

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

Problems of Moscow's Strategy

An Anatomy of Failure and Operational Limits in the War Against Ukraine

The 12 Pillars of Failure

Deconstructing the Core Tactical, Strategic, and Geopolitical
Elements of the Kremlin's Strategy

■ Tactical & Operational Missteps



01

1. Decapitation Strike

STRATEGY

Targeted Kyiv blitzkrieg to execute leadership & install a puppet regime within 72 hours.

WHY IT FAILED

Rigid top-down planning met decentralised Ukrainian resistance and political resolve.



02

2. Air Supremacy

STRATEGY

Sought total control of airspace via synchronized first-hour precision SEAD strikes.

WHY IT FAILED

Failure to execute complex, multi-layered operations. Mobile AD assets successfully dispersed.



03

3. BTG Armor Columns

STRATEGY

Punching deep operational lines using highly armed Battalion Tactical Groups.

WHY IT FAILED

Lack of protective infantry. Highly vulnerable to mobile ATGM teams and surveillance.

■ Geopolitical & Economic Levers



04

4. Energy Weaponization

STRATEGY

Leveraging winter gas shutdowns to fracture European unity and isolate Kyiv.

WHY IT FAILED

Europe rapidly diversified import channels (LNG), and Ukraine's grid repairs held line.



05

5. Nuclear Blackmail

STRATEGY

Aggressive posturing to deter direct Western weapon and tech transfers.

WHY IT FAILED

West used gradual "salami-slicing" aid strategy, eroding credibility of Kremlin's red lines.



06

6. Demographic Attrition

STRATEGY

Using a 4.5-to-1 mass advantage to overrun Ukrainian positions via mass mobilization.

WHY IT FAILED

Human-wave tactics countered by precision FPV drone swarms and cluster artillery.

■ Hybrid & Diplomatic Fronts



07

7. Global South Integration

STRATEGY

Expanding ties with BRICS countries to bypass G7 economic sanctions.

WHY IT FAILED

Alliances remain transactional; partners demand deep oil discounts and reject military ties.



08

8. Autocratic Stability

STRATEGY

Complete domestic suppression and transition to a permanent war economy.

WHY IT FAILED

Massive domestic economic overheating, triple-digit central interest rates, and capital flight.



09

9. Hybrid Sabotage

STRATEGY

Targeted Western critical grid systems and infrastructure cyber strikes.

WHY IT FAILED

Coordinated defense by tech majors and NATO agencies. Sabotage hardened European resolve.

■ Attrition & Administrative Flaws



10

10. Soviet Stockpiles

STRATEGY

Sustaining intense artillery rates drawing down colossal Cold War warehouses.

WHY IT FAILED

Reserves are finite. Rates of reactivation point to a critical tank & APC cliff by 2026/27.



11

11. Cognitive Warfare

STRATEGY

Polarizing Western public opinion via active disinformation bot nets.

WHY IT FAILED

Institutional and security commitments remained structurally resilient across G7 states.



12

12. Creeping Annexation

STRATEGY

Integrating occupied zones to present a political fait-accompli to the global community.

WHY IT FAILED

Asymmetric long-range missile and drone attacks prevent stabilization of occupied logistics.

Deep Root Causes

Why Moscow's Structural Limitations Render a Decisive
Strategic Victory Impossible

■ Root Cause 1: Strategic Hubris

100%

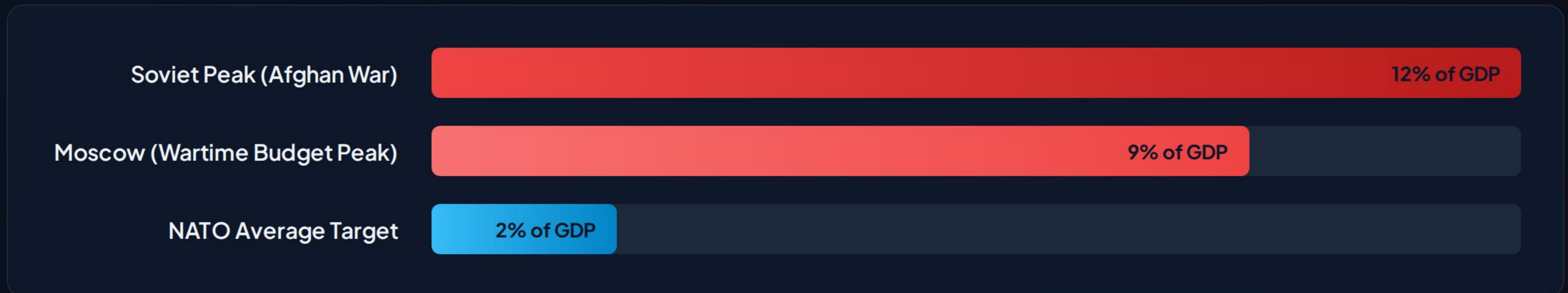
INFORMATION BUBBLE

Sycophancy & Feedback Loops

The core structural failure of the invasion was built into Kremlin's decision-making apparatus. Autocratic centralization created a disastrous sycophantic hierarchy where intelligence agencies fed Leadership fabricated data of Ukrainian weakness.

Because the real military corruption was hidden on paper, Moscow initiated a complex operational plan on completely false premises—guaranteeing operational shock when confronted with a resilient, modern defense.

■ Root Cause 2: Economic Overheating



Moscow is attempting to power a 1st-class military machine with a 3rd-class raw-material dependent economy. Funneling almost 9% of GDP into the war mimics late-Soviet patterns, risking severe structural breakdown as liquid reserves dry up.

■ Root Cause 3: Asymmetric Tech

The Software-Defined Front

While Moscow planned for a standard 20th-century artillery and heavy armor duel, Ukraine successfully implemented a modern distributed, software-defined ecosystem.

Using crowdsourced targeting algorithms, low-cost FPV kamikaze drones, and maritime drone swarms, Ukraine successfully neutralized massive capital superiority. This asymmetry systematically shattered legacy Russian offensive doctrines.



■ Strategic Attrition Horizons



Questions & Answers

Problems of Moscow's Strategy – Tactical Limits and Long-term Attrition

Strategic Briefing Session • Discussion Open

■ Image Sources



https://csis-website-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2025-02/GettyImages-1399349828_cropped.jpg?VersionId=xFjVEceQZ5038.rSJf0O2ciMdAez81cG

Source: www.csis.org



https://png.pngtree.com/thumb_back/fw800/background/20250309/pngtree-futuristic-soldier-in-high-tech-military-command-center-analyzing-tactical-digital-image_17051687.jpg

Source: pngtree.com