

ملخص النص

Russia, the world's largest country, spans Eastern Europe and North Asia, bordering 14 nations. Its capital and largest city is Moscow, with Saint Petersburg a significant cultural center. Early settlements date back to the Lower Paleolithic, with East Slavs forming Kievan Rus' by the 9th century CE and adopting Orthodox Christianity in 988. The Grand Duchy of Moscow's unification of Russian lands culminated in the Tsardom of Russia, which expanded into the vast Russian Empire through conquest and exploration. The 1917 revolution replaced the monarchy with the Russian SFSR, the world's first socialist state. Following the Russian Civil War and the formation of the Soviet Union, rapid industrialization and a pivotal role in World War II characterized the era, followed by Cold War advancements including space exploration. Following the Soviet Union's dissolution in 1991, Russia, under Vladimir Putin's leadership, has experienced democratic decline and authoritarian rule. Its involvement in conflicts, including the 2008 Georgian War and the ongoing war in Ukraine (with annexed territories), contrasts with its status as a high-income economy reliant on natural resources. However, Russia consistently scores poorly on global indices measuring democracy, human rights, and press freedom. This country, a permanent UN Security Council member and active in numerous international organizations, has a name derived from Byzantine Greek. Its history spans millions of years, with evidence of early modern humans dating back 45,000 years.