

UNIwersytet Łódzki
WYDZIAŁ STUDIÓW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH I POLITOLOGICZNYCH

Andrei Liulkouski

Rozprawa doktorska

**DYNAMIKA ZMIAN SYSTEMU WYBORCZEGO DO DUMY
PAŃSTWOWEJ FEDERACJI ROSYJSKIEJ W LATACH 2003-2016**

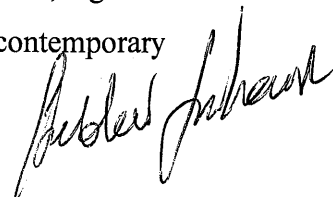
**DYNAMICS OF CHANGES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION STATE DUMA
ELECTORAL SYSTEM IN 2003-2016**

In authoritarian political systems, regular multi-party elections and the functioning of legislative bodies take on specific importance compared to democratic systems. Depending on the potential of an undemocratic system, these institutions may contribute to the consolidation of the political regime or pose a threat to its balance.

In Russia, universal multi-party elections to the State Duma have been held regularly, and since 2003 the lower house of parliament has been dominated by United Russia. At the same time, a very high instability of the electoral system used in the elections to the State Duma is observed, as in the period 2003-2016 no elections were held according to the same rules.

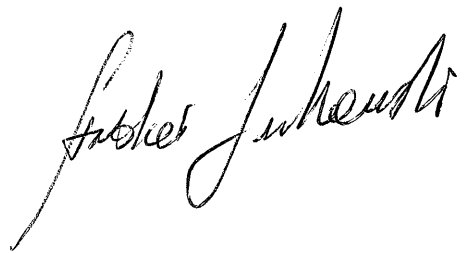
In the dissertation, four election cycles (2003-2016) were analyzed in terms of reforms of the electoral system. The dissertation aims to understand the reasons and logic of so many changes made within the electoral system in the indicated period. The main task of the dissertation is to verify the relationship between the election successes of the ruling party and the dynamics of changes in the electoral system.

The dissertation includes an analysis of individual electoral system reforms carried out in the period 2003-2016, election campaigns, and the results of elections. The socio-political context and the interests of the ruling elite at that time were taken into account, which, together with the findings regarding the importance of the State Duma elections for the contemporary



political system of Russia and the importance of the functioning of the Duma itself, made it possible to show the reasons, beneficiaries, and logic of the reforms decisions made in this regard.

The findings made in the dissertation show that the State Duma electoral system was reformed before each election in the analyzed period to ensure that United Russia obtains the best possible results in the elections to the lower house of parliament in the context of declining public support for the ruling party. However, taking into account the low potential of Russia's political system and the circumstances of elections, these reforms were not sufficient to avoid the need to use state administrative resources to provide the high electoral results to United Russia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrei Lukhanchikov". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'A'.