Why Russia?

Why is it still important for OSF to fund in Russia? What can we hope to effect in the region?

Key open society themes and issues are highly relevant in Russia

* Transparency and accountability (anticorruption)
* Rights and justice (i.e., criminal justice, policing, rule of law, LGBT, women’s rights)
* Migration
* Inclusive education (disability, Roma)
* Media freedom, access to information
* Health (access to medicines, HIV, harm reduction)

Copy-cat problem: Russian tactics are picked up by Central Asia (ie, anti-extremism law in Kazakhstan)

Russia’s influence in UN Human Rights Council – pushing resolution that says human rights should take into consideration traditional values of country in question – very few HR orgs that are following the council saw this coming – has large implications beyond Russia

Participation in global international regimes (G20, ICC, WTO) – a more open Russia creates changes in international governing bodies

European Court litigation