

# Review of: "Rebuilding a 'Greater Russia' and the Russian Invasion of Ukraine"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

**REVIEW** of the article by Professor Roger E. Kanet "Rebuilding a 'Greater Russia' and the Russian Invasion of Ukraine" (University of Miami, United States) <https://www.qeios.com/read/ZFI0N0>

The relevance of the research is beyond doubt. It is caused by the need to systematize the tendencies of aggressive geopolitics and geostrategy of the Russian Federation.

Although the purpose of the research is not stated in the article, it is quite clear from its content that such goals are:

- 1) clarification of the prerequisites for territorial and political expansion of Russia on the territory of the independent states-former republics of the Soviet Union;
- 2) chronological systematization of manifestations of aggressive geopolitics and geostrategy of the Russian Federation;
- 3) exposing and dispelling grand narratives of conceptual legislative acts and fake messages of the top military and political leadership of Russia regarding its "peaceful, open and predictable policy" based on "generally recognized principles and norms of international law and the desire for equal international cooperation."

The stated goals of the research are aimed at forming the reader a stable idea and an adequate attitude towards the manifest and latent realities of Russia's geopolitical existence.

In my opinion, the article would have been more thorough if its author had taken into account the following aspects:

- 1) present the article according to the typical structure. In particular, he should highlight the introduction, aim, methodology, research results, conclusions;
- 2) analyze more scientific sources, in particular "World hybrid war: Ukrainian front: monograph / by general ed. V. P. Gorbunin. - K.: NISD, 2017. - 496 p. ISBN 978-966-554-273-5.  
LINK [https://chtyvo.org.ua/authors/Horbunin\\_Volodymyr/Svitova\\_hibrydna\\_viina\\_ukrainskyi\\_front.pdf](https://chtyvo.org.ua/authors/Horbunin_Volodymyr/Svitova_hibrydna_viina_ukrainskyi_front.pdf), as well as presented at the exhibition "Undeclared War: Historical Background and Modern Challenges" <http://lib.rada.gov.ua/static/excursion/viyna.html>;
- 3) give suggestions for further use of research results;
- 4) present the periodization of the main manifestations of Russian expansion in graphic or tabular format;

5) focused on the fact that the main prerequisite for russian expansion was the irredentism of russia ("collecting lands") and the spread of its influence, and not the separatism of the independent states-former republics of the Soviet Union. For this purpose, for decades, russia formed and supported a pro-russian "political elite" of independent states, formed quasi-state (pseudo-state) entities in them, and demonstrated this as political, economic, ethnic, or religious separatism. However, there were objectively no grounds for separatism, because none of the quasi-state (pseudo-state) entities analyzed by the author were not capable of independent life and did not strive for it.

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