

Why did the rulers of Russia resort to repression so often in the period 1855-1964?

→ This is a pretty straight forward question.

### KEY TERMS:

Why - compare reasons.

Resort - Reluctant?

### WHAT IS THE QUESTION ASKING?

This is asking me to compare the reasons for repression.

### Introduction

Q1 - Repression was the dominant political theme of Russian history in this period. From the knot of the Third Section → the Purges of the KGB the Russian people were replete with control & subdued by their autocratic & illiberal rulers. Indeed, only the PE truly reluctant. However, it was imposed for different reasons, & to different extents across the given 100 years.

Strands of continuity across the period :-  
Desire for economic modernisation

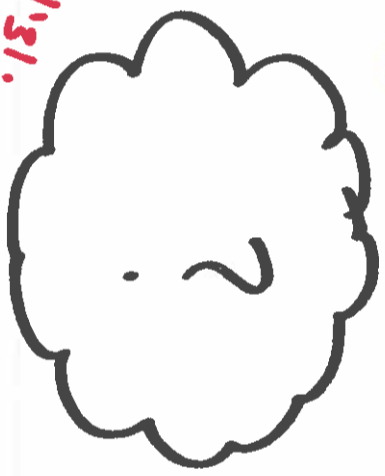
### ✓ Exploitation of the Peasantry:

→ Grain requisitioning → famines 9/21/31.  
→ Redemption Payments.

### ✓ Exploitation of the Proletariat:

→ Magnitogorsk & Novobcherkassk & Strikes, Bloody Sunday & Lena Sad Mines

Leader/Event - specific reasons



### Regime-specific reasons

Autocracy by definition illiberal & intolerant of opposition. But regimes ∴ had their enemies

✓ Communists → Class: The tsar / the nobility / the kulaks

Religion - Ichonshchev → Jews

✓ Tsars → Non-Russians (Russification), Political enemies - Stolypin Nechke

Totalitarian State

✓ In an autocracy the level of repression shot the severity of the regime, as a reflection of the autocrat's personality. ∴ greatest under N2, N3 & esp'ly N1. Events, esp' some wars → A repression. Best example Red Terror in the civil war.

### MY LINE OF ARGUMENT / CONCLUSION:

✓ No one reason can answer this question.

✓ Rather the interaction of period, regime-specific & leader-specific reasons

✓ Can best be seen in the 1930s