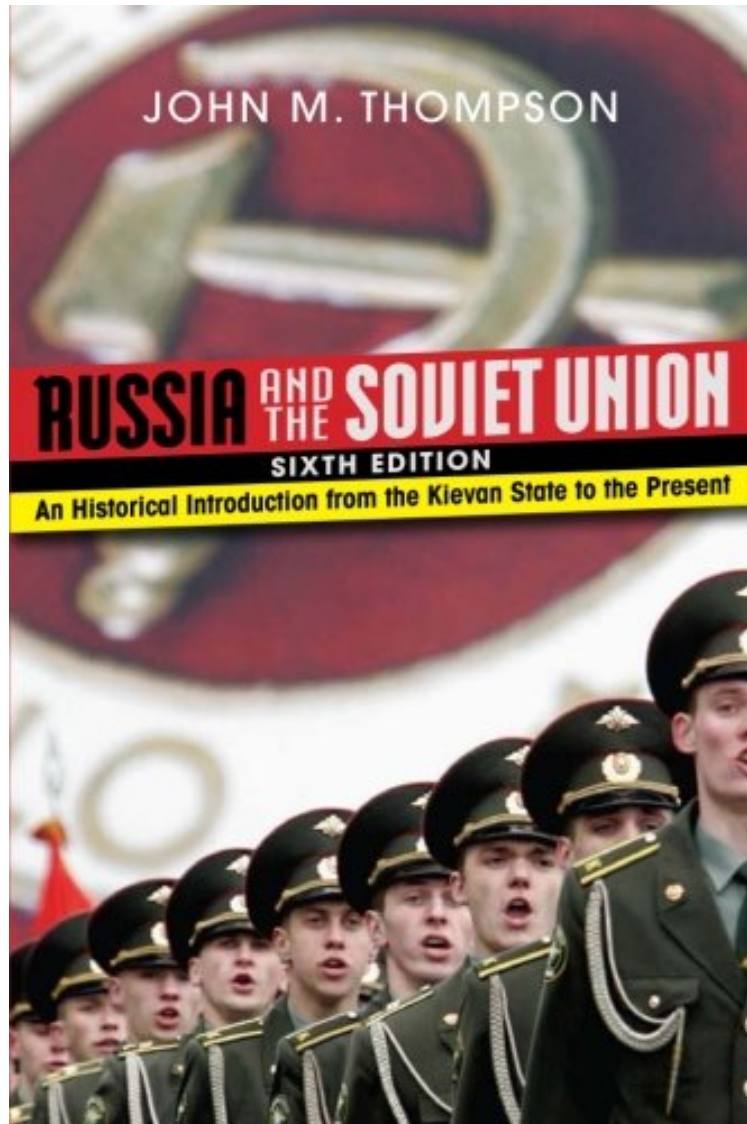


# Russia and the Soviet Union: An Historical Introduction from the Kievan State to the Present

John M Thompson

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so much that I have already used its 3 recent editions for development the online course "Culture and Society of Russia" (Columbia College, MO). The book is a good summary of Russian history: informative, logical, and at the same time, emphasizing the most important events and periods of Russian history. Each chapter finishes with short overview, rather useful in teaching process. I only would add a little more on Russian Art and Literature, as well as philosophy, but it is, certainly, optional. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. InterestingBy GreenI don't get that excited about textbooks otherwise it would have had five stars. I think it is well written and interesting. Great for learning Russian history

This lucid account of Russian and Soviet history presents major trends and events from ancient Kievan Rus' to Vladimir Putin's presidency of the twenty-first century. Now thoroughly revised and updated, *Russia and the Soviet Union* does not shy away from controversial topics, including the impact of the Mongol conquest, the paradoxes of Peter the Great, the "inevitability" of the 1917 Revolution, the Stalinist terror, and the Gorbachev reform effort. The sixth edition includes a new chapter on Vladimir Putin, additional treatment of social and foreign policy issues, and an updated chapter on post-Soviet Russia and the Yeltsin era. Distinguished by its brevity and amply supplemented with useful maps, illustrations, photos, and suggested readings, this essential text provides balanced coverage of all periods of Russian history and incorporates economic, social, and cultural developments as well as politics and foreign policy.

Contents

1. Ancient Russia and the Kievan State
2. Russia Divided and Conquered, 1054–1462
3. Moscow and "the Gathering of the Russian Lands," 1328–1533
4. Ivan the Terrible and the Time of Troubles, 1533–1618
5. The Molding of Russian Society, 1613–1689
6. Peter the Great and Westernization, 1689–1725
7. Change and Continuity, 1725–1801
8. Power, Backwardness, and Creativity, 1801–1859
9. Reform, Reaction, and Modernization, 1859–1904
10. Revolution, Reform, and War, 1904–1917
11. Revolution, Civil War, and the Founding of Soviet Society, 1917–1928
12. The Second Revolution, the Stalinist System, and World War II, 1928–1946
13. The Soviet Union as a Superpower: Change, Stagnation, and "Cold War," 1946–1983
14. The Gorbachev "Revolution" and the Collapse of the Soviet Union, 1983–1991
15. The "New" Russia in the Post-Soviet Era 1991–2000
16. Putin's Paradoxes

"Comprehensive, balanced, up to date, engaging, and deftly written, *Russia and the Soviet Union* is the best brief history of Russia available today. The book is perfectly suited for use in introductory courses on Russian history and for general readers seeking to make sense of Russia over the centuries. Thompson has packed a lifetime of thoughtful reflection, teaching, and distinguished research into this volume."-Donald J. Raleigh, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"Through a fresh format and effective revisions, John Thompson has rendered still more succinct what was already a very neat, comprehensive and highly readable text. With updated biographies ('Further Reading') in several chapters and some new illustrations, as well as an additional chapter on Russia under the leadership of Vladimir Putin, *Russia and the Soviet Union* in its sixth edition remains a superlative text for both students of Russian history and the casual reader."-Vicki Hendrickson Grove, University of Colorado, Boulder