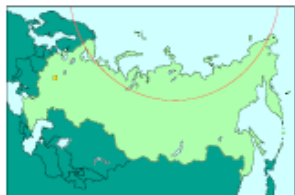




RUSSIA

Russian Federation



Type of Government

Federation

Government Structure

Executive -

The Chief of State is the President and the Head of Government is the Prime Minister. The President is elected to a six-year term by popular vote. The President chooses the Prime Minister.

Legislative -

The bicameral legislature consists of the lower house called the State Duma (450 members elected by popular vote for four-year terms) and the upper house called the Federation Council (166 members selected by the top executive and legislative officials in each of the 83 federal administrative units for four-year terms).

Judicial -

There are three courts: (1) the Supreme Court, (2) the Constitutional Court, and (3) the Supreme Arbitration Court. Judges for all courts are chosen for life by the Federation Council on recommendation of the President.

Constitution

December 12, 1993

The Flag

The flag has three equal horizontal bands of white, blue, and red. There is no official meaning to the colors. This flag inspired other Slav countries to adopt the same type of flag.

Capital: Moscow

Independence: August 24, 1991 from USSR.

Population: 142,423,773 (rank = 10)

GDP per capita: \$24,400 (rank = 73)

Ethnicity: Russian 77%, Tatar 4%, Ukrainian 1%, Bashkir 1%, Chuvash 1%, Other/unspecified 12%

Religion: Russian Orthodox 15-20%, Muslim 10 – 15%, and other Christian 2%

Literacy: Male 100%, Female 100%



Coat of Arms



RUSSIA

Russian Federation

Civil Rights/Freedoms

The Russian Constitution protects basic rights and liberties, but citizens are experiencing issues with actual enforcement of these rights. The current President, Vladimir Putin, has been in power for twelve years and has recently been re-elected to serve another six-year term as President. His authoritarian rule has been marked by suppression of the press, corruption, human trafficking and other human rights abuses.

Suffrage (voting)

All citizens 18 years of age and older.

Political Parties

United Russia, Communist Party, Liberal Democratic Party, Just Russia, Yabloko, Patriots of Russia, and Right Cause.

Current Issues

CIA World Factbook: <http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

Fact Monster, Countries of the World: <http://www.factmonster.com/countries.html>

Human Rights Watch: <http://www.hrw.org/home>



CIA World
Factbook



Fact Monster