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# AS HISTORY

The Crisis of Communism: the USSR and the Soviet Empire, 1953–2000  
Component 2T Crisis in the Soviet Union, 1953–2000

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Wednesday 25 May 2016    Afternoon    Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

## Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2T.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01  
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

## Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

## Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**

Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From Basket Three of the Final Act of the Helsinki Accords, which was signed by the USA and the USSR in 1975 at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in Helsinki.

The participating States will:

- respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, for all those without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.
- provide and encourage the effective exercise of civil, economic, social, cultural, and other rights and freedoms all of which derive from the inherent dignity of the human person and are essential to his free and full development. 5
- recognise and respect the freedom of the individual to profess and practise religion or belief acting in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience.
- recognise the universal significance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. 10

**Source B**

From a direct appeal to Brezhnev in 1978 from two Soviet musicians who were accused of being 'ideological degenerates' and acting against the USSR. They were deprived of their Soviet citizenship.

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR has deprived us of our Soviet citizenship. We are musicians. We live and breathe music. Our only 'crime' was that we gave refuge in our house to the writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn. For this, with your agreement, we were subjected to all sorts of persecution, which we found impossible to tolerate – cancellation of concerts, a boycott on the radio, television and in the press, and an attempt to paralyse our musical activities. 5

In this way, you obliged us to apply for an extended trip abroad; We now face fabricated charges and are deprived of our citizenship. We demand to be tried but under one condition - that the trial be open.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the Soviet attitude towards human rights under Brezhnev?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'De-Stalinisation brought very little change to the lives of Soviet citizens in the USSR in the years 1956 to 1964.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'Gorbachev resigned because his economic policies had failed.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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