Minorities
non-russian nationalism. Empire would unravel if national principle accepted. However, Polish revolt 1963, concessions needed
relaxation of central control in some regions
Poland more generous emancipation deal 1863 - but wanted ‘too much’ and were crushed in 1865
Reduced restrictions on Jews - allowed gov jobs and higher education, could live outside the pale
Finland got parliament 1865, currency and eventual independence

Reaction 66-81
Reforming ministers replaced with more conservative
saw reforms as limited measures to meet needs of 1855?
1st serious attempt on Alex2 life in 1866
state police became omnipotent

Financial policies
poll tax increased by over 80% over reign (help subsidise education)
Finance minister Reuters - centralised accounting system so budget more easily accessed and understood
abandoned plan to stabilise value of the Rouble

Prisoner
Full so had to build new facilities - house of preliminary detention, brutal and long arrest, prison, internal exile, 150,000 travelled great road to Siberia during reign

political details

1881 - assassinated on the day Alex approved loris-melikov proposals for a national zemstvo
Alexander III and Nicholas II Opposition 1881-1914

Reasons for opposition:
Undoing reforms (see alex 3 table for detail)
Legal: centralisation of police, judges clear advice, Land Captains (gentry), severe conditions in prisons
Censorship: 3x censor, close and lifelong ban, libraries
Education: UNiversities cant run own affairs, students subject to inquiry non-academic activities, lower class children banned from secondary edu
Gov: peasant representation in z down and appointed

1891 famine:
hit 17/39 prices
Professor Hutchinson ‘the defining event of the decade’
Many believed government responsible - they had heavily taxed consumer goods, peasants forced to sell more grain - leaving no reserves of seed-corn for them to use in a bad year
Ivan Vyshnegradsky ‘we ourselves will not eat but we shall export’ consors prevented newspapers carrying news of the famine postbaned ban on grain exports until situation acute Aug 1891 (did work tog eventually)

Economy:
econ increase 8% pa 4% past econ, rapid growth 1/5 railway stimulated industry growth and movement to towns and cities, a kind of command economy that protected territorial integrity of russia but not what russian people (80% of pop) wanted

Urban poor:
industrial rev - millions peasants moved to developing industries
1913 (Robert Service) working class in towns and cities reached 11 mill
1904 St Petersburg, apartment 16 people, 6 per room, running water ½, cesspools threat to health wages low and employment insecure, daily labour market moscow workers had left countryside for better life - susceptible to revolutionary groups developing
Russian Orthodox church influence down, literacy higher, workers open to new influences

Gov finances:
print money in war w Turker, ⅛ army and ⅛ debt interest thus little for education and social welfare, thus grain sold, and family 1891,

Intelligentsia and middle class:
Growth on middle class as cities grew and work of zemstvo
people used to involvement in public service and decision making
As the work of the zemstvo expanded so dod expectations for political consultation at a national level
Majority of students t uni no longer nobles - all classes inc wealthy peasants
| Stolypin 1903-11 | Aims: Increase prosperity and increase kulaks Increase yields Decrease famines Increase content with regime | Unconditional rights to land - demand own land without mir intervening Increased education about techniques Sold crown land to land bank to increase available farming land - record harvest 1913 (more to do with weather) 25% 1914 owned own land, over ½ peasants left mir Completed trans siberian railway Incentives for those who wanted to settle east 3 million relocated to siberia - broaden base of agriculture Redemption payments ended 1907 Internal passports abolished, land captains replaced | Little change in farming techniques Tsar and gentry owned best land and only 10% of peasants had managed to consolidate to larger farm Did not fix overpopulation and ‘land hunger’ kind of ‘command economy’ - protect territorial position needs of ordinary russians secondary produced alienated poor peasants - susceptible to radicalism Stolypin’s ‘englished conservatism’ both sides of political structure alienated assassinated 1911 (LW w connections to secret police), decreased popularity for Tsarism |

Stolypin on agriculture
Difficult to determine success of stolypin’s policies due to start of war in 1914 - said 20 years of peace only 7 - possible prosperous clash of independent farmers? ‘optimist’ historians (western and non-marxist) Stolypin hope and possibility ‘pessimist little real political or economic progress politically or economically. poverty-stricken peasants and a greater number of industrial workers in the cities, Soviet and Marxist historians, Tsarism doomed.
formed the promised constituent assembly in 1917, abolished it when a socialist majority was formed ‘dictatorship of the proletariat and one party state’

| Civil War                                                                 | Lenin sent Trotsky to put down Kronstadt revolution - Trotsky success March 1921 firing RG to attack across melting ice and put down revolt primarily instigated by Lenin. Lenin's input in war primarily leadership. Lenin and Sverdlov made day to day business decisions until 1919. Maxim Gorky; ‘lenin is a gifted man who has all the qualities of a leader, including these essential ones: lack of morality and a merciless, lordly harshness towards the lives of the masses’, particularly in relation to Great Terror. Made Commissar for War in 1918 and president of Supreme War Council. Rebuilt Russian Army based on the red guards ‘workers and peasants Red Army’ troops increased 7,000 March 1918 to 5 mill Sept 1920. Blocking units behind politically unreliable RA units and shoot if retreated without permission; death penalty for offenses. Historians Trotsky CW ‘virtually single handed’ Dmitri Volkogonov Soviet historian and ex general not much of a military strategist and key military decisions taken by others. Moral Booster, travelled 65,000 miles around Russia, organising supplies of weapons and food. Trotsky decided to save Petrograd when under threat from Yudenich. Lenin felt they would have to give up (pragmatism or defeatism shown again BL) ‘during the civil war lenin gave his signature in advance to any decision that i might consider necessary in the future’. |
| Economic Policy                                                           | no policy came to practice unless approved by Lenin. War Communism 18-21, civil war econ problems. Extreme centralisation, 40 glavas responsible for thousands of factors, chronic inefficiency. State distributor and producer 4:3:2:1 ratio. Hardest physical labour to | Early 1920 Trotsky proposed to the central committee essentially and early version of the NEP. Lenin against proposal rejected in central committee. Kronstadt rebellion revealed right foresight to predict need support policy s member of politburo when adopted. |
How did Bolshevik gov change Russia

1) The Decree on Peace
2) The Decree on Land - Abolished landlord's right of property, to be redistributed
3) The Decree on Nationalities - right of self-gov to national group
4) Housing in cities removed from private owners
5) Civil marriage and divorce made easier
6) A Commissariat of Public Education - took education away from church
7) All titled were abolished in favour of Comrade
8) An Institute for Protection of Mothers and Children was formed
9) Larger factories nationalised without compensation

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk- March 1918
Armsitice 2 Dec, L govt had no choice, Trotsky= ‘no peace no war’, dragging out the talks - comm mix w G, G army grew tired, feb renewed armed advance toward P, bombsnP, move to M. Lenin persuade party to accept G terms- threatens to resign. Russia lost ⅓ of European land and ½ industrial capacity, loss of Ukraine grain. Patriotic Russians oppose gov who had betrayed ‘Mother Russia’

Suppression of opposition Oct 1917- July 1918
Decrees of Sovnarkom banned bourgeois parties and later others, Right SR support of Russian peasant - in countryside and difficult to organise. Left SR walked out of gov after BL and suppressed after rising in July. Cheka and loyal troops to prevent anti-gov demonstrations,. Bolsh control local sovs persuasion or force. Opposition groups either disbanded by force or went underground
July 1918 Bolshevik dictatorship

Civil War

Why?

1) Collapse of Russian Empire
Lenen decreed Nov 177 territories free to leave Russia. Great Russia soviets took over large areas and often pursued own policies. Central Siberian Region Soviet Irkutsk rejected peace wG. 33 sovereign govs in russia han 18. patriotic russians wanted ‘Russia,. one and indivisible’. Some fought CW to achieve self-govt others to
2) Political opposition
policies made enemies. Union for Defence of the Motherland and Liberty Jan 18 organized 3 revoluts July 18 murder of G ambassador. Groups banned from executive committee joined groups on edge of Bolshevik territory
3) Allied opposition
Nov 18 in Morning Post London direct military action against Bolsheviks trotsky published secret treaties signed by tsar and allies, showed allied planned to seize territory when g defeated - not fighting for dem,gynecocracy , b seized foreign property and cancelled debts to allies, march 18 BL left GBF face renewed attacks on western front, sent help to groups offering to reopen easter front. french sent 7 mill franc to leader of Don Cossacks Jan 18
4) Breakdown of law and order
mobs of armed soldiers roamed P streets, may horrified by lawlessness
5) Food requisitioning
summer 18 desperate/ Ukraine ‘bread basket’ lost. Peasants no incentive to sell because can’t buy shops and inflation. Lenin sends requisition squads into countryside - ‘kulaks hoarding’, May 18 urged committees of poor peasants to seize surplus food from better off neighbours - not successful and made more enemies for Bolsh

Civil War events:

Fighting broke out when B seized power 25 Oct 1917
Kerensky escaped and marched on petrotrograd and General Krasnov and Cossacks, who;lost more seized Kremlin in moscow. both defeated. Bolshevik seizure of power accelerated anarchy, fighting until 1922
Ukrainian capital changed hands 16 times during war

Phase one - early resistance
- keerenky attempts to rally army failed nov 17
- spring bolshevik crushed resistance from cossack armies in urals and don
- Defeated Volunteer Army under Kornilov in southern Russia.April 1918 Lenin talked of CWa t end

Phase two - war w SR
May 1918 Czech legion rebelled, 40,000 Czechs were captured members of Austro Hungarian army, had fought in R army to win independence for Czech. After B: laeve R army and join allied armies in Europe. arrested after brawl and became focus for opponent to Bolsh regime, especially SR denied posts in Sov Gov. Komuch gov set up based on members of Constituent Assembly. Czechs travelled along TS to Moscow, RA sent to confront dis solved and feld July Nic2 executed in urals
August Trotsky train Sviyazhsk retreating Red officers and 1/10 soldiers shot on trotsky orders. Sept Directory gov set up at Ufa backed by anti bolsh, Red forces counter attacked Directory forces and forced Whites back beyond Ural mountains, Directory ended when Admiral Kolchak made himself military dictator Nov 1918

Phase three - war with whites
Dec 18-20 Reds fought Whites, represented traditional conservative forces
March 19 Kolchak army advance along TS, April Trotsky force to retreat. May 19 Denikin and Cossack advance on moscow
August RA abandon Kiev - capital of Ukraine.
Oct Denkinks forces defeated at Orel and forced to retreat winter - RA advanced on all fronts
Jan 20 Kolchak abdicated
Feb estonia sign peace w Sovnarkom
April Polish army attacked Russia w little success, June RA counter attack Poles and advanced toward Warsaw, Lenin talked of taking socialism into Europe ‘on the point of Russian Bayonets’, Denikin successor Wrangel advanced in south but pushed back Polish counter attack august forced red retreat and OCt 1920 Treaty of Riga Ended Russo Polish War Nov last White forces left S Russia