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First, I see little prospect of Russia exiting authoritarian one man rule whether it be Putin for the time being, or his successor. Second, I foresee that even with an authoritarian regime Russian will become a major economic power amongst the community of nations. [...] If this trend continues, in 20 years we may well see about 50 percent of the world population under autocratic governance, including Russia, with the other 50 percent under some form of democratic governance. This need not result in adversarial relationships if their respective developments going forward are based on free trade and open market principles. Indeed that is to be hoped for in the near term in US-China relations. As we have learned from many experts, the world is entering a new industrial revolution where artificial intelligence (AI) with intelligent machines will play an increasingly preponderant role in our economies. This could enable Russia to combine its highly educated population and leading edge AI technologies to move quickly to secure a global leadership role in many AI areas. This is easier to accomplish in autocratic regimes. I fear that democracies will struggle to deal expeditiously with the cobweb of paralytic bureaucracies at different levels of government which can stifle the rapid and efficient deployment of innovative technologies. There will likely be much resistance from organized labour where AI could displace traditional jobs on a massive scale. As a result, Russia and China may emerge as winners in the competition to dominate the AI robotic revolution. [...] Russia enjoys one of the highest literacy rates in the world at 99% as well as one of the greatest percentages of tertiary education graduates. As economist Joe Stiglitz has noted: "One of the good things that Russia inherited from the Soviet era is a high level of education, especially in technical areas so important to the new economy" I conclude that Russia, with its rich human resource base, has the capacity to become once again a major global force in 20 years.