

Paper Reference(s) WHI02/1C
Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

History

International Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

Wednesday 17 May 2023 – Afternoon

Time: 2 hours

Sources Booklet

**DO NOT RETURN THIS BOOKLET WITH THE
QUESTION PAPER.**

Contents

Page

3 **Source 1**

4–5 **Source 2**

Sources for use with Section A.

SOURCE 1: From Mikhail Gorbachev, **Memoirs**, published in Germany, 1995. Here Gorbachev is reflecting on his experiences as a university student during the period of Khrushchev's liberalisation policy in the 1950s.

Signs of changes were soon to appear. Although not yet using Stalin's name, newspapers started publishing articles about his 'personality cult' and its incompatibility with Marxism-Leninism.

Some signs of a thaw in the cultural life of the country were apparent, which had consequences for our university life as well. The lectures were becoming more and more interesting and the seminars livelier. The same was true of the activities of student societies.

During my last two academic years, the mood at the university underwent changes. Doubts were expressed about the Soviet system – cautiously at first, but gradually people became more outspoken. They challenged the 'traditional' Soviet interpretation of various historical events and even some aspects of contemporary political life. We were, of course, still a long, long way from the ability to express a real variety of ideas, even within the framework of the choices available in our socialist system. The Party leadership had loosened the ideological controls a little but showed no intention of relaxing them altogether.

SOURCE 2: From the Resolution of the Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic on outlawing villages that maliciously sabotage the collection of grain, 6 December 1932. This Resolution was approved by the Politburo. Here it outlines measures to be implemented in villages in the Ukraine.

As a consequence of the disgraceful collapse of grain collection in the more remote regions of Ukraine, the Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee call upon the local executive committees:

5

- **to break up the kulak and counter-revolutionary elements who have been sabotaging the collection of grain;**
- **to liquidate the resistance of some of the rural communists, who, in fact, have become the leaders of the sabotage;** 10
- **to remove passive and complacent attitudes toward the agents of sabotage that are incompatible with being a party member,**
- **to ensure absolute compliance with the plan for grain collection with maximum speed.** 15

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SOURCE 2 continued.

The Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee have decided:

- **to place these villages on the outlawed list because of the obvious disruption of the grain collection plan and for the malicious sabotage, organised by kulak and counter-revolutionary elements.** 20

The Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee call upon all collective and private farmers, who are honest and dedicated to Soviet rule, to organise all their efforts for a merciless struggle against kulaks and their accomplices in order to: 25

- **defeat the kulak sabotage of grain collection in their villages;** 30
- **fulfil honestly and conscientiously their grain collection obligations to the Soviet authorities; and**
- **strengthen collective farms.**