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All three Soviets gave *glasnost* mixed reviews.

"There are more opportunities for writers to be published (because of the reforms), but you can't write about just anything you want," Ufliand said.

Although restrictions still exist, there have been changes. Eremin said. "Writers are now using *glasnost* to try to get works published that they wrote years ago but that have not been printed."

New works are also being published, but only a few, Ufliand said.

"There is a government publication that is planning to publish one of Joseph Brodsky's poems," he said. Brodsky is a Nobel Prize laureate who was imprisoned in 1964 in Leningrad for being a "state parasite" and exiled from the Soviet Union.

"But there are other poems of Brodsky's that they dare not touch," he said.

"I am convinced that *glasnost* and freedom of the press are not the same thing," Ufliand said. "Only members of the Writer's Union have access to publishing houses," he said, referring to the government-controlled union.

*Samizdat* publications attempt to circumvent state restrictions imposed by the Writer's Union.

"The main obstacle (to publication) is the existence of the Writer's Union, Ufliand said. "Only members of the Writer's Union have access to the publishing houses."

Other writer's organizations have been formed, but they remain unofficial because the government sees them as a threat, Ufliand said.

"They think that a second writer's union is equal to a second (political) party," he said.

Ufliand and Eremin are both members of an unofficial organization, the Professional Group of Leningrad Writers.

"Although it does not give

us the privileges that members of the Writer's Union have, it somehow protects our copyrights," Ufliand said.

Ufliand is also a member of another unofficial organization, Club 81 started out as an underground group of poets.

"But Club 81 was eventually allowed by the Leningrad authorities in order to relieve the situation of so many poets not being published," he said.

When *glasnost* began to create more opportunities to be published, Club 81 was divided, Ufliand said.

"The first group saw compromise as possible; they began to be published in Leningrad magazines," he said. "Then there is the second group to which I belong. We cannot find access to be published."

Ufliand and Eremin are both leading poets in the Soviet Union, yet each can claim only one published work — both of which were published in the United States.

That their works were published in the West and not in the Soviet Union is nothing new. Many Soviet emigre writers live in the West.

Half of Ufliand's close friends, many of whom are prominent writers, live in the United States or France, and the other half live in the Soviet Union, he said.

As for the future of Soviet literature, all three Soviets said they see many uncertainties.

Other recent attempts at reform that will affect writers include the newly announced "Law of the Press and the Media." Because the Supreme Soviet has only recently approved the first reading of the measure, not many details of its implementation are known. Ufliand was familiar with the law's rough drafts, however, and said that he objected to its first point.

"It says the press must encourage *perestroika* (restructuring) and the development of so-

ciety," he said. "Freedom of speech and of the press are inalienable rights of man. If all the points of the law followed this it would be a good law."

"But if it allows for more Xerox machines, then it's a good law," he said with a chuckle.

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