Belarus: Learning from defeat

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Examines presidential election of March 2006 and argues that, although the protests against abuses apparently failed, they created a 'network of solidarity' and a 'revolution of the spirit'. Two essays by Silitski focus on the effectiveness of the authoritarian regime and why it can contain protest are:

Silitski, Vitali, Pre-empting Democracy: The Case of Belarus [2] Journal of Democracy, 2005, pp. 83-97, and Silitski, Vitali, Contagion Deterred: Pre-emptive Authoritarianism in the Former Soviet Union (the Case of Belarus) [3] In Bunce; McFaul; Stoner-Weiss, Democracy and Authoritarianism in the Postcommunist World [4] (D. II.1. Comparative Assessments [5])New York, Cambridge University Press, 2009, pp. 274-299.

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