Russian History: A Brief Chronology (998-2000)

Kievan Russia

988 Conversion to Christianity
1237-1240 Mongol Invasion

Muscovite Russia

1380 The Battle of Kulikovo
1480 End of Mongol Rule
1462-1505 Ivan III
1505-1533 Basil III
1533-1584 Ivan the Terrible
1584-98 Theodore
1598-1613 The Time of Troubles
1613-45 Michael Romanoff
1645-76 Alexis
1672-82 Theodore

Imperial Russia

1682-1725 Peter I
1689 The Streltsy Revolt and Suppression; End of Sophia’s Regency
1695-96 The Azov Campaigns
1697-98 Peter’s travels abroad (The Grand Embassy)
1698 The revolt and the final suppression of the Streltsy
1700 Beginning of the Northern War (1700-21) and commencement of Russia’s industrial development, including the building of the navy
Introduction of the new calendar (the Julian Calendar is retained for the days of the month)
1703 Construction of St. Petersburg begins
1709 The defeat of Charles XII of Sweden at Poltava
1710 The Old Church Slavonic script is modernized into a secular alphabet
1710-13 The Turkish War
1711 Abolition of the Boyar Duma and establishment of the Governing Senate
1712 St. Petersburg is proclaimed capital of Russia
1714 Instituted succession by primogeniture
1718-22 Establishment of the Kollegia (ministries)
1721 Sweden cedes the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea to Russia (Treaty of Nystad). In celebration, Peter’s title is changed from Tsar to Emperor of All Russia
Abolition of the Patriarchate of Moscow. Religious authority passes to the Holy Synod and its Oberprokuror, appointed by the tsar.
1722 Table of Ranks
1723-25 The Persian Campaign. Persia cedes western and southern shores of the Caspian to Russia
1724 Russia’s Academy of Sciences is established
1725 Peter I dies on February 8
1725-1727 Catherine I
1727-1730 Peter II
1730-1740 Anne
1740-1741 Ivan VI
1741-1762 Elizabeth
1744 Sophie Friederike Auguste von Anhalt-Zerbst arrives in Russia and assumes the name of Grand Duchess Catherine Alekseevna after her marriage to Grand Duke Peter (future Peter III)
1762 Peter III
1762 Following a successful coup d’état in St. Petersburg during which Peter III is assassinated, Catherine is proclaimed Empress of All Russia
1762-1796 Catherine the Great
1767 Nakaz (The Instruction)
1772-1795 Partitions of Poland
1773-1774 Pugachev Rebellion
1785 Charter to the Nobility
1791 Establishment fo the Pale of Settlement (residential restrictions on Jews) in the parts of Poland with large Jewish populations, annexed to Russia in the partitions of Poland (1772, 1793, and 1795) and in the Black Sea litoral annexed from Turkey. By the 1860s, the Pale included: all of Russia’s Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, most of Ukraine, the Crimean Peninsula and Bessarabia. Abolished in 1917
1796-1801 Paul I
1801-1825 Alexander I
1801-1810 Incorporation of Georgia
1804 Ukaz, confirming of the right of Jews to access to any educational institution in Russia
1805 The Battle of Austerlitz
1807 Treaty of Tilsit
1808-1809 Incorporation of Finland
1812 Fort Ross founded in California
1812 Napoleon invades Russia, Moscow falls
1813 “Battle of Nations” (Leipzig)
1814 Paris falls to the Allies
1815  The Battle of Waterloo
1814-1815  Congress of Vienna, The Holy Alliance
1815  Russia's population 45,000,000
1823-31  Pushkin (1799-1837), Eugene Onegin
1825  Decembrist Rebellion
1825-1855  Nicholas I
1830  Polish Rebellion
1833  Proclamation of "Official Nationality"
1834  Belinsky (1811-48), "Literary Musings"
1835  New Legal Code
1836  Chaadaev (1794-1856), Philosophical Letters
1840  Lermontov (1814-41), The Hero of Our Time
1842  Gogol (1809-52), Dead Souls
1847-51  Turgeniev (1818-83), Sportsman's Sketches
1848  Revolutions in Europe
1848  Herzen (1812-70), From the Other Shore
1849  The Petrashevsky Conspiracy
1851  Russia's Population 67,000,000
1851  (serfs = 44% of the population)
1854-1855  The Crimean War
1855-81  Alexander II
1859  Darwin, The Origins of Species
1855-57  Relaxation of Censorship and re-emergence of civil society
1861-64  The Great Reforms
1861  Emancipation of Peasants Proclaimed
1861  The Declaration of the Tver Nobility
1861-62  University disturbances
1862  Petersburg fires
1862  Turgeniev, Fathers and Sons
1862-64  Chemyshevsky (1829-79) What Is To Be Done
1862-63  Financial Reforms
1863-69  Tolstoy's War and Peace
1863  Polish Rebellion
1863  The Reform of Universities
1864-68  The Zemstvo (elected local governments)
1864-66  Judicial Reform
1864  Dostoevsky (1821-81), Notes From Underground
1865  Expansion into Central Asia
1865  Press "Temporary Rules" (abolition of prior censorship)
1866  Karakozov's attempt to assassinate the tsar; beginning of the "reaction"
1869  J.S. Mill, The Subjection of Women
1870  The Municipal Reforms
1870-78  Anna Karenina
1871-72  Dostoevsky, The Possessed
1872  Nietzsche, The Birth of Tragedy
1873-74  The Populist Movement "To the People"
1874  The Military Reform
1876-79  Land and Freedom
1877  The Trial of 193
1877-1878  The Balkan War
1879  People's Will
1881  Alexander II assassinated
1881-1894  Alexander III
1882  A wave of anti-Jewish pogroms in southern Russia
1887  Publication of Nietzsche, The Genealogy of Morals
1889-1917  Nicholas II
1898  Social Democratic Party formed
1904-1905  Russo-Japanese War
1905  The Bloody Sunday (January 22)
1905-1907  First Russian Revolution
1905-1912  Constitutional and Parliamentary Reforms
1906  First State Duma (July-October)
1907  Second (March-June)
1907-12  Third State Duma (Nov. '07 – Jun. '12)
1912-1917  Fourth Duma
1906-111  Stolypin Reforms
1911  Prime Minister, P.A. Stolypin is assissinated (Sept. 18)
1911-13  Beilis Case (so-called Jewish blood libel, levelled against a Jewish bookkeeper from Odessa)
1914  The Great War
February, 1917  The Russian Revolution
The Soviet Period (1917-1991)

1917
Feb. Strikes and riots precipitating February revolution
Mar. Nicholas II abdicates
Apr. Lenin returns to Russia
May 1st coalition Provisional Government
June All-Russian Congress of Soviets' Provisional Government, headed by Kerensky, is established
July The July Days' riots and demonstrations by radical workers and soldiers
Kerensky becomes the head of the 2nd Coalition Provisional Government
Aug. General Kornilov's failed coup
Sept. 3rd Coalition Provisional Government
Novemb er 7 The Bolshevik Coup D'État
Dec. 20 The 2nd All-Russian Congress of Soviets hands over power to Bolshevics

November 25
Novem ber 8 Decrees on Land and Peace
Nov. 9 Decree on Suppression of Hostile Newspapers
Nov. 15 Declaration of Rights of the Peoples of Russia
Dec. 20 The Secret Police (the Extraordinary Commission to Fight Counter-Revolution)

1919
Jan. Constituent Assembly is in session; forcibly dissolved by the Bolsheviks on Jan 19
Feb. Creation of Red Army
March Treaty of Brest-Litovsk ceding Ukraine to Germany
Apr. Lenin on the menace of Stalin
May 7th Party Congress
June 14 One-Party Dictatorship established
June 28 War Communism (Decrees on Nationalization of Large-Scale Industry)
July Socialism Revolutionary uprising in Moscow and elsewhere
First Soviet Russian Constitution (Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic)
Aug. Civil War begins
Sept. Red Terror declared
Nov. Germans withdraw from occupied Russian territory
1918-1920 Allied intervention (100,000 troops altogether)
Oct. 1919 Bolshevik Russia is blockaded by foreign powers
1920-1922 Trotsky on the militarization of the revolutionary state
Drought and Famine
1920-1921
Feb. Red Army invades Georgia
Mar. Kronstadt Sailors' revolt
Apr. 10th Party Congress; Birth of the New Economic Policy
June-July Trial and execution of Metropolitan Veniamin
Aug. Capture of Enver Pasha
1921-22
Dec. 21922
Nov. 1922
Dec. 1922
Restrictions on private economy begin

1923
Apr. 12th party Congress
May 13th party Congress; Trotsky's opposition condemned by the Party

1924
Jan. Lenin dies
May 13th party Congress; Trotsky's opposition condemned by the Party

1925
Apr. 14th Party Conference ("Socialism in One Country" is accepted)

1926
Oct. Trotsky is expelled from Politburo
The United Opposition
May Rupture of diplomatic relations with Britain; war scare
Dec. 11th party Congress (banning "deviations from the Party Line; collectivization of agriculture is resolved"
Restrictions on the "kulaks"

1927
Feb. Bukharin's Angry Remarks (campaign against bohemianism)

1928
May The Grain Procurement Crisis
The Shakhty Trial (mining engineers accused of sabotage confess at the show trial)
The Alschuler et al. Trial (cumulation of campaign against Bohemianism)
July Bukharin on the menace of Stalin
Central Committee sends youth activists to college
Oct. Beginning of the 1st Five Year Plan (to Dec. 1932)
Collectivisation of agriculture commences

1929
Apr. Law on "religious associations"
the "Right Deviation" (Bukharin et al.) is condemned
Fall mass collectivization and "dekulakization" commence
Bukharin is expelled from the Politburo; Right Opposition is defeated

1930
Mar. Stalin's "Dizzy with Success"
April Mayakovsky commits suicide

G. Freidin
### Russian History: A Brief Chronology

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>Trial of the &quot;Industrial Party&quot;</td>
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<td>1932</td>
<td>Central Committee resolution on reforming &quot;literary-artistic organizations.&quot; RAPP is dissolved</td>
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<td>1933</td>
<td>Kirov's assassination and the First Purge</td>
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<td>1935</td>
<td>Death of Kuybyshev</td>
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<td>1936</td>
<td>The Great Terror</td>
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<td>1937</td>
<td>Arrest of Radek, Pyatakov et al.</td>
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<td>1938</td>
<td>Partition of Poland (sept. 1939) and the occupation of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union in accordance with the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Soviet-Finnish war</td>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>Peace with Finland</td>
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<td>1941</td>
<td>The Katyn Forest massacre of the Polish officer corps and intellectuals</td>
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<td>1942</td>
<td>The Great Terror</td>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 4, 1953</td>
<td>Stalin's death</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>May 1953</td>
<td>Malenkov appointed Prime Minister</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>July 1953</td>
<td>arrest and execution of Beria; revolt in Vorkuta labor camp</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>Sept. 1954</td>
<td>Khrushchev is confirmed as the 1st Secretary of the CPSU</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>May 1954</td>
<td>Pospelov's Commission begins investigation of Stalin's repressions</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>May 1954-56</td>
<td>The Virgin lands campaign</td>
<td>1954-56</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Solzhenitsyn is released from the Gulag</td>
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<td>Feb. 1955</td>
<td>Bulgakin replaces Malenkov as Prime Minister</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<td>May 1956</td>
<td>Khrushchev and Bulgakin visit Yugoslavia</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>Nov. 1956</td>
<td>Khrushchev visits the United States</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>June 1957</td>
<td>20th Party Congress and Khrushchev's Secret Speech</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>Oct. 1958</td>
<td>Marshal Zhukov is dismissed as Defence Minister</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<td>Feb. 1959</td>
<td>Khrushchev replaces Bulgakin as Prime Minister</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 1959</td>
<td>Pasternak is awarded Nobel Prize for Literature</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>Dec. 1959</td>
<td>New Criminal Code educational reform</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>1959-65</td>
<td>Seven Year Plan</td>
<td>1959-65</td>
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<td>Sept. 1960</td>
<td>Khrushchev launches the maize campaign</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1961</td>
<td>death of Pasternak</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<td>Apr. 1961</td>
<td>Gagarin's flight in space</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<td>July 1962</td>
<td>anti-Church legislation</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<td>Oct. 1962</td>
<td>22nd Party Congress -- the height of de-Stalinization; Stalin is removed from the Mausoleum</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<td>June 1963</td>
<td>Strikes and rioting in Novocherkassk (bloody reprisals)</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>Nov. 1963</td>
<td>Solzhenitsyn's <em>One Day</em> is published</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>Mar. 1964</td>
<td>Khrushchev warns writers &quot;against bourgeois influences&quot; poor grain harvest; beginning of large-scale shipments of grain form US</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<td>Apr. 1964</td>
<td>Fire at Ukraina Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<td>Oct. 1964</td>
<td>Central Committee Meeting replaces Khrushchev with Brezhnev</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Agricultural reforms</td>
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<td>Mar. 1965</td>
<td>approval of Kosygin's economic reforms</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>Sept. 1965</td>
<td>1st unofficial demonstration on Pushkin Square calling for the observance of the Constitution</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>Dec. 1965</td>
<td>Eshliman and Yakunin criticize the church hierarchy for subservience to the state and criticise the Council for</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>Affairs of Church in a letter to Supreme Soviet</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>Feb. 1966</td>
<td>Trial of Siniavsky and Daniel</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>Mar. 1966</td>
<td>Demonstration by the Baptists in Moscow</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>23 party Congress</td>
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<td>May 1967</td>
<td>Andropov appointed to head the KGB</td>
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<td>June 1968</td>
<td>Arab-Israeli war</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<td>Jan. 1968</td>
<td>Trial of Ginzburg and Galanskov (for the samizdat publication of the White Paper about the trial of Sinaivsky and Daniel)</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1968</td>
<td>1st issue of the samizdat Chronicle of Current Events</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 1968</td>
<td>Warsaw Pact troops invade Czechoslovakia</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>Tvardovsky is removed as editor of Novyi mir</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 1970</td>
<td>Sakharov, Turchin and Medvedev write to Brezhnev</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>Apr. 1970</td>
<td>Two Jews sentenced to death and then reprieved for attempting to hijack an airliner</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>Jan. 1970</td>
<td>Workers riot in Poland; Gireek replaces Gomulka s 1st Secretary of Polish United Workers' Party</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>9th Five Year Plan</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>1971-75</td>
<td>Large Jewish demonstration outside the Supreme Soviet building in Moscow; beginning of large-scale Jewish emigration to Israel</td>
<td>1971-75</td>
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<td>Feb. 1972</td>
<td>24th party Congress</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<td>May 1972</td>
<td>1st issue of Chronicle of Lithuanian Catholic Church wide-spread arrests and searches among Ukrainina intellectuals</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<td>Apr. 1973</td>
<td>Riots in Kaunas (Lithuania) following self-immolation of R. KalantaShcherbitsky becomes 1st Sec. of the Ukrainian CP</td>
<td>1973</td>
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<td>Oct. 1973</td>
<td>Shervadnadze becomes 1st Sec. of the Georgian CP</td>
<td>1973</td>
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<td>Apr. 1973</td>
<td>Andropov and Gromyko join the Politburo</td>
<td>1973</td>
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<td>Apr. 1974</td>
<td>Publication of Solzhenitsyn's <em>Gulag Archipelago</em> in the West</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<td>Apr. 1975</td>
<td>Solzhenitsyn is arrested and then deported from the USSR</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<td>Aug. 1975</td>
<td>Helsinki Accords on European Security and Cooperation</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<td>Oct. 1976</td>
<td>Sakharov is awarded Nobel Prize for Peace</td>
<td>1976</td>
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<td>1976-80</td>
<td>10th Five Year Plan</td>
<td>1976-80</td>
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<td>Feb.-Mar. 1978</td>
<td>Formation of the dissident Helsinki Watch Groups in several republics</td>
<td>1978</td>
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<td>June 1979</td>
<td>Workers unrest in Poland</td>
<td>1979</td>
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<td>Sept. 1979</td>
<td>Formation of KOR in Poland</td>
<td>1979</td>
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<td>June 1980</td>
<td>Brezhnev assumes the title of the USSR President</td>
<td>1980</td>
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<td>Jul. 1980</td>
<td>Trial of Shcharansky</td>
<td>1980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1980</td>
<td>Brezhnev awarded Lenin Prize in Literature</td>
<td>1980</td>
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<td>Jan. 1980</td>
<td>Sakharov is exiled to Gorky</td>
<td>1980</td>
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July-Aug. Olympic Games in Moscow  
Aug. Workers unrest in Gdansk; formation of Solidarity  
Oct. Street demonstrations in Estonia  
Dec. Death of Kosygin  

1981  
1981-5 11th Five Year Plan  
Dec. Jaruzelski declares martial law in Poland  

1982  
Sept. Last Helsinki watch group disbanded  
Nov. Brezhnev dies and is replaced by Andropov  

1983  
Apr. Andropov falls seriously ill  

1984  
Feb. Andropov dies and is replaced by Chernenko  

1985  
Mar. Chernenko dies and is replaced by M.S. Gorbachev  
April Central Committee Plenum establishing radical reforms  

1986  
Apr. Explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear plant  

1987  
Nov. Gorbachev denounces the Party's monopoly on truth  
Dec. Yeltsin is dismissed as Moscow CP chief.  

1988  
June Formation and the recognition of the Popular front of Estonia  
Nov. Declaration of the Supremacy of Estonian laws over Soviet laws  
Dec. Earthquake in Armenia  

1989  
Feb. Withdrawal from Afghanistan  
Mar. Elections to Congress of People's Deputies (first contested elections in the Soviet Union)  
Apr. "Biody Sunday" in Tbilisi  
Gorbachev is elected President of the USSR by Congress of Peoples Deputies  
Mar.-Dec. Presidential Council  
May Declaration of independence by Lithuanian parliament  
Aug. Lithuanian parliament declared the Soviet annexation of Lithuania in 1940 null and void.  
Dec. Lithuania abolishes Communist Party's monopoly on political power  
Collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, including East Germany  
War between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorny Karabakh  
Grossman's *Life and Fate* is published in the West  

1990  
Mar. Mass demonstrations in Moscow against Article 6 of the Constitution guaranteeing the Communist Party of the USSR a monopoly on political power  
Repeal of Article 6 of the USSR Constitution  

1991  
June-July 28th Party Congress. A.N. Yakovlev leaves the Politburo  
July Yeltsin resigns from the CP  
Dec. Shervadnadze's speech ("Dictatorship is coming")  
Solzhnitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago* is published in Russia  

1992-  
Dec. 31 Dissolution of the Soviet Union  

1993  
April Yeltsin wins the Referendum on his reform course and sets up a Constituent Assembly to redraft the constitution  

1994-  
1994  
1996  
Oct. Supreme Soviet and Vice President Rutskoy impeach Yeltsin and mount an insurrection in the street of Moscow until Yeltsin puts down the revolt  
Dec. General election to the Duma, lower Chamber of the new Russian parliament and a referendum on the new constitution granting the president substantial powers  

1997-1998  
Beginning of the currency and economic stabilization  

1998  
August Russia suffers a major economic crash as a result of the global crisis and weak financial infrastructure further undermined by rampant corruption  
Sept. Yeltsin dismisses Kirienko and after a series of unsuccessful attempts to confirm Chernomyrdin in the Duma appoints Yevgeny Primakov as Prime Minister  

March  
Primakov is replaced by former Minister of the Interior, Victor Stepashin  

Sept. Ailing Yeltsin dismisses Stepashin and replaces him with Vladimir Putin, former head of the FSB  
Several apartment building in Moscow and elsewhere in Russia are bombed by anonymous terrorists as some of the Chechen war lords invade the neighbouring Dagestan in the hope of winning the Muslim regions of the Caucasus to their cause. In response Putin spearheads a large scale military operation, with intense popular support  
Dec. Yeltsin resigns his presidency.  
Running against the communists, Putin wins the general election but by a rather slim margin.  

2000  
Putin's political and economic reforms are aimed at strengthening the federal government while encouraging productivity by a dramatic lowering of taxes. His attempts, at times clumsy, to fight corruption and re-establish the authority of the state and presidency are seen by some as an encroachment on the hard won freedoms of the Yeltsin's era.