



## The Foreign Policy of Russia: Changing Systems, Enduring Interests

By Robert H Donaldson, Joseph L Noguee

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In this fully updated edition of their widely respected text, Donaldson and Noguee trace the lineage and development of Russian foreign policy, highlighting the continuities of Russia's behavior in the world as well as the major sources of change and variability. This edition includes new coverage of ongoing issues connected with NATO expansion, the status of Kosovo and Georgia, terrorism, Islamism, and access to petroleum and other natural resources. The basic framework used is a modified realism that stresses the balance of power and the importance of national interest, and identifies several factors (both internal and external) that condition Russian policy. The interpretations are original and based on a mix of primary and secondary sources.

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## **The Foreign Policy of Russia: Changing Systems, Enduring Interests** By Robert H Donaldson, Joseph L Nogee **Bibliography**

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### **Editorial Review**

From Library Journal

Probably the best-known study of Russia's foreign policy is George F. Kennan's classic *Russia and the West Under Lenin and Stalin* (LJ 4/15/61). Political scientists Donaldson (Univ. of Tulsa) and Noguee (Univ. of Houston) broaden the focus of Kennan's classic work and offer a sweeping yet concise overview of Russia's role and behavior in international politics. Much of their book serves as background for the authors' chief task: to explain and anticipate the current foreign policy aims of the leaders of the Russian republic. They find a consistent pursuit of balance-of-power politics and military alliances by Russian leaders from tsarist times to the present. Seven key variables are put forth to explain the changing directions of Soviet foreign policy within the framework of an "international system." They cautiously conclude that the current "multipolar" environment might lead to a more cooperative approach by Russia's current leaders. Although unpredictable personality traits are still a concern. This is a useful title for academic libraries. A Thomas A. Karel, Franklin & Marshall Coll. Lib., Lancaster, PA  
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### **Review**

"The authors have written a comprehensive and authoritative account of Russia's foreign relations and foreign policy mechanism.... The book is well grounded in the general international relations literature and all terms are clearly and convincingly explained.... The book is authoritatively researched... and offers a full and balanced treatment of all main problems in Russian foreign relations, bilateral, regional, and functional. In this way, the book is an ideal basic text for any undergraduate course on Russian foreign policy, providing as it does the essential context for issues that might be given more in-depth treatment through more specialized works. In addition, the book should serve well in courses on comparative foreign policy and international relations after the cold war."

### **About the Author**

Joseph L. Noguee, University of Houston - Robert H. Donaldson, University of Tulsa

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