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The work presents the local self-government in Russia during the rule of Vladimir Putin. The conditions of the functioning of the Russian self-government were examined from the historical, political and social point of view, both in normative and practical terms. First, the main stages of the process of development of self-government institutions in Russia until the rule of Vladimir Putin were determined and discussed, answering the research question whether historical conditions have an impact on the perception of local self-government. Then, the political system prevailing in contemporary Russia was analyzed. Attention was paid to the federal nature of the state, including the relations between the subjects of the Federation and the national level, the political regime, and the resulting implications for Russian self-government. The assessment of the Russian political regime in the light of international research is presented. Detailed arguments made it possible to answer the research question whether the political system of contemporary Russia affects the condition of local government, and to what extent local government is related to the idea and practice of democracy in a given country. Due to the ratification by Russia in 1998 of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, a detailed analysis was carried out, both in the normative and practical dimension, of the degree of implementation of democratic European standards of local self-government. The principles are divided into three categories: legal and organizational (the principle of legal empowerment, the principle of subsidiarity, the principle of proportionality, the principle of supervision (control), the principle of judicial protection, the principle of liability for damages, the principle of legal personality, the principle of openness, the principle of organizational autonomy), competence (the principle of independence in regulating and managing local public affairs, the principle of co-government) and economic and financial (the principle of economic and financial independence). The ideas of decentralization and deconcentration were also explored. The obtained results enable the answer to the research question whether the solutions and practice of functioning of local government in the Russian Federation differ from the solutions proposed in the European Charter of Local Self-Government. Methodological triangulation was used in the work, through the use of a comparative method, system and micro-system analysis, institutional and legal analysis, historical perspective, guaranteeing its interdisciplinary nature. Critical analysis of the results was conducted on the basis of a wide spectrum of premises supported by evidence, including in the form of statistical and financial data. The answers to the research questions posed allowed for a positive verification of the hypothesis that the functioning of local government in the Russian Federation differs from local government based on democratic standards, in particular those contained in the European Charter of Local Self-Government, leading to the emergence of the Russian version of local government. Verification of the hypothesis made it possible to achieve the main objective of the dissertation, which was to define the declarative and practical specificity of local government in the Russian Federation under the rule of Vladimir Putin.