

UNIT 3: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Standard 1 (Institutions) : I can describe the structure and function of political institutions in Russia's political system and explain how they reflect the allocation of power in Russia

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> authoritarian regime | <input type="checkbox"/> federal republic | <input type="checkbox"/> tandemocracy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USSR | <input type="checkbox"/> oblasts | <input type="checkbox"/> code law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Assembly | <input type="checkbox"/> Federation Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Constitutional Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Duma | <input type="checkbox"/> asymmetric federalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Supreme Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Council | <input type="checkbox"/> semi-presidential system | <input type="checkbox"/> super districts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> parliamentary-hybrid system | <input type="checkbox"/> dual executive | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> democratization | |

PEOPLE TO KNOW:

- ☐ Vladimir Putin
- ☐ Josef Stalin
- ☐ Leonid Brezhnev
- ☐ Mikhail Gorachev
- ☐ Dmitri Medvedev
- ☐ Boris Yeltsen

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. How is government power divided in Russia between national and regional governments?
2. Who holds the executive power, how is he/she chosen, what is the term, how is his/her power limited and how is he/she removed?
3. What is the function and structure of the legislative branch, how are members chosen, what are their terms, how are they removed, and what are the checks on legislative power?
4. What is the source of law in Russia?
5. What is the function and structure of the judicial branch, how are the members chosen, and what are the checks on judicial power?

Standard 2 (Political Culture): I can explain how political culture impacts citizen behavior and shapes the relationship between a state and its citizens.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> multinational state | <input type="checkbox"/> rural | <input type="checkbox"/> siloviki |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chechens | <input type="checkbox"/> urban | <input type="checkbox"/> patron-clientelism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tartars | <input type="checkbox"/> Roskomnadzor | <input type="checkbox"/> statism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Russian Orthodox Church | <input type="checkbox"/> RT | <input type="checkbox"/> nomenklatura |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crimea | <input type="checkbox"/> Echo Russia | <input type="checkbox"/> personality cult |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ukraine | | |

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. What is the role of civil society in Russia and what are there limits placed on it?
2. What factors have affected political culture in Russia?
3. How do political ideologies affect how Russia treats its citizens and deals with specific problems like corruption?
4. Is political participation in Russia voluntary or coerced, and what is the nature of political participation in Russia?
5. What ideals and/or policies in Russia support political participation of citizens?
6. To what extent are civil rights and civil liberties protected/restricted in Russia?
7. What role does the media play in the political culture of Russia?
8. What political and social cleavages are found in Russia and how do those cleaves affect voting behavior, legitimacy and stability in Russia?
9. Identify separatist movements that impact the stability and legitimacy of the Russian Federation.

Standard 3 (Electoral & Party Systems): I can describe electoral and party systems and explain how those systems are influenced by social movements, interest groups and pluralist and corporate interests.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> proportional representation (PR) model | <input type="checkbox"/> Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) | <input type="checkbox"/> transitional democracy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> two-ballot format | <input type="checkbox"/> Yabloko | <input type="checkbox"/> municipal filter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> absolute majority | <input type="checkbox"/> A Just Russia (Fair Russia) | <input type="checkbox"/> referendum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> United Russia | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Chamber | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Public Chamber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dominant party system | <input type="checkbox"/> corporatism | <input type="checkbox"/> Slavophile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communist Party of the Russian Federation (KPRF) | <input type="checkbox"/> Nashi | <input type="checkbox"/> Westernizer |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> illiberal democracy | |

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. How are members of the Duma elected?
2. How are members of the Federation Council selected? What are the advantages and disadvantages of this system?
3. Describe Russia's party system.
4. How do minor parties and regional parties achieve representation and power within Russia's party system?
5. What is unique about Russia's process of selecting a prime minister?
6. How has the Russian government responded to protests by members of the LGBTQ community?
7. How does the lack of competition between Russia's political parties affect representation and political participation?

Standard 4 (Economic Influences): I can explain how global forces impact political policies and behaviors.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communism | <input type="checkbox"/> Perestroika | <input type="checkbox"/> demokratizatsiya |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mixed economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Shock Therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> loan for shares scandal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> command economy | <input type="checkbox"/> state-owned enterprises (SOEs) | <input type="checkbox"/> NATO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> collectivization | <input type="checkbox"/> Glasnost | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Five Year Plans | | |

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. How have global economic and technological forces influenced political policies, behavior and culture in Russia?
2. How has Russia managed control of natural resources? How has that control resulted in wealth concentration?
3. How has globalization influenced domestic policies in Russia?
4. What is a rentier state? What are the advantages and disadvantages for Russia of being a rentier state?
5. How has Russia responded to the demographic pressures of shrinking population.
6. How has Russia approached membership in supranational organizations?
7. What impact has Putin's re-nationalization of oil and natural gas industries and limits on foreign invested had on Russia?