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The Post-Expansionist Personality Profile of Russian President Vladimir Putin

Aubrey Immelman

St. John's University / College of St. Benedict

Abby Goff

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THE POST-EXPANSIONIST PERSONALITY PROFILE OF RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN

Abby Goff and Aubrey Immelman

Department of Psychology
College of St. Benedict and St. John's University
St. Joseph and Collegeville, Minnesota
Telephone: (320) 363-5481
E-mail: aimmelman@csbsju.edu
Unit for the Study of Personality in Politics
<http://personality-politics.org/>

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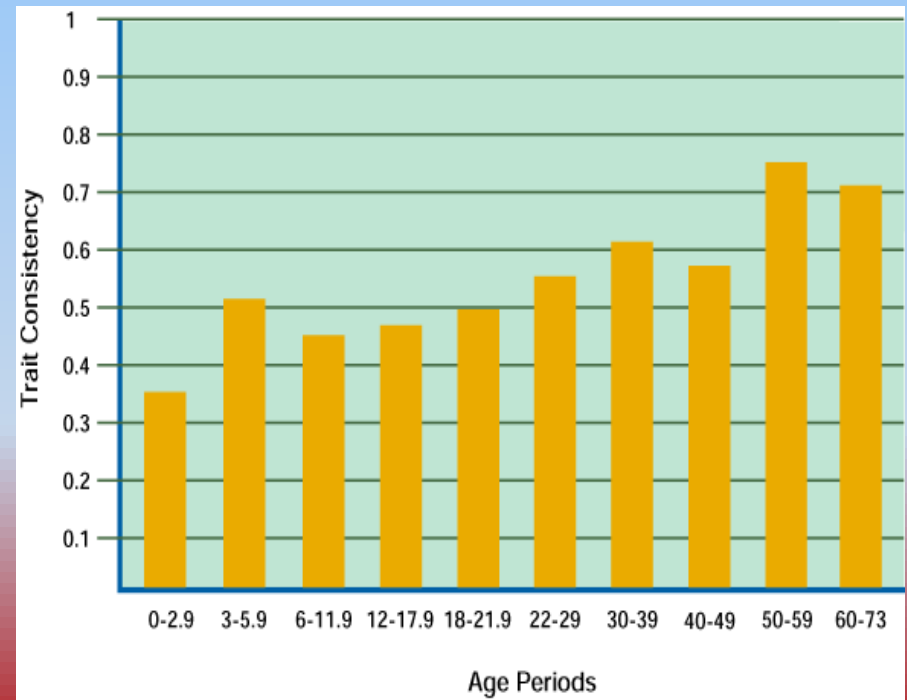
Definition of Personality

- Distinctive, pervasive patterns of thinking, feeling, acting, and relating to others
- Stable over time
- Consistent across situations

Personality Stability

Consistency over Time

- Consistency increases with age
- Personality is more consistent over time than across situations
- Consistency is weaker for attitudes, interests, and opinions than for personality
- Coherence: Although temporally consistent, how a trait is manifested in behavior might change over time



Millon's Eight Attribute Domains

Expressive behavior	The individual's characteristic behavior; how the individual typically appears to others; what the individual knowingly or unknowingly reveals about him- or herself; what the individual wishes others to think or to know about him or her.
Interpersonal conduct	How the individual typically interacts with others; the attitudes that underlie, prompt, and give shape to these actions; the methods by which the individual engages others to meet his or her needs; how the individual copes with social tensions and conflicts.
Cognitive style	How the individual focuses and allocates attention, encodes and processes information, organizes thoughts, makes attributions, and communicates reactions and ideas to others.
Mood/temperament	How the individual typically displays emotion; the predominant character of an individual's affect and the intensity and frequency with which he or she expresses it.
Self-image	The individual's perception of self-as-object or the manner in which the individual overtly describes him- or herself.
Regulatory mechanisms	The individual's characteristic mechanisms of self-protection, need gratification, and conflict resolution.
Object representations	The inner imprint left by the individual's significant early experiences with others; the structural residue of significant past experiences, composed of memories, attitudes, and affects that underlie the individual's perceptions of and reactions to ongoing events and serve as a substrate of dispositions for perceiving and reacting to life's ongoing events.
Morphologic organization	The overall architecture that serves as a framework for the individual's psychic interior; the structural strength, interior congruity, and functional efficacy of the personality system (i.e., ego strength).

Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria

Taxonomy: Scales and Gradations

Scale 1A: Dominant pattern

- a. Asserting
- b. Controlling
- c. Aggressive (Sadistic; *DSM-III-R*, Appendix A)

Scale 1B: Dauntless pattern

- a. Adventurous
- b. Dissenting
- c. Aggrandizing (Antisocial; *DSM-5*, 301.7 / F60.2)

Scale 2: Ambitious pattern

- a. Confident
- b. Self-serving
- c. Exploitative (Narcissistic; *DSM-5*, 301.81 / F60.81)

Scale 3: Outgoing pattern

- a. Congenial
- b. Gregarious
- c. Impulsive (Histrionic; *DSM-IV*, 301.50)

Scale 4: Accommodating pattern

- a. Cooperative
- b. Agreeable
- c. Submissive (Dependent; *DSM-5*, 301.6 / 60.7)

Scale 5A: Aggrieved pattern

- a. Unpresuming
- b. Self-denying
- c. Self-defeating (*DSM-III-R*, Appendix A)

Scale 5B: Contentious pattern

- a. Resolute
- b. Oppositional
- c. Negativistic (Passive-aggressive; *DSM-III-R*, 301.84)

Scale 6: Conscientious pattern

- a. Respectful
- b. Dutiful
- c. Compulsive (Obsessive-compulsive; *DSM-5*, 301.4 / F60.5)

Scale 7: Reticent pattern

- a. Circumspect
- b. Inhibited
- c. Withdrawn (Avoidant; *DSM-5*, 301.82 / F60.6)

Scale 8: Retiring pattern

- a. Reserved
- b. Aloof
- c. Solitary (Schizoid; *DSM-5*, 301.20 / F60.1)

Scale 9: Distrusting pattern

- d. Suspicious
- e. Paranoid (*DSM-5*, 301.0 / F60.0)

Scale 0: Erratic pattern

- d. Unstable
- e. Borderline (*DSM-5*, 301.83 / F60.3)

MIDC Score Sheet for Vladimir Putin

Subject: Vladimir Putin

Date: July 2023

Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria Score Sheet

Attribute	Scale																								Attribute tally														
	1A			1B			2			3			4			5A			5B			6			7			8			9			10			Min	Max	
	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	d	e	d	e					
A	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	13	17
B	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	12	18
C	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	7	12
D	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	9	12
E	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	10	12
Scale score (lower)	5	10	12	3	4	0	5	10	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	8	0	4	0		
	27			7			24			0			0			0			1			11			0			10			8			4					
Scale score (upper)	5	10	15	4	6	3	5	10	12	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	5	10	6	0	0	0	4	8	0	12	10	8	0					
	30			13			27			4			0			0			5			21			0			12			22			8					
F	3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			4			4								
G	3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			4			4								
H	3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			3			4			4								

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Affirmative
Equivocal/Affirmative

Negative
Equivocal/Negative

MIDC Attribute Domains

- A Expressive behavior
- B Interpersonal conduct
- C Cognitive style
- D Mood/temperament
- E Self-image

Scale Personality Patterns, Subscales, and Pathological Variants

- 1A Dominant: Asserting–Controlling–Aggressive (Sadistic)
- 1B Dauntless: Adventurous–Dissenting–Aggrandizing (Antisocial)
- 2 Ambitious: Confident–Self-serving–Exploitative (Narcissistic)
- 3 Outgoing: Congenial–Gregarious–Impulsive (Histrionic)
- 4 Accommodating: Cooperative–Agreeable–Submissive (Dependent)
- 5A Aggrieved: Unpresuming–Self-denying–Self-defeating (Masochistic)
- 5B Contentious: Resolute–Oppositional–Negativistic (Passive-aggressive)
- 6 Conscientious: Respectful–Dutiful–Compulsive (Obsessive-compulsive)
- 7 Reticent: Circumspect–Inhibited–Withdrawn (Avoidant)
- 8 Retiring: Reserved–Aloof–Solitary (Schizoid)
- 9 Distrusting: Suspicious–Paranoid (Paranoid)
- 10 Erratic: Unstable–Borderline (Borderline)

MIDC Scale Scores & Item Endorsement Rate by Attribute Domain

Table 1

MIDC Item Endorsement Rate by Attribute Domain

Attribute domain	Diagnostic criteria (Items)	
	Present	Possible
Expressive behavior	13	17
Interpersonal conduct	12	18
Cognitive style	7	12
Mood/temperament	9	12
Self-image	10	12
Sum	51	71
Mean	10.2	14.2
Standard deviation	2.1	2.7

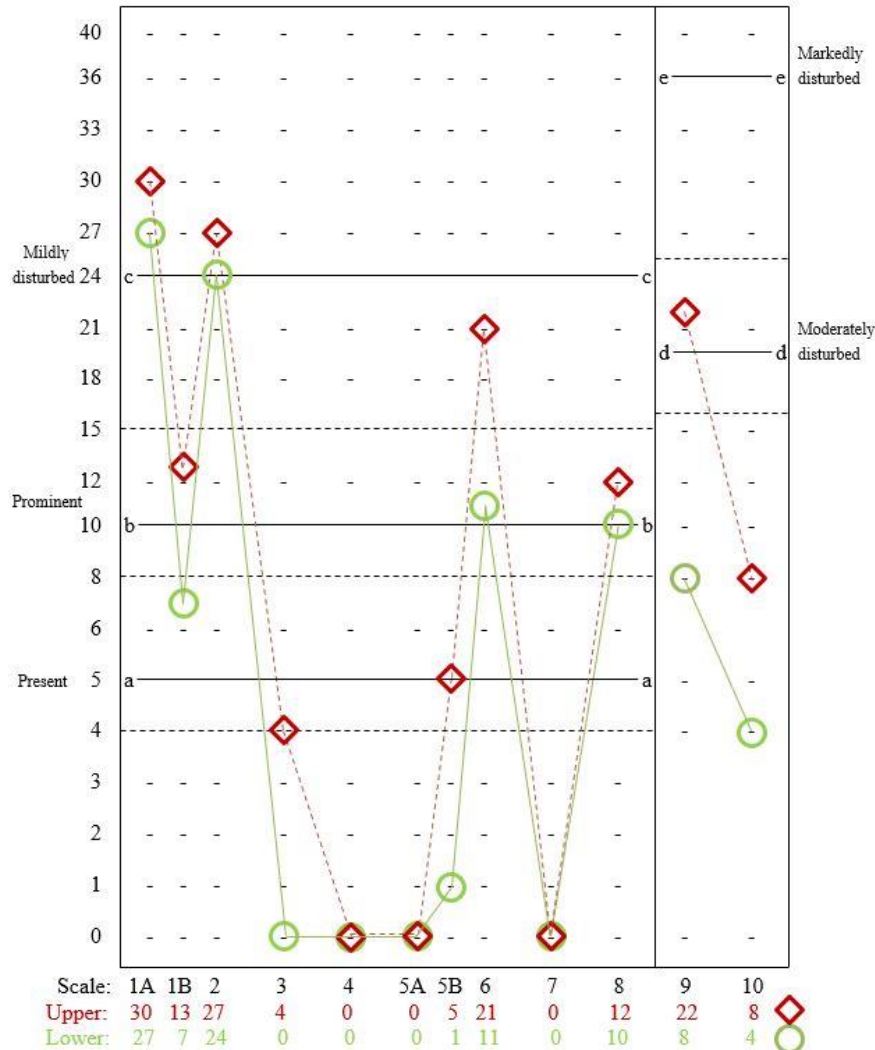
Table 2

MIDC Scale Scores for Vladimir Putin

Scale	Personality pattern	Lower	Upper
1A	Dominant: Asserting–Controlling–Aggressive (Sadistic)	27	30
1B	Dauntless: Adventurous–Dissenting–Aggrandizing (Antisocial)	7	13
2	Ambitious: Confident–Self-serving–Exploitative (Narcissistic)	24	27
3	Outgoing: Congenial–Gregarious–Impulsive (Histrionic)	0	4
4	Accommodating: Cooperative–Agreeable–Submissive (Dependent)	0	0
5A	Aggrieved: Unpresuming–Self-denying–Self-defeating (Masochistic)	0	0
5B	Contentious: Resolute–Oppositional–Negativistic (Passive-aggressive)	1	5
6	Conscientious: Respectful–Dutiful–Compulsive (Obsessive-compulsive)	11	21
7	Reticent: Circumspect–Inhibited–Withdrawn (Avoidant)	0	0
8	Retiring: Reserved–Aloof–Solitary (Schizoid)	10	12
	Subtotal for basic personality scales	80	112
9	Distrusting: Suspicious–Paranoid (Paranoid)	8	22
0	Erratic: Unstable–Borderline (Borderline)	4	8
	Full-scale total	92	142

“Post-Expansionist” MIDC Profile for Vladimir Putin

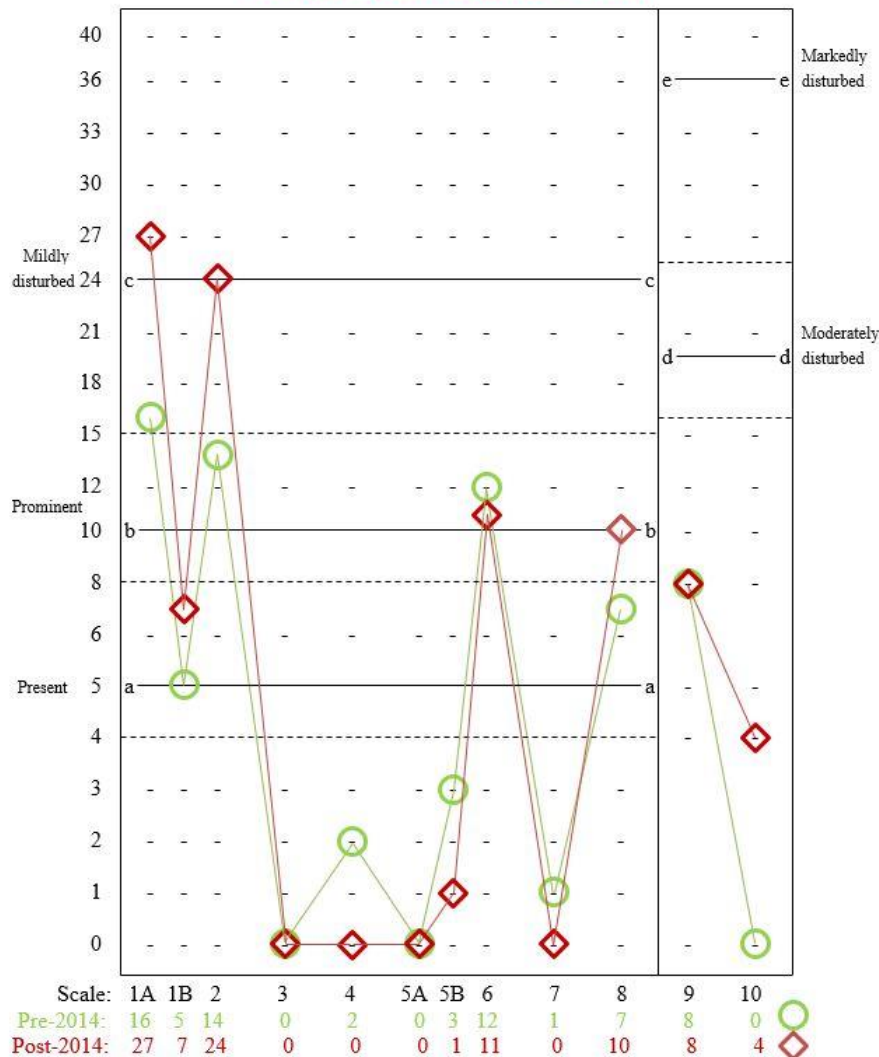
**Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria
Profile for Vladimir Putin**



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MIDC Profile for Vladimir Putin: 2023 vs. 2014

**Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria
Profile for Vladimir Putin**



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Primary Personality Pattern #1

MIDC Scale 1A: Range = 27–30

Personality subtype: Aggressive

Dominant pattern (i.e., controlling, forceful)

- Enjoy the power to direct others and to evoke respect
- Tough and unsentimental
- Exhibit coercive behavior
- Domineering, intimidating, argumentative, and precipitously belligerent
- Adept at having their way by browbeating others into respect and submission
- Disinclined to experience and express compassion
- View self as self-reliant, unyielding, and strong

Primary Personality Pattern #2

MIDC Scale 2: Range = 24–27

Personality subtype: Exploitative

Ambitious pattern (i.e., egotistic, narcissistic)

- Self-confident; believe in themselves and their talents
- Expect others to recognize their special qualities
- Self-promoting and may display an inflated sense of self-importance
- Reveal a self-important indifference to the rights of others
- Shamelessly take others for granted and manipulate and use them to indulge their desires
- Little constrained by objective realities or cautionary feedback

Secondary Personality Pattern #1

MIDC Scale 6: Range = 11–21

Personality subtype: Dutiful

Conscientious pattern (i.e., obsessive)

- Strong work ethic and careful attention to detail
- Loyal to political party and causes
- Persistent in difficult circumstances
- Formal, proper, and dignified
- Hold strong moral principles with absolute certainty
- Micromanaging leadership style
- Intolerant of deviance

Secondary Personality Pattern #2

MIDC Scale 8: Range = 10–12

Personality subtype: Aloof

Retiring pattern (i.e., introverted)

- Aloof, introverted, and solitary
- Do not develop strong ties to others
- Prefer distant or limited involvement with others
- Rarely express inner feelings or thoughts
- Most comfortable when left alone
- Generally appear complacent and untroubled
- Tend to work in a slow, quiet, methodical manner

Subsidiary Personality Pattern

MIDC Scale 1B: Range = 7–13

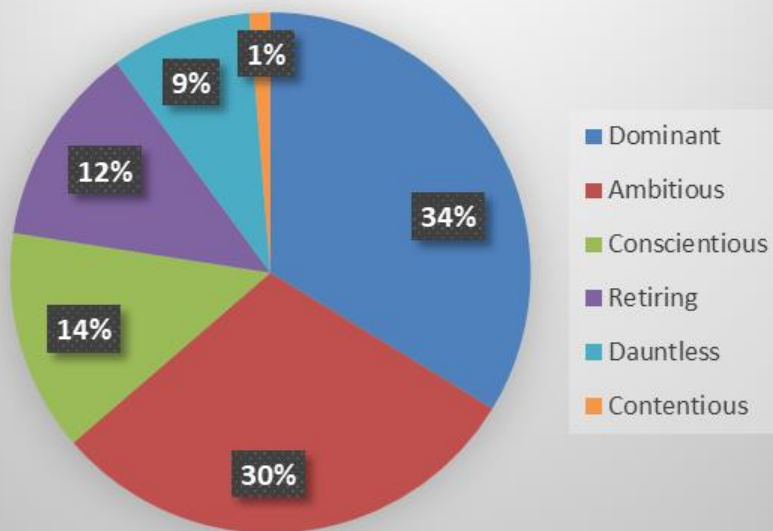
Personality subtype: Adventurous

Dauntless (i.e., risk-taking)

- Strong need for independence
- Flout tradition and conventional standards
- Dislike following routine and may act impulsively
- Resistant to coercion
- *Nonconformity* – live by their own internal code of values; not strongly influenced by the norms of society
- *Challenge* – routinely engage in high-risk activities
- *Persuasive* – “silver-tongued” charmers talented in the art of social influence
- *Wanderlust* – like to keep moving; live by their talents, skills, ingenuity, and wits
- *True grit* – courageous, physically bold, and tough
- *No regrets* – live in the present; little guilt about the past or anxiety about the future

Proportion of Various Personality Patterns in Putin's Personality Composite

Vladimir Putin's Basic Personality Patterns



“Dominant Expansionist”

Primary Personality Pattern #1

Dominant/aggressive (Scale 1A, level *c*)

Primary Personality Pattern #2

Ambitious/exploitative (Scale 2, level *c*)

Secondary Personality Pattern #1

Conscientious/dutiful (Scale 6, level *b*)

Secondary Personality Pattern #2

Retiring/alooof (Scale 8, level *b*)

Subsidiary Personality Pattern

Dauntless/adventurous (Scale 1B, level *a*)

Leadership Qualities

Presidential style (Simonton, 1988)

- *Deliberative*: understands the implications of his decisions; able to visualize alternatives and weigh long-term consequences

Presidential temperament (Barber, 1972/1992)

- *Active–negative*: rigid and driven, compulsively investing great effort in task performance yet deriving little inherent joy from the office of president; uses power primarily as a means of self-realization

Leadership skills (Renshon, 1996)

- *Orchestration*: strong organizational skill; sustained focus and attention to detail necessary for crafting specific policies

Leadership Qualities

Foreign policy orientation (Etheredge, 1978)

- *High-dominance introvert*: stubborn, tenacious, seeks to reshape the world in accordance with his own vision; policies often characterized by the tenacity with which he advances one central idea

Leadership trait analysis (Hermann, 1987, 2003)

- *Expansionist*: motivated to acquire control over more territory, resources, or people
 - **Worldview**: conflict viewed as inherent in the international system
 - **Personal style**: wary of others' motives; directive, controlling interpersonal orientation
 - **Foreign policy behavior**: focus on issues of security and status



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Related paper

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