

# Political Elections in Ukraine

# Ukrainian Politics

- Multi-party system
- Democratic constitution
- Freedom of religion
- Minority rights
- “Freedom” of the press
- Labor unions

# Presidential Elections of 2004

- The Orange Revolution
- The media, corruption, and poison
- Official winner?
- Rigged election



# The Candidates

- Viktor Yanukovich
- Ukrainian prime minister
- Local support



# The Candidates

- Viktor Yuschenko
- Pro-Western
- International support



# First Election

- Yanukovich – 39.2%
- Yushenko – 39.87%
- No majority

# The Runoff

- Irregularities
- Yanukovych declared the winner
- OSCE and Senator Richard Lugar – “a concerted and forceful program of election day fraud”
- Voter turnout
- Political divisions

# International Reaction

- The United States, the European Union, and Russia
- Yanukovych – Eastern, pro-Russian industrial laborers
- Yuschenko – pro-Western Kiev residents and rural Ukrainians



# The Recount

- Yuschenko the winner
- Unwilling?



Yuschenko.com

