

Strategic Multi-layer Assessment

Speaker Session

February 2019

Internal dynamics in Russia

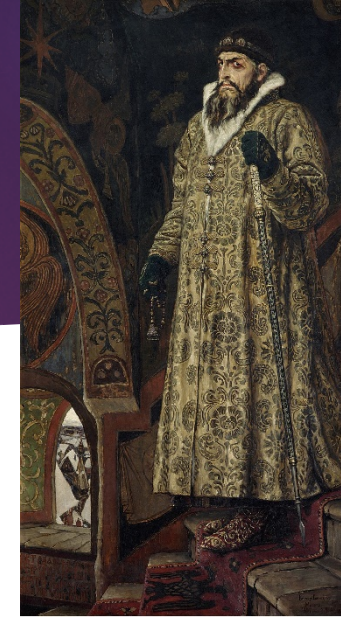
LTC MACIEJ ZABOROWSKI (POL AF)

Overview

- ▶ History matters – who Russians are and what Russia was/is
- ▶ Traditions matters – how Russians see themselves and their relationships with others
- ▶ What else matters?
- ▶ What makes Russian leaders
- ▶ What helps Russian leaders stay in power
- ▶ What to expect from Russia?

History matters

- Origins
- Destruction under hoofs of Khans
- How Moscow Duchy was turned into Russian Empire
- On the crossroads – Peter the Great
- ‘Enlighten’ Catherina
- Murderous duo – Russian resources and German know how
- New World Order (Vienna 1815) New New World Order (1918) what about 2021?
- Bolshevik Revolution and Komintern
- Soviet Union



Traditions matter

- 'Матушка Россия', 'Смута'
- Religion
- Impact of the Golden Horde
- Grudges - who dared to conquer and burn Kremlin?
- Multi-ethnicity
- In desire for great leaders – all that matters is strength and power
- *Homo Sovieticus*



What else matters?

- ▶ Uniqueness of Russian people
- ▶ The largest country
- ▶ Imperial thinking
- ▶ Connectivity
- ▶ No true close friends and no deathly enemies
- ▶ Opportunism
- ▶ Sacrifice



Creation of leader

- ▶ How much today's Russian leadership owns to Soviet Union
- ▶ Could the 1970's TV hero be Putin's prototype?
- ▶ Putin's formation



Max Otto von Stierlitz



Vladimir Putin

Survival of the leader

- ▶ Balance
- ▶ Promise
- ▶ Action
- ▶ Strength



What to expect from Russians?

- ▶ Great power ambitions
- ▶ Counter US and NATO's presence
- ▶ Security provider and spoiler
- ▶ Need money

