



ARISTOTLE
UNIVERSITY OF
THESSALONIKI

PRESIDENT PUTIN



IN WESTERN MEDIA

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AGENDA

- ❖ PURPOSE OF RESEARCH
- ❖ WHO IS PUTIN?
- ❖ WESTERN MEDIA AND OFFICIAL'S STATEMENTS
- ❖ DIFFERENT VOICES
- ❖ CONCLUSIONS
- ❖ DIFFICULT QUESTIONS



PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

US & EU OFFICIALS/POLITICIANS' STATEMENTS

AND

US & EU MEDIA

ARE THERE ANY PATTERNS IN THE TERMINATION AND
THEMES REPEATED?

IS PEACE JOURNALISM APPLIED ?



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WHO IS PUTIN?





PUTIN'S LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ 1952 BORN IN LENINGRAD IN THE S.U.
- ❖ 1975 GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOL AT LENINGRAD
- ❖ 1975-1991 KGB FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
- ❖ 1991 DEPUTY MAYOR OF ST PETERSBURG
- ❖ 1999 -2008 PRESIDENT OF RUSSIA FEDERAL
- ❖ 2008-2012 PRIME MINISTER OF RUSSIA (GEORGIA INVASION 2008)
- ❖ 2012-2018 **THIRD PRESIDENTIAL TERM** (2014 ANNEXATION OF CRIMEA)
- ❖ 2018 - PRESENT **FOURTH PRESIDENTIAL TERM.**



HOW IS PUTIN PORTRAYED IN WESTERN MEDIA?

RECENT HEADLINES

“Things are **going wrong** for Vladimir Putin”

“Putin’s **tough guy** act is getting old”

“Russia’s grand strategy: how **Putin is using Syria conflict** to turn Turkey into Moscow’s proxy”

“Vladimir Putin is **not invincible**”

“Communist challenger **exposes cracks** in Putin’s grip on power”

“How Putin’s oligarchs **got inside the Trump team**”



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CNN

CNN SPECIAL REPORT
**THE MOST
POWERFUL
MAN IN
THE WORLD**

TUESDAY
LONDON **01:00** CET **02:00**

A promotional graphic for a CNN special report. On the left, a portrait of Vladimir Putin in a dark suit and red tie is shown against a blurred background of city lights at night. On the right, the CNN logo is in a red box. Below it, the text reads 'CNN SPECIAL REPORT' followed by the title 'THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD' in large, bold, white capital letters. At the bottom, the broadcast schedule is given as 'TUESDAY LONDON 01:00 CET 02:00'.



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INSIDE THIS WEEK: TECHNOLOGY QUARTERLY

The
Economist

MARCH 8TH-14TH 2014

Economist.com

Emerging markets, submerging hopes
Pope Francis's radical year
Ohio's law against lies
Why has the world stopped warming?
The great prostate controversy

Kidnapped by the Kremlin



THE WEEK

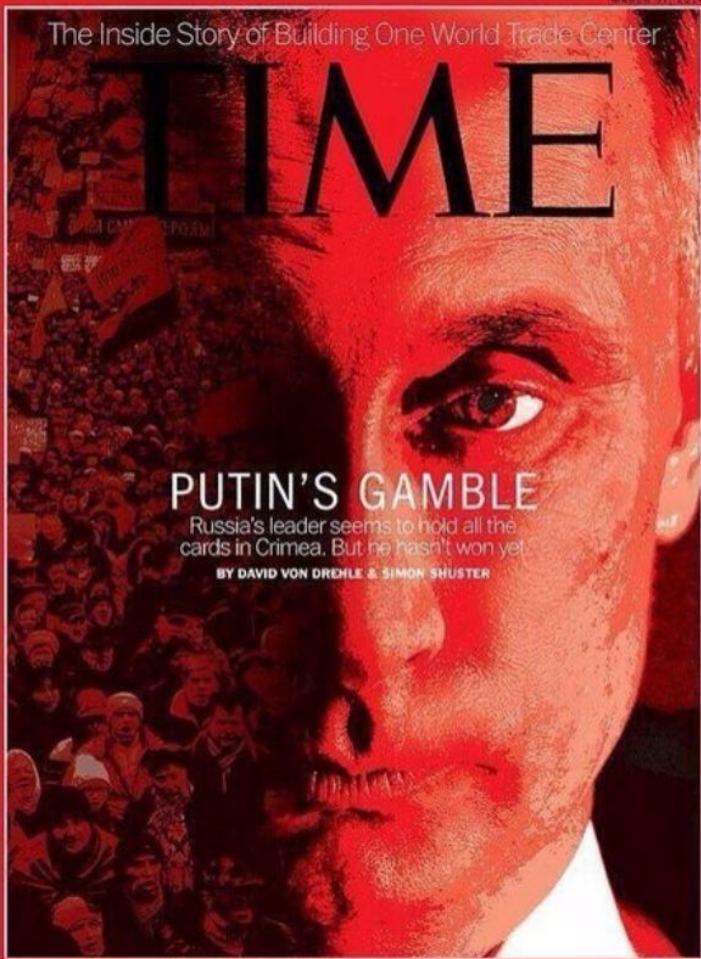
MARCH 2014 | ISSUE 961 | £3.90 THE BEST OF THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

A new Cold War? Putin on the march Page 4





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POLITICIAN/OFFICIALS' STATEMENTS & MAINSTREAM MEDIA

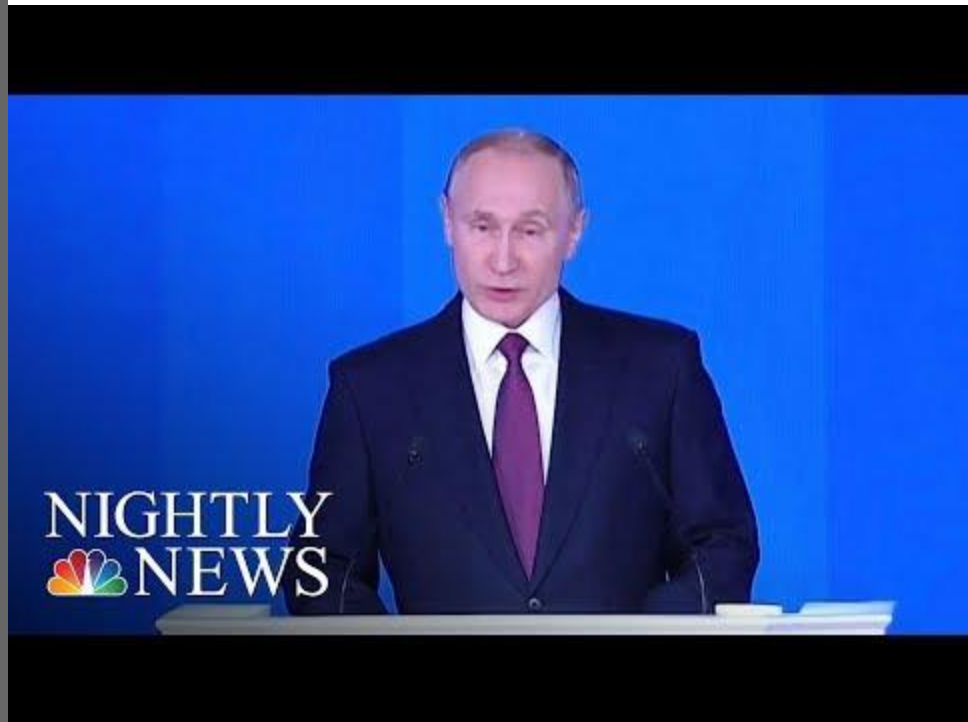


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NATO

“NATO has accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of **challenging the US and its allies to an arms race** after Russia televised its arsenal of nuclear-powered missiles.”

3 March 2018



NATO

NATO — the alliance organisation of European nations that promotes peace in the North Atlantic region — has announced that Russian threats to its 29 members were **“unacceptable and counter-productive”**.

The announcement comes after Russian President Vladimir Putin unveiled a new arsenal of hypersonic weapons billed as **“invincible”** and **“unstoppable”**. With ties between Russia and the West at post-Cold War lows over the Syria and Ukraine conflicts, Mr Putin has stoked fears of a new arms race, and a new Cold War, with the announcement on Thursday of hi-tech weaponry that can travel at many times the speed of sound.



EUROPEAN UNION



*In response to the **illegal annexation** of Crimea and **deliberate destabilisation of a neighbouring sovereign country**, the EU has imposed **restrictive measures** against the Russian Federation.*

EUROPEAN UNION NEWSROOM

EUROPEAN UNION

- Diplomatic measures
 - Cancelled summits
- Restrictive measures
 - Asset freezes and visa bans
- Restrictions for Crimea and Sevastopol
 - Restrictions on economic exchanges
- Measures targeting sectoral cooperation & exchanges w/ Russia
 - “Economic” sanctions
- Measures concerning economic cooperation



Relations between Moscow and the West have **deteriorated to a post-Cold War low** over issues including Russia's seizure of Crimea in March 2014, its role in wars in Syria and eastern Ukraine, its alleged election meddling in the United States and Europe, and the poisoning of a Russian double agent and his daughter in Britain in March.

Fighting between Ukrainian government forces and Russia-backed separatists has killed more than 10,300 in eastern Ukraine since April 2014.

Moscow's support for the separatists and its **illegal annexation** of Crimea prompted the United States, the European Union, and others to **impose sanctions on Russia.**



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MERKEL

“Merkel **condemns** Russia
'interfering' in Eastern Europe”

2014





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MERKEL NOW?

August 2018

Russian President Vladimir Putin flew into Berlin late Saturday afternoon to strengthen a brittle relationship with the German Chancellor Angela Merkel and quell dissent over a controversial expansion of the Nord Stream gas pipeline. The atmosphere was certainly less contentious than in the past, and the leaders reaffirmed — bucking U.S. pressure — their commitment to the energy deal.

POLITICO.EU



TRUDEAU





TRUMP



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump



Some people HATE the fact that I got along well with President Putin of Russia. They would rather go to war than see this. It's called Trump Derangement Syndrome!

2:27 PM - Jul 18, 2018

♡ 128K 💬 86.2K people are talking about this





TRUMP

April 26, 2016: In a victory speech after a series of primaries, Trump declares, “We’re going to have a great relationship with Putin and Russia.”

Jan. 11, 2017: Trump says he believes that Russia was behind the Democratic headquarters hacking during the 2016 election. But he boasts that Russia would respect his administration more and says that having a good relationship with Russia is an asset.





DIFFERENT VOICES

Russia isn't the bad guy you've been led to believe it is

“There is nothing peculiar or pathological in Russia's behaviour: it is protecting legitimate security interests in the Baltics and the Middle East and its objectives are limited. Any Western politician or propagandist who claims otherwise is either ignorant or suffering from Russiaphobia.”

The Sydney Morning Herald

OPINION: Tom Switzer



DIFFERENT VOICES

How does Russia view the West?

If you ask Western policy makers about the main security threats facing Europe, they come up with two: Jihadists from the so-called Islamic State and President Vladimir Putin's Russia.

Western governments argue that by annexing Crimea and fomenting war in eastern Ukraine, Mr Putin not only violated Ukraine's sovereignty, he challenged Europe's borders and showed himself to be a dangerous and unpredictable leader.

They worry what he might do next.

Recent comments by Lt Gen Evgeny Buzhinsky, one of Russia's most senior international military negotiators until he retired in 2009, may be helpful.

BBC NEWS
Bridget Kendall



PEACE JOURNALISM & PUTIN?



CONCLUSIONS

- WESTERN MEDIA REFLECT THEIR LEADERS PERSPECTIVES
- DONALD TRUMP CONSISTS AN EXCEPTION
- VLADIMIR PUTIN IS DEMONISED
- FEW COUNTER - HEGEMONIC VOICES

THIS IS NOT PEACE JOURNALISM



QUESTIONS SEEKING FOR ANSWERS

CAN THE CURRENT STRUCTURES OF MEDIA SUPPORT PJ?

WHAT ALTERNATIVE FRAMES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED TO MEDIA?

IS PJ JUST AN INSPIRATION FOR A FEW IDEALISTIC REPORTERS??

IS OUR SOCIETY READY FOR PJ?