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America? We Love Those Guys: Russian Propaganda U-Turns on the U.S.

This week's edition of The World According to Russian State TV.

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Ever since Vladimir Putin appointed him in 2013, ⊠propagandist-in-chief Dmitry Kiselyov has blamed the U.S. for most of ⊠Russia's and the world's misdeeds. His antipathy for the United States ⊠even went so far that he once claimed Russia could turn Washington into ⊠"radioactive dust" (a comment he later claimed was not meant to be ⊠aggressive).

But this weekend, during his weekly Sunday night show, Dmitry ⊠Kiselyov changed his tune. Like any other Sunday, he dedicated most of ⊠the show to American news. Only this time, he was full of praise for ⊠Washington.

"In Russia, there is no real anti-Americanism," Kiselyov told his viewers.

A few days earlier, Donald J. Trump had won the U.S presidential ⊠election — shocking the world, including, one would imagine, Kiselyov.

According to the show, Putin was the only person on Earth not taken ⊠aback by the election result. He had called Trump's victory and was the ⊠only world leader prepared for radical change in Washington. Russian ⊠state television aired footage of Putin's speech at last month's annual ⊠Valdai Club conference, in which the Russian president (who has never ⊠lost an election) said that "elections are often surprises for power ⊠holders and the establishment."

The World According to Russian State TV: America's Stinking Democracy

Europe, on the other hand, was in total disarray. Kiselyov told ⊠viewers that EU leaders had been mocking Trump for months — "but we ⊠shall see who gets the last laugh!" He suggested that Europeans should ⊠follow Americans and replace their leaders. The populist Alternative For⊠ Germany party was, he said, fit to uproot Chancellor Angela Merkel; ⊠while Marine Le Pen's Front National would be a good choice for the ⊠Elysee. NATO, too, was in a state of panic. In short, Trump had "cracked the global anti-Russian liberal internationale."

So what exactly was there to be so happy about? Under Donald Trump, ⊠said Kiselyov, Washington will finally drop irritating slogans like ⊠"democracy" and "human rights," which had, in fact, driven conflict in ⊠the 20th century.

None of this meant that Russia should drop its guard, said the ⊠presenter. After all, state TV reminded viewers, Trump is an American – ⊠not Russian – president and therefore will have Washington's [not ⊠Moscow's] interests at heart. "But," Kiselyov assured, "Russia has a lot of trust in Trump."

For the time being, Trump will have to deal with opposition at home ⊠before he can even think about what these new relations with Moscow will⊠ look like. The Sunday broadcast aired footage of anti-Trump student ⊠protests across the U.S, claiming these were violent demonstrations and ⊠it is "still unclear" who was behind them. "America wants a Maidan ⊠everywhere but in America," Kiselyov said.

Hillary Clinton, who was referred to throughout the show as "the ⊠blonde woman," might have been behind the protests, he suggested. But ⊠she had little to complain about: the likelihood now is that Trump will ⊠not put "the blonde woman" behind bars, as he claimed he would during ⊠his election campaign. He will "most probably" find it in his heart to ⊠forgive her — after all, "Trump has left blonde women satisfied his ⊠whole life."

The person Trump will have least time for, according to Russian state⊠ television, is Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko. The United States,⊠ which Russia maintains orchestrated Ukraine's Maidan revolution, will ⊠soon forget about Kiev. "U.S. Vice President Joe Biden will no longer be⊠ seen there," Kiselyov said, showing images of a desperate-looking ⊠Poroshenko.

The world today, the show concluded, is "like a Gogol novel."

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