Vladimir Putin’s hold over Russian politics at times seems absolute, yet during almost 20 years of his tenure as president and prime minister, his position has in fact been frequently challenged by mass mobilization across the political spectrum. Apart from nation-wide mobilizations (such as the protests against the monetization of benefits in 2005, or the 2011-2012 “For Fair Elections!” campaign), numerous streams of contention—from ethnic and nationalist to labor and environmental—have continued to pressure Putin’s regime. But where, when, and how exactly do Russians wage protests? What types of claims are the most frequent? Which organizations support collective actions in Russia, and who are they targeting? Looking at patterns of collective mobilization in Russia during the 2012-2016 electoral cycle, Andrei Semenov will discuss a newly assembled dataset comprising over 7,000 protest events that occurred in approximately 1,500 locations across the country between 2012 and 2015. This dataset reveals a rich picture of protest activity and speaks directly to the argument that Russians are rational and strategic in choosing confrontation over other courses of action, rather than being obedient and acquiescent.