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Sommario/riassunto The Constitution of the Russian Federation was ratified in 1993 amid

great hopes and aspirations following the collapse of the USSR. The constitution proclaims the goal of establishing a "democratic, federal state" that functions according to rule of law and promises a broad

array of social, political and economic rights to its citizens. But how well has the Russian government lived up to realizing these promises? Seven distinguished scholars on Russian politics and law examine the state of political accountability, federal power-sharing, judicial independence, press freedom, and criminal procedure in Russia today. The picture that emerges is decidedly mixed; they conclude that the Russian constitution remains a work in progress.