**What must be done?**

* **Support core human rights agenda**

Ensure well-organized & effective human rights groups (and individual activists) have financial and legal support

Security

Maintain a flexible approach, depending on how new laws will be implemented

Fund those orgs that have no chance of getting state money (e.g. LGBT)

Maintain “base tier” of essential groups (core funding), without whom the third sector could not effectively function, and then provide project funding for expert groups on particular themes; enable the work of independent activists

* **Responding to the “worst-case scenario”**

Continued monitoring and follow-up on procedural implementation of the laws

Could the Solidarity Platform be a structure to put aside funds from all our programs for potential of negative outcomes in the near future?

Other international examples we can learn from?

*Closed Societies Working Group*

What are our obligations to targeted groups?

* **Enable self-organization and self-mobilization**

Enable the work of independent activists

*Platforms for organization – physical and virtual*

*Legal support and security*

*Don’t force them into organizing into an NGO*

*Do “graduates” of programs like YHRM and HRRC schools need seed funding?*

Know-how and resources for those that want to engage in activism

*Peer learning from those who already have the skills*

Encourage pre-political activity

*Citizen interest in “ordinary” issues (fix my street etc.)*

*CAVEAT: Young activist groups are actually the ones that are often at odds with and threatening to minorities/marginalized populations. Local activism can draw upon themes of national and Russian exceptionalism*

* **Integrate Russia into global debates**

*Address Russian detachment from international political realities*

*Provide a wider platform for Russian voices on issues beyond Russia*

*Link with colleagues who work in fSU region AND look beyond the fSU (for example, growing conservatism in Europe – parallels on some issues)*

*Potential topics: Internet freedom, global warming, …*

* **Advocacy**

International

*Pressure on Russian officials has more impact from Europe than from the US*

*Germany has been tightening its stance on Russia; Poland’s growing weight*

*Council of Europe (other “closing”/closed countries also members)*

*Russia’s new membership in WTO (push rule of law or corruption work?)*

*Link with Eurasian partners*

Domestic

*Local government (post-Medvedev opportunities – political parties; election of governors); potential for change at the very local (village!) level*

*Training on basic skills, followed by support for specific projects/campaigns*

* Capacity building and strengthening the third sector

Fundraising

*Increasing organizations’ fundraising skills, esp. domestic fundraising*

*Supporting resource centers that assist NGOs*

*Getting more EU money to Russian partners (difficult application process)*

*Influencing other donors*

*Enabling a culture of philanthropy (still at low levels – no tax breaks for donations – but evolving) - CAF*

Security

*Addressing threats to activists and organizations*

*Physical security, digital security, executive security – tying security to the org’s mission*

*Link to OSF-wide initiate on security (Elizabeth & Vera)*

*Networks/coalitions*

*Bring together actors, alliances from different spheres (ie, Navalny & PHP)*

*Maintain links between groups, in the face of state attempts to divide the sector*

Public outreach

*Improve NGOs’ reputation within society, raise public appeal (state less likely to target groups with popular support) – Agency for Social Information does this*

*Engaging business communities and others outside of traditional HR circles*

*Changing attitudes, inculcate inclusivity (caveat: we are not Madison Avenue)*

Increasing org transparency

Governance structure and diversifying boards

Financial and human resources management

* Themes

Political prisoners (Bolotnaya, etc.)

Media censorship and control (pressure in independent media – work w/ NMP)

Surveillance

LGBT (push against propaganda laws, which are driven by local officials, not by the federal gov’t)

Women’s rights

Disability rights and inclusive education

Prisons

*Lots of funding is going to monitoring; where is our money best placed?*

*ONKs don’t have sufficient $ for travel and legal representation*

Policing and police violence (Public Verdict, Man and Law, etc.)

Migrants

Transparency and accountability

*State spending – monitoring, analysis*

*Tracking cross-border transactions and business purchases*

*Connections between accountability, human rights, and ordinary citizens’ interests*