Post-Perestroika Newspapers

Sponsored by the Center for Research Libraries

Equal parts thrilling and disorienting, the late Soviet and early post-Soviet period was one of the most tumultuous times in modern Russian history. Defined by the failures of central planning and political upheavals that gripped the Soviet Union from the Baltics to the Caucasus to Central Asia, it was a period marked by uncertainty, but also full of new opportunities.

The rapid economic and political liberalization that followed the collapse of the vast Soviet empire opened new frontiers for economic entrepreneurship that had been stifled during the seven decades of central planning. However, the emerging reality was more akin to the wild west than to anything resembling the democratic transformation that Russian reformers had hoped for. The emergence of a new oligarchic class that successfully gained control over vast industries with little to no benefit to the general population became perhaps the most distinctive feature of post-Soviet Russia – in a way determining the trajectory of the country’s political culture for the next three decades. It also paved the way for the emergence of the rule of Vladimir Putin and the securocrats.

The Post-Perestroika Newspapers collection traces the evolution of post-Soviet Russia, with coverage beginning in the mid 1980s and extending well into the twenty-first century. Established soon before or soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the newspapers in this collection document the changes taking place in Russia, some with breathtaking speed, all the while embracing innovative journalistic methods and standards that were a far cry from the journalism of the Soviet period. These newspapers, some of which had a relatively short lifespan, nevertheless provide important and critical insight into the events and personalities that defined post-Soviet Russian politics and history. Comprised of over a dozen titles, the collection is a unique treasure trove for students and historians of one of the most fascinating periods of Russian history.

The Post-Perestroika Newspapers collection is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Center for Research Libraries and its member institutions. The collection is available for free to all CRL members institutions. Non-CRL institutions that wish to purchase the Post-Perestroika Newspapers collection should contact us for more information.

Access the collection at https://gpa.eastview.com/crl/ppn

Current Titles

Titles in the Post-Perestroika Newspapers collection include:

- Chas pik (Час пик)
- Delovoi Mir (Деловой мир)
About the GPA CRL Alliance

East View and the Center for Research Libraries have created the GPA CRL Alliance to steer the development of a series of thematically designed databases for East View's Global Press Archive program to meet the specific needs and priorities of CRL members. Launched in 2019, the charter phase of the GPA CRL Alliance resulted in the creation of nine collections, encompassing hundreds of newspaper titles and totaling over 4.5 million pages, of which 3 million pages are fully Open Access.

The first of these collections – Late Qing and Republican-Era Chinese Newspapers, Middle Eastern and North African Newspapers, Independent and Revolutionary Mexican Newspapers, Imperial Russian Newspapers, Southeast Asian Newspapers, and South Asian Newspapers – are all Open Access collections and are the result of close collaboration between East View and CRL, with CRL advisors selecting and curating the content, and CRL members funding the collections to facilitate global Open Access.

Encouraged by the positive results of Phase 1, a second phase of the GPA CRL Alliance is now underway. The continuation of this highly successful academic-commercial partnership between CRL and East View will serve our shared values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and continue to extend access to global newspaper collections to the widest possible audience. Fundraising for Phase 2 has ended but CRL members are still encouraged to contribute to the program.

Visit https://www.eastview.com/resources/gpa/crl-alliance/ to learn more.

For more information or trial access, please contact info@eastview.com or visit https://www.eastview.com/request-trial

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