



# Iran- Russia Relations from 2012 to 2017

Reporter: Liu Meifang

# Review

## Back to the 19th century

- Treaty of Golestan in 1813
- Treaty of Turkmenchay in 1828



# Review

## Back to the 20th century

- The First World War
- The Second World War
- Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)



# Factors affecting relations in the twenty-first century

## 1. The Return of Vladimir Putin

- Russia's policy toward Iran in the first two years of his third term coincided with the end of Ahmadinejad's two-year presidential term, and given the Kremlin's previous policy, Putin did not change it significantly.
- During Iran's negotiations with world powers within the framework of the P5 + 1, Russia has been paying special attention to reassure Israel about Iran's nuclear program.
- Putin is also serious about pursuing this policy as well as his commitment to easing relations with the United States and the West and resolving the Iranian nuclear issue, once again increasing Russia's focus on Iran.

# Factors affecting relations in the twenty-first century

## 2. The Syrian Conflict

- Russia is increasingly interested in playing a role in the Middle East, with issues of regional cooperation centered on Tehran's cooperation.
- The two countries' joint approach to Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria led Sergey Lavrov to call Iran like Russia's "natural ally" in September 2014.
- Russia's entry into the combat arena of the Syrian conflict has led to a new phase in relations between Tehran and Moscow, which have been growing in different aspects of political, economic, and regional cooperation.

# Factors affecting relations in the twenty-first century

## 3. Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Iran in 2015

- For the first time, the leaders of Tehran and Moscow have expressed their willingness to declare that Iran-Russia relations have expanded in all fields to become a strategic relationship.
- Following Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Iran, the political will formed in Tehran and Moscow led to a shift in economic relations between the two countries.
- Iran and Russia have reached more agreements on major governmental projects that could add value to their trade relations. These agreements also include the establishment of long-term strategic economic relations and the strengthening of their current and commercial ties.

# Factors affecting relations in the twenty-first century

## 4. Iranian President Rouhani visited Russia in 2017

- The two leaders held talks on strengthening bilateral and regional relations and said that Russia's cooperation with Iran in Syria has had a negative impact on Russian-Israeli relations.
- Referring to the Iranian foreign minister's remarks about the possible use of Iranian military bases by Russia, Blagoev also considered the case as another evidence of the development of Tehran-Moscow relations due to Iran's cooperation with Russia in Syria.
- For Russia, maintaining a balance in binational relations with Iran and Israel has always been of interest.

# Critical Thinking

## From the Perspective of Iran

Iran's relations with Russia have bilateral regional and international dimensions that are subject to changing conditions and interference from various components.

In many cases, these factors are not under the direct control of Tehran and Moscow, but bilateral relations between the two countries can develop under any circumstances.

If the value of such bilateral relations increases for both countries, then the positioning on regional and international issues will become closer.

## From the Perspective of Russia

Border relations are seen as a gateway to regional and international cooperation and close relations.

They want Iran to have a strong presence in West Asia that can counteract the goals and policies of the United States and Europe and their allies in the region.

In the eyes of Russian leaders, Iran has been a consistent player in responding to Russia's concerns.



# Conclusion

- Cultural and social differences hinder the expansion of economic and political relations between the two countries.
- The turmoil between Russia and Iran is one of the obstacles to expanding Iranian-Russian cooperation.
- Western influence on this relationship has been both direct and indirect.
- Relations with the United States and Europe are an influential part of Iran and Iranian relations.



# Thanks for Listening!

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