

Russia's soaring military spending

Aug 1999: President **Boris Yeltsin** names **Vladimir Putin** as prime minister and preferred successor

Sep: Putin orders troops into breakaway republic of Chechnya

Dec: Yeltsin stands down to make way for Putin

Aug 2000: Nuclear submarine **Kursk** sinks in Barents Sea

Mar 2004: Putin re-elected as president

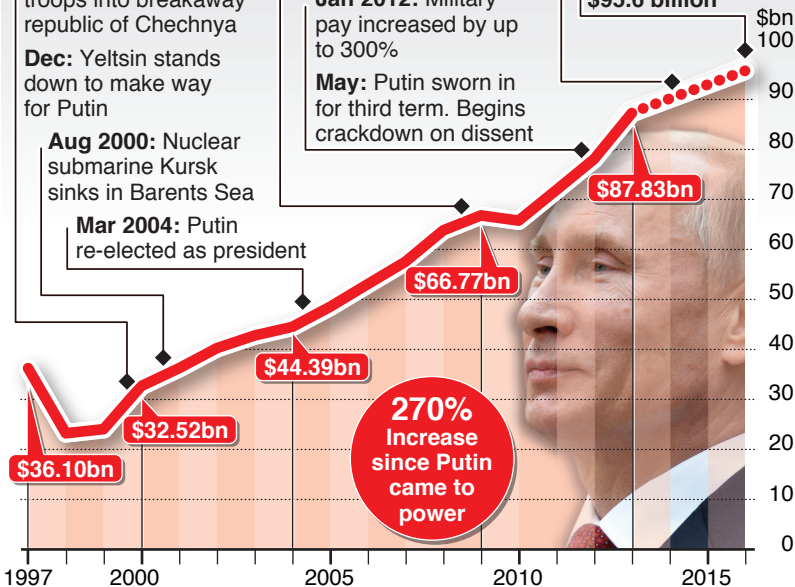
Aug 2008: War with Georgia. During five-day conflict Russia loses four aircraft, prompting criticism in Moscow over outdated equipment

Jan 2012: Military pay increased by up to 300%

May: Putin sworn in for third term. Begins crackdown on dissent

Mar 2014: Russia annexes **Crimea** from Ukraine

2016: Russian military spending forecast to reach **\$95.6 billion**



Values from 1997-2013 adjusted to constant 2013 dollars