

# The world according to President Putin

Just days before winning an historic third term as Russia's president, Vladimir Putin wrote an essay on his vision of foreign affairs for the Moskovskie Novosti newspaper

## ARAB SPRING

Initially perceived as opportunity for positive change, Russian companies are now losing business in local commercial markets to companies of states involved in regime change. **Kremlin will work with new Arab governments to restore economic relationships**

## LIBYA

Western support for regime change under pretext of humanitarian support undermined principles of Libyan state sovereignty. **Execution of Muammar Gaddafi – not just medieval but primeval – was manifestation of these actions**

## SYRIA

Libyan scenario must not be employed in Syria. International community must work to achieve internal reconciliation and prevent all-out civil war. **Russia is working towards introduction of multi-party political system promised by President Assad**

## NORTH KOREA

Moscow cannot accept North Korea's nuclear status

## CHINA

World's second largest economy offers colossal potential for business cooperation

United States

## UNITED STATES

**Obsessed with idea of absolute invulnerability.** Concept is unfeasible, requiring absolute vulnerability for all other nations. Instability of Moscow-Washington partnership is due, in part, to stereotypical perception of Russia on Capitol Hill. **U.S. plans to establish missile defence system in Europe, close to Russia's borders, will trigger countermeasures and undermine global security**

## EUROPE

Russia is an inalienable part of European civilisation. Moscow proposes creation of **Union of Europe**. Abolition of visas would give powerful impetus to integration. **Russia supports strong EU as envisioned by Germany and France**

## GLOBAL SECURITY

All states have inalienable rights to security. **This can only be achieved through cooperation with Russia**

## AFGHANISTAN

NATO-led military coalition has failed to meet its objectives – threats of terrorism and drug trafficking continue. **Process of national reconciliation should be joined by Taliban, on condition they renounce violence, recognise country's constitution and sever ties with Al Qaeda**

## IRAN

**Consequences of growing threat of military strike against Iran will be disastrous.** Moscow recognises Tehran's right to develop civilian nuclear programme – including uranium enrichment – but under IAEA **peaceful atom** safeguards. If this is done, all sanctions against Iran must be rescinded

## ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Russia will continue to work with Israeli and Palestinian leaders for resumption of peace process both on bilateral basis and within format of **Middle East Quartet** of UN, U.S. EU and Russia