

Table 1 RATING OF REGIMES, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

*Q. Here is a scale for ranking systems of government; the top, + 100, is the best, and the bottom, -100, is the worst. Where would you put: (Show card with scale):*

- a) the former Communist regime?*
- b) the present system with free elections and many parties?*
- c) our system of governing in five years time?*

	Old	Current (% positive)	Future	Future-Old
Poland	30	66	72	42
Czech Republic	31	56	72	41
Romania	38	66	74	36
Slovenia	42	51	57	15
Slovakia	46	50	72	26
Hungary	58	53	75	17
Bulgaria	43	58	78	35
Russian Federation	72	36	49	-23

Sources: In Central and Eastern Europe, the New Democracies Barometer V (1998); New Russia Barometer VII (1998). Those giving a neutral answer, 0, on the + 100/-100 scale are classified as not positive. They are 14 percent of those rating the old regime, 11 percent rating the current regime, and 13 percent of those rating the regime in future.

Table 2      ABSOLUTE versus CONTINGENT COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY

*Q. Which of the following statements do you agree with most?*

- a) Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government*
- b) In certain situations, an authoritarian government can be preferable to a democratic one*
- c) To people like me, it doesn't matter whether we have a democratic government or a non-democratic government.*

	Democracy %	Authoritarian %	Doesn't matter %	Don't know
Greece	90	4	3	2
Portugal	83	9	4	4
Spain	78	9	7	6
Italy	73	14	6	7
EU 12 country mean	78	9	8	5
Latin America: 9 country mean	61	18	16	5

Sources: European Union: Eurobarometer 37, 1992 (Brussels). Latin America: Latinobarometro, as organized by MORI, Santiago, Chile.

Table 3 GAINS IN FREEDOM FROM STATE WITH DEMOCRATIZATION

*(Comparison of conditions today with previous regime: Russia: Before perestroyka; Czech Republic: Under the Communists; Korea: Under Chun Doo Hwan.)*

		Korea (% saying better now)	Czech R.	Russia
Freedom to say what you think	82	80	74	
Join any organization you want		73	88	74
Travel, live where you want		71	91	na
No fear of unlawful unrest	69	62	na	
Decide whether or not to participate in politics	68	79	66	
Decide for yourself about religion		56	87	80
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Average across six activities:				
Better	70	81	73	
Same		28	15	21
Worse	2	4	6	

Sources: New Korea Barometer, 1996 (Number of respondents: 1000); New Democracies Barometer V 1998 (N respondents: 1,017); New Russia Barometer VII 1998 (N respondents: 1,908).

Table 4 WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES TO DEMOCRACY?

*Q. Our current system of government is not the only one that this country has had. Some people say that we would be better off if the country was governed differently. What do you think?*

- a) We should return to Communist rule*
- b) The army should govern the country*
- c) Best to get rid of Parliament and elections and have a strong leader who can quickly decide things*
- d) A return to a monarchy would be better*
- e) The most important decisions about the economy should be made by experts and not the government and Parliament.*

	a	b	c	d	e
	(percentage who strongly or somewhat agree)				
Bulgaria	24	8	29	18	60
Czech Republic	16	3	13	4	71
Slovakia	29	6	23	5	79
Hungary	23	1	18	5	81
Poland	15	6	27	4	60
Romania	20	18	26	11	64
Slovenia	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>61</u>
CEE mean	20	6	21	7	68
Russia	41	15	36	11	75

Source: Central and East Europe: New Democracies Barometer V (1998), except for question e, NDB IV (1996). For Russian Federation, New Russian Barometer VII (1998) except for question e, NRB VI (1996).

Table 5. WHAT IS A NORMAL LIFE TO A RUSSIAN?

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E 1. People differ in what is meant by talking about "a normal society".

How important do you think each of the following is in creating a normal society?

Very/ Somewhat/ A little/ Not at all

- a. Everybody who wants to work can find a job.
- b. If things go wrong, public welfare services will help.
- c. Ordinary people can go about their everyday activities without interference by government.
- d. If you save money, it does not lose its value because of inflation.
- e. There are opportunities for you or your children to improve your living conditions.
- f. Government officials treat ordinary people fairly.
- g. It is safe to go about the streets without being afraid of crime.
- h. The government of the country is a great power.
- j. Everyone can expect to retire from work and live to a healthy old age.

2. Do you think Russian life today is that of a normal society?

Definitely / somewhat/ only a little/ not at all

3 (If did not think it definitely, somewhat a normal society) How long do you think it will be before Russia becomes a normal society?

1-2 years / 3-5 years / 6-10 years / Never / Difficult to know if it ever will be.

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