

**PUTIN'S  
“CORRECTIVE  
PROJECT”: AN  
EXAMINATION OF  
STATE REPRESSION  
AGAINST  
NONGOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS**

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Research Question

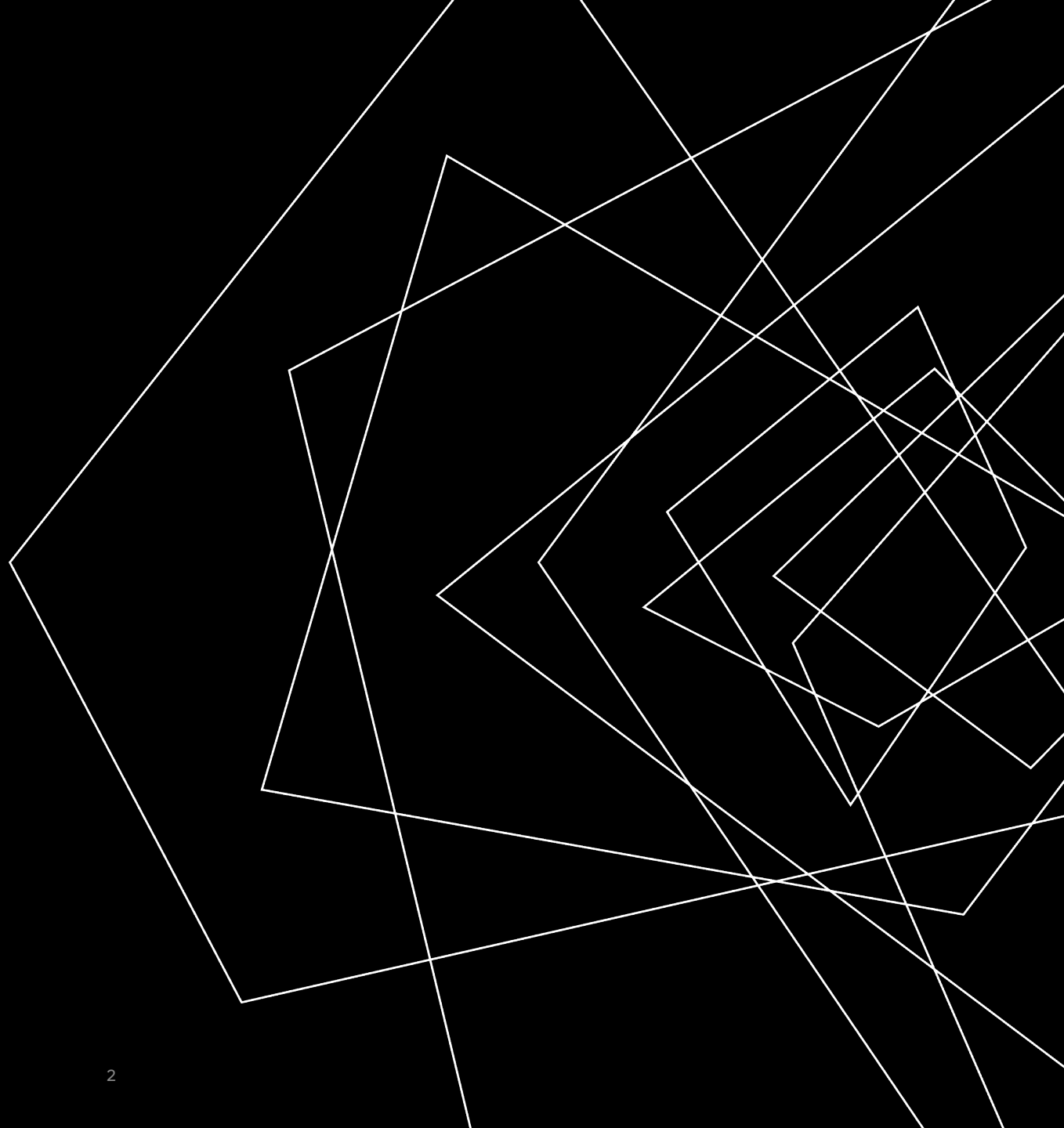
Key Literature Review Findings


Historical Context

Methodology and Framework

Case Studies and Comparisons

Future Areas of Research





RESEARCH QUESTION: WHY HAS THE  
RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT GONE TO SUCH  
GREAT LENGTHS TO REPRESS  
NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
SINCE 2006?

# LITERATURE REVIEW

- What are NGOs and how do they work?
  - Non-profit actors
  - Outside boundaries of states
  - Framing and Transnational Advocacy Networks
- Reasons for Repression
  - Economic damage
  - Human rights violations and reputation
  - Upholding obligations to treaties
- What does repression look like?
  - Roadblocks
  - Targeting of activists and organizations
  - “Lawfare”
  - Securitization

1760-1917 \_\_\_\_\_ Tsarist Russia

1917-1960 \_\_\_\_\_ State-run organizations and the USSR

1960-2000 \_\_\_\_\_ Experimentation, Collapse, and Post-Soviet Russia

2000 to Now \_\_\_\_\_ Contemporary Russia

# RUSSIA'S HISTORY OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

# METHODOLOGY AND FRAMEWORK

## Methodology

- Qualitative approach
- Case Study Comparisons
- Analysis of stated goals or aims, published materials, actions and demonstrations, and state response

## Framework

- Looking to compare cases based on efforts relating to nationalism, information, and political activity
- Criteria and operationalization of different factors

## Case Studies

1. The Moscow Helsinki Group
2. Memorial
3. The Anti-Corruption Foundation
4. The Youth Democratic Anti-Fascist Movement “NASHI”

# CASE STUDIES AND COMPARISONS

The Moscow Helsinki Group	Memorial	The Anti-Corruption Foundation	NASHI	Comparisons
<p>Human rights monitoring group</p> <p>Published reports on state of human rights in Russia</p> <p>Compliance with “foreign agent” law</p> <p>Efforts to encourage citizen involvement</p> <p>Liquidation by Moscow City Court</p>	<p>Historically focused human rights NGO</p> <p>Documentation of repression under USSR and Gulag system</p> <p>Branded as “foreign agent”</p> <p>Liquidation and harassment of activists</p>	<p>NGO focused on ending corruption in politics</p> <p>Reports and exposés on prominent figures</p> <p>Public demonstrations and protests</p> <p>Navalny’s arrest, “Foreign agent”, extremist organization, and terrorist organization</p>	<p>“Corrective project” for NGOs</p> <p>Organization focused on recruiting apolitical youth</p> <p>Wide range of topics</p> <p>Rallies, protests, and public demonstrations</p> <p>Shut down to make way for other political projects</p>	<p>“Legitimate” vs “Illegitimate” political activity</p> <p>Addressing political threat</p> <p>(State) Control of information</p> <p>Control over historical narratives</p>



# SIGNIFICANCE AND FUTURE RESEARCH

- Access to Information
- Different approach to studying repression within Russia
- Future research: different types of NGOs; state control over information; development of/changes in repression in wake of War in Ukraine





# THANK YOU!

Any questions?

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