Further reading

This bibliography attempts to do two things. Firstly, to help general readers with modest familiarity with the region, but some curiosity about it, to bone up on some of the basics, which often seem to escape Western intellectuals, and are seldom now taught adequately, if at all, in Australian schools or even universities. Secondly, it aims to provide regular observers of Russia and East-Central Europe with some reminders about material available that elaborates on the contemporary issues addressed in this book.

Prejudice is obviously bound to inform any select bibliography. One prejudice that I was certainly applying, and consciously, was to favour, though not exclusively, authors who seemed to have an awareness not just of the views and interests of the Russians and their official representatives, but also of the attitudes and experience of the nations to Russia’s west. An absence of any such awareness is not uncommon in Western writers, and in my view can vitiate, sometimescripplingly, the value of their work.


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