

This case study is dedicated to the Russian counter-revolutionary policies that were developed in response to the heavily supported democracy promotion by the western countries and the so-called colour revolutions in Russia's near abroad, being Rose revolution in Georgia, Orange revolution in Ukraine and Tulip revolution in Kyrgyzstan. Why did these events invoke the need to create a patriotic civil society inside Putin's regime? What tools were used to create such patriotic civil society? In this context, the thesis considers the role of political technologists Gleb Pavlovsky and Vladislav Surkov, the main engineers of counter-revolutionary policies and authors of the sovereign democracy concept. The thesis will analyse the role of the government organised youth movement Nashi that developed an anti-fascist discourse based on sovereign democracy. I connect the concept of civil society with thoughts of political philosophers such as John Locke, Thomas Paine, Robert Putnam and Alexis de Tocqueville who associated the civil society concept with certain civic virtues. Petr Kopecký and Cas Mudde provide the theoretical framework to classify the concept of 'uncivil society'. Finally, the youth movement Nashi is classified based on criteria associated with 'civil' and 'uncivil' society.

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Key words: colour revolution, Nashi, Surkov, Pavlovsky, Putin, sovereign democracy, Russia, GONGO, civil society, uncivil society