



# Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia

By Yegor Gaidar

Download now

Read Online →

## Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar

"My goal is to show the reader that the Soviet political and economic system was unstable by its very nature. It was just a question of when and how it would collapse...." —From the Introduction to *Collapse of an Empire* The Soviet Union was an empire in many senses of the word—a vast mix of far-flung regions and accidental citizens by way of conquest or annexation. Typical of such empires, it was built on shaky foundations. That instability made its demise inevitable, asserts Yegor Gaidar, former prime minister of Russia and architect of the "shock therapy" economic reforms of the 1990s. Yet a growing desire to return to the glory days of empire is pushing today's Russia backward into many of the same traps that made the Soviet Union untenable. In this important new book, Gaidar clearly illustrates why Russian nostalgia for empire is dangerous and ill-fated: "Dreams of returning to another era are illusory. Attempts to do so will lead to defeat." Gaidar uses world history, the Soviet experience, and economic analysis to demonstrate why swimming against this tide of history would be a huge mistake. The USSR sowed the seeds of its own economic destruction, and Gaidar worries that Russia is repeating some of those mistakes. Once again, for example, the nation is putting too many eggs into one basket, leaving the nation vulnerable to fluctuations in the energy market. The Soviets had used revenues from energy sales to prop up struggling sectors such as agriculture, which was so thoroughly ravaged by hyperindustrialization that the Soviet Union became a net importer of food. When oil prices dropped in the 1980s, that revenue stream diminished, and dependent sectors suffered heavily. Although strategies requiring austerity or sacrifice can be politically difficult, Russia needs to prepare for such downturns and restrain spending during prosperous times. *Collapse of an Empire* shows why it is imperative to fix the roof before it starts to rain, and why sometimes the past should be left in the past.

↓ [Download Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia ...pdf](#)



# Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia

By Yegor Gaidar

## Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar

"My goal is to show the reader that the Soviet political and economic system was unstable by its very nature. It was just a question of when and how it would collapse...." —From the Introduction to *Collapse of an Empire* The Soviet Union was an empire in many senses of the word—a vast mix of far-flung regions and accidental citizens by way of conquest or annexation. Typical of such empires, it was built on shaky foundations. That instability made its demise inevitable, asserts Yegor Gaidar, former prime minister of Russia and architect of the "shock therapy" economic reforms of the 1990s. Yet a growing desire to return to the glory days of empire is pushing today's Russia backward into many of the same traps that made the Soviet Union untenable. In this important new book, Gaidar clearly illustrates why Russian nostalgia for empire is dangerous and ill-fated: "Dreams of returning to another era are illusory. Attempts to do so will lead to defeat." Gaidar uses world history, the Soviet experience, and economic analysis to demonstrate why swimming against this tide of history would be a huge mistake. The USSR sowed the seeds of its own economic destruction, and Gaidar worries that Russia is repeating some of those mistakes. Once again, for example, the nation is putting too many eggs into one basket, leaving the nation vulnerable to fluctuations in the energy market. The Soviets had used revenues from energy sales to prop up struggling sectors such as agriculture, which was so thoroughly ravaged by hyperindustrialization that the Soviet Union became a net importer of food. When oil prices dropped in the 1980s, that revenue stream diminished, and dependent sectors suffered heavily. Although strategies requiring austerity or sacrifice can be politically difficult, Russia needs to prepare for such downturns and restrain spending during prosperous times. Collapse of an Empire shows why it is imperative to fix the roof before it starts to rain, and why sometimes the past should be left in the past.

## Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1214165 in Books
- Published on: 2007-11-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.32" h x 1.18" w x 6.54" l, 1.40 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 332 pages

 [Download Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia ...pdf](#)



## **Editorial Review**

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Elaine Kistler:**

What do you think about book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, what best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that query above. Every person has several personality and hobby for every other. Don't to be obligated someone or something that they don't desire do that. You must know how great as well as important the book Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia. All type of book could you see on many solutions. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

##### **Louise Hawkins:**

The guide untitled Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia is the publication that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to a person. The language that article author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of exploration when write the book, and so the information that they share to you personally is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

##### **Dale Eich:**

The reason? Because this Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will jolt you with the secret that inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

##### **Shantel McCary:**

Reading a book to be new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to study a book. When you examine a book you can get a wide range of benefit. When you read publications, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics,

as well as soon. The Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia provide you with new experience in looking at a book.

**Download and Read Online Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar #HYMG4CXISFO**

## **Read Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar for online ebook**

Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar books to read online.

### **Online Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar ebook PDF download**

**Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar Doc**

**Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar Mobipocket**

**Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar EPub**

**HYMG4CXISFO: Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia By Yegor Gaidar**