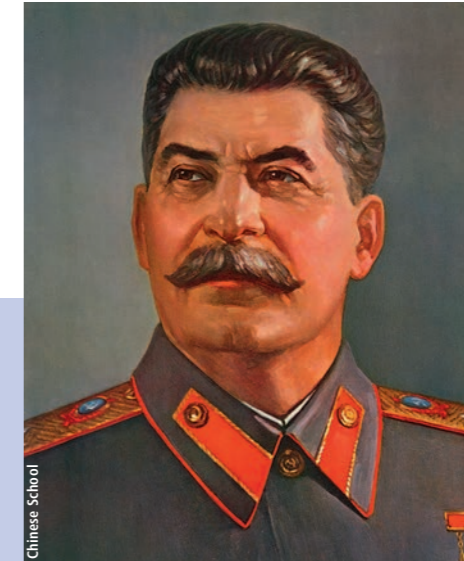


Stalin's Russia 1924–53

Laura Gallagher

Between Lenin's death in 1924 and Stalin's death in 1953, Russia witnessed a radical transformation. This timeline sets out the key social, economic and political events in Stalin's Russia



Leadership struggle

1924 Lenin's death
1924 Thirteenth Party Congress: the Triumvirate defeats the Left Opposition

1925 The Triumvirate split: Zinoviev and Kamenev move to the left-wing of the Communist Party
1927 Fifteenth Party Congress: the Duumvirate defeats the United Opposition
1928 Stalin ends his alliance with Bukharin
1929 Bukharin expelled from the Politburo

Economic policy

1928 Emergency economic measures introduced: rationing and grain requisitioning
1928 First Five-Year Plan launched
1929 Beginning of *de-kulakisation*
1929 Forced collectivisation begins

1930 Collectivisation halted
1931 Collectivisation restarted
1932–34 Famine
1933 Second Five-Year Plan launched

1938 Third Five-Year Plan launched

1941 100% of farms collectivised

1946 Fourth Five-Year Plan launched

1951 Fifth Five-Year Plan launched

Terror

1934 Stalin comes second to Kirov in elections at the Congress of Victors
1934 Kirov's assassination sparks the Great Terror

1936 Zinoviev and Kamenev executed
1937 Trial of the Seventeen removes Trotsky's former allies
1938 Bukharin executed

1940 Trotsky assassinated

1946–49 Purges of the Jews
1949 Leningrad Party purged

1952 Purge of doctors

Social policy

1928 Wedding rings banned as part of a policy to undermine marriage

1935 Introduction of new school curriculum
1936 Homosexuality, adultery, abortion and contraception banned

Military policy

1925 Trotsky sacked as head of the Red Army
1928 Fears of an imminent war with Germany lead to a greater emphasis on heavy industry in Russia's economic policy

1934 Russia joins the League of Nations to benefit from collective security

1939 Nazi-Soviet Pact
1939–40 The Soviet-Finnish War ('The Winter War')

1941 Germany invades Russia
1945 The Russian army enters Berlin. End of the Second World War

1949 Russia develops an atomic bomb

1920

1925

1930

1935

1940

1945

1950

1955

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