

MAIN OPPOSITION TO TSARDOM 1894–1914

<i>Main features</i>	<i>Social revolutionaries (SRs)</i>
Origins	Appeared in 1901 Grew out of the nineteenth century Populist movement comprising 'Land and Liberty, Black Partition', and 'People's Will'.
Leadership	The intellectual Victor Chernov (1901)
Composition	Peasantry 50% of membership were urban working class or proletariat and artisans
Aims	Demanded redistribution of land to peasantry Supported the commune as a form of agrarian socialism Called for a Constituent Assembly whereby groups governed themselves
Tactics	Made use of – Propaganda – Discontent in the countryside – Political assassinations – Strikes
Activities	1901–5 anarchists committed political assassinations including Plehve 1904, Grand Duke Sergei 1905, Stolypin 1911 and 2000 government officials Influential in 1905 Peasant Union Congress Participated in the <i>Dumas</i> after the 1905 Revolution
Effectiveness	Developed a wide base First national congress December 1905 and drew up a programme based on aims 1906 claimed to have 50 000 members with a further 350 000 influenced by party aims 30 representatives in second Parliament, or <i>Duma</i> Undermined by police agents who infiltrated the party, but weakened by disagreements over tactics Split into anarchists and revolutionaries

(continued overleaf)

<i>Main features</i>	<i>Social revolutionaries (SRs)</i>
Effectiveness (continued)	Anarchists, wanted to continue with the terrorist methods adopted by 'The People's Will' Revolutionaries were more moderate and were prepared to co-operate with other groups to achieve an immediate improvement in conditions for peasants and workers The SR leader, Victor Chernov, joined the provisional government in 1917, but fled to the United States after the second October Revolution by the Communists who suppressed the SRs

<i>Main features</i>	<i>Social Democrats (All Russian Social Democratic Labour Party, RSDLP): 1. Mensheviks, 2. Bolsheviks</i>
Origins	Founded in Minsk in 1898
Leadership	Drawn from middle and upper classes – Plekhanov, founder of Russian Marxism – Lenin, leader of Bolsheviks – Martov, leader of Mensheviks – Trotsky, President of St Petersburg Soviet, 1905
Composition	Industrial workers or proletariat Peasantry
Aims	Broad agreement on overthrow of Tsarism and the introduction of Socialism but differences had emerged by 1903 over tactics and strategy
Tactics	Small secret groups known as 'cells' Study groups Propaganda amongst workers Demonstrations and strikes
Activities	Organised wave of industrial strikes and unrest 1890s, and 1896–7 in St Petersburg December 1905 Bolsheviks organised the unsuccessful Moscow rising Contributed to 1914 St Petersburg strike but not able to control events
Effectiveness	Spread Marxist ideas of socialism and revolution Claimed to have 40 000 members in 1904, 150 000 in 1906 1906 SDs elected to second <i>Duma</i> 1910 Published official newspaper, <i>Pravda</i> , with 40 000 circulation Infiltrated by police informers and double agents and weakened by internal squabbles after split of 1903. Majority became known as radical Bolsheviks who grew 1912 onwards Minority formed the Mensheviks who drew their support from new legal trade unions Danger of over-exaggerating their influence – strikes would have occurred anyway

<i>Main features</i>	<i>Liberals: 1. Octobrists, 2. Kadets</i>
Origins	Grew out of the <i>Zemstva</i> liberals 1902 League of Liberation 1904 Union of Liberation 1905 Moderate Octobrists, radical Constitutional Democrats (KD or Kadets) 1908 Progressists
Leadership	Shipov, <i>Zemstva</i> leader Pavel Milyukov, Kadet leader Guchkov, Rodzianko, Octobrist leaders
Composition	Not a large base of support due to failure to attract mass support Gentry and professionals employed by <i>Zemstva</i> assemblies Intellectuals especially at university level
Aims	Some factory owners and merchants Constituent Assembly to provide for democratic freedoms and civil liberties including abolition of class differences, freedom of speech and press, equality before the law, a constitution, and improvements in social conditions
Tactics	Peaceful propaganda and legal means such as meetings of <i>Zemstva</i> leaders starting in 1896 Use of Law societies to discuss liberal ideas Moderate pressure on government
Activities	Banqueting campaign and support for strikes in 1905 Moderate liberals supported Nicholas during the crisis year 1905 and helped him to recover his position Vyborg protest 1906
Effectiveness	Kadets formed largest group in <i>Duma</i> Activities confined to a few large cities Government refused to respond to demands for peaceful liberal reform prior to crisis of 1905 Limited support amongst masses who were attracted by socialism meant that liberalism overcome Liberals were compromised by their concern on the one hand to persuade the regime to grant constitutional changes while at the same time not provoking a revolution, which would destroy society