Election, 2012

State Duma Election, 2016

Presidential Election, 2018

All-Russia Vote on the Constitution, 2020

### **South Ossetia**

Presidential Election, 2012

### **Tajikistan**

Parliamentary Election, 2015

### **Ukraine**

Crimea Elections, 1994

Parliamentary Election, 2012

Euromaidan Protests, 2013-2014

Parliamentary Election, 2014

Presidential Election, 2014

Presidential Election, 2019

Parliamentary Election, 2019

For more information or trial access, please contact [info@eastview.com](mailto:info@eastview.com) or visit <https://www.eastview.com/request-trial>

Social Movements, Elections and Ephemera Collections - <https://www.eastview.com/resources/e-collections/social-movements-elections-ephemera/> - April 14th, 2021 10:09 am UTC. Product information subject to change without notice. Please refer to [eastview.com](http://eastview.com) or contact your East View representative for the most current information.