



Putin predicts 'revolutionary' changes

Description

RUSSIA: Only “truly sovereign” states will succeed after “enormous” geopolitical transformations, the Russian leader claimed

A new epoch of world history is approaching and only *“truly sovereign”* states will be able to succeed in the changed environment, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday.

Speaking at a business forum, Putin claimed that *“truly revolutionary,” “enormous”* changes would lead to the creation of a new, *“harmonious, fairer and more community-focused and safe”* world order. In this new epoch, *“only truly sovereign states can ensure high growth dynamics,”* he said.

By the term ‘sovereignty’ the Russian president means *“freedom of national development, and thus of each person individually,”* as well as *“technological, cultural, intellectual, educational viability of the state”* and a *“responsible, active and nationally minded, nationally oriented civil society.”*

Such a state, the president said, will serve as an example for others when it comes to *“the standards and quality of people’s life, the protection of traditional values and high humanistic ideals.”*

This kind of world is in sharp contrast to the Western-dominated unipolar world order, which, in Putin’s opinion, is *“becoming a brake on the development of our civilization.”*

He accused the West of being *“racist and neo-colonial,”* saying that its ideology *“is becoming increasingly more like totalitarianism.”*

The president argued that despite attempts by Western elites to preserve the existing world order, the changes are *“irreversible.”*

Putin has been discussing the end of the *“unipolar”* world for a long time. In his famous 2007 Munich Security Conference speech, the Russian president said that *“the unipolar world that had been proposed after the Cold War did not take place.”* He explained that a world of *“one master, one sovereign”* is destructive not only for everyone within the system but also for the sovereign itself. He

accused the US of neglecting the “*basic principles of international law*” and stressed that “*unilateral and frequently illegitimate actions*” had never solved any problems.

In May, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov expressed hope that his country’s military offensive in Ukraine, when completed, would force the Western nations “*to stop promoting the so-called unipolar world under the dominance of the United States and its allies.*”

The idea of a new “*multipolar*” world has been discussed in the West, too, most recently by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

However, following Moscow’s offensive in Ukraine, the West declared its intention to “*isolate*” Russia and imposed tough sanctions on it. Russia views these actions as another manifestation of Western attempts to “*contain*” it and maintain the existing world order.

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