

Question

Under President Putin, Russian foreign policy has experienced a revival. Russia is back on the world stage and projecting its power through economic and military power?

Introduction:

Since the end of cold war, which resulted in fall of Soviet Union, Russia has strived to regain her former great power status. Over the two decades, Russian foreign policy has experienced revival under the presidency of Vladimir Putin. Russian foreign policy, over the years, based on enhancing security and prestige, economic power and influence on neighbouring countries. Its trade ties has got strengthened under the

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Putin leadership. His economic resources and location at the heart of Eurasia further served his great power structure.

Russian Foreign policy under Putin:

Nationalistic foreign policy:

Russian foreign policy under Putin has driven into nationalistic direction. He took various policy actions based on this approach. His decision of sanctions over Turkey and annexation of Crimea, although were internationally controversial but he enjoyed popular voting at home. He restored Russia a great power structure. Forbes ranked Putin a most powerful leader in world. He had impacted pushed world towards multipolarity.

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The Putin ^model:

Putin conflated his personal and Russian national interest so much that these have become indistinguishable. In Russian authoritarian system presided by Putin, he is the arbiter of what is considered national interest. His interest are as much personal as national and political.

Putin's brand of ideology behind Foreign policy:

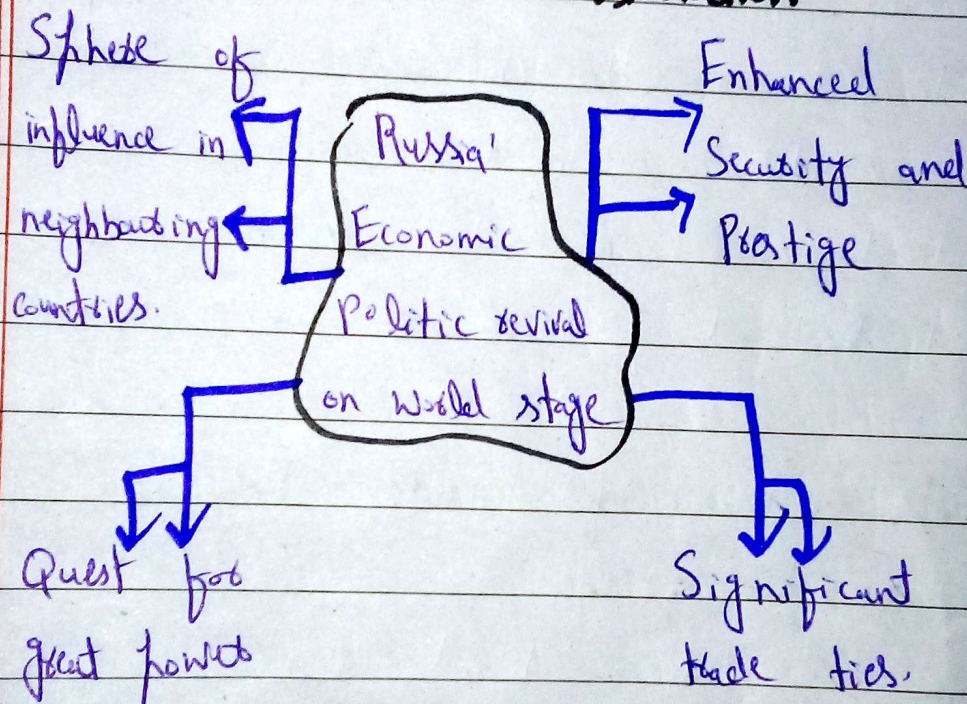
Putin's brand of ideology is based on **Spataphia** belief which means, Russia is not ordinary nation, it is civilization, It has great history. Russia is entitled to no less, based on her geographical position and her permanent status in UN Security Council.

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Key themes of current Russian Foreign policy based on which Russia has revived her status.

Russia's reassertion



Enhanced Security and prestige:

over the decades, Russia has enhanced her security and prestige. Russian scholars want her to be the power which can decide independently and have central role in global affairs. Russia is bolstering her

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economic growth, prestige and has
military might.

Significant trade ties:

Russia has solidified her
trade with Asia, Middle East and
Europe. China is the key trading
partner and both are pushing towards
multipolarity. It has grown trade with
India, Canada and Italy significantly.

Sphere of influence in neighbouring countries:

Another theme of the revival
of Russia at world stage is her
increasing influence in periphery countries.
As Russia aspire to expand international
influence, she control internal affairs of
neighbouring states that are harbinger
to be threatening her influence. She

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viewed political instability in Germany as dangerous for her influence, so she annexed the neighboring countries.

Russia's quest for great power

Russia's quest for great power has led her economic and political revival. She has leveraged the hydrocarbon resources to pressurized EU countries to achieve her objectives. She attacked Ukraine, despite of western political and economic pressure and demonstrated that she cannot be restrained by diplomatic means.

Russia's resurgence - blend of multiple determinants:

A part from military and political factors. Russia's resurgence is blend of multiple determinants; Russia is the largest and 18 times larger

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country than US. Russia is the only Eurasian state and has stayed influence in neighbouring countries. Russia has the 3rd largest gold and energy reserves. Russia the only country that can militarily challenge USA over key issues.

Conclusion

over the decades, Russia has reasserted itself as the great power in international politics, much owing to great leadership of President Putin. His policies drives Russia to achieve has formed great power structure via enhanced global trade ties, annexation of former SU states and poised to be major challenging state for west and USA in particular.