

Abstract

This thesis examines Alexander Motyl's theory of *Reimperialization* with regard to Post-Soviet Russia. The objective of this thesis is to explain the means by which Russia was able to successfully reimperialize despite Motyl's predictions of unsuccessful reimperialization. The thesis examines the Soviet Union from an institutionalist point of view, emphasising the institutional continuity between the Soviet "Empire" and previous Steppe Empires. In doing so, this thesis adopts the Steppe Tradition of State Development as an explanatory framework for Russia's successful reimperialization.