

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



What additional future steps should the United States and Europe take, if any at all, to counter Russian ambitions?

1. How valid are Russian historical claims of a natural and inherent unity with Georgia, Crimea, and Ukraine?
2. What are the larger catalysts that drive Vladimir Putin's territorial ambitions—historic Russian imperial designs, a desire to reclaim the influence and power of the Soviet Union's old empire, a need for additional population and resources, or a geo-strategic desire to spite and embarrass the West?
3. Is Putinism emblematic of generally held Russian beliefs or the megalomania of an eccentric who does not represent Russian aspirations and whose agenda will pass along with him?
4. How valid is the common pessimistic demographic, economic, political, and social prognosis about Russia's next fifty years?

# STRATEGIKA

CONFLICTS OF THE PAST AS LESSONS FOR THE PRESENT

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