

Russia & Eurasia Relevant Books 1H20 + Recommended Reading

"Books have the power to bring you glory or doom, it all depends on perception"

Nikita Dudani, India born Author

Most useful & interesting books in 1H20. This review lists the most useful books, for investors and business managers/planners, about Russia and the broader Eurasia region which have been published in the first half of this year. They are chosen because they offer some insight into either the economy and politics or simply how Russia and the other Eurasia states works. Specifically excluded from this list are most of the "tabloid" books focusing on, e.g. the impending doom of war or simply ranting about why Russia/Eurasia is either so bad or so wonderful. None add anything useful for those looking to better understand how the region works or to better understand the business and investment climate.

Victim of Covid-19 virus. The number of books published over the past six months is smaller than usual. This is partly because of the disruption caused by the covid-19 pandemic as several books, previously listed for the period, have been delayed into the 2nd half year. The other reason is because of the US presidential election. Several authors plan to issue geopolitical themed books ahead of the election in the expectation of gaining opportunistic publicity.

Coverage of Eurasia region is increasing. Interest in Central Asia, and the Eurasian region generally, is increasing. This was a noteworthy trend last year and, again in 1H20, there have been several very useful books looking at the development of the region and its growing importance for China (the BRI expansion), Russia (it is the near-abroad) and the US (access to Afghanistan). The expansion and impact of BRI is also again a big theme this year.

Economic coverage is a noticeable gap. There have been no books published in the English language this year which focus on the economy. There were none last year either.

Recommended reading list. Also included in this report is the updated recommended list covering Russia and the Eurasia region. These are books we believe give the best overview for those that wish to understand modern Russia and the fast-developing Eurasia states. This is not a list of best literature or books about abstract themes. These are books that: A) help place the development of the countries in a relevant context; B) explain how the various economies are emerging; C) consider the changing political landscape in the region and in individual countries; and D) show how Russia and its Eurasia neighbours interact with the rest of the world and also how the major powers in the world today view the region.

The books reviewed this year are listed in no particular order other than within these thematic categories:

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Reviews in Macro-Monthly reports. We highlight all new and relevant books published about Russia or the other countries of the CIS-Eurasia region in our flagship Macro-Monthly publication. A more detailed review of these books can be found in these reports. In some instances, we offer our own opinion about the books listed but, in other cases, we resort to the Amazon blurb for convenience.

Section I: Russia 1H20

❖ Domestic Politics

Title: Putin's People: How the KGB Took Back Russia and then Took on the West

Author: Catherine Belton

Catherine Belton is the former long-serving Moscow Correspondent for the Financial Times. She has previously reported on Russia for Moscow Times and Business Week. In 2008, she was shortlisted for Business Journalist of the year at the British Press Awards.

The sleeve notes describe this a “chilling and revelatory expose of the KGB’s renaissance, Putin’s rise to power, and how Russian black cash is subverting the world”. In *Putin’s People*, Catherine Belton reveals the untold story of how Vladimir Putin and his entourage of KGB men seized power in Russia and built a new league of oligarchs. Through exclusive interviews with key inside players, she tells how Putin’s people conducted their relentless seizure of private companies, took over the economy, siphoned billions, blurred the lines between organised crime and political powers, shut down opponents, and then used their riches and power to extend influence in the West.

Title: The Use of History in Putin's Russia

Author: James Pearce

James C. Pearce completed his PhD in 2018 at Anglia Ruskin University. Pearce has conducted research in the Russian Federation since 2015 on matters related to historical memory in the public space and education, the discipline of history as well as Russian foreign policy in the twenty-first century.

‘The Use of History in Putin’s Russia’ examines how the past is perceived in contemporary Russia and analyses the ways in which the Russian state uses history to create a broad coalition of consensus and forge a new national identity. Central to issues of governance and national identity, the Russian state utilizes history for the purpose of state-building and reviving Russia’s national consciousness in the twenty-first century. Assessing how history mediates the complex relationship between state and population, this book analyses the selection process of constructing and recycling a preferred historical narrative to create loyal, patriotic citizens, ultimately aiding its modernization. Different historical spheres of Russian life are analyzed in-depth including areas of culture, politics, education, and anniversaries. The past is not just a state matter, a socio-political issue linked to the modernization process, containing many paradoxes.

Title: **Russia and the Media: The Makings of a New Cold War**

Author: **Greg McLaughlin**

Greg McLaughlin lives in Northern Ireland. He is an independent author and Associate of the Centre for Media Research (CMR) at Ulster University. He has written widely on the role of the media in reporting war and peace, locally and internationally; and on the political economy of the local news media in Northern Ireland. Greg is now starting work on a new project, looking at media perceptions of Russia as Western attitudes harden towards this country.

President Vladimir Putin is a figure of both fear and fascination in the Western imagination. In the minds of media pundits and commentators, he personifies Russia itself - a country riven with contradictions, enthralling and yet a threat to world peace. But recent propaganda images that define public debate around growing tensions with Russia are not new or arbitrary. *Russia and the Media* asks what is the role of Western journalism in constructing a new kind of Cold War with Russia?

Title: **Putin's Russia: Economy, Defence and Foreign Policy**

Author: **Steven Rosefielde**

Steven R. Rosefielde is Professor of Comparative Economic Systems at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is also a member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences.

This volume seeks to fill the vacuum created by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress's decision to cease publishing comprehensive assessments of Russia's performance and potential. It provides readers with descriptions of Russia's economy, military prowess, and international ambitions. The volume does not settle controversies but aims to provide readers with an objective basis for assessing Russia's prospects without the distortions caused by fake news and disinformation wars.

Title: **The Territories of the Russian Federation 2020**

Editors: **Europe Publications**

The introduction examines the Russian Federation as a whole, followed by a chronology, demographic and economic statistics, and a review of the Federal Government.

The second section comprises territorial surveys, each of which includes a current map. This edition includes surveys covering the annexed (and disputed) territories of Crimea and Sevastopol, as well as updated surveys of each of the other 83 federal subjects.

The third section comprises a select bibliography of books.

The fourth section features a series of indexes, listing the territories alphabetically, by Federal Okrug and Economic Area. Users will also find a gazetteer of selected alternative and historic names, a list of the territories abolished, created or reconstituted in the post-Soviet period, and an index of more than 100 principal cities, detailing the territory in which each is located.

Title: **Agriculture and Rural Development in Russia Since the 2000s: Focusing on Human Capital**

Authors: **Andrey Baldanov, Lily Kiminaami, Shinichi Furuzawa**

***Andrey Baldanov** is part of the Faculty of Agriculture at Niigata University in Japan*

***Lily Kiminami** is part of the Faculty of Agriculture at Niigata University.*

***Shinichi Furuzawa** is part of the Faculty of Agriculture at Niigata University.*

This book clarifies the status quo and mechanisms of agricultural and rural development in today's Russia, especially focusing on human capital and human development. It provides reader insights into agricultural and rural development from the perspectives of agricultural economics, developmental economics, and regional–spatial science. Further, it addresses key research questions such as whether agricultural development in Russia has made significant strides, whether it has improved the nation's food security and rural development, and whether structural changes in the agricultural sector as well as human capital have had impacts on agricultural development since the 2000s. In terms of analytical methods, structural equation modelling and stochastic frontier analysis are employed to capture the relationship between agriculture and rural development in regional Russia. In closing, policy challenges are identified to promote social innovation for rural development by enhancing the human capital of rural youth, including entrepreneurship.

❖ **Russia and the World**

Title: **The View from Moscow: Understanding Russia & U.S.-Russia Relations**

Author: **Natylie Baldwin**

Natylie Baldwin is described as a free-lance author and experienced writer on foreign policy issues with a demonstrated history of working in the alternative media. Her focus is on Russia and US-Russia relations. She lives in California.

With Russia and the US currently having 1,700 nuclear weapons pointed at each other on hair trigger alert, the US relationship with Russia is one of the most critical, requiring a rational policy. In order to conduct a rational foreign policy, the US must understand the other country's point of view. That doesn't mean one must agree with it, but must know how Russia perceives its own interests so we can determine what they may be willing to risk or sacrifice on behalf of those perceived interests. It's also essential to determine areas of common cause and cooperation.

Understanding the Russian viewpoint means understanding Russia's history, geography and culture. The Western corporate media – and even some of Western alternative media – has a very poor track record in providing this crucial service with respect to many of the nations with whom the US has already gone to war. The so-called experts they consult often have conflicts of interest, nefarious agendas, and lack an objective understanding of the nation they are speaking about. This has certainly been the case when it comes to reporting on Russia, a country with which the stakes are potentially much higher for the entire world.

Title: **Russia in a Changing World**

Editors: **Alexander Lukin, Glenn Diesen**

Glenn Diesen is a Professor at the National Research University - Higher School of Economics in Moscow, and an editor at the Russia in Global Affairs journal.

Alexander Lukin is Director of the Centre for East Asian and Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies, at Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO-University), and Chair Professor in the School of Public Affairs of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China.

This book explores Russia's efforts towards both adapting to and shaping a world in transformation. Russia has been largely marginalized in the post-Cold War era and has struggled to find its place in the world, which means that the chaotic changes in the world present Russia with both threats and opportunities. The rapid shift in the international distribution of power and emergence of a multipolar world disrupts the existing order, although it also enables Russia to diversify its partnerships and restore balance. Adapting to these changes involves restructuring its economy and evolving the foreign policy. The crises in liberalism, environmental degradation, and challenge to state sovereignty undermine political and economic stability while also widening Russia's room for diplomatic manoeuvring. This book analyses how the authors consider Russia interprets these developments and its ability to implement the appropriate responses.

❖ **Russia – General Coverage**

Title: **Between Two Fires**

Author: **Joshua Yaffa**

Joshua Yaffa is a correspondent for The New Yorker in Moscow, where he has lived for the last eight years.

Between Two Fires chronicles the lives of eight ambitious Russians - from politicians and entrepreneurs to artists and historians - who have built their careers and constructed their identities in the shadow of the Putin system.

Torn between their own ambitions and the omnipresent demands of the state, some muster cunning and cynicism to extract privileges from those in power while others are broken or demoralized. For each, the question of compromise - where to bend, how much, and in the service of what goal - is ever-present. The result is an intimate portrait of the way citizens shape their lives around the demands of the state.

Title: **Present at the Transition: An Inside Look at the Role of History, Politics, and Personalities in Post-Communist Countries**

Author: **Oleh Havrylyshyn**

Oleh Havrylyshyn is a research professor at the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at Carleton University, Ottawa.

Nearly thirty years after the fall of the Soviet Union, debates over paths to market liberalization have produced numerous studies across the social sciences. Havrylyshyn, a former official in the post-independence Ukrainian government, provides a source account of the people and problems at the heart of economic transitions. Grounded in three decades of data, along with experiential research gleaned from nearly thirty countries, this book contains an assessment of economic transitions in post-communist regions. It examines questions of gradual versus radical reforms, the relationship between democracy and market liberalization, and how history, individual personalities, and foreign influence determined political choices.

Section II: Global Oil

Title: The Bridge: Natural Gas in a redivided Europe

Author: Thane Gustafson

In this publication, the author argues that despite Europe's geopolitical rivalries, natural gas and deals based on it unite Europe's nations in mutual self-interest. Three decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the breakup of the Soviet empire, the West faces a new era of East-West tensions. Any vision of a modern Russia integrated into the world economy and aligned in peaceful partnership with a reunited Europe has abruptly vanished. Two opposing narratives vie to explain the strategic future of Europe, one geopolitical and one economic, and both center on the same resource: natural gas.

In *The Bridge*, Thane Gustafson, an expert on Russian oil and gas, argues that the political rivalries that capture the lion's share of media attention must be viewed alongside multiple business interests and differences in economic ideologies. With a dense network of pipelines linking Europe and Russia, natural gas serves as a bridge that unites the region through common interests. Tracking the economic and political role of gas through several countries—Russia and Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, and Norway -- *The Bridge* details both its history and its likely future. As Gustafson suggests, there are reasons for optimism, but whether the "gas bridge" can ultimately survive mounting geopolitical tensions and environmental challenges remains to be seen.

Title: The Globalization of Russian Gas: Political and Commercial Catalysts

Author: James Henderson and Arild Moe

James Henderson, Director, Natural Gas Research Program, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies (OIES), UK. Arild Moe is Research Professor at Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI), Norway

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Gazprom has dominated the Russian gas industry. However, the markets in which it operates have changed dramatically, with the company increasingly being challenged at home and abroad. At this critical moment, this book analyses the involvement of the Russian gas industry in the changing international gas market and the dramatic implications for Russia's role as a global supplier of gas in the future.

James Henderson and Arild Moe explore the link between changes in Russia's domestic market, where new players have recently emerged, and the development of Russia's gas export business. In particular, they assess the growing importance of LNG exports and the role of Novatek in developing this new business area for Russia. They also review changes in European gas trade and the development of new EU regulations, analysing the ambiguities in Europe's position on gas exports from Russia and showing why efforts to limit expansion of Russian gas exports have been unsuccessful. Timely and comprehensive, this book is critical reading for academics and researchers interested in the development of the global gas market. Policymakers and economists, particularly Russian specialists, will benefit from this book's key insights into the economic and political consequences of Russia's changing role in the global gas market.

Title: **MBS: The Rise to Power of Mohammed Bin Salman**

Author: **Ben Hubbard**

Ben Hubbard has spent more than a dozen years reporting in the Middle East, where he is the Beirut Bureau Chief for The New York Times.

When his elderly father took the throne in 2015, Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) got his chance. As the hands-on-ruler, he made seismic changes, working doggedly to overhaul the kingdom's economy, loosen its strict Islamic social codes and confront nearby enemies, especially Iran. His vision initially won fans at home and abroad as he convinced other nations that the moment had come to bet big on Saudi Arabia. Over time, however, the sheen of the visionary young reformer has tarnished, leaving many wondering whether MBS is actually an aspiring dictator whose lack of experience and rash decisions are destabilizing the world's most volatile region.

Based on years of reporting and hundreds of covert interviews, *MBS* provides new insights into Saudi Arabia's catastrophic military intervention in Yemen, the bizarre detention of the Lebanese prime minister, the surprise arrest of hundreds of princes and businessmen, and the greatest scandal of the young prince's rise: the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Title: **Geopolitics of the Global Energy Transition**

Authors: **Manfred Hafner, Simone Tagliapietra**

Manfred Hafner is an Adjunct Professor of International Energy Economics and Geopolitics at The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS Europe), Bologna BO, Italy, and at the SciencesPo Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA), France.

Simone Tagliapietra is an Adjunct Professor of Global Energy Fundamentals at The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS Europe), Bologna BO, Italy. He also is a Senior Researcher at the Future Energy Programme of the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Milan,

Note: The section related to Russia is written by **James Henderson** and **Tatiana Mitrova**

The world is currently undergoing an historic energy transition, driven by increasingly stringent decarbonisation policies and rapid advances in low-carbon technologies. The large-scale shift to low-carbon energy is disrupting the global energy system, impacting whole economies, and changing the political dynamics within and between countries. This open access book examines the economic and geopolitical implications of the global energy transition, from both regional and thematic perspectives. The first part of the book addresses the geopolitical implications in the world's main energy-producing and energy-consuming regions, while the second presents in-depth case studies on selected issues, ranging from the geopolitics of renewable energy, to the mineral foundations of the global energy transformation, to governance issues in connection with the changing global energy order.

Section III: Russia, China and BRI

Title: The "Roads" and "Belts" of Eurasia

Editor: Alexander Lukin

Alexander Lukin is Director of the Centre for East Asian and Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies at Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO-University) and Chair Professor at the School of Public Affairs of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China.

This book addresses the challenges and opportunities of contemporary and future development of Eurasia. The main theme of the first part of the book is examining the reaction evoked in different countries by the Chinese "Belt and Road Initiative." The second part analyses other national and international integration and infrastructure projects in Eurasia. This publication brings together in one volume works by leading researchers from different countries, united by their common interest in the political and economic processes unfolding in the Eurasian continent. By offering various points of view from experts from all over the world, this book provides a multi-dimensional analysis of the Eurasian future.

Focusing on British and US media coverage of moments of crisis and of co-operation between the West and Russia, McLaughlin exposes how such a Cold War framework shapes public perceptions of a major, hostile power reasserting itself on the world stage. Scrutinizing events such as the Ukraine/Crimea crisis, the Skripal poisoning and Russia's military intervention in Syria - as well as analyzing media coverage of the 2018 Russian presidential election and build up to the 2018 World Cup.

Section IV: Eurasia Region – New Books in 1H20

Title: **Russia and Central Asia: Coexistence, Conquest, Convergence**

Author: **Shoshana Keller**

Shoshana Keller is a professor in the Department of History at Hamilton College.

Russia and Central Asia provides an overview of the relationship between these two dynamic regions, highlighting the ways in which they have influenced and been influenced by Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. This readable synthesis, covering early coexistence in the seventeenth century to the present day, seeks to encourage new ways of thinking about how the modern world developed. Shoshana Keller focuses on the five major "Stans": Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. Cultural and social history is interwoven with the military narrative to provide a sense of the people, their religion, and their practices - all of which were severely tested under Stalin. The text includes a glossary as well as images and maps that help to highlight 500 years of changes, bringing Central Asia into the general narrative of Russian and world history and introducing a fresh perspective on colonialism and modernity.

Title: **Eurasianism: An Ideology for the Multipolar World (Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European Politics)**

Author: **Paolo Pizzolo**

Paolo Pizzolo is research fellow in international relations at the University LUISS Guido Carlo of Rome.

Eurasianism: An Ideology for the Multipolar World investigates the ideology of Eurasianism, a political doctrine that founds its principles on geopolitics and conservatism. Specifically, the book examines neo-Eurasianist thought and its implications for the international system. After collocating Eurasianism in the spectrum of conservative theories, the research analyses its historical evolution from the early 20th century to its contemporary manifestations. Pizzolo describes the liaison between Eurasianism and geopolitics, describing the nature of geopolitics and the main theories that highlight the relevance of the Eurasian landmass, including Mackinder's "Heartland theory", Spykman's "Rimland theory", and Haushofer's "Kontinentalblock" project. The book also focuses on the central elements of the neo-Eurasianist ideology, including the key features of the so-called "Fourth Political Theory", arguing that Eurasianism could represent a theoretical contribution for the advent of the multipolar world.

Title: **The Eurasian Economic Union and Integration Theory**

Author: **Mikhail Mukhametdinov**

Mikhail Mukhametdinov is adjunct professor at the Samara College for the Humanities, Russia. He is formerly head of applied linguistics and foreign languages at this school and visiting scholar at Stanford University's Department of Iberian and Latin American Cultures.

This book evaluates the utility of the Eurasian Economic Union in economic, political, cultural and geostrategic dimensions. It does so through a systematic comparison of the bloc with aspects of the European Union along a number of criteria derived from integration theory. The book concludes that the EAEU is a useless undertaking, at least for Russia, in any of the integration dimensions discussed. This is so because of the inherent properties of the region, and also because of the behaviour of the member states in the context of Russia's resistance to the West. Besides, the principles of liberal economics, endorsed by the union, contribute to asymmetries in development among its member states. In addition to a symbolic event spotlighting Russia's regional leadership, the union appears mainly as a shop where gas is sold below market prices, and as an import base of unskilled labour for Russia in conditions of Russia's high unemployment and underemployment. Concurrently, the book discusses Russia's grievances with the West, which have been inducing and constraining Eurasian integration at the same time.

Title: **Sovietistan: Travels in Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan**

Author: **Erika Fatland**

***Erika Fatland** studied Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo*

Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan became free of the Soviet Union in 1991. But though they are new to modern statehood, this is a region rich in ancient history, culture, and landscapes unlike anywhere else in the world. In *Sovietistan*, the author takes the reader on a compassionate and insightful journey to explore how their Soviet heritage has influenced these countries, with governments experimenting with both democracy and dictatorships.

In Kyrgyzstani villages, she meets victims of the tradition of bride snatching; she visits the huge and desolate Polygon in Kazakhstan where the Soviet Union tested explosions of nuclear bombs; she meets shrimp gatherers on the banks of the dried out Aral Sea; she witnesses the fall of a dictator. She travels incognito through Turkmenistan, a country that is closed to journalists. She meets exhausted human rights activists in Kazakhstan, survivors from the massacre in Osh in 2010, and German Mennonites that found paradise on the Kyrgyzstani plains 200 years ago. We learn how ancient customs clash with gas production and witness the underlying conflicts between ethnic Russians and the majority in a country that is slowly building its future in nationalist colours.

Title: **Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus**

Editors: **Galina Yemelianova and Laurence Broers**

Galina Yemelianova is a Research Associate at the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia & the Caucasus in the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. **Laurence Broers** is Caucasus Programme Director at Conciliation Resources, UK. He is the author of *Armenia and Azerbaijan: Anatomy of a Rivalry* (2019), and the co-founder and co-chief editor of the *Caucasus Survey*.

The *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus* offers an integrated, multidisciplinary overview of the historical, ethno-linguistic, cultural, socio-economic and political complexities of the Caucasus. Covering both the North and South Caucasus, the book gathers leading Western, Caucasian and Russian scholars of the region from different disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Following a thorough introduction by the editors, the handbook is divided into six parts which combine thematic and chronological principles:

Section V: Eurasia Country Books

❖ Mongolia

Title: Into Wild Mongolia

Author: George Schaller

George Schaller is a field biologist who is known for his research on tigers, mountain gorillas, and giant pandas. He is a senior conservationist with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Mongolia became a satellite of the Soviet Union in the mid-1920s, and for nearly seven decades effectively closed its doors to the outside world. Biologist George Schaller initially visited the country in 1989, and was one of the first Western scientists allowed to study and assess the conservation status of Mongolia's many unique, native wildlife species. Schaller made a number of trips from 1989 to 2018 in collaboration with Mongolian and American scientists. This book provides a first-hand account of Schaller's time in Mongolia where he studied and helped develop conservation initiatives for the snow leopard, Gobi bear, wild camel, and Mongolian gazelle, among other species. Featuring magnificent photographs from his travels, the book offers a fresh perspective on the natural beauty of the region, which encompasses steppes, mountains, and the Gobi Desert.

❖ Uzbekistan

Title: Uzbekistan: The Golden Road to Samarkand

Author: Calum MacLeod, Bradley Mayhew (photographer)

Calum MacLeod is the Asia Correspondent for USA Today. A Beijing resident and co-author of China Remembers, Calum has lectured on Uzbekistan to the Royal Geographical Society, London. Bradley Mayhew has travelled and written about the wilder parts of the Himalayas, Western China, and Central Asia for twenty-five years.

From the blue-tiled splendour of Tamerlane's Samarkand to the holy city of Bukhara, which boasts a mosque for each day of the year, and beyond to the desert-girdled khanate of Khiva, Uzbekistan lays claim to a breath-taking architectural legacy. Bound by sand and snow, fed by meltwater from the Roof of the World, these fertile oases attracted the greatest travellers and conquerors in history along the fragile threads of the Silk Road. This guide, continually revised and updated, focuses on the wealth of sites and colourful legends at the heart of Central Asia, plus the best of the rest--excursions covering the major nearby attractions of neighbouring republics Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

Section VI: Russia Recommended Reading List

These are books which I recommend to anybody looking to better understand Russia's history, its transformation from the Soviet Union, the formation of capitalism and today's political structures. They are in no particular order other than by category.

❖ How Government Works & Decisions Made

Title: **Can Russia Modernize? – Sistema, Power Networks and Informal Governance (2013)** ... by far the best book for an understanding of how government works, especially how power is yielded inside the Kremlin.

Author: **Alena Ledeneva**

Title: **Putin's People: How the KGB Took Back Russia and then Took on the West (2020)** – see comment earlier in Russia Domestic Politics section

Authors: **Catherine Belton**

Title: **The New Autocracy: Information, Politics, and Policy in Putin's Russia (2018)**

Author: **Daniel Treisman (editor) and contributors (see comment earlier)**

Alternatives: **Authoritarian Russia:** analyzing post-Soviet regime change; ***Vladimir Gel'Man***

Russia's Response to Sanctions (2018): *Richard Connolly*

A Russian Diary (2007) by *Anna Politkovskaya*

❖ Vladimir Putin

Title: **The New Tsar (2015)**

Author: **Steven Lee Meyers**

Alternative: **First Person (2000)** ... this is Putin's autobiography. Yeltsin advised him to have it written so that people could better understand their new leader.

Putin v Putin (2013) by Alexander Dugin

The Putin Interviews (2017) by Oliver Stone

❖ **The Economy**

Title: Russia's Economy in an Epoch of Turbulence: Crises and Lessons (2017)

Author: Vladimir Mau

Alternatives: Gaidar's Revolution (2015) by *Petr Aven & Alfred Kokh*

Russian Tide (2012) an account of Proctor & Gamble's experience of investing in Russia in the 1990s, written by **John Pepper**, President of P&G at the time

❖ **Oligarchs, Siloviki and Elites**

Title: All the Kremlin's Men (2016)

Author: Mikhail Zygar

Title: The New Nobility: The Restoration of Russia's Security State and the Enduring Legacy of the KGB (2010)

Authors: Andrei Soldatov and Irina Borogan

Alternatives: Sale of the Century (2000) by Chrystia Freeland

The Oligarchs (2002) by David Hoffman

❖ **Russia and the World** (new section added this year)

Title: Russia in a Changing World (2020).... See comment earlier

Editors: Alexander Lukin, Glenn Diesen

Title: Russia (2019)

Author: Dmitri Trenin

Title: Dealing with The Russians (2019)

Author: Andrew Monaghan

Title: Putin's World: Russia Against the West and with the Rest (2019)

Author: Angela Stent

Alternatives: The Russia Trap (2019) – *George Beebe*

❖ **Russia-Eurasia Energy**

Title: **The Bridge: Natural Gas in a redivided Europe (2020)** ... see comment earlier

Author: **Thane Gustafson**

Title: **The Globalization of Russian Gas: Political and Commercial Catalysts (2020)**... see comment earlier

Author: **James Henderson and Arild Moe**

Title: **Wheel of Fortune (2012)**, the definitive detailed history of the oil industry's evolution since the breakup of the Soviet Union, its current structure, as at early 2012, and the issues it faces.

Author: **Thane Gustafson**

❖ **Russia History**

Title: **A History of Modern Russia (published in 1997 & updated in 2003) ... from Nicholas II to Putin**

Author: **Robert Service**

Title: **Hammer & Tickle (humor in the Soviet Union) (2008)**

Author: **Ben Lewis**

Title: **The House of Government: A Saga of the Russian Revolution (2017)**

Author: **Yuri Slezkine**

Alternatives: **Russia: A 1,000-Year Chronicle (2011)** by Martin Sixsmith

The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Empire: from Lenin to Gorbachev (1998) by Dmitri Volkogonov

Stalin: The Court of the Red Tsar (2003) by Simon Montefiore

❖ **Transition from Soviet Union to Russia**

Title: Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire (1994)

Author: David Remnick

Alternatives: Black Earth. Russia after the fall (2004) by Andrew Meier

Midnight Diaries (2000) by Boris Yeltsin

Rebirth of a Nation: An anatomy of Russia (1998) by John Lloyd

Section VII: China & BRI

Title: The "Roads" and "Belts" of Eurasia (2020)... see comments earlier

Editor: Alexander Lukin

Title: China's Belt and Road Initiative: Potential Transformation of Central Asia and the South Caucasus (2019_

Author: Harinder S. Kohli

Section VIII: Eurasia Region Recommended Books

Title: Trade Logistics in Landlocked and Resource Cursed Asian Countries (2019)

Author: Kankesu Jayanthakumaran (editor) plus several contributors

Title: The Resurgence of Central Asia (2017)

Author: Ahmed Rashid

Title: Central Asia in the Era of Sovereignty: The Return of Tamerlane?
(2018)

Contributors: Daniel Burghart, Theresa Sabonis-Helf, Laura Adams & 15 others

Title: New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World (2018)

Title: Peter Frankopan

Title: The Silk Roads: A New History of the World (2015)

Author: Peter Frankopan

Title: The Great Game, On Secret Service in High Asia (1990)

Author: Peter Hopkirk

Title: Great Game, Local Rules; The New Great Power Contest in Central Asia (2013)

Author: Alexander Cooley

Title: Caucasus, An Introduction (2010)

Author: Thomas de Waal

Section IX: Eurasia Country Specific Books

Armenia

Title: Armenians; From Kings and Priests to Merchants and Commissars (2006)

Author: Ramzik Panossian

Title: The Crossing Point (1993)

Author: Philip Marsden

Azerbaijan

Title: Azerbaijan: A Political History (2011)

Author: Suha Bolukbasi

Title: Black Garden: Armenia and Azerbaijan Through Peace and War (2003)

Author: Thomas de Waal

Belarus

Title: A History of Belarus (2014)

Author: Lubov Bazan

Title: Belarus under Lukashenka: Adaptive Authoritarianism (2018)

Author: Matthew Frear

Title: Modeling Economic Growth in Contemporary Belarus (Entrepreneurship and Global Economic Growth) - 2019

Editor: Bruno S. Sergi

Since 1991, the eyes of the world have been on the economic growth and development of the states that formerly made up the Soviet Union. Looking at Belarus's industrial structure, economic growth, and economic prospects, this edited collection analyses why Belarus is considered ahead of many of its neighbor states in terms of human development.

Georgia

Title: Edge of Empires: A History of Georgia (2019)

Author: Donald Rayfield

Title: The Making of Modern Georgia, 1918-2012: The First Georgian Republic and its Successors

Author: Stephen F. Jones

Kazakhstan

Title: State-Building in Kazakhstan: Continuity and Transformation of Informal Institutions (2018)

Author: Dina Sharipova

Title: Dark Shadow: Inside the Secret World of Kazakhstan (2019)

Author: Joanna Lillis

Title: Once in Kazakhstan, The Snow Leopard Emerges (2005)

Author: Keith Rosten

Kyrgyz Republic

Title: Life on the Edge of Empire: Oral Histories of Soviet Kyrgyzstan (2012)

Author: Sam Trantum

Title: Democracy, Instability and Strategic Game in Kyrgyzstan (2014)

Author: P. Stobdan

Mongolia

Title: Mongolia: The Shadow Land Hardcover (2016)

Author: Michael Dillon

Title: Genghis Khan: The Man who Conquered the World (2015)

Author: Frank McLynn

Title: Not quite Shamans: Spirit Worlds and Political Lives in northern Mongolia (2011)

Author: Morten Pederson

Tajikistan

Title: Historical Dictionary of Tajikistan (2018)

Author: Kamoludin Abdullaev

Title: Tajikistan History: Ethnic Background, Early History, Society

Author: Uzo Marvin

Turkmenistan

Title: Tribal Nation: The Making of Soviet Turkmenistan (2004)

Author: Adrienne Lynn Edgar

Ukraine

Title: The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine

Author: Serhii Plokhy

Uzbekistan

Title: Uzbekistan's New Face (2018)

Authors: Frederick Starr, Svante Cornell

Title: Making Uzbekistan, Nation, Empire and Revolution in the Early USSR (2015)

Author: Adeeb Khalid

Title: Tamerlane, Sword of Islam, Conqueror of the World (2004)

Author: Justin Marouzzi

Who Are We?

- Macro-Advisory is an independent Eurasia-based consultancy providing international companies and investors with strategic advisory services throughout the CIS-Eurasia region
- Macro-Advisory's coverage footprint includes the entire CIS-Eurasia region plus Mongolia, Iran and Afghanistan
- For our clients we carry out market and sectoral analysis, risk assessments, and deep due-diligence work across all the key industry sectors in all the countries in the region
- We keep our clients fully informed of the relevant trends and events which impacts their business
- We assist local business teams and management in headquarters to help ensure a strategic focus and success for our clients' businesses
- We are experts on the Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU) and help our clients assess the opportunities and implications of the economic bloc
- We are experts in the operation of the Chinese promoted Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) and in helping our clients understand the opportunities arising from this expanding trade and transport network

Our Competitive Advantages

- **Local.** From our base in Moscow we cover the entire CIS-Eurasia region. We have an available network of industry specialists across the region to assist with project work as required. We also have offices in London, Washington, and New York, from which we can regularly engage with our clients.
- **Independent.** We are independent and this allows us to offer completely impartial advice. We combine coverage of economics, politics, industry and social trends to provide the most comprehensive analysis for our clients.
- **Experienced.** The combined experience of our key personnel living and working in the CIS-Eurasia region is over 150 years.
- **Network.** We have built a substantive network of contacts in government and regulatory agencies as well as in other relevant bodies. This allows us to consult with decision makers and policy influencers, and to gain better insights into evolving events.
- **Commercial.** All our reports come with commercially relevant and, more importantly, actionable recommendations.
- **Reports.** All our clients get regular reports updating and providing analysis of economic and industry data as well as an assessment of all relevant news and events which are important for companies and investors in the region.
- **Briefings.** We host regular client briefings, including quarterly events with specialist guest speakers. We also organize formal presentations for clients, including at management and board level.

Reports suite*

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting Macro Monthly May 2020

Planning, and hoping, for a U haul recovery

"I change my mind, when the facts change - what do you do, sir?"
John Maynard Keynes

* **First horseman appears.** The PMI indicators for April show record lows for both manufacturing (31.3) and services (12.2). Russia's manufacturing performance is slightly worse than other countries.

Key Macro Forecasts - Base Case	2020	2021
Growth, real % YoY	-3.5%	2.5%
Industrial Production, % YoY	-4.0%	3.5%
Retail sales, % YoY	-4.0%	4.0%
CPI - year-end, % YoY	4.3%	3.7%
Budget balance, % GDP	-3.5%	-0.2%
Current account, % GDP	0.5%	1.0%
Unemployment, % exp	6.0%	5.2%
CBB key rate, %	4.50%	4.50%

Russia Macro Monthly. This monthly update provides a record of all of the events which investors in Russia are interested in, such as economics, politics, monetary policy and all business related developments. This publication also has updated economic forecasts for Russia and all of the CIS-Eurasia states. We also provide reviews of all new books published which are focused on or which may influence the Eurasia region.

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting In Context: NS2 Sanctions June 2020

Will Nord Stream 2 fail at the last hurdle?

Nord Stream 2 is about to send out pipe-laying vessels to complete the last 160 km of the 2,460 km project. But five US senators have tabled a bill that would greatly expand sanctions against the project with the specific aim of preventing completion. German officials have reacted angrily

In Context. Whenever a topic arises which is both topical and of concern to our clients, such as the questions and threats posed by sanctions, we issue quick response notes to place the topic into a proper context. In these notes we highlight the areas of concern and set out our opinion about what to expect next and how to prepare for it.

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting Country Snapshot: Uzbekistan February 2020

The Country Snapshot series provides a short summary update of the key events impacting the economy and capital markets in Iran and the Eurasia region countries. For a complete update please refer to Country Update report. The last major Uzbekistan review "Honeymoon is over but the romance is not", was published in late November.



Powering on

* **Power sector priority.** The government said it plans to double power production by 2030 and will focus more on regional and smaller plants.

Eurasia Country Snapshot reports. We issue regular updates for all of the countries in the CIS-Eurasia region. These will cover not only macro and political events but will also highlight business trends and focus on opportunities for investors, both existing and emerging. These reports also look at and explain any risks in respective investment scenarios.

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting Beltway 360° June 8th 2020

PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL

Does Washington face a "long hot summer"?

Much of the legislative season for 2020 in Washington is already gone, with precious little to show for it. The serious political season now begins, with all focus on the November national elections.

Beltway 360°. Macro-Advisory produces regular updates examining events and issues from inside the Washington Beltway as part of our Beltway 360° reports. These confidential and limited distribution reports examine what is behind a range of policy and legislative issues impacting or potentially affecting the investment climate in Russia and the Eurasia region. Sanctions and other political issues are monitored and insights are provided as to what investors can expect from inside the Beltway.

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting Covid-19 Checkup June 8th 2020

Moscow starts to relax, despite no fall in infection rate

This is our weekly series of updates covering the actions taken to deal with the Covid-19 crisis and what these events may mean for those doing business in Russia. We will look in more detail at the macro-political implications in our regular Russia Macro Monthly report, and what is happening in the other Eurasia region states in a separate weekly update.

Covid-19 Checkup. This is our weekly series of updates covering the actions taken to deal with the Covid-19 crisis and what these events may mean for those doing business in Russia and the Eurasia region. We delve into macro-political implications for Russia and the other Eurasia region states in two separate weekly publications.

MACRO-ADVISORY Eurasia Strategic Consulting What Lies Beneath March 12th 2020

"What Lies Beneath" is a series of limited distribution reports prepared exclusively for Macro-Advisory clients and which goes deeper into headline grabbing events.

Putin Resets Term Limit Clock

What Lies Beneath. What Lies Beneath" is a series of limited distribution reports prepared exclusively for Macro-Advisory clients and which goes deeper into headline grabbing events.

*Refer to our web site (www.macro-advisory.com) for a full list of available reports

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