



**Joint Institute for Nuclear
Research**

SCIENCE BRINGING NATIONS
TOGETHER

BRIEF HISTORY OF RUSSIA

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Early East Slavs



Present-day Slavic people:
West Slavs - chiefly Czechs, Poles and Slovaks;
East Slavs - chiefly Belarusians, Russians, and Ukrainians;
South Slavs - chiefly Bosniaks, Croats, Macedonians, Montenegrins, Serbs, Slovenes and Bulgarians

Kievan Rus' (882–1283)

- The first East Slavic state, **Rus'**, emerged in the 9th century along the **Dnieper River** valley
- Kievan Rus' controlled the trade route for furs, wax, and slaves between Scandinavia and the Byzantine Empire along the Volkhov and Dnieper Rivers

Kievan Rus' (882-1283)

- Kievan Rus' is important for its introduction of a Slavic variant of the Eastern Orthodox religion, dramatically deepening a synthesis of Byzantine and Slavic cultures that defined Russian culture for the next thousand years. The region adopted Christianity in **988** by the official act of public baptism of Kiev inhabitants by Prince Vladimir I



Mongol invasion (1223–1480)

- Destruction of Kiev and old cultural centers
- Rise of Moscow and Tver as new political centers
- Russian Orthodox Church moves its headquarters to Moscow
- The introduction of the concept of "oriental despotism" into Russia
- Changing of Russian ethnic type:

“Scratch a Russian and you will find a Tartar” (Napoleon)



Mongol invasion (1223–1480)



Grand Duchy of Moscow (1283–1547)

- 1147 - establishing of Moscow city
- In the 15th century, the grand princes of Moscow went on gathering Russian lands to increase the population and wealth under their rule. The most successful practitioner of this process was **Ivan III, who laid the foundations for a Russian national state.**
- The Fall of Constantinople (1453) and the death of the last Greek Orthodox Christian emperor contributed to this new idea of Moscow as 'New Rome' and the seat of Orthodox Christianity.

Two Romes have fallen. The third stands.
And there will be no fourth.



“Better the Sultan’s turban than the cardinal’s hat”

- Third Rome was the idea that some city, state, or country is the successor to the legacy of ancient Rome The fall of Rome – 476) (the "**first Rome**").
- After the capture of Constantinople by Mehmed II of the Ottoman Empire on **29 May 1453** Moscow was as the "Third Rome", or the "New Rome".

Third Rome

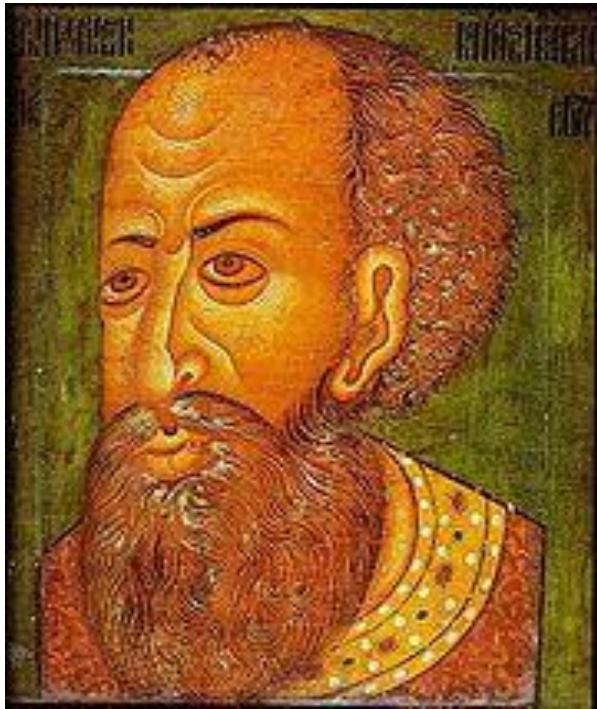


Czar=Tzar – (comes from word Caesar) true leader of Byzantine + Roman Empire (Russian Ruler); absolute power

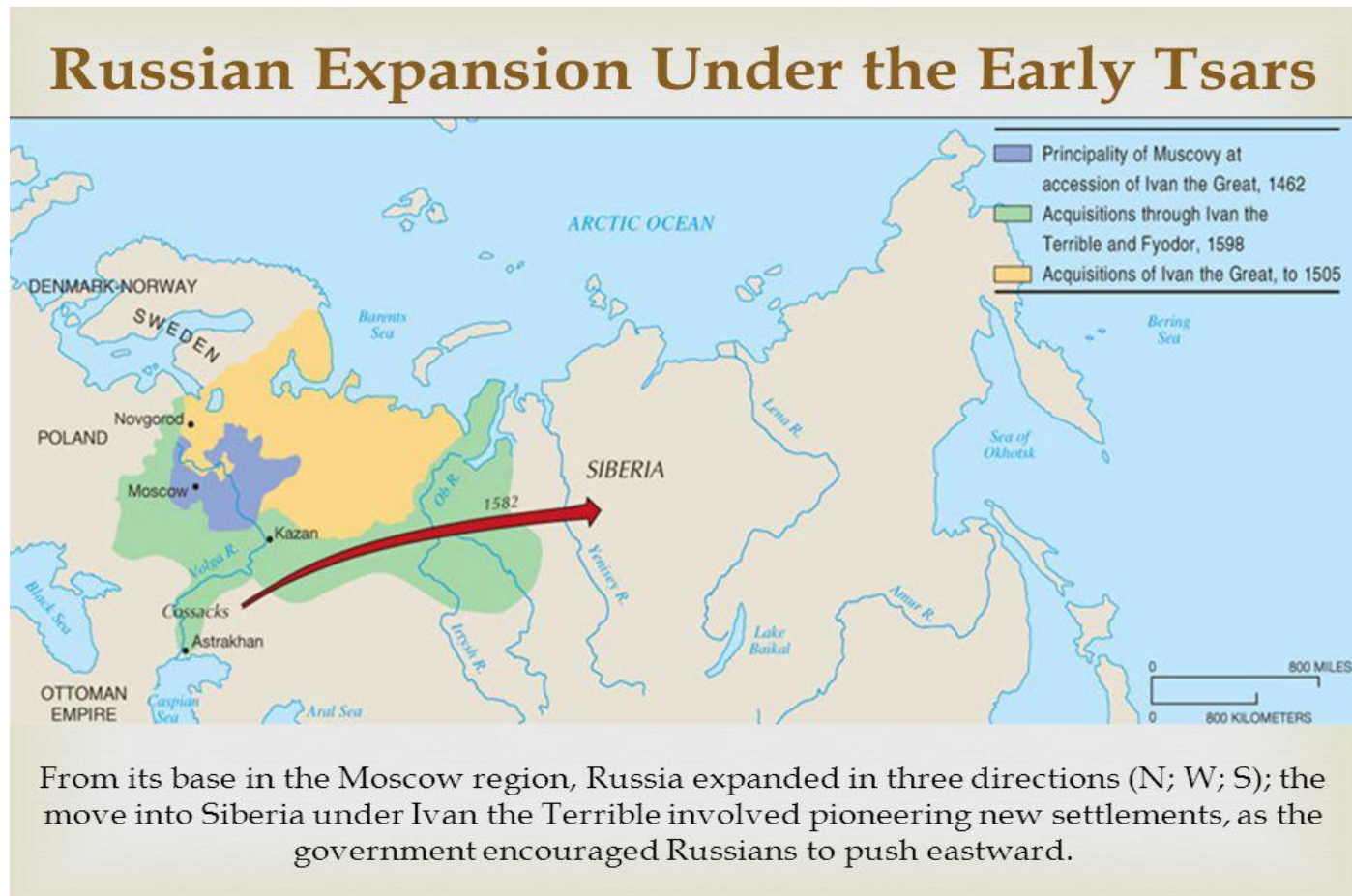
“Third Rome” – Moscow; brings Christian orthodoxy to the whole world

1. Rome 2. Constantinople 3. Moscow/Russia

Tsardom of Russia (1547–1721)



Russian Expansion Under the Early Tsars



Imperial Russia (1721–1917)



Imperial Russia (1721–1917)

- **Peter the Great** (1672–1725) brought autocracy into Russia and played a major role in bringing his country into the European state system.
- Peter's first military efforts were directed against the Ottoman Turks. His aim was to establish a Russian foothold on the Black Sea by taking the town of Azov.
- 1703 - Establishing of Saint-Petersburg
- **Catherine the Great** successfully waged war against the decaying Ottoman Empire and advanced Russia's southern boundary to the Black Sea. By the time of her death in 1796, Catherine's expansionist policy had made Russia into a **major European power**.
- **1783 - Crimea became part of the Russian Empire**

Imperial Russia (1721–1917)



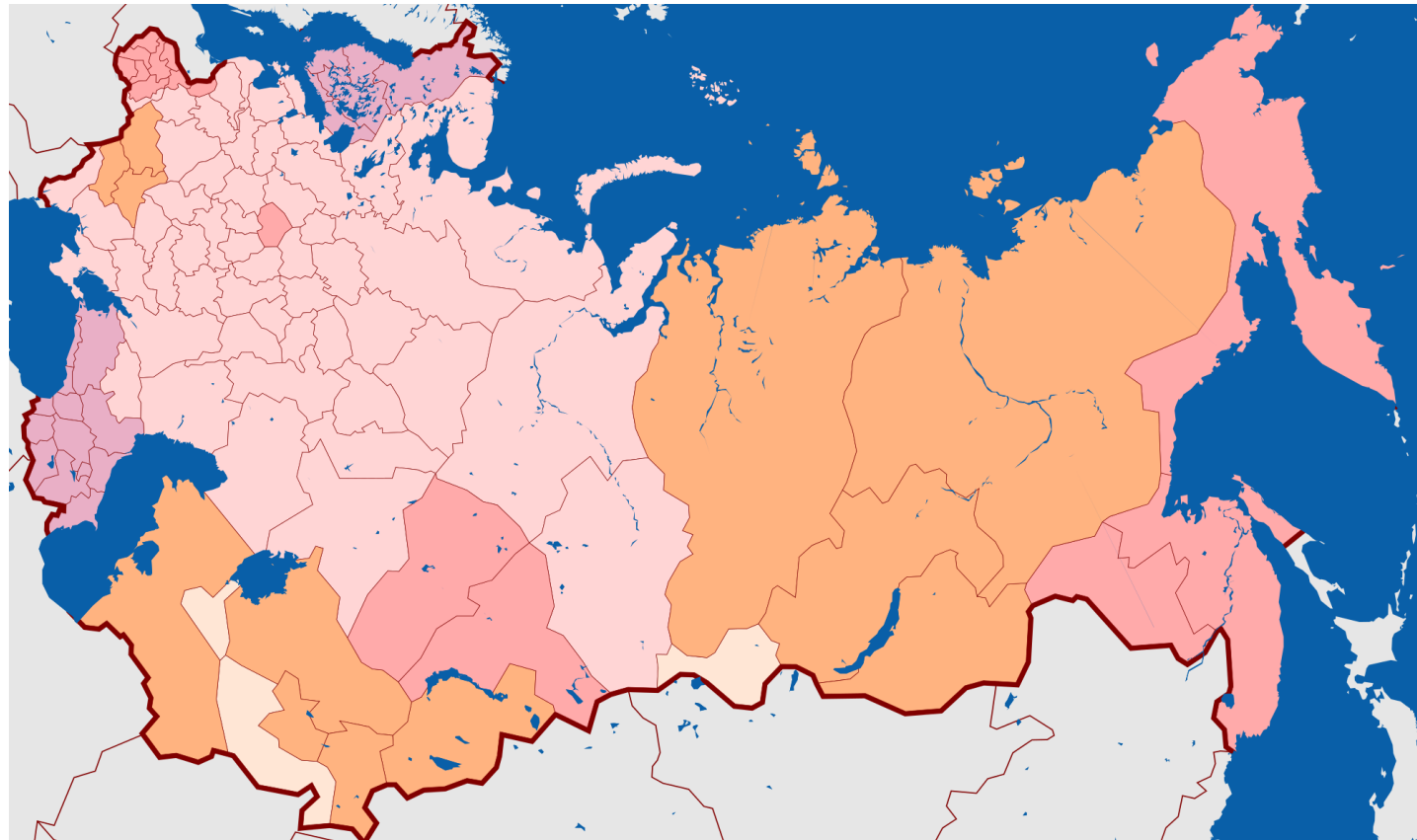
Imperial Russia (1721–1917)

Romanov dynasty

Orthodoxy, Autocracy, and Nationality

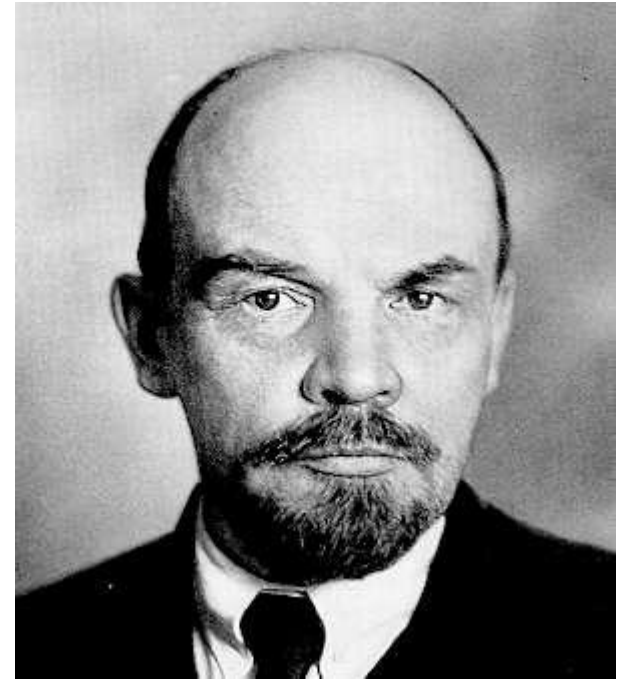


Imperial Russia Imperial Russia (1721–1917)



Russian Revolution 1917

“The bottoms don't want and the tops cannot live in the old way” – V. Lenin



Russian Revolution 1917

“Communism is Soviet power plus the electrification of the whole country” – V. Lenin

- **Slogans:**

- “Peace, Bread, Land’ and ‘All Power to the Soviets”;

- “Any cook should be able to run the country”;

- “Our program necessarily includes the propaganda of atheism”.

- The party ran its own propaganda machine, including the **newspaper Pravda** (‘Truth’), which got their ideas across.

- **A brilliant leader** – a professional revolutionary with an iron will, ruthless, brilliant speaker, a good planner with ONE aim – to overthrow the government. The Bolsheviks were well-led.

- **A Bolshevik army (the Red Guards)**, dedicated to the revolution, was set up and trained under Leon Trotsky.

- **The Bolsheviks were brilliantly organized.** A central committee (controlled by Lenin and other leading Bolsheviks) sent orders to the soviets, who gave orders to the factories.

Soviet Union (1922–1991)

- The history of Russia between 1922 and 1991 is essentially the history of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, or Soviet Union.



Joseph Stalin (Jughashvili) 1878-1953

- "Socialism in One Country"
- Bolstering Soviet secret service and intelligence
- Cult of personality
- Executions and deportations
- Collectivization
- Industrialization
- Stalinist Empire Style

Soviet Union



World War II (1939-1945)



The Cold War

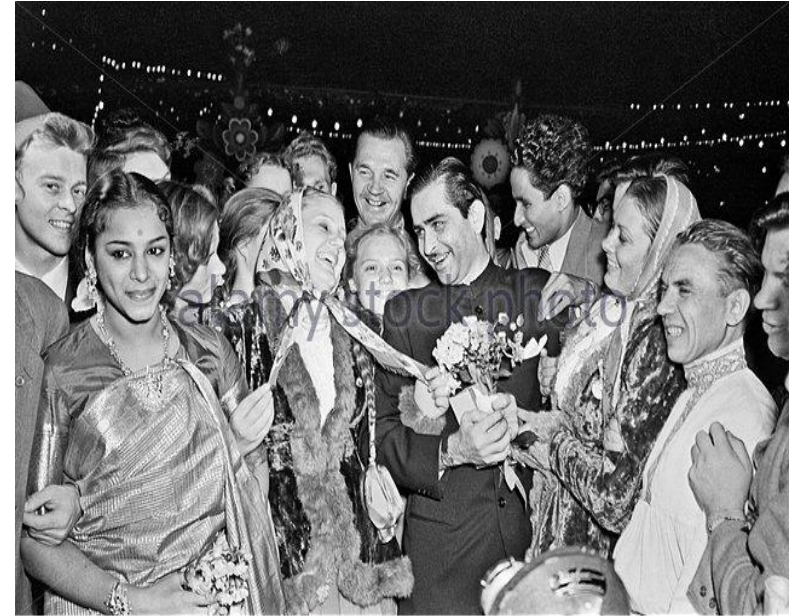
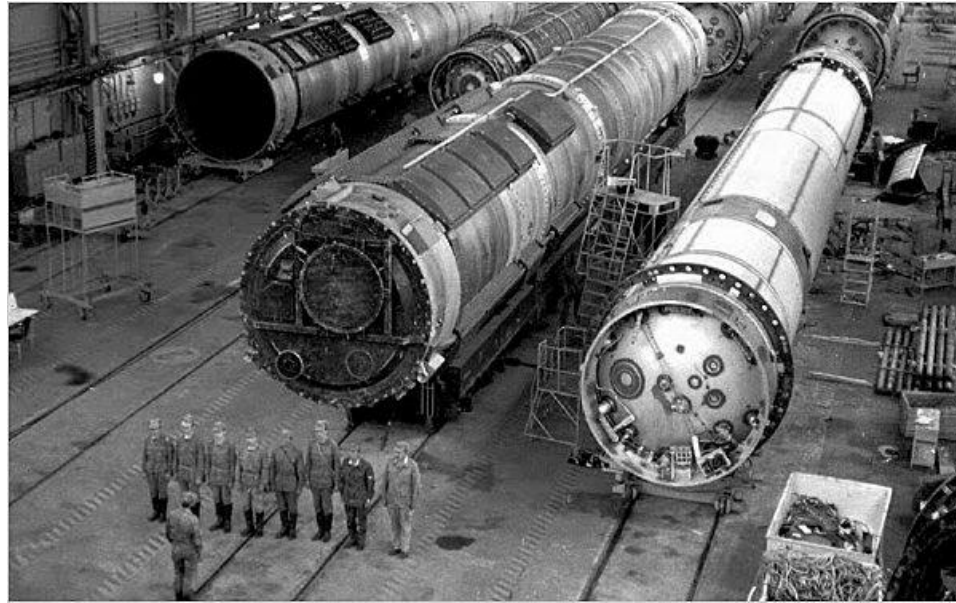
- **The Cold War** was a state of political and military tension after World War II between powers in the Western Bloc (the United States, its NATO allies and others) and powers in the Eastern Bloc (the Soviet Union and its satellite states). Historians do not fully agree on the dates, but a common timeframe is the period between **1947**, the year **the Truman Doctrine (a U.S. policy pledging to aid nations threatened by Soviet expansionism)** was announced, and **1991**, the year the Soviet Union collapsed.



Warsaw pact

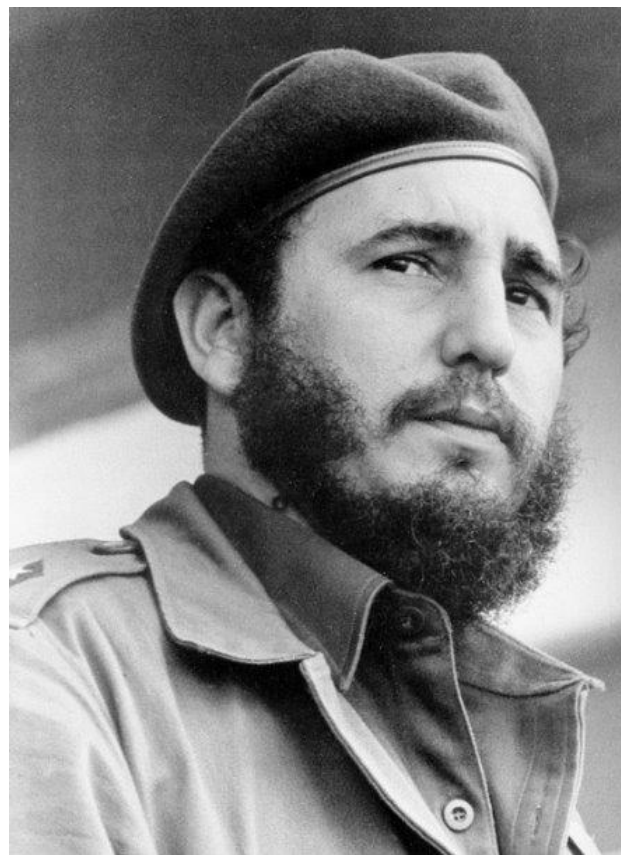
- People's Republic of Albania (withheld support in 1961 because of the Soviet-Albanian split, formally withdrew in 1968)
- People's Republic of Bulgaria
- Czechoslovak Republic (Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from 1960)
- German Democratic Republic (withdrew in September 1990, before German reunification)
- Hungarian People's Republic
- Polish People's Republic (withdrew on 1 January 1990)
- Romanian People's Republic (from 1965 the Socialist Republic of Romania)
- Soviet Union

Soviet Union



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Soviet Union Foreign policy



Soviet Union foreign policy



Perestroika 1985-1989

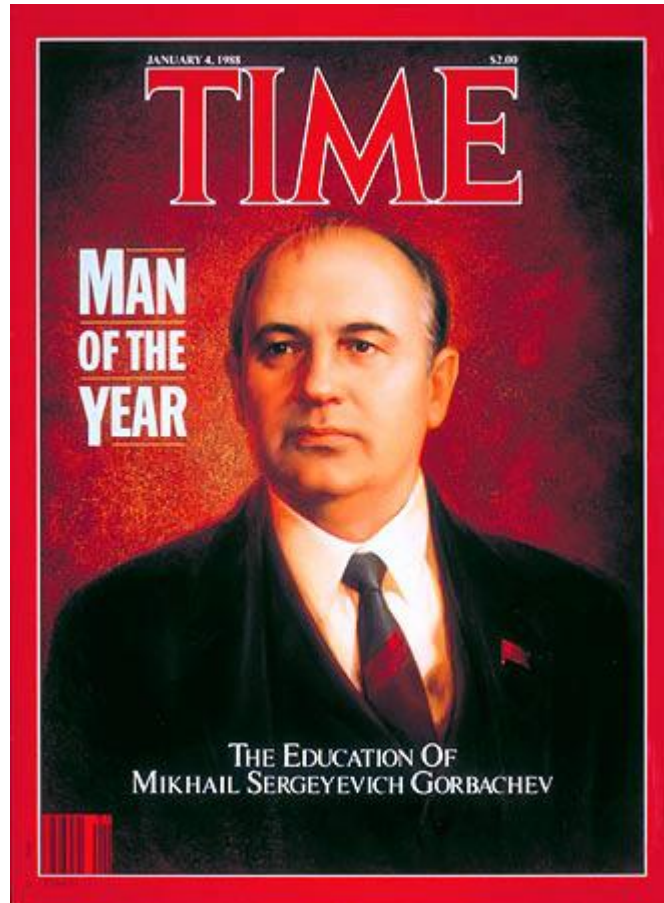
"uskoreniye" ("acceleration")

"human factor"

"glasnost"

"expansion of the
khozraschyot"
(commercialization).





Reform policy: USSR vs PRC

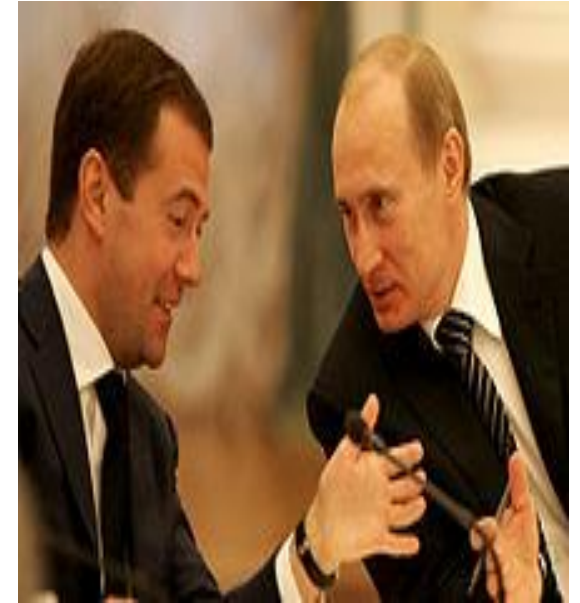
USSR “Perestroika”

- Reform was largely focused on industry and on cooperatives
- limited role was given to the development of foreign investment and international trade
- was accompanied by greater political freedoms under Gorbachev's glasnost policies
- strong secession threats from their ethnic regions

China “Socialism with Chinese characteristics”

- a bottom-up attempt at reform, focusing on light industry and agriculture (namely allowing peasants to sell produce grown on private holdings at market prices)
- the development of "Special Economic Zones", designed for export and to attract foreign investment
- accompanied by continued authoritarian rule and a suppression of political dissidents

Russian Federation (1991–present)



**Thanks for
paying
attention**

