



Revealed: Putin's 'czarist agenda', plans to conquer Finland, Belarus and Baltic Sea

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Moscow: After annexing Crimea, Russian President [Vladimir Putin](#) will try to 'conquer' Belarus, the Baltic Sea and Finland, revealed President's former advisor.

The objective is to return to the days of the last czar, Nicholas II and Soviet-era under Stalin.

Andrej Illarionov, chief economic advisor to Putin from 2000 to 2005, while speaking to a Swedish newspaper revealed Putin's intent and said that Finland's independence in 1917 was seen as an act of 'treason against national interests'.

"Putin's view is that he protects what belongs to him and his predecessors. Parts of Georgia, [Ukraine](#), Belarus, the Baltic States and Finland are states where Putin claims to have ownership," Illarionov claimed.

Illarionov has been Putin's representative at a number of G8 conferences. Presently, he is a senior fellow at the Cato institute's Centre for Global Liberty and Prosperity in Washington.

An attack on Finland does not authorise NATO to consider it as an attack as the Scandinavian country is not a member of the Group.

Illarionov comments achieve significance as Finnish air force chief has said that it has increased surveillance operations over the Baltic Sea.

It is unlikely that Putin will pursue his expansionist agenda in recent time. But if he is not stopped, the issue will come to prominence sooner or later, he concluded.