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Sommario/riassunto	As part of a wider democracy promotion effort, political parties in Georgia and Ukraine, as in most other post-communist states, have received assistance from a number of non-governmental but governmentfunded western organizations for most of the post-communist period. This assistance, however, has persistently failed to contribute to making parties in the two former Soviet republics substantially more stable, democratic, and representative. In searching for an answer to why the assistance has not been more effective, this thesis looks both at the nature of the assistance and the particulariti