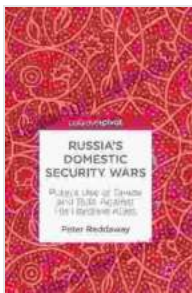


Putin's Divide and Conquer Strategy: Manipulating His Hardline Allies

Russian President Vladimir Putin has long been known for his shrewd political tactics, and his divide-and-rule strategy is a prime example of his ability to maintain control and suppress dissent within his inner circle.

Putin's hardline allies are a diverse group of individuals who share a common goal of supporting his authoritarian rule. However, they also have their own ambitions and agendas, and Putin has been skilled at exploiting these differences to keep them in line.



Russia's Domestic Security Wars: Putin's Use of Divide and Rule Against His Hardline Allies by Peter Reddaway

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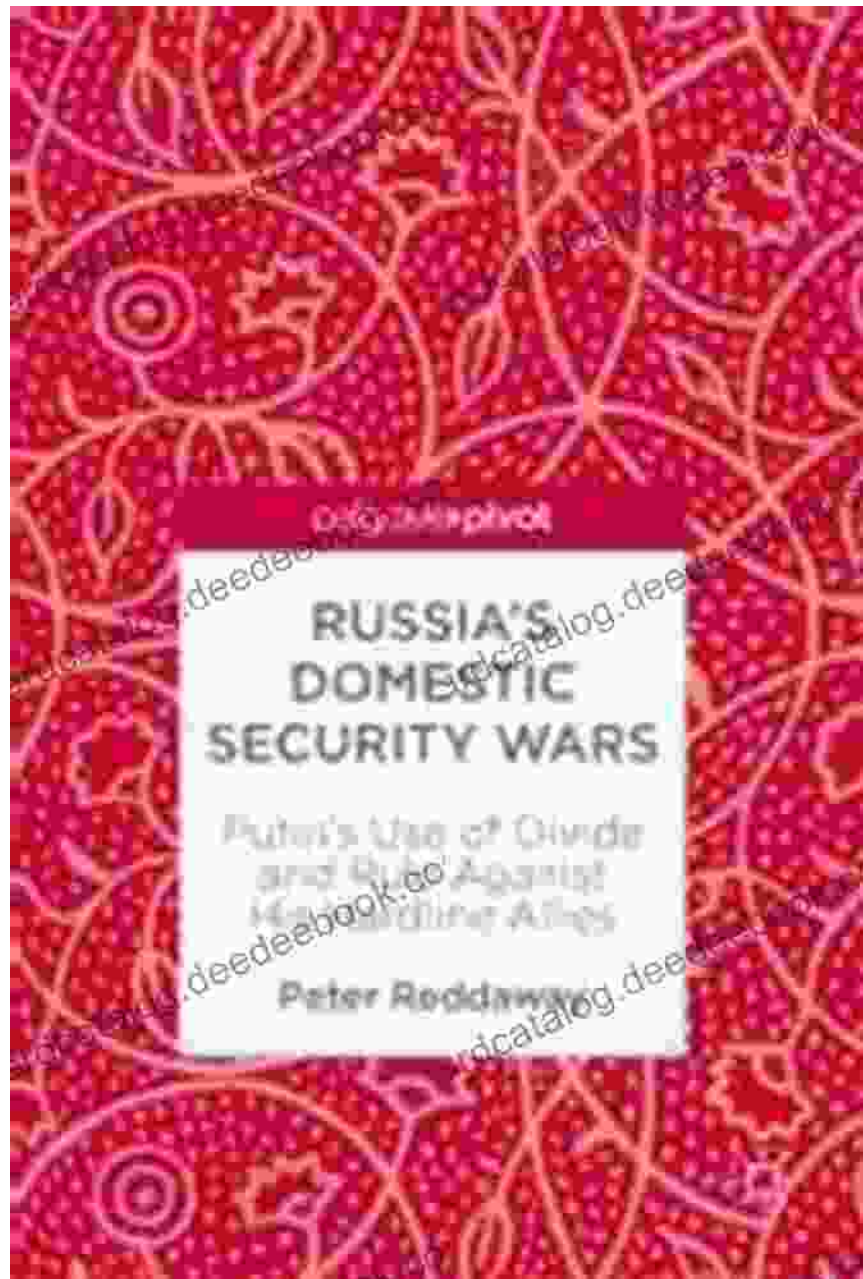


Divide and Conquer: A Psychological Masterstroke

Putin's divide-and-rule strategy is rooted in the concept of cognitive dissonance, which occurs when individuals hold two or more conflicting beliefs or values. By creating divisions among his allies, Putin generates

cognitive dissonance, which makes it difficult for them to unite and challenge his authority.

For example, Putin may sow seeds of distrust between two allies who have a history of competing for power. By ng so, he creates a situation where each ally is more focused on undermining the other than on challenging Putin himself.



Putin's divide-and-rule strategy has been effective in keeping his hardline allies in check.

Playing on Personal Ambitions

In addition to exploiting ideological differences, Putin also plays on the personal ambitions of his allies. By offering rewards and incentives to those who demonstrate loyalty, he creates a sense of competition and division within the group.

For example, Putin may appoint one ally to a high-profile position, while promising another ally a promotion in the future. This creates a situation where the two allies are competing for Putin's favor, rather than working together to challenge his authority.

Maintaining a Sense of Isolation

Another key element of Putin's divide-and-rule strategy is to maintain a sense of isolation among his allies. By limiting their access to information and outside influences, Putin prevents them from forming alliances or developing their own independent power bases.

For example, Putin may restrict travel for his allies or monitor their communications. He may also create a climate of fear and intimidation, where allies are hesitant to speak out against him or each other.

Historical Precedents

Putin's divide-and-rule strategy is not a new concept. Throughout history, rulers have used similar tactics to maintain control over their subordinates. Roman emperors used the divide-and-rule strategy to keep their provinces from rebelling.

In more recent times, dictators such as Joseph Stalin and Saddam Hussein employed divide-and-rule tactics to suppress dissent and maintain their grip on power.

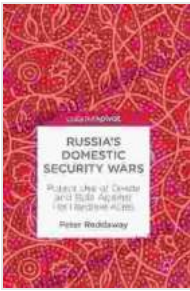
Effectiveness of the Strategy

Putin's divide-and-rule strategy has been effective in keeping his hardline allies in check. By creating divisions among them, exploiting their personal ambitions, and maintaining a sense of isolation, Putin has prevented them from uniting and challenging his authority.

However, it is important to note that the divide-and-rule strategy is not without its risks. If Putin's allies become too divided, they may become paralyzed and unable to effectively serve his interests. Additionally, if his allies become aware of his divide-and-rule tactics, they may become resentful and seek to undermine him.

Vladimir Putin's divide-and-rule strategy is a testament to his political cunning. By exploiting the divisions and ambitions of his hardline allies, he has maintained control over them and suppressed any potential challenges to his authority.

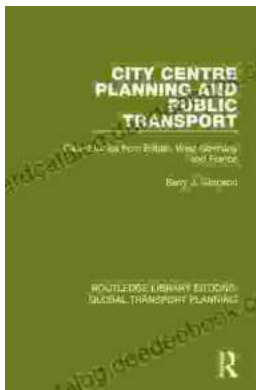
However, it remains to be seen whether Putin's divide-and-rule strategy will be sustainable in the long term. As his allies become more aware of his tactics, they may become more likely to challenge him or seek alliances with each other. Ultimately, the longevity of Putin's divide-and-rule strategy will depend on his ability to maintain the balance of power within his inner circle.



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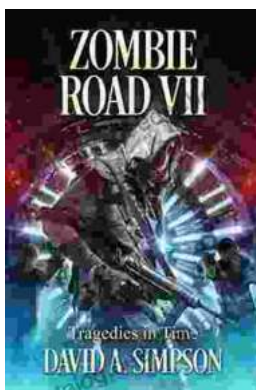
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