



## Periodization of Russian/Soviet History

• Tsarist period: to 1917

• The Revolutions: 1917

- February: overthrow of the tsar

- October: communist revolution

• Civil War: 1917-1920

• Stabilization and power struggle: 1921-1927

Lenin's stroke: 1922Lenin's death: 1924

• Building of communism: 1928-1941

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• WWII: 1941-1945

• Post-war reconstruction, economic and military development: 1945-1960s

• "Era of Stagnation:" 1970s, early 1980s

• Perestroika: 1985-1991

- Attempted coup: August 1991

• Post-communist period: 1991+

- The turbulent 90s: transformation

- The Putin era: stabilization (2000+)

## Perestroika ("Restructuring")

- "Acceleration"
- The "human factor"
- Glasnost ("openness")
- Democratization
  - Limited
  - Multi-candidate, not multi-party
- Minor economic reforms
  - Small private businesses
  - Limited foreign investment