



The June arrest of investigative journalist Ivan Golunov, the powerful civic movement in his support, and his subsequent release marked the start of an eventful summer in Russia. In mid-July, Russians took to the streets again, over the disqualification of opposition candidates from the Moscow City Duma election. In this context, we dedicate the bulk of this issue to contemporary Russia.

Russian journalist Nadezhda Azhgikhina, a longtime friend of the Institute, and executive director of PEN Moscow, dissects and contextualizes the Golunov Affair in an insightful essay about the current state of Russian investigative journalism and its broader history.

The Golunov Affair serves as a stark reminder of the threats faced by investigative journalists working in Russia. Fifteen years ago, *Forbes* Russia editor Paul Klebnikov was assassinated leaving his office in central Moscow—the first and only U.S. journalist murdered in Russia. For nearly a decade, the Harriman Institute has partnered with Klebnikov's widow, Musa, to honor his memory by bringing a Russian journalist to the Institute every year for a three-week residency. In this issue, you can learn more about the Paul Klebnikov Russian Civil Society Fellowship, and what it's like to do investigative reporting in Russia, in a profile of Maria Zholobova, our 2019 PKF Fellow.

In recent years, Russia has seen an uptick in anticorruption protests. David Szakonyi, an alumnus of Columbia's Department of Political Science, examines the fight against corruption through the lens of the Kremlin's ongoing anticorruption campaign.

In February we lost our colleague Seweryn Bialer, a leading scholar of the former Soviet Union and member of Columbia's Department of Political Science for over 30 years. This issue honors his memory and contributions to the field of international relations with an article about Bialer's experiences in postwar Poland and his 1956 defection to the United States, and two unpublished draft documents from his personal papers.

Also in the issue is an article about nonconformist artist Eduard Gorokhovskiy by curator and art historian Natalia Kolodzei; and a piece by Colleen Wood, doctoral candidate in the Department of Political Science, about a group of ethnic Kyrgyz from Afghanistan returning to their ethnic homeland, and what their experience says about the broader study of ethnic return migration.

We hope you enjoy the issue! As always, we value your comments, ideas, and suggestions.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Cooley'.

Alexander Cooley
Director, Harriman Institute