



## Vladimir Putin: Quintessence of the Russian Spirit

By Galima Galiullina, Ph.D.  
For Veterans Today

*“Do not expect that once taking advantage of Russia's weakness, you will receive dividends forever. Russians always come for their money. And when they come - do not rely on the Jesuit agreements you signed, that they will justify you. They are not worth the paper they are written on. Therefore, it is worthwhile to play with the Russians honestly, or not at all.”*

Otto von Bismarck

Today we are seeing a sharp polarization of the moods of the West and the East, perhaps the most critical in the history of mankind. The Western pole is angry enough that we do not see intelligible statements of Western leaders about the situation. You can foresee the main note of

their angry speeches after the shock is overcome. Alas, this note will be as far from the truth as it was at the very beginning of the turn in relations between the West and the East. And the accused in these speeches will be Vladimir Putin, the main villain on the world stage.

The East, increasingly gaining centripetal movement, begins to see in Russia the only hope for a fair relationship with the West and a guarantor of peace in the foreseeable future. Syria continues a powder keg as Israel, and its muscle men from the US, desperately try to salvage plans to depose Bashar al-Assad and balkanize his country as part of the greater Israel strategy.

The Russians, who for the first time in a quarter of a century realized themselves a great power with high culture and distinguished history, feel their strength and resolve more than ever. And, this is not due only to Russia's impressive readiness in the military sphere, but because they are convinced that they have the best president in the world.

What explains the overwhelmingly popular reception Russia gave to its unknown President at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How has Vladimir Putin earned the respect, admiration, and loyalty of a people so disheartened after experiencing the worst features of western democracy? And, how is Russia positioning itself as the model for preserving sovereignty as counterbalance to those seeking to impose a new world order with no nation states as we have known them since the 17<sup>th</sup> century?

The answer to these questions is actually quite simple. Putin embodies the indomitable Russian spirit and rekindled it in Russians. Here is what he faced in 2000, what he did to rescue his nation, and where he is taking Russia into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **The Legacy of "Catastroyka"**

Russians have something now to compare. In order to describe the depth of their, and their former compatriots across the USSR, disappointment in bringing liberal reforms many volumes are needed. We will call this a space of deep disappointment, as millions of Russians have scattered around the world after the explosion that took the life of their country on December 25, 1991. The pain and tragedy of the loss of the country only now has become conscious in which anger is mixed with hopes.

Vladimir Putin came to power during the wild bacchanalia of Kremlin, and near-Kremlin political puppets and oligarchs, who appropriated the untold wealth of Russia to themselves but forgot about its people. The people were doomed to extinction, as every year in the 1990s one million people died from hunger and despair. I remember how Professor Peter Schulze, the president of the German Ebert Foundation, speaking about the state of the Russian economy in 1997, summed up his assessment: "Any country in this state of affairs would already have died. But for some reason Russia lives..."

Russia not only survived but continued to live and also regain its vision.

We realized that we rid ourselves of the syndrome of war as the Cold War ended, but the Western world persisted and even accelerated conflict unabated. And in the first years after the collapse of the Iron Curtain, our souls were flung open to the world as that of a child. It seemed to us that the whole world rejoices with us and in our freedom and is ready to accept us into a happy family of free peoples.

But only disdainful contempt we saw in the eyes of those to whom we rushed with open arms. We were seen as beggars, thieving and hopelessly talentless beggars, we received handouts, but they were offered mercilessly, dooming us to long-term slavery. Our internal strife was co-opted bringing about a rapid social demise. We were helped by treacherous friends following their own interests and leaving only humiliation and distraught people to fend for themselves.

Russians also understood that their new political and business elite were not elite at all. Russians were embarrassed by their wild immorality and greed, but there were no others, so what was to be done? The epitaph chorus at the imaginary deathbed of Russia was especially loud before Vladimir Putin arrived.

If we squeeze in time a play called "Russia on the Death Bed" to the size of usual theatrical action, the final scene presents a sad crowd of Western pirates with a tattered and bleeding Russia inching toward her final breath. The spirit of the nation was to be the first victim, but suddenly it returned! The unexpected phenomenon of Russia's returning Spirit suddenly morphed the sad insincere mask on faces of Western mourners to thoughts of a fleeting piece of delicious pie.

### **Strategic Priorities of Vladimir Putin**

Vladimir Putin, in an interview for the documentary "World Order 2018," on the question of what he sees as the greatness of Russia, replied: "One Russian military politician in the 18th century said that Russia has that undeniable advantage over other countries in that it is directly controlled by God. And, if it is not so, then it is unclear how it exists at all." However, Putin's messianic rhetoric rarely appears in his public statements, but is clearly woven into his strategic priorities.

#### **Priority 1- Free Russia from Western Colonization**

The first step was taken in 2002 when the predatory "Production Sharing Agreement," was amended to effectively abolish concessions. The 1995 agreement made it possible to rob the country of mineral and natural resources without benefit to Russians dependent on economic reform and social programs.

Article 10 of the Agreement stated that the state share, that is, the remaining 32%, 20% or 10%, depending on the type of mineral deposit and method of extraction, is credited to the federal budget. The share of the investor, that is, 68%, 80% or 90%, can be exported abroad

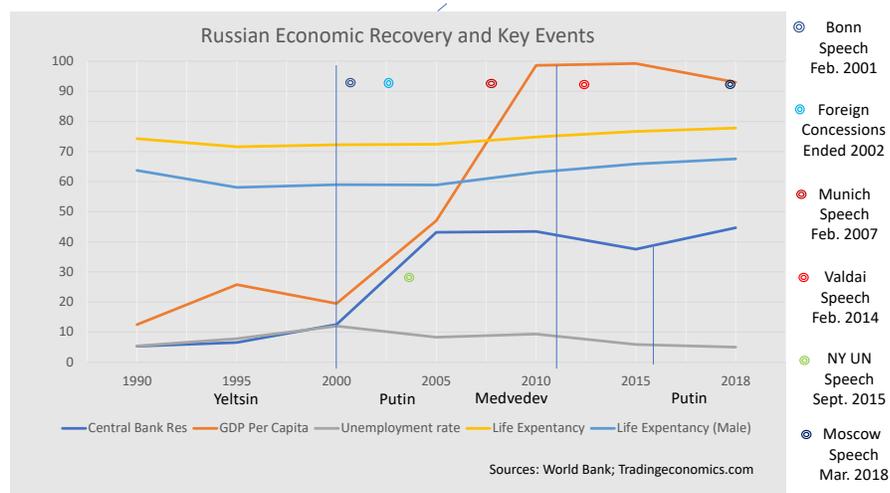
unhindered and in any amount and weight. The 256 richest deposits, which did not need any foreign investment, were included in the list of objects to which the Agreement was extended.

This loss of sovereignty shocked even front-line workers and led to actions by patriots living in the northern territories of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District who managed to curtail access to many deposits. Contract killers, sent by holders of such concessions, to eliminate obstacles disappeared without a trace into the remote taiga and swamps.

The change in these Agreements had an immediate effect as introduction of tax reforms formed new rules of the game. In 2003 the assets of Yukos and its chairman Mikhail Khodorkovsky were seized. Khodorkovsky was arrested for tax evasion and sent to prison. Unfortunately, Khodorkovsky was not charged at that time with the murder of the mayor of Novy Urengoy, Mikhail Petukhov. By 2013, company taxes paid to the treasury grew 24 times over the amount paid in 1995.

When Putin came to power in 2000, Russia's external debt was 78% of GDP. This bondage determined the country's political dependence. Using recent IMF data of debt-to-GDP ratio by country, Russia's share in the \$59 trillion world debt is lowest in Europe and equal only to 0.49 percent of the world debt, while the governments of Europe, excluding Russia, hold over 26 percent of total world debt. In absolute terms, Russia's external debt was at \$146,588 billion as of 2015.

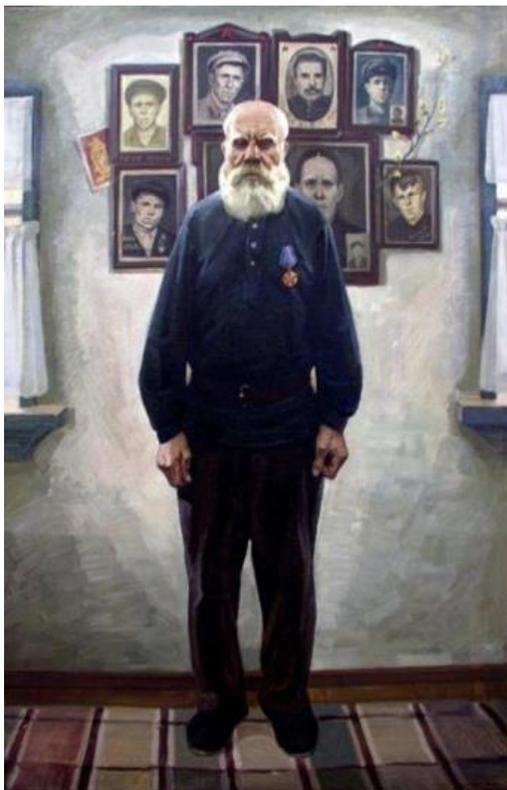
In January 2018, the federal budget surplus amounted to 189.3 billion rubles, or 2.8% of GDP. The unexpected budget surplus came after budget estimates called for a deficit for the year to be 1.3 percent of GDP. Rising oil prices were a large part of the turnaround, but increased agriculture exports and higher military sales also contributed. The Figure below shows how dramatic were changes in economic and social wellbeing following Putin's arrival.



## Priority 2 - Strengthen Sovereignty and National Defense

Ironically, Russians are among the most peaceful of nations. Peace for them is the most important value in the world. You will always hear in the conversations about difficulties in the life of ordinary people the phrase: If only war will never happen! It sounds like a spell, like prayer, as consent to patience and wisdom. Russians are not afraid of fighting, they are beautiful warriors and all wars against them ended in their victory. But wars often killed tens of millions of soldiers and civilians.

The bitterness of these losses and the pride of victory left memory on a genetic level. Therefore, for Russians, war is a curse, it is pain and loss, but at the same time it is a source of great pride of victory. Both Napoleon and Hitler buried millions of their soldiers in the drifts of Russian villages and cities. The price of victories for Russia was great.



*Figure 1: Father stands before portraits of his 8 sons killed in WW2.*

Understandably, for every Russian, a sense of security is important. In his message on March 1, 2018, Putin announced that the shield for the Motherland created by Russia scientists and engineers is unbreakable. Now Russia will defend itself and its allies in any case of attack by any means. For this protection, completely new high-tech weapons were created, which has no analogues in the world.

For the first time in recent history, Russians can catch their breath and begin to build a peaceful life based on a new technological level. From the crisis of relations with the West, Vladimir Putin came out not on a shield, but with a shield of his own.

Despite his successes, there is difficult work ahead to rid Russia of remnants of the 1990s. Numerous “reforms” were introduced into Russian society by progressive ideologues that practically killed the education system, turned medicine into business, and culture into anti-culture. The anti-Russian rhetoric of many information channels and publications persists, causing bewilderment and indignation in many Russians. Perhaps they are allowed to continue in

order to further expose their New World Order bias and dissolve the last drops of Russian confidence in the liberal neo-Bolshevik agenda.

### **Priority 3- Return Russia to a Global Power**

By the time Putin came to power, the state of the Russian armed forces could be characterized as complete disintegration. Entrepreneurial spirit penetrated into the ranks of the generals, gradually spread to ordinary soldiers and washed away the traditional values of the army spirit - honor and loyalty.

In the eyes of Russian society, the army appeared as something wild, stupid and self-satisfied, ready to fight with anyone, just for pay, as a bunch of young idiots ready to serve for a small payment, which can immediately be spent on alcohol or drugs. The former glory, obtained in an unprecedentedly bloody war, was almost dispelled, with the last front-line soldiers the true memory of heroes and exploits departed. It was a deliberate killing of Russian memory of heroes and victories, of military glory and honor.

It was very convenient and wildly funny for Western advisers to destroy Russia and enjoy watching dances of a drunken puppet, and then slowly and unhindered to squeeze the NATO inspired "Ring of Anaconda" around Russia expecting her imminent and final death. Putin apparently still believed that the concepts of honor and the given word exist in the West, and with someone from the Western elites it will be possible to build partnership relations in the future.

Everything changed in 2002, when the United States unilaterally terminated the ABM treaty. The belief that Russians can easily be deceived and destroy their country, as was the case with Gorbachev and Yeltsin, prompted the US to violate agreements brazenly and without explanation.

From that moment, Putin realized his future and the future of Russia as a long and difficult path to revival and victory. And if in a speech in the Bundestag in 2001 he still expressed confidence in the need for partnership with the West, then after 2002 the word partners remained for media consumption, but the attitude inside the Kremlin changed abruptly.

President Putin's speech on March 1, 2018 to the Federation Council addressed economic and national security progress and future steps to consolidate Russian sovereignty. In the military sphere Putin revealed startling details of progress in high technology weapons intended to protect Russia from external threats. Whether or not the new weapon systems truly have the edge on US military assets one thing is crystal clear. Russia has developed advanced military capabilities at a fraction of the cost of their western adversaries. As early as the 1990's, some military analysts began warning of Russian advancements in science and technology applied to weapon systems and the need for the US to initiate similar programs. Publicly available data on this topic is scant but convincing.

Russia provides heavy rocket engines to NASA for near space travel to the international space station. Russian electronic warfare systems demonstrated unusual power over US Navy warships and might have played a role in the poor penetration of cruise missiles fired last April

into Syria. One estimate by a credible source put Russian science, particularly physics, at a 50- year lead over American counterparts. Who knows the exact dimensions of the gap between US and Russian weapons development except to say certainly Russia achieved remarkable results by spending about 10 cents for every dollar the US has since 2000.

### **Why Does the West Hate Putin?**

Alexander Muromsky noted “now we have an almost mystical picture - Putin is hated for not betraying Russia and the Russian people, and we are hated for not betraying Putin.”

When Putin was asked what he does most hate, he replied: Betrayal. And these are not empty words. For a person who served in foreign intelligence, a traitor was a threat not only to his life, but to the whole cause of his life. When the West realized that Putin would not betray his people, a massive demonization attack began in which all means are allowed, and no one thinks about professional ethics, nor about the rules of diplomacy, or about elementary honesty and honor.

Politicians hate him for destroying the world order wherein the world is ruled not from one center or even one country, but by international extra-territorial cabals fighting among themselves for domination. Individual countries could not have conflicting opinion or national interests without the risk of being bombed.

Under Putin, powerful counterbalances to the West arose - organizations such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and BRICS, the Eurasian Economic Union, which together have markets consisting of half the world's population. Without Russia - the country of Heartland, these organizations would not have been possible. Today, all the major projects of One Road-One Belt pass through Russia and develop with her participation.

But now we see the apogee of hatred after Putin stepped into a circle where global predators had already been tormenting Syria for six years. Here the anger of the anti-Putin choir screams loudest. According to Bloomberg News in March, 2018:

Syria is the nexus for the destabilizing trends that are thrusting the entire global order into crisis. That order was originally created after World War II, but it reached its full flowering and ambition after the fall of the Soviet Union. The post-Cold War era was characterized by widespread hopes that the forces of order and civilization were finally defeating those of aggression and inhumanity; that democracy was becoming truly universal; that great-power competition had vanished; and that the danger of major war was receding further than ever before. Nearly three decades later, however, the heady optimism of that period has given way to a darker set of trends, all of which are at work in Syria.

Begin with the obvious: Syria represents an assault on the very idea of moral progress. But it's not alone. Around the globe, longstanding legal and ethical norms are being eroded, and the world is being dragged back to a more ruthless, less-enlightened age. China,

which may have a ruler-for-life, is chipping away at freedom of navigation in the Western Pacific; Russia has shattered the taboo against wars of aggression and conquest in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Such hubris cannot be found in any historical tract and exposes the true delusional condition of American neo-conservatives and their Zionist patrons.

Bankers and global corporations hate Putin for taking away fat chunks of multiple Russian markets. Beside the restoration of sovereign rights over fossil fuels and numerous minerals, other high profit markets suddenly became off-limits to outside corporations and their bankers.

The Doctrine of Food Security, adopted by Russia in 2010, and further adjusted in 2014, changed the dynamics of agriculture. According to the Doctrine, a sharp cessation of the supply of products from abroad is considered a national threat. It follows that Russia must ensure food security through its own production and corresponding reduction in the share of imports. The far-sighted policy of Russia was manifested in 2014, when sanctions were adopted on export of certain foods to Russia.

With the bony hand of famine Russia could not be strangled. On the contrary, farmers and agro-complexes began to develop with unprecedented speed. In the summer of 2015, I interviewed the director of the Akbashevsky state farm of the Chelyabinsk region, Nurgali Zaripov. He addressed me with warm greetings and expressed great gratitude to Barack Obama for the sanctions.

Fully 95 percent of the state farm's population in this region are Bashkirs, indigenous inhabitants of the Southern Urals. Young people began returning to the farm, young families are provided with free houses, the state farm pays for the construction of these houses. And even a family of refugees from Ukraine found a home in Akbashevo (free of charge), and Nurgali Zaripov gave them all the equipment from his office - a refrigerator, a microwave oven.

In 2017, Russia produced 167 million tons of grain- more than the USSR's record crop in 1978, that then included Kazakhstan and Ukraine. Monsanto has special reasons to hate Putin, Russia banned GMO products until creditable international studies resolve troubling questions about their safety. This means that Russia now produces quality organic food and may become a major supplier of healthy products for the world going forward. In the two-and-one-half years of the food embargo, Russia replaced by its own production \$4 billion of imported food by increasing domestic production.

The situation with pharmaceutical products was very dangerous for Russia's national security. The task was to recreate a domestic pharmaceutical industry that had been dismantled during the Yeltsin years. Today, production of medicines is one of the most successfully developing sectors of Russian industry. A significant part of the drugs produced in Russia can be attributed to high-tech products.

At the end of 2017, the share of vital drugs of domestic production reached 84 percent, (in 2004 this share was 7 percent), which is a record in the history of modern Russia. It is planned that next year this figure should climb to 90 percent. In fact, all of the above figures indicate huge losses for Western corporations, and it is obvious that these losses are irreplaceable.

### **Putin's Demonization: Who Won?**

Did Putin try to make friends with the West? Being a realist and not a Kremlin dreamer, Putin never counted on friendly relations with arrogant Western politicians who initially viewed Russia and its President as a defeated enemy. To the West, Russia must be further dismembered, ravaged and turned into a humble vassal. But he hoped, perhaps the numerous think tanks knew well the history of Russia and the nature of its people and would give faithful advice to their government patrons how to behave with the new Russia.

The political order for the total demonization of Putin with all the power of corrupt Western media and its fickle analysts and experts, must be considered the fatal mistake of western political elites. The fatal mistake was aggravated by the Russophobic hysteria immediately after the 2016 elections in the United States. For some reason, none of the expert community is able to realize that the demonization of Putin kills the predictive function of analysts.

Instead of trying to understand why and how Putin and Putin's Russia are increasingly attracting the hearts of people around the world and try to realize, why the new world order proclaimed by the US could not last a quarter of a century, the puppets of the media and the expert community are engaged in voodoo practices – trying in vain to kill a scarecrow of Putin.

While Russia suffered, William Browder, as head of the Hermitage Foundation, earned \$4.5 billion by fraudulently buying shares in state-owned companies. Although he claims that he earned his riches by secretly selling shares of Russian companies in the summer of 2006 his dealings with the Russian titanium company tell an interesting story. The RICO lawsuit brought by Avisma resulted in settlement of charges that Browder and his associates siphoned off funds into accounts in the Cayman Islands, later funneling funds to personal accounts in Barcalays Bank in New York. Despite this diversion of profits, Hermitage reported 2,697 percent gain for the period 1996 to 2007 on an initial investment of \$25 million.

His fantastic enrichment during the period of turbulent activity in Russia is an excellent example of how foreign scammers plundered Russia posing as consultants and advisers. Browder is also a vivid example of the greed of these kind of swindlers, gaining untold wealth in a ravaged country. He did not shy away from tax evasion, having earned billions of dollars on fraudulent transactions with IMF tranches, and buying up companies at a fraction of their asset value.

As Russian journalist Ilya Ukhov's investigation showed, lobbying for the adoption of the Magnitsky Act was carried out by Margery Kraus, a lobbyist of the Menatep group, financed by William Browder and Mikhail Khodorkovsky. Ukhov's investigation of the lobbying scheme for

the adoption of the Magnitsky Act, which Khodorkovsky personally funded and directed together with Browder, concluded:

1. Sergei Magnitsky was not a lawyer, but an accountant and an auditor who started to testify against his employer (Browder). And this poses the question of who really benefited from the death of Magnitsky.
2. the Magnitsky Act, was adopted almost immediately after the Jackson-Vanik amendment was removed.

But in the eyes of the entire Western community, with the efforts of journalists and politicians. Vladimir Putin was cast as the brutal criminal authority that deprived Mikhail Khodorkovsky of his fortune and freedom and drove the financier Browder out of the country.

Entire companies have been set up, whose goal is anti-Russian propaganda and demonization of Putin. "White Helmets" even received support from the Hollywood Film Academy, garnering "Oscar" for the fake documentary chronicles depicting Russians as war criminals in Syria.

On the 2nd of November 2012, the spokesperson of the United Nations Office for Human Rights, Rupert Colville said: "the allegations are that these were (Syrian) soldiers who were no longer combatants and therefore, at this point, it looks very much like a war crime."

### **For What are the Russians Grateful to President Putin?**

#### **For the return of a sense of pride for Russia.**

Almost a quarter of a century of national humiliation, self-abasement and loss of sovereignty greatly aggravated the feeling of loss of national dignity among Russians. Drunken President Yeltsin, and President Clinton dying of laughter next to him - the newsreel footage has forever cut into the memory of Russians as the last facet of humiliation.

Compared to that sad scene, the appearance of Putin with his officer's sense of honor, the return of the army's status as a defender of the country, the rehabilitation of memory of the victors in the Second World War - all this significantly strengthened Putin's position in the people's mind.

Not the escalation of national-patriotic hysteria, but calm confidence in themselves. Not an ostrich policy of escape from reality, but open competition in all accessible areas. Not the preparation of an "intellectual semi-finished product" for the West, but the infatuation of young intellectuals with the magnitude of future victories.

The proportion of Russians who are convinced of the special role of the Russian people in world history has reached its peak since 1992, according to research by the Levada Center.

If in 1992 this was considered 13% of respondents, then in 2017 this indicator rose to 64%. During this time, the number of respondents who consider that the Russian people is the same as others: from 80 to 32%, has significantly decreased.

About 82% of the respondents considered that "Russia should retain the role of a great power", 13% said that Russia should not pretend to play this role. Last year, the share of supporters of the first response was 76%, the second - 17%

### **Revival of the USSR as a follow-up to the algorithms of Eurasia.**

Russians scold Putin for not being Stalin enough. In parallel with the process of Stalin's rehabilitation in Russia, people's anger against those who participated in the plundering of the country in the 90s, against those who continue the destructive work inside the country, is growing. Therefore, people are waiting for Putin to take decisive action against those in whom they see the cause of their troubles.

The fact of the matter is that in this way he discourages himself from the inevitable - from the fact that he will have to become Stalin. It was not the mythical tyrant Stalin, who sheds rivers of the people's blood, but the real Stalin who managed to bring the people, who had suffered the trauma of the civil war, the moral decline and economic ruin, to the people on the road of creation and victories.

Stalin rallied it after the fratricidal war and with such multinationality, prepared for the war, won the war, rid the communist ideology of Russophobia, created industry and science, which was then enough for half a century. And he was building a fair social order after all. What of these tasks is now irrelevant for Putin? Everything is relevant, including the preparations for war.

Putin cannot be reproached for projecting or megalomania. By building the Eurasian Union, it only follows the developmental algorithms of Eurasia itself, the Middle Continent or the Heartland. Geopolitics of the scale of Brzezinski or Fukuyama have poorly studied the works of the great scientist.

Not only did the peoples of the disintegrated Union realize the need for the next stage in Eurasian development, having experienced the tragedy of the collapse of the multi-million loss of its population, but even political elites quake after the fires of imaginary independence and begin to change rhetoric in favor of movement toward the center.

In this respect, Nino Burjanadze's interview, which stated that Georgia needs good-neighborly relations with Russia, is indicative and that Georgia needs a president like Putin, who cares about his people.

If we digress from the topic of innovative development of the defense complex in Putin's speech on March 1, 2018, the main theme of the president's speech was the spatial

development of the country. "I propose to launch a large-scale program of spatial development of Russia, ... and at least double the costs for these purposes in the next six years," - now looks like a promising agenda of domestic policy, the search for which has been going on for the past few years.

## **Bog and Putin**

Putin has one common problem with Trump - he has his own swamp. This swamp was formed even under Yeltsin and his inviolability, perhaps, was agreed with Yeltsin when he left the post to Putin. These are the right-liberal elites, the very ones that revived Trotsky's plans to destroy the Russian state and absorb it into the one world globalist entity.

Elites with ant-Russian ideology still occupy leading positions in management of the economy, culture, media, in that they have so far retained the assets assigned in the privatization process. It is these fifth column members that advise western governments on who must be punished, and sanctions approved by Trump are calculated on their reaction. But the calculation that these elites today can do something against Putin has no chance of coming true.

Sometimes Putin has to work in the mode of manual control, using the vertical of power he has established. For example, on June 2, 2009, a helicopter with Prime Minister Putin landed at Pikalevo, Leningrad region. The only cement plant in the city was stopped due to a labor dispute placing 22,000 inhabitants of the city in desperate situation. As the conflict with the plant owners unfolded, the workers had not been given their salary for many months and were locked out - sent to unpaid leave.

The federal highway was shut off at the order of the governor, who did not want the prime minister's visit. At a meeting with the owners, the governor and representatives of the working group, Putin accused the owners of making thousands of people hostage to their ambitions, unprofessionalism and greed.

Upon reaching agreement with the owners to reopen the plant Putin noticed that the oligarch Oleg Deripaska still did not sign the contract promising to think and find a solution to the problem later. Putin called him to the table and forced him to sign the agreement. After signing, Deripaska walked away with Putin's pen but was firmly asked to return it. Putin then ordered the issuance of RU41,240 million for back pay to workers, and restoration of heat to workers houses which was shut down many months. The chronicles of this meeting sent a signal for the remaining brazen capitalists and gave hope to ordinary people that Putin would defend their interests.

The Russian people know how to compare, analyze, and continuously communicate with their President through annual live broadcasts, which last sometimes up to 5 hours. Putin's appearance in various forums and even the way he spends his two-day vacation - all turns the President into a national leader, and the right-liberal elite into outcasts in their own country. This is the Russian trend today.

One of Putin's indisputable virtues is he is able to listen and hear his people. The Russian people yearned for independence, by their own right to decide their own destiny. People are eager to get rid of internal enemies, traitors and comprador elite. Citizens of Russia understand that independence in the global world is ephemeral, if the country is weak. For the sake of a strong Russia they are ready for much, but for them justice is as important. Asceticism for the people and luxury for the elite - this must go to the past. Russian lawmakers must step up and create a legal field that improves economic justice.

## **Conclusion**

The process of the birth of Putin as a national leader is interesting. If you realize the whole burden of suffering, which the Russians had to go through at the end of the 20th century, as a payment for a moral fall, for betraying their ideals, their way, it turned out according to Dostoevsky: Dostoevsky also believed. that the path to freedom (in the sense of inner liberation and renewal) goes through debauchery.

That you will first have to be on the edge of the abyss and even collapse to the bottom of it, and then, horrified at your own fall, get out of the abyss of unbelief, immorality, betrayal, conformism, building on the road acceptable rules of life among their own kind.

Putin was received by the people of Russia on the road to freedom as a guide to the lighthouses. Today we see the internally liberated Russians laughing apart from their illusions about liberal democracy and fraternal alliance with the West.

The younger generation of Russians formulates their attitude to the world much more rigidly. Andrei Bystrushkin noted; 160 years have passed, the empire has been replaced by the republic, the class society into capitalist, then socialist, then capitalist again ... But Russophobia and the desire to destroy Russia and the Russian people in the West has not changed at all. The wars of the West against us never end, they are only interrupted briefly by armistice, when the Russian Cossacks triumphantly enter Berlin or Paris, and then the war inevitably resumes.

The West is not a temporary enemy of Russia because of any specific disagreement that can be eliminated. Rather, the West is an existential and inescapable enemy of Russia, because we do not allow and will never allow the West to arrange on our planet a global concentration camp. The division of mankind into an exceptional nation and rogue states, on true Aryans and subhuman creatures is unacceptable. Characterizing humans as God-chosen and goyim, or the burden of the white man, and natives is a moral dead end.

We, our Russian World, defend the planet from the Western infernal evil, based on diabolical greed, lies, violence, devaluation of human life and mercy, on monstrous Satanic injustice."

And such a vision is needed by Vladimir Putin, who says to the West from the rostrum at multiple venues: "You do not have to pose yourself as the Lord God and try to solve for all

peoples all their problems." Creating a new era of their history, the Russians choose their own unique path.

Galima Galiullina, Ph.D.  
Washington  
USA