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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- List of Tables -- Introduction -- 1. Hybrid regimes: types and measurements -- 1.1. Introduction -- 1.2. The debate on hybrid regimes -- 1.3. Types and concepts -- 1.4. Regime typologies -- 1.5. Issues of operationalisation -- 1.6. Electoral authoritarian regimes -- 1.7. Conclusions -- 2. Electoral manipulations -- 2.1. Introduction -- 2.2. Defining electoral manipulation -- 2.3. Types of manipulation strategies -- 2.4. Measuring electoral misconduct -- 2.5. Electoral malpractice in competitive authoritarian regimes -- 2.6. Conclusions -- 3. Instrumentalisation of the media -- 3.1. Introduction -- 3.2. Media effects debate -- 3.3. Models of media effects: agenda setting, framing, priming -- 3.4. Media bias -- 3.5. Model: elections and the media in electoral autocracies -- 3.6. Conclusions -- 4. Strategies of media manipulation: The case of Russia -- 4.1. Introduction -- 4.2. Research design -- 4.3. Literature review -- 4.4. Mechanisms of influence -- 4.5. Journalists' reporting practices -- 4.6. Trust in the media -- 4.7. Conclusions -- 5. Analysis of news content: presidential election campaigns 2000 and 2008 -- 5.1. Introduction -- 5.2. Research design -- 5.3. Content analysis -- 5.4.

Presidential elections of 2000 -- 5.5. Presidential elections of 2008 -- 5.6. Discussion: drawing comparisons -- 5.7. Conclusions -- Conclusions -- References.

Sommario/riassunto

Focusing on the case of Russia during Putin's first two presidential terms, this book examines media manipulation strategies in electoral authoritarian regimes. Which instruments and approaches do incumbent elites employ to skew media coverage in favour of their preferred candidate in a presidential election? What effects do these strategies have on news content? Based on two case studies of the presidential election campaigns in Russia in 2000 and in 2008, this investigation identifies the critical internal mechanisms according to which these regimes work. Looking at the same country, while it transformed from a competitive into a hegemonic authoritarian regime, allows one to make a diachronic comparison of these two regime types based on the Most-Similar Systems Design. The book explicates the subtle differences between competitive and hegemonic regimes, different types of media manipulation strategies, the diverging extent of media instrumentalisation, various interactions among state actors, large business owners, the media, and journalists, the respective effects that all these factors and interactions have on media content, and the peculiar types of bias prevalent in each type of regime. This deep exploration of post-Soviet politics is based on extensive review of documents, interviews with media professionals, and quantitative as well as qualitative content analyses of news media during two Russian presidential election campaigns.

"This book is based on a sound understanding of the present state of research and an innovative analytical framework. Most importantly, through sophisticated and extensive empirical research, the author is able to offer a detailed and systematic examination of the Russian case, which is of high value not only for students of Russian politics but also for the broader literature on authoritarian regimes. The author demonstrates convincingly and with empirical details that a shift from competitive to hegemonic authoritarianism is not a simple increase in state repression but means a substantial change in the nature of the regime." —Prof. Dr. Heiko Pleines, Professor of Comparative Politics, University of Bremen

"This contribution to the research field of electoral authoritarian regimes not only substantiates the claim that there is a shift observable in Russia between 2000 and 2008. It is also methodically and from its analytical contribution a step forward for this field of study. [...] I am not aware of any study that has so systematically worked through the practices of mass-media manipulation in authoritarian states, and in addition to the findings on the case, the author also contributes an analytical approach that will certainly be helpful for other scholars [...]. [...] diligence and painstaking attention with which she has worked through an astonishing amount of sources, including a challenging content analysis." —Prof. Dr. Klaus Schlichte, Professor of International Relations, University of Bremen

"Nozima Akhrarkhodjaeva helps us better understand authoritarian regimes in general, and Russia in particular. While often analyses of hybrid regimes are fuzzy in explaining how to distinguish among their varieties, Akhrarkhodjaeva provides a combined quantitative and qualitative methodology to distinguish among their media-manipulation strategies." — The Russian Review, 2018, Vol. 77, No. 1
