

Letter to Financial Times, March 26, 2014

## **Putin pursues geopolitical ambitions in true Stalinist form**

*From Dr Albion M Urdank.*

Sir, Michael Kuczynski's analysis of [Russia's "small economy"](#) and the opportunity for western sanctions that this presents makes perfect sense (Letters, March 24). However, Professor Kuczynski neglects to consider that President Vladimir Putin is behaving like a neo-Stalinist gangster for whom political considerations trump economic ones.

Indeed, I suspect that Mr Putin, in true Stalinist fashion, would be prepared to allow his country to endure the worst of economic sacrifices if this meant realising his geopolitical ambitions.