

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.

This is my review:

1) The paper lacks a clear methodology of research, as well as a comprehensive literature review on the topic. It is important for academic papers to establish a research methodology to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings. Additionally, a literature review that includes scientific researches in the Russian language would provide a more comprehensive understanding of the topic. In this context, I might suggest to consider the following sources:

-Eltchaninoff, M., 2018. *Inside the mind of Vladimir Putin*. Oxford University Press.

-Hill, F. and Gaddy, C., 2012. Putin and the Uses of History. *The National Interest*, (117), pp.21-31.

Hill, F. and Stent, A., 2022. The World Putin Wants: How Distortions About the Past Feed Delusions About the Future. *Foreign Aff.*, 101, p.108.

-Kazintsev, A., 2022. *Имитаторы. Иллюзия «Великой России»* (Simulators. Illusion of "Great Russia") Litres.

-Solov'ev, V., 2022. *Нам нужна великая Россия* (We need a great Russia.) Litres.

2) The author could have utilized more scientific works on the topic to support their arguments and provide a stronger academic foundation.

3) The author's analysis of the conflicts in Chechnya, Ukraine, Pridnestrovie/Transnistria, Abkhazia, and Ossetia is limited. While the paper briefly discusses the Second Chechen Conflict, it fails to consider several important events and issues that characterized the North Caucasian republic and Russian domestic politics. A more comprehensive analysis of these conflicts would provide a deeper understanding of the complexities involved.

Overall, the paper has the potential to contribute to the field with further development. By incorporating a stronger methodology, conducting a comprehensive literature review, and addressing the missing sections (Methodology of Research, Literature Review, Conclusion), the paper could provide a valuable contribution to the field of study.