

## The Russian Revolution

Wanjiru Waweru

HI-105-OL: Modern World History

Professor Aldo García Guevara

May 13, 2022

## What happened between 1905 and 1917?

Advert Violence and political maneuvering blemished the Russian Revolution between 1905 and 1917. The intense defeat and unparalleled overlooking of the aspect of life in World War I combined the comeback of the masses in case of the corrupt, clumsy, and in consideration of the Tsarist Regime which became powerless and ineligible to adjust to the time-consuming. Additionally, the revolutions faintly surrendered the form of productive and equalitarian adjustment that was known for. Therefore, the Russian Revolution received as a warning sign for democracy.

World War I experienced a brutal empire, and that could lead to an eruption taking over the Russian Empire of Tzar Nicholas II. When Nicholas decided on the war in the anticipation of Germany and Austria-Hungary in July 1914, he completes the conquer of a realm of almost 150 million people that strengthened from Central Europe to the Pacific and the edge of Afghanistan to the Arctic.

## Did Russia become an enormous power?

Russia became an enormous power. “Russia’s imperial growth was largely land-locked: expansion stretched continentally across Eurasia. The empire went west into Poland and Lithuania; east towards Siberia; and, in the south, towards the Caucasus region and Ottoman and Persian empires.”<sup>1</sup>

## What caused the Russian Revolution?

World War I became a transition that caused the Russian Revolution which disrupted of unavoidance subsidence of an old-fashioned autocracy inappropriate to finish in the modern

---

<sup>1</sup> “Empire: The Russian Way - Jstor Daily.” Accessed May 5, 2022.  
<https://daily.jstor.org/empire-the-russian-way/>.

world that could lead to a curiosity for historians to seek a debate. “The destruction of the state’s armed forces was one of the sad consequences of World War I for Russia. World War I caught Russia at a difficult and controversial stage of its development when the modernization processes launched by the Great Reforms of the second half of the nineteenth century were still in progress and had far from fully achieved their objectives.”<sup>2</sup>

According to Goldstone, it also provided the reader with the consequences of the Russian Revolution. “The progress of reforms was interrupted by the outbreak of World War I. During this crucial period, even aristocrats were distressed that the weak-minded Tsar Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra were distracted by a wild Russian mystic and leader, Grigori Rasputin. Though Rasputin was eventually killed (a difficult task, for he poisoned, shot, *and* drowned) his influence undermined popular and elite respect for the court.”<sup>3</sup>

Why did they fail in the military adventure in Japan and World War I?

Japan defeated Russia in the military adventure in World War I in many cases. “In 1905, following Russia’s defeat by Japan, peasant rebellions broke out in the countryside, massive strikes spread through Moscow and Saint Petersburg, and sailors munitied in several ports. Although the disorders were put down by the Army, the regime took fright and accelerated its efforts at political and economic reform. An advisory elected parliament (the Dunna) was created and land reforms were begun. But radical thinkers wanted even greater changes.”<sup>4</sup>

It reached a disappointment for the Russian community. “The failure of the system became obvious during the First World War, but it also occurred, on a smaller scale, during the Russo-Japanese War. The irregular operations of the Wilhelmine government in the years 1904 to 1906 accounted for a good deal of the ineptness of German diplomacy, although this was not

---

<sup>2</sup> Grebenkin, pp. 173-174

<sup>3</sup> Goldstone pp. 75

<sup>4</sup> Goldstone pp.75

apparent at the time. The myth of German efficiency blinded domestic and foreign observers to the fact that Germany was badly governed. The military monarchy presented an image of order and central control, of discipline and Prussian regularity; the reality was very different.”<sup>5</sup>

Why did they participate in Japan and Western Europe?

They participated in Japan and Western Europe to conquer their nation. “But taking control of the entire country would not be easy. Tsarist generals raised a counterrevolutionary, anticommunist White Army to take back the country from the “reds.” Lenin’s communists, with the organizational genius of Leon Trotsky, created a Red Army from defecting soldiers, supportive workers, and drafted peasants. Civil war raged from 1918 to 1921, fought with ruthless brutality on both sides. Compelling experienced officers to fight for them, using central position and control of the rail lines through Moscow, and drawing on the greater support of workers and peasants for the communists, the Red Army triumphed.”<sup>6</sup>

According to Steinberg, it explained how this started. “On the eve of the outbreak of war between Russia and Japan, Germany's diplomatic and military position had been deteriorating gradually, but not alarm- ingly, for three or four years. The Franco-Russian Alliance had been ‘reshaped’ in 1899 and extended beyond the life of the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. France and Italy had arranged a settlement of colonial differences in November 1902, and there was a perceptible weakening of Italian enthusiasm for the Triple Alliance.”<sup>7</sup>

Was the Russian Invasion of Ukraine similar to the Russian Revolution, if not, please explain?

The Russian Invasion of Ukraine showed similarities to the Russian Revolution due to the historical parallels between Tzar Nicholas and Vladimir Putin. They increased the

---

<sup>5</sup> Steinberg pp. 1966

<sup>6</sup> Goldstone pp. 76

<sup>7</sup> Steinberg pp. 1965-1966

anti-democratic, authoritarian leaders, and movements. They shared a similar approach to governance, willingness to hold on to power, and a desire to gain a “sphere of influence” and “buffer zone” against the west.

It shows how Vladimir Putin shared an ideology similar to fascist leaders of the 1930s. There are four reasons. It created the classic version of “Russian World”. It revealed nationalism and promote white supremacy. It restored the “traditional values” and opposing rights for women and the LGBTQ community.

An article explained the idea of the Russian Invasion with Ukraine, it goes from the concept of Vladimir Putin in 2014. “.....the Russian intervention in Ukraine — that is, the Russian decision to invade, then annex, Crimea in the spring of 2014, quickly followed by Russian aggression, again using covert means, to aid and abet popular rebellion in eastern Ukraine—as a prime example of autocratic diffusion-proofing.”<sup>8</sup>

It tells how Putin wanted to conquer Ukraine. “First, Putin’s main goals as a political leader have been to maximize his power at home and the power of the Russian state abroad. Maintaining control over Ukraine is vital to the achievement of both objectives. Ukraine shares a long border with Russia; has unusually close economic and cultural ties with Russia; and serves as the primary western boundary between Russia’s zone of influence and the West, along with its key organizations, the EU and NATO. Moreover, Russia needs Ukraine to join the Eurasian Economic Union, since that organization, which is modeled on the EU, is composed of only a few, small and economically marginal states in the post-Soviet space.”<sup>9</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> Bunce and Hozic pp. 436

<sup>9</sup> Bunce and Hozic pp. 442

## Does the Russian Revolution provide lessons in Ukraine?

The Russian Revolution provided lessons in Ukraine to observe and prepare for the cold war. The consideration of Russia is to focus on the European security architecture to expose the two drafts that Russia's capital, Moscow published in December 2021. It appeared legitimate to receive and participate in the serious action. In February 2022, it brought a new argument in Vladimir Putin's public announcement in order to address the report. It showed that Russia is sanitizing the Ukraine which they are planning that they are not to be.

Many writers predict if both Ukraine and Russia participate in the cold war. They would largely contest for "hearts and minds" in this current conflict, and the west is winning. Putin has the means and potentially the motive to use nuclear weapons, but would likely face severe consequences if he were to take that step. The larger conflict that could be escalated of the western-style democracy that could face and survived in the 21st Century.

### Conclusion

The Russian Revolution played an important role in the early 20th Century. Russia became the world's gigantic power. They wanted to take over the nation. World War I impacted the European nation due to the legend of Tzar Nicholas II. It caused them to create progress that could lead to chaos. Japan conquered Russia during the World War I era. Some sources explained how Russia engaged with Japan. Vladimir Putin shared the same ideas as Joseph Stalin. This means that how writers expect the Cold War between Russia and Ukraine.

## Bibliography

Farhad, Lemar. "The Russian Revolutions of 1905 and 1917." *The Strategy Bridge*. The Strategy Bridge, January 1, 2016.

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2015/12/21/the-russian-revolutions-of-1905-and-1917>.

Kiger, Patrick J. "How World War I Fueled the Russian Revolution." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, April 28, 2021.

<https://www.history.com/news/world-war-i-russian-revolution>.

Goldstone, Jack A. Essay. In *Revolutions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Grebenkin, I.N. "The Disintegration of the Russian Army in 1917: Factors and Actors in the Process." *Russian Studies in History* 56, no. 3 (July 1, 2017): 172–87.

<https://discovery.ebsco.com/linkprocessor/plink?id=535c1401-2ce1-3d26-9cee-c0d52279a23f>.

Steinberg, Jonathan. "Germany and the Russo-Japanese War." *The American Historical Review* 75, no. 7 (1970): 1965–86. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1848025>.

Laruelle, Marlene, and Ivan Grek. "Decoding Putin's Speeches: The Three Ideological Lines of Russia's Military Intervention in Ukraine." *Russia Matters*, March 28, 2022.

<https://russiamatters.org/analysis/decoding-putins-speeches-three-ideological-lines-russias-military-intervention-ukraine>.

BUNCE, VALERIE, and AIDA HOZIC'. "Diffusion-Proofing and the Russian Invasion of Ukraine." *Demokratizatsiya* 24, no. 4 (October 1, 2016): 435–45.

<https://discovery.ebsco.com/linkprocessor/plink?id=220048ea-0611-33dc-bada-54337b2a9a17>.

*Worcester State University: The Department of History and Political Science Presents a Panel Discussion on Russia & the War in Ukraine, 2022.*

“Empire: The Russian Way - Jstor Daily.” Accessed May 5, 2022.

<https://daily.jstor.org/empire-the-russian-way/>.