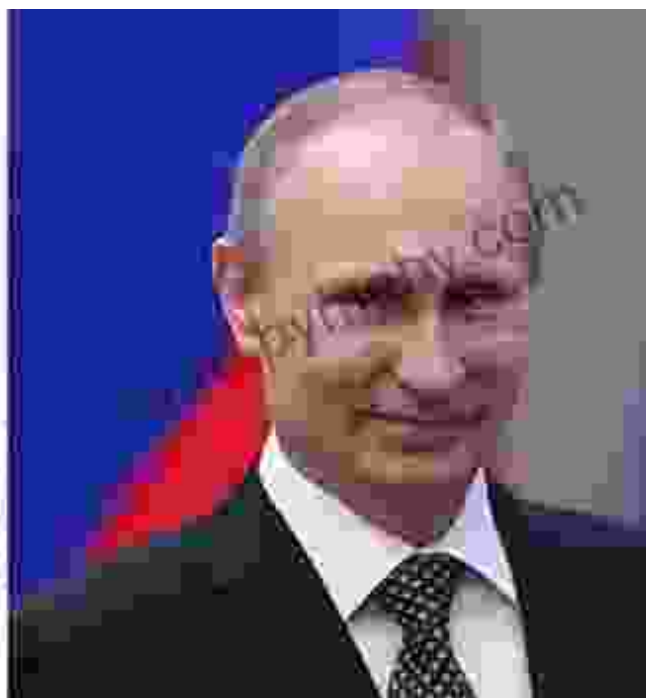


Petrostate Putin: Power and the New Russia

Unveiling the Kremlin's Oil-Fueled Dominance

In the labyrinthine corridors of the Kremlin, oil is not merely a commodity; it is the lifeblood of power. 'Petrostate Putin: Power and the New Russia' delves into the intricate relationship between oil and power in Putin's Russia, exposing the Kremlin's strategic use of its oil wealth to bolster its geopolitical dominance.

The Oil-Fueled Rise of Putin



Petrostate: Putin, Power, and the New Russia

by Marshall I. Goldman

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1490 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 257 pages
Lending : Enabled



Putin's ascent to power in the early 2000s coincided with a surge in global oil prices. This windfall allowed him to consolidate his control over the Russian state, silencing political opponents and rewarding loyalists. By placing his allies in key positions in the energy sector, Putin ensured that the oil revenues would serve his political agenda.

Oil as a Geopolitical Weapon

Russia's position as a major oil exporter has given Putin a powerful geopolitical tool. He has deftly used oil as a bargaining chip in international negotiations, pressuring countries that rely on Russian energy supplies. By manipulating the flow of oil, Putin has sought to influence foreign policy decisions and advance Russia's national interests.

The annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the subsequent sanctions imposed by the West vividly demonstrated the geopolitical leverage that Russia's oil industry provides. Putin used the threat of cutting off oil supplies to Europe to pressure Western leaders into accepting the fait accompli in Crimea.

Economic Dependence and Corruption



Russia's oil wealth has enriched a small circle of oligarchs close to Putin.

While oil has enriched Putin and his inner circle, it has also created a profound economic dependence for Russia. The country's budget relies heavily on oil revenues, leaving it vulnerable to fluctuations in global oil prices. This dependence has hindered economic diversification and led to widespread corruption.

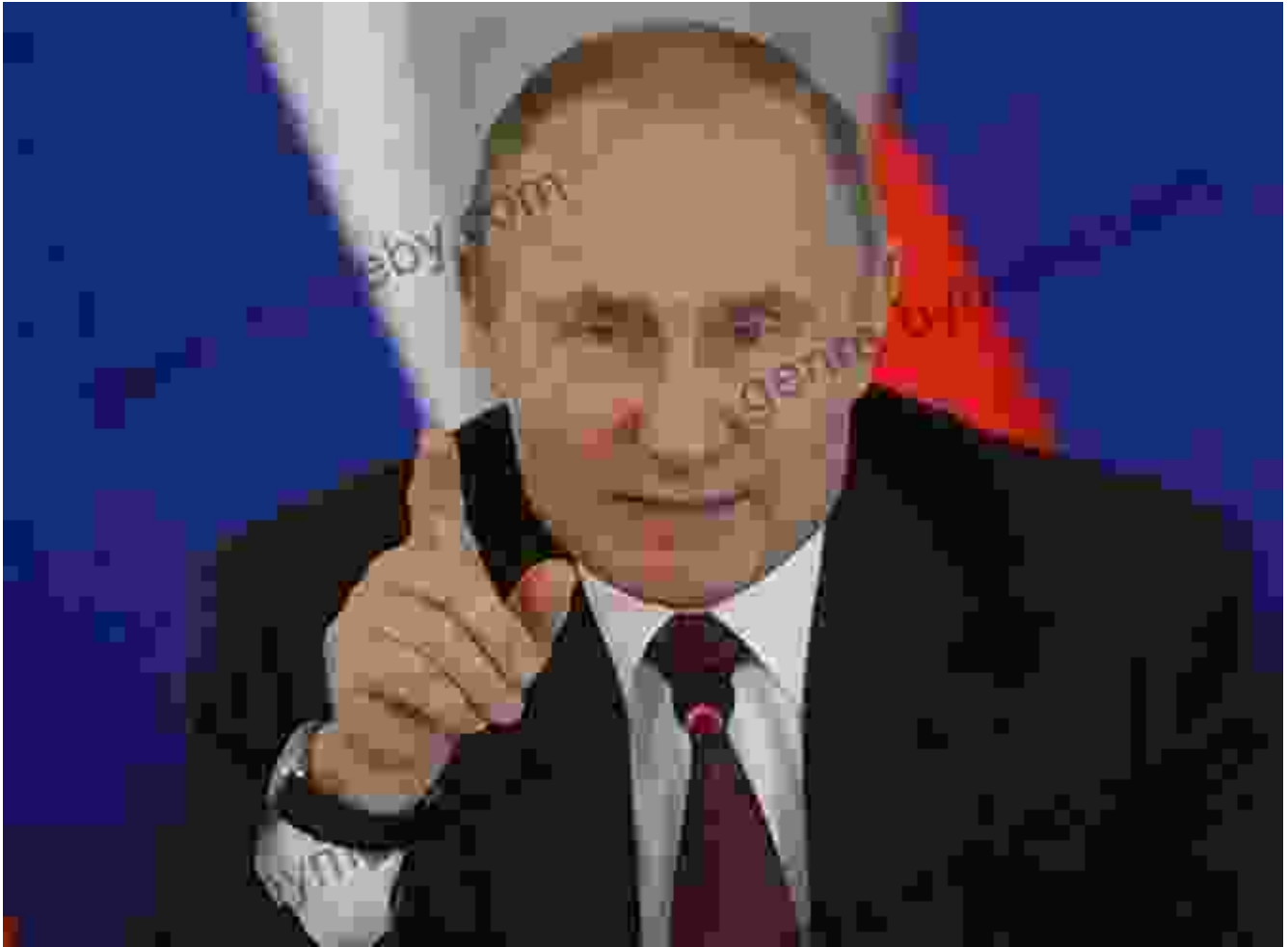
The massive influx of oil wealth has fostered a climate of impunity for the oligarchs who have grown rich from the industry. These oligarchs, often with close ties to Putin, have amassed vast fortunes and exert significant influence over the Russian economy and politics.

Energy Security and Foreign Policy

Russia's oil industry is also a key component of its national security strategy. By controlling the flow of oil to Europe, Russia can influence the security landscape of the continent. Putin has used this leverage to drive a wedge between European countries and the United States.

Russia's military interventions in Syria and Libya were partly motivated by a desire to protect its oil interests in these countries. By maintaining a presence in these regions, Russia can secure access to vital oil resources and project its power in the Middle East.

The Future of Petrostate Russia



As the world transitions towards cleaner energy sources, the future of Russia's petrostate is uncertain. The Kremlin faces the challenge of diversifying its economy and reducing its dependence on oil. Failure to do so could erode Russia's geopolitical clout and destabilize its political system.

'Petrostate Putin: Power and the New Russia' is a timely and insightful exploration of the complex relationship between oil and power in modern Russia. Through meticulous research and incisive analysis, the book provides a comprehensive understanding of the Kremlin's strategic use of

oil to maintain its domestic dominance and pursue its geopolitical ambitions.

In the intricate world of Petrostate Putin, oil is not just a commodity; it is a weapon, a source of power, and a shaper of Russia's destiny. By unraveling the Kremlin's oil strategy, 'Petrostate Putin: Power and the New Russia' illuminates the challenges and opportunities facing Russia in an era of global energy transition.



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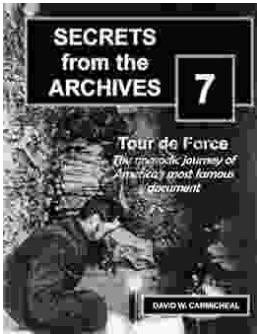
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