

# The New Russian Engagement With Latin America: A Comprehensive Overview



## The New Russian Engagement with Latin America: Strategic Position, Commerce, and Dreams of the Past

by Jonathan Kellerman

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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In recent years, Russia has been making significant efforts to strengthen its ties with Latin America. This engagement is multifaceted, encompassing economic, political, military, and diplomatic dimensions. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the new dynamics in the relationship between Russia and Latin American countries.

## Historical Context

Russia's engagement with Latin America has a long history dating back to the 19th century. However, the relationship remained relatively limited until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. In the post-Cold War era, Russia began to re-engage with the region, seeing it as an opportunity to expand its sphere of influence and counterbalance the United States.

## Economic Ties

Economic ties are a key component of the Russia-Latin America relationship. Russia is a major exporter of oil, gas, and other commodities to the region. In recent years, Russian companies have also invested heavily in Latin American infrastructure, energy, and mining sectors. Latin America, in turn, is a growing market for Russian goods and services.

### **Military Cooperation**

Russia has also been expanding its military cooperation with Latin American countries. Russia has sold weapons to several countries in the region, including Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Cuba. Russian military personnel have also been deployed to train and advise Latin American militaries.

### **Political Alignment**

Politically, Russia and Latin America have found common ground on a number of issues. Both Russia and many Latin American countries are critical of US foreign policy and support a multipolar world order. This shared perspective has led to closer political alignment between Russia and Latin America.

### **Implications for the United States**

Russia's engagement with Latin America has implications for the United States. The United States has traditionally viewed Latin America as its sphere of influence, and it is concerned about Russia's growing presence in the region. The United States has taken steps to counter Russia's influence, including increasing its own engagement with Latin America and providing economic and military assistance to the region.

Russia's engagement with Latin America is a complex and evolving phenomenon. It is driven by a variety of factors, including economic, political, military, and diplomatic considerations. The relationship between Russia and Latin America is likely to continue to grow in the coming years, and it will have implications for the United States and the global order.

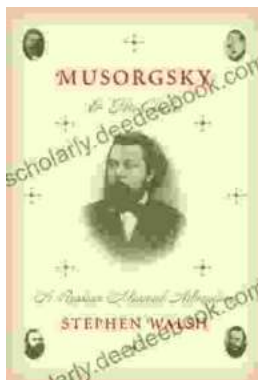


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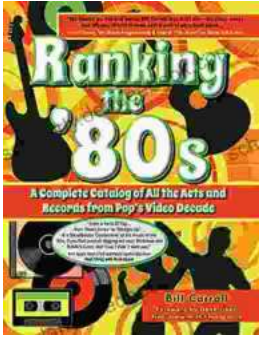
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