

Putin's State Visit to Beijing; Putin praises Modi

May 18, 2024

May 17, 2024: Kyiv, Ukraine: In the northeast of Ukraine, Russian Army has succeeded in capturing a large area. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has warned that may be the first of many such waves in the Kharkiv region.

Zelenskyy said that his Western backers give to Ukraine support, so that **total defeat can be avoided**. But, he added that the support was **not enough to achieve victory**. Ukraine's air defenses are challenged by continuing missile shortages and continuous Russian attacks.



EDITORIAL COMMENTS: www.DiGiNews360.com believes that certain elements in the west, did encourage President Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyy (b. 25 January 1978) to think of joining NATO and thus take NATO, right to the borders of Russia, against the promises made to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev (b. 2 March 1931 – d. 30 August 2022), the last leader of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) from 1985 to the country's dissolution in 1991. The dissolution was messy and did not take into consideration the essential needs and interest of Russia with a large navy. Nor did it establish borders, which would not create issues in the near

*future. The Ukraine war is one result of the mess created in 1991. www.DiGiNews360.com hopes that the leaders in Europe and USA will listen to the advice of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, so that the world does not walk into WWIII.*

Russia was able to prosecute WWII against Germany because its defense industries could support its large armies, on the large western front. If it could do so in a short period, Russia may be able to win the war, since the west is not able to supply equipment and ammunition in sufficient quantities to both Ukraine and Israel.

May 14-15: **Beijing, China: State visit of President Vladimir Putin to China:** The State Visit is immediately after President began his 3rd term as President at a ceremony in Kremlin on May 7, 2024 and after the visit of President Xi Jinping to Europe from May 6-10, 2023.



May 14, 2024: Beijing, China: President Putin on a State Visit to China

Russia and China are showcasing their complete autonomy from the West's system, **failure of West's sanctions on Russia** in the wake of Ukraine war, **chinks in the unity of the west**, where both Germany and France are courting China for opening its markets to their economies and where Serbia and Hungary are not willing to be a part of the sanctions regime. (This is not to mention the biggest issue in NATO of

the largest military in NATO's European countries (*that of Turkiye*) being led by President **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan**, a friend of President **Putin**.)

STRENGTH of some of the larger ARMIES of NATO COUNTRIES of EUROPE:
Turkiye: 447,000 personnel; France: 207,100; Germany: 188,500; Italy: 174,800; UK: 156,200.

Xi Jinping, 70, greeted Putin, 71, outside the **Great Hall of the People in Beijing**, where they were hailed by **marching People's Liberation Army soldiers**, a **21-gun salute on Tiananmen Square** and **children waving the flags of China and Russia**.

Putin mentioned that his family were learning Mandarin. It was a rare statement from Putin, since he had not talked about his children in public, earlier.

Xi invited Putin to his official residence, **Zhongnanhai**. (Very few leaders are afforded that honour.)

Days before mounting the Ukraine attack in February, 2022, Putin and Xi had announced a 'no limits' partnership, which shows up:

- in a complete support of China to Russia in its war with Ukraine and
- in Russia's support to China on the Taiwan issue.

Both the countries condemned seizure of assets and property of foreign states. (*This was a reference to the proposals to use frozen Russian assets to help Ukraine in its war and for re-building Ukraine, after the war ends.*)

Putin traveled to Beijing with the newly appointed Russian Defense **Minister Andrey Belousov**, and his predecessor Russian Security Council Secretary **Sergey Shoigu**.

The new Defense Minister is an economist, whose job is to ensure that Russian economy continues to develop, even though the Defense expense is said to have increased from about 2.6% to about 6%. His job in China is to keep the two large economies well-integrated in the interest of Russia.

Russia depends on China for dual-use items, including micro-electronic components including semiconductor chips, China is said to be exporting to Russia. Beijing has repeatedly defended its trade with Russia as part of normal bilateral relations.

Rostec, a Russian defense manufacturer, **increased tank production sevenfold** last year and the **production of infantry fighting vehicles** and wheeled transporters by **4.5 times**.

It has been reported that new tanks – both T-90Ms and the modernized T-72s, rolling out of the Russian factories, are not equipped with all the **electronic equipment and fire control systems**, that these machines used to have, before February 24, 2022. These parts were previously imported from abroad, but that source has dried up. So, the new tanks, being given to the army, are not as good as the earlier machines. Russia is trying to develop technical capabilities and is also looking at sources in China, Iran and Turkey.

China is challenging USA in **military applications of AI, robotics, quantum computing and synthetic biology**. China has also built a world-wide espionage network, an army of cyber hackers and is building hard military power, at a break-neck speed.

May 7, 2024: Moscow: Russian President **Vladimir Putin**, 71, in his inauguration speech, said that his landslide re-election in March was proof the country was united and on the right track.



as he was sworn in for a new six-year term on Tuesday (May 7).

May 7, 2024: Kremlin, Moscow, Russia:

----CONTINUOUS PRAISE for Prime Minister NARENDRA MODI----

March 23, 2024: Moscow, Russia: In the wake of the recent despicable attack, which **targeted innocent civilians at a concert hall**, India vehemently condemned such heinous acts and reaffirmed India's firm resolve to combat terrorism in all its forms

and manifestations. As a nation that has borne the brunt of terrorism for decades, India in solidarity with Russia, is committed to building a safer, more peaceful world for present and future generations.

January 26, 2024: **"India has one of the highest rates of economic development and growth in the world, and that too is due to the leadership qualities of incumbent Prime Minister,"** Putin said during an interaction with university students in Kaliningrad Region.



Rosneft Headquarters, Sofiyskaya Embankment, Moscow

The Russian President **also praised India's 'Make in India' initiative** and said that the largest foreign investment in India has come from Russia. **\$23 billion was invested by our company Roseneft, acquisition of an oil refinery, a network of gas stations, a port and so on.**



Dr S Jaishankar with Sergey Viktorovich Lavrov, 74, the Russian Foreign Minister

December 11, 2023: On December 11, 2023, during his interaction with External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** in Moscow, on Wednesday, **Lavrov** said that he understood India's position on Ukraine. "I know his desire to do everything to resolve this problem through peaceful means."

Dr S Jaishankar was on a five-day visit to Moscow.

Mutual Concerns: The two leaders discussed "issues of mutual concern," including **Russia's Presidency of BRICS summit in 2024** and the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** arrest warrant against Putin over alleged war crimes in Ukraine.

Lavrov drew the attention of Dr Jaishankar to President Vladimir Putin's praise of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Make in India' initiative and said Russia can emulate the success stories of its partners like India in promoting the growth of its domestic industries. (The Russian **President Vladimir Putin** was answering a media query on Russian-made cars at the 8th **Eastern Economic Forum (EEF)** meeting at VLADIVOSTOK.) Putin said that domestically made automobiles must be used by the Russian Government. He said Russia used to purchase a large number of Mercedes or Audi cars in 1990s.

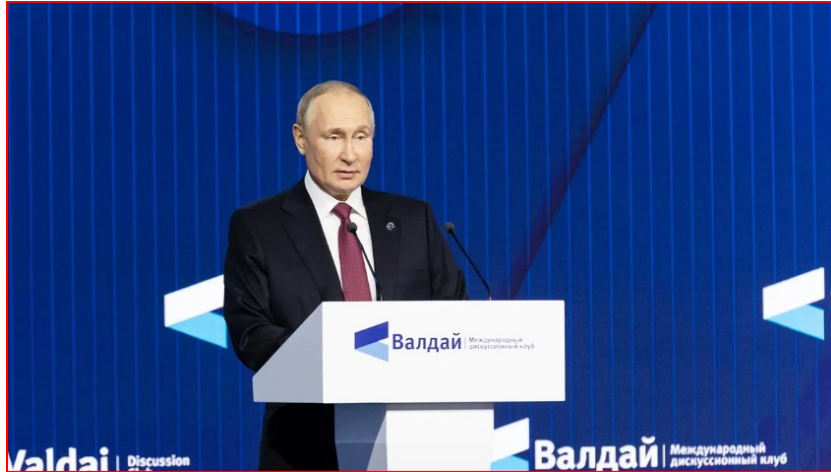
Not only this, but the Russian President also talked at length about the **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**. He said that USA has jumped into the "last car" of the project, proposed by the European Union, Saudi Arabia and India. **President Putin said that IMEC was designed to help Russia.**



*December 6, 2023: Delhi, India: 21st India – Russia Annual summit
Vladimir Putin, the Russian President with Narendra Modi, the Indian PM*

Furthermore, **Putin** invited **Modi to visit Russia**, emphasizing their friendship and the need to discuss current issues and prospects for Russia-India relations.

Putin and Modi welcomed the holding of the first meeting of the **2+2 Dialogue of Foreign and Defense Ministers** and the meeting of the **Inter-Governmental Commission on Military & Military-Technical Cooperation** in New Delhi as decided on 6 December 2021.



*October 27, 2022: Moscow, Russia: President **Vladimir Putin** speaks at the Plenary Session of the 19th Annual Meeting of the Valdai International Discussion Club*

Russian President **Vladimir Putin** has **praised** Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, highlighting India's role in global affairs. During a plenary session of Valdai, a Moscow-based think-tank, Putin hailed **Modi as a "true patriot"** and emphasized that the **"future belongs to India"**.

Here are the key points from Putin's praise:

- **Independent Foreign Policy:** Putin **commended Modi for pursuing an independent foreign policy** despite attempts to hinder him. He acknowledged Modi's ability to prioritize India's interests and people, even in the face of external pressures.
- **Post-Hegemonic World:** Responding to a question about India's role in a "post-hegemonic world," Putin expressed **confidence in Modi's leadership**.
- He recognized Modi as **one of the few leaders capable of pursuing an independent foreign policy aligned with India's interests. Make in India Initiative:**
- Putin praised **India's "Make in India" initiative** as a significant effort: This initiative aims to boost domestic manufacturing and enhance India's economic self-reliance.

In summary, Putin's praise underscores the strategic partnership between Russia and India and recognizes **Modi's leadership in shaping India's foreign policy and global influence**.
