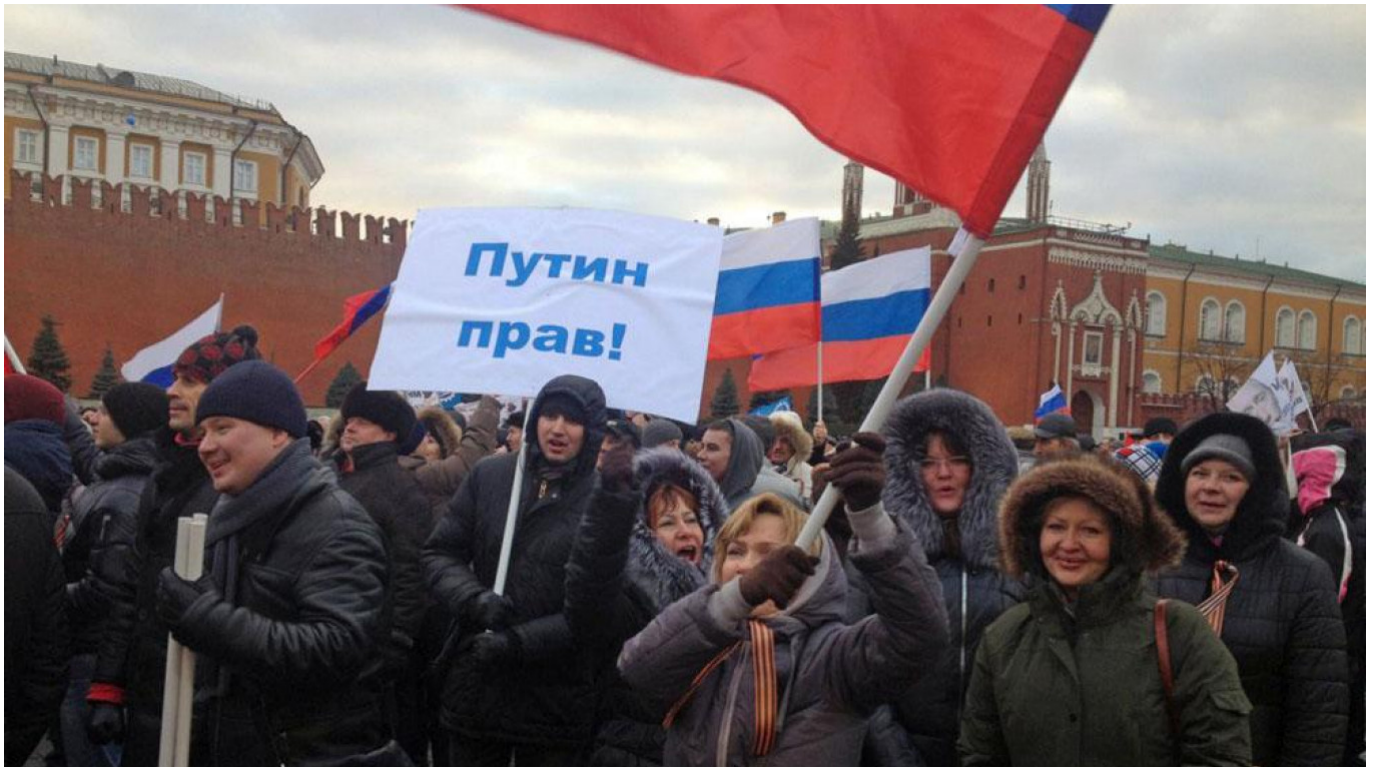


Patriotism at Historic Highs in Russia, Poll Shows

December 21, 2017



"Putin is right!" / Moskva News Agency

Patriotic fervor has reached historic highs in modern Russia, according to an independent Levada Center poll released Thursday.

National pride has [shot](#) through the roof since the 2014 annexation of Crimea from Ukraine. Last year, President Vladimir Putin [declared](#) patriotism as Russia's only national idea, a notion that has carried into the country's education system and state-run mass media.

Related article: [Putin Declares Patriotism Russia's Only National Idea](#)

For the first time since the fall of the Soviet Union, 64 percent of respondents [said](#) that Russians are a "great nation with a special place in world history." Only 13 percent shared that sentiment in 1992, according to Levada.

Additionally, 72 percent of respondents named Russia a great power.

Levada sociologist Karina Pipiya associates the upswell of patriotism with a “post-Crimean mobilization” and a reaction against the “unjust” and “anti-Russian” position of Western countries, the Vedomosti business daily [reported](#).

“The emotions have subsided, but the mood remains,” Vedomosti [cites](#) political scientist Alexei Makarkin as saying.

The poll was conducted between Nov. 24-28 among 1,600 residents across 48 Russian regions.

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