

Amendment to the Constitution of the Russian Federation as Putin's Political Communication Force

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Abstract

This article aims at discussing Vladimir Putin's use of constitutional amendments as a political communication tool. The 2020 amendments to the Russian Constitution have significant implications for Putin's political powers and communication strategies. This research explores Putin's role in the constitutional amendments using a qualitative methodology, a literature-based approach, and an analysis of laws and regulations. The study results indicate that Putin uses constitutional amendments to increase his authority and extend the President's term. One of the communication strategies employed is effectively utilizing media and communication channels to create a narrative supporting the amendment. Putin also uses nationalist rhetoric and Russian identity to legitimize his decisions. In addition, Putin controls state media and prioritizes messages that influence public opinion. Putin's political communication strategy includes manipulating propaganda and information to enhance his position, maintain public opinion, and obtain support.

Keywords: Amendment; President Putin; Political Communications

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Amandemen Konstitusi Rusia Sebagai Kekuatan Komunikasi Politik Putin

Abstrak

Artikel ini membahas penggunaan amandemen konstitusi oleh Vladimir Putin sebagai alat komunikasi politik. Amandemen konstitusi Rusia tahun 2020 memiliki implikasi signifikan bagi kekuatan politik dan strategi komunikasi Putin. Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi peran Putin dalam amandemen konstitusi dengan menggunakan metodologi kualitatif, pendekatan berbasis literatur, dan analisis peraturan perundang-undangan. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahwa Putin menggunakan amandemen konstitusi untuk meningkatkan kewenangannya dan memperpanjang masa jabatan presiden. memanfaatkan media dan saluran komunikasi secara efektif untuk menciptakan narasi yang mendukung amandemen adalah salah satu strategi komunikasi yang digunakan. Putin juga menggunakan retorika nasionalis dan identitas Rusia untuk melegitimasi keputusannya. Selain

itu, Putin mengendalikan media pemerintah dan mengutamakan pesan-pesan yang kondusif untuk mempengaruhi opini publik. Strategi komunikasi politik Putin mencakup penggunaan propaganda dan manipulasi informasi untuk meningkatkan posisinya. Hal itu juga digunakan untuk mempengaruhi opini publik dan mendapatkan dukungan.

Kata kunci: *Amandemen; Presiden Putin; Komunikasi politik*

INTRODUCTION

A referendum was held across Russia to decide whether or not the country's Constitution should be changed in 2020. Due to the modifications and the substantial significant changes to the power structure and the presidential office, President Vladimir Putin will now be able to remain in office until the year 2036. In addition, the revisions increased the power of parliament, broadened citizens' social and economic rights, and defined marriage as a romantic partnership between a man and a woman. This referendum took place in June 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some observers consider it an attempt to consolidate Putin's position and assure his political future. The referendum results showed widespread support for the constitutional revisions, notwithstanding the criticism and controversy surrounding the voting process. The turnout rate was approximately 68%. When the bill was finally ratified, the modifications were formally introduced on July 4, 2020, and they went into effect on December 4, 2020. Since then, Russia's political climate has shifted, and Vladimir Putin's influence and authority have grown to the point that they are increasingly predominant. On the other hand, many believe that the modifications to the Constitution will weaken Russia's democratic and human rights systems (Leshchenko, 2020).

In Russia, the discussion has shifted to whether constitutional modifications should be ratified through a referendum. Some others view it as an effort to bolster Putin's position and make it possible for him to maintain his hold on power for an extended time. But people's thoughts on this proposed constitutional amendment were all over the place, and some people were very critical of it, arguing that it would be a move in the wrong direction for democracy and political liberties. The modifications to the Constitution also gave the parliaments, specifically the State Duma and Federation Council, a more prominent role in formulating policies and exercising supervision over the executive branch. In addition, another essential aspect is that the amendment reaffirms the sacred and inviolable status of the entire territory of Russia, which cannot be divided into smaller parts and cannot be severed in any way.

Various people believe it is critical to modify the Constitution to bolster Putin's authority. Some of those who advocate for changing the Constitution in this way do so because they believe it will lead to greater political consistency in Russia. It is thought that political stability can be maintained over the long term if Putin's position is bolstered and he is given more authority over the administration (Hale, 2021).

This research is necessary as it can provide a better knowledge of how Putin used his powers and expertise in politics

to influence and engineer the process of amending the Constitution, and how Putin utilized his powers and expertise in politics. It may shed light on Putin's political approach, which he employed to bolster his position and increase his influence in organizing modifications to the Constitution. Numerous power groups and interests within the state are typically involved in amending the Constitution. In this context, research on constitutional amendments can be used to identify interest groups that support these changes. These interest groups can include the political lobbying role of Putin and the political alliances he created. This could give information on the power structures and political relationships in Russia.

Amendments to a nation's Constitution can significantly alter the political landscape and the balance of power. This research discusses how changes to the Constitution affect the political system in Russia, particularly the influence that Putin has in securing his position as a state leader and managing the institutions of the government. Likewise, this study also analyzes the ramifications for democracy and human rights in Russia for amending the Constitution. It is possible to investigate, within the framework of this research, whether the amendments to the Constitution provide broader options for authoritarianism or political tyranny. It is essential to do such an analysis to understand the political processes taking place in Russia and their effect on the democratic order (Kryshchanovskaya, 2020).

To answer aforesaid issues, the research questions have been proposed as follows: To what extent is the power

of Putin's political lobby in amending the Constitution? What is the content of the constitutional amendments in favor of Putin? How do the constitutional amendments impact Russian politics?

METHODS

Research on the Amendments to the Russian Constitution as a Strength of Putin's Political Communications uses qualitative research methodologies, including literary and statutory approaches. In the literature method, the researchers collect data from diverse literary sources such as books, articles, journals, official documents, speeches, and other publications linked to revisions to the Russian Constitution and Putin's political communications. Some examples of these materials include books; articles; journals; official documents; speeches; and other publications. The research uses the data to understand better the background, strategy, political messaging, and impact of Putin's political communications while changing the Constitution. In addition, the researcher can study ideas and concepts connected to the research topic and obtain insights from past research pertinent to the subject through the literature approach.

The statutory rule approach studies and analyzes the legal framework governing the Russian constitutional amendment process. This study examines the relevant regulations, laws, and legal provisions that form the basis for amendments to the Constitution. It allows the researchers to understand Putin's role in amending the Constitution within the existing legal framework. Furthermore, the statutory rule approach assists the researchers in seeing how Putin's political power is used

in a legal context to influence and direct constitutional amendments (Denzin & Lincoln, 2017).

Conducting qualitative research, this study applies qualitative analysis approaches, such as content analysis, grounded theory, or thematic analysis, to examine the data gathered from the literature approach and the laws and regulation. The researchers obtain a thorough knowledge of the revisions to the Russian Constitution as the power of Putin's political communications if they combine two methods: one that focuses on the literature and the other looks at the statutes. Researchers can study the research issue's theoretical, historical, and legal aspects using qualitative methodologies. This results in in-depth insights into how Vladimir Putin uses his power to amend the Russian Constitution through his political communications.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Putin's political lobbying power in the constitutional amendment process

Putin's control of the Russian political system

One of the political lobbying forces which can potentially impact the process of amending the Constitution is Vladimir Putin's dominance over the political system in Russia. Over several years, Vladimir Putin has amassed solid political supremacy in Russia. He has increased the President's control over the country's institutions of government and political parties and solidified the power held. Therefore, Putin has significant power throughout action for revising the Constitution and the overall process (Fish, 2018).

Putin has maintained a stranglehold on the media in Russia. It has a tight grip over the state media, which it uses to manage access to information and its delivery through direct ownership or political influence. Thus, Putin has molded the narrative to bolster the constitutional amendments and manipulate public opinion (Tsygankov, 2017). In addition, Putin has constructed political coalitions with various power groups and political elites in Russia. Putin was able to get substantial political support for constitutional revisions by leveraging both his political connections and his economic influence. This coalition considerably impacts how politics are conducted in the country (McFaul, 2017).

Additionally, Putin possesses a significant amount of control over the legislative bodies of Russia, such as the State Duma and the Federation Council. Putin is in a position to get support for and adoption of any revisions to the Constitution that he proposes since he controls the political parties (Sakwa, 2018).

The influence of Putin's control over Russia's political system makes him very substantial as a political lobbying force in amending the Constitution. Putin has successfully consolidated his authority through political tools, such as political dominance, media control, political alliances, and influence over the legislature. He has also been successful in gaining control of the Russian legislative. Because of this dominance, Putin can manipulate and influence the process of amending the Constitution in as he sees fit. Putin's rise to political authority in Russia has given him a firm grip on Russia's administration and political parties. This grants Putin the

ability to influence modifications to the Constitution following his political agenda and the interests he wishes to advance. Furthermore, Putin builds narratives supporting constitutional revisions as he controls the media. He can also manage the information the general public can access since he controls the media. As a result, he can exert influence over public opinion and generate political support for the amendment (Fish, 2018).

Revising the Constitution, Putin's political coalition, which he created with power groupings and political elites, provides substantial political backing. Putin can garner political approval through his political links and economic influence, which is vital for gaining consent and support in altering the Constitution to suit Putin's preferences. The power that Putin wields over legislative bodies, such as the State Duma and the Federation Council, enables him to exercise much control over the process of amending the Constitution. Putin's grip over political parties guarantees that the Russian people accept and support the constitutional amendments he seeks (McFaul, 2017; Sakwa, 2018).

Utilization of political lobbying techniques to guarantee the success of constitutional amendments

Implementing a political lobbying plan is necessary for securing the success of an amendment to the Constitution. However, the performance of political lobbying methods looks different depending on the nature of the Constitution's alterations and the context carried out. Forming alliances with interest groups with considerable

political support is integral to political lobbying methods. Political actors obtain necessary support to push for and ensure the success of an amendment to the Constitution if they form solid political alliances with one another first (Hall & Deardorff, 2006). The political lobbying approach also includes efforts to influence policymakers, such as members of parliament and government officials playing crucial roles in amending the Constitution. These efforts are included in the political lobbying strategy. Lobbyists can get the support and approval of policymakers if they can effectively communicate with them, use an effective system, and provide appropriate incentives (Berry, 2009).

The successful execution of a political lobbying strategy often depends on having adequate financial resources at one's disposal. The organization's use of cash for its campaigns, advertising, and lobbying efforts can impact public perception and opinion, in addition to assisting the organization in garnering support from relevant interest groups (Grossmann & Helpman, 2001). In addition, the strategy of political lobbying includes establishing efficient communication and narratives to affect the general public's attitude. To successfully alter the Constitution, political actors need to be able to craft persuasive arguments and garner public support for the changes they seek to make to the Constitution (Entman, 2012; Sinyavskaya, 2020).

The successful execution of a political lobbying strategy is one of the essential factors in determining whether or not a proposed constitutional amendment will be ratified. Forming powerful political alliances, exerting influence

over policymakers, utilizing appropriate financial resources, and establishing persuasive communications and narratives are all essential to an efficient political lobbying strategy. Political actors can garner the necessary support to push for and ensure the success of an amendment to the Constitution if they first create the stable political alliances necessary. A successful lobbying effort directed at the relevant policymakers is also essential to securing the required approvals and support. In addition, the Utilization of adequate financial resources can affect the perception and opinion of the general public, in addition to assisting in the acquisition of support from key interest groups. Public support for the necessary constitutional reforms may have been built up with the help of effective communication and narrative frameworks. Implementing a political lobbying strategy is essential in constitutional amendments, for it enables political actors to influence public opinion, gain political support, and ensure the success of constitutional amendments following the desired political interests and agenda.

The influence of economic policy on Putin's political support

The influence over economic policy was a solid political lobbying force which played a role in amending the Constitution that Putin led. Adopting sound economic policies and maintaining financial stability are critical components in garnering political support for amending the Constitution. Putin can create a solid support base from economic and commercial groups if he

pursues measures to increase economic growth, decrease unemployment, raise incomes, and preserve national economic interests. Therefore, economically sound policies have the potential to bolster Vladimir Putin's political standing in the process of amending the Constitution (Aslund, 2019; Hill & Gaddy, 2013).

Putin exerts much control over important facets of the Russian economy, such as the banking, energy, and mining industries. Because Putin is in the management of these economic resources, he can utilize monetary policy as a tool to exert influence over interest groups and win political support for revisions to the Constitution. Due to his power in various critical economic sectors, Putin can offer incentives to business executives and members of the financial elite and exert pressure on them to support the constitutional reforms he seeks (Sakwa, 2019; Shevtsova, 2018).

Putin's economic policies involve the provision of financial rewards to those that support him. Putin can assure better political support for the revisions to the Constitution by implementing programs that bring economic benefits to specific groups, such as government employees, the military, and individuals within Putin's circle of power. This method incentivizes these groups to keep Putin in his political position and even strengthen it (Evans, 2017; Simms & Ross, 2017).

The influence of economic policy is a solid political lobbying force in amending the Constitution Putin is heading. A political lobbying approach involving effective financial policies and maintaining economic stability, control over economic

resources, and distribution of economic benefits to organizations that support Putin can increase Putin's political position in changing the Constitution. Such a plan involves effective financial policies and maintains economic stability. Putin can construct a solid foundation of political support from economic and business groupings if he pursues economic policies to foster economic growth, raise incomes, and guard national economic interests. Having control over the most important economic sectors also allows one to exert influence on interest groups and put pressure on or offer incentives to those groups.

Additionally, the delivery of economic rewards to the groups supporting him generates incentives for those groups to continue supporting Putin politically and bolster his position. This assisted in the building of a network of powers that backed the reforms he intended to make to the Constitution. The significance of economic considerations in Russian politics is demonstrated by the fact that Vladimir Putin used monetary policy as a political lobbying force to amend the Constitution. Additional research into the relationship between economic policy and constitutional amendments provides a more in-depth understanding of political dynamics and Putin's power in winning constitutional amendments that align with his political aims.

The substance of constitutional amendments favorable to Putin

Increased presidential power in the Russian political system

The content of the constitutional amendments passed in Putin's favor

reflects the efforts to enhance and extend presidential powers within Russia's political system. The modification to the Constitution raised the maximum number of terms that a president can serve from two to three. Previously, a president could only do in office for two consecutive terms. This affords Putin the potential to remain in power for an extended period, thereby increasing his sway over the political process in Russia (Herszenhorn & Higgins, 2020; Satarov, 2020)

The revisions to the Constitution granted the President expanded authority to select and remove high-ranking officials, including the right to designate high-ranking officials in government agencies, courts, and security services. These expanded powers were granted to the President. The power not only bolstered the President's authority over the bureaucracy but also made it possible for Putin to keep his network of political influence intact (Smith & McFaul, 2021; Trochev, 2020). The constitutional revisions gave the President the authority to nominate and appoint members of the State Oversight Body, a new oversight body with a wide range of responsibilities. In addition, the President is the only person who can remove constitutional judges from their positions for specific grounds. It affects the judicial system's independence and oversight bodies because it boosts the President's power over those entities (Hill, 2020; Marples, 2020).

The rise in presidential powers within the framework of the Russian political system is the modification to the Russian Constitution considered to be the most significant overall change. Vladimir Putin,

the President of Russia, enhanced his grip over local governments and governors while expanding his authority over the government's administrative, legislative, and judicial branches. The reforms also removed limits on the number of terms a president can serve and permitted Putin to run the country until 2036. Thus, Putin could potentially rule Russia for more than twenty years (Brown, 2020; Graham, 2009; Sakwa, 2020).

According to the author's point of view, the content of the constitutional modifications that are favorable to Putin represents an expansion in the power of the presidency within Russia's political system. As a result of the change, Putin strengthened his authority over regional governments and governors and the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government.

Added limits on presidential terms

Including term restrictions for the presidency is one of the provisions of the constitutional revision benefitting Putin. As a result of this modification, article 81, paragraph 3 of the Russian Constitution was modified, so the term limit for the presidency was increased from the previous restriction of two consecutive terms to a maximum of three times in office. Putin has already completed two terms as President and it would allow him to keep his position as President for at least another decade until 2036 (Greene, 2020).

According to the opinions of certain political observers, this amendment was drafted to bolster Putin's power and preserve political stability in Russia. On

the other hand, many believe that placing restrictions on the number of terms a president can serve in office violates the fundamental tenets of democracy and will lead to a greater concentration of power in Putin's hands (Trenin, 2020a)

The change does away with term restrictions for the presidency, granting Vladimir Putin the opportunity to lead Russia for a more extended period. Moreover, Putin has been given increased influence over the operation of the government resulting in a rise in the presidential powers that he possesses and has elevated him to a pivotal position in the political system of Russia. In addition, it enables Putin to maintain his control in Russian politics over a long time and exert influence over significant policies and decision-making.

Increased state control over the security sector and foreign policy

The Russian Federation's Constitution governs the authority of the Russian President to make strategic decisions about foreign policy and state security. Therefore, the reference to upholding Russia's national security and territorial integrity is under the purview of the President, who is also responsible for representing the country in its dealings with other nations. Furthermore, the Constitution regulates the function of parliament in monitoring and supervising the use of military force and the nation's foreign policy.

The Russian Federation places significant importance on the strategic decisions made concerning its defense and foreign policies. In addition, Russia

has strategic interests regarding ties with other countries, national security, and foreign policy because it is a major country with a significant amount of power on a worldwide scale.

In this sense, Russia's foreign policy encompasses a wide range of domains, including diplomacy, bilateral relations, membership in international organizations, international trade, and concerns about global security. Decisions of a strategic nature were made to advance Russia's national interests, preserve its security and territorial integrity, and foster relationships with other nations that benefit both parties (Kanet, 2010; Tsygankov, 2019). In addition, strategic choices made concerning Russia's national defense also play a significant part in the country's ability to maintain its security and stability. Specifically, this entails the cultivation and modernization of armed forces, defense plans, and protection against internal and external dangers. These decisions are essential for preserving Russia's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the stability of its national security (Baev, 2020).

The Russian Federation places a high priority on both its foreign policy and its defense strategy as it is a country which possesses a massive area and a significant number of strategic interests. Relationships with other nations, participation in international trade, and joint efforts in the political and military spheres are all components of this approach. To guarantee that policy decisions are made following national interests and contributing to the state's security, the state needs to exert greater control over the security sector and foreign policy.

Impact of constitutional amendments on Russian politics

Changes in power dynamics in Russia

An expansion of presidential authority is one of the most significant outcomes resulting from the revisions to the Russian Constitution. The modifications grant the President increased control over all three branches of government: the executive, the legislature, and the judiciary, as well as over municipal governments. It places an even greater emphasis on the President's role as the preeminent leader of the country and further concentrates power in his hands. In addition, the modifications to the Constitution aim to promote more political stability in Russia by giving the President expanded presidential powers and a more significant degree of authority over the institutions of the state. A robust and stable government is anticipated to boost policies' effectiveness and minimize political uncertainty (Graham, 2009).

Several people who believe they will reduce the amount of political and oppositional space in Russia criticized the revisions to the Constitution. As a result of changes to term limits, enhanced presidential powers, and control over state institutions, the political opposition may find it more difficult to challenge Putin's political dominance. Overall, the constitutional modifications resulted in Putin's influence as Russia's leader being consolidated due to these changes. Putin can continue his control in Russian politics and influence the country's policies and direction for a more extended period if the role of the President is bolstered through this reform (Aslund, 2020).

Implications for Russia's relations with other countries

The revisions made to the Constitution of the Russian Federation in 2020 will affect Russia's relationships with foreign nations. For instance, several Western nations have voiced their disapproval of the constitutional modifications, viewing them as an effort on Putin's part to increase his power and restrict democratic rights in Russia. A rise in state control over the country's security apparatus and foreign policy can also impact Russia's standing in international relations. The shifting power dynamics in Russia may require other countries to adjust the methods and policies they employ in their foreign relations in response to these shifts. However, clearer and more substantial consequences for Russia's ties with other nations still need to be watched and analyzed continually in line with developments in the political situation in Russia and at the world level. It must be done in conjunction with developments in the political situation in Russia and at the international level (News, 2020).

The other implications for Russia's relations with other countries as a result of amendments to the Constitution may include several things including (Hill, 2019; Mankoff, 2020)

First: Consolidation of Putin's Power. As a result of constitutional reforms that strengthened the presidency's powers, Vladimir Putin can now make more decisive and speedier choices about Russian foreign policy. It leads to a more consistent and unified policy continuity, affecting Russia's ties with other countries.

Second: A Firmer Foreign Policy. Constitutional modifications can result in a more aggressive and consistent foreign

policy due to increased presidential control over the nation's foreign policy. It involves emphasizing Russia's national interests, boosting its military power, or taking a more aggressive approach to dealing with regional and international challenges.

Third: Priority and Strategy Changes. Expanding the President's powers can potentially affect Russia's priorities and strategies in its interactions with other countries. As a result, Putin may have more leeway in deciding the course and priorities of Russian foreign policy, provided that they align with preexisting national interests and objectives.

Fourth: Challenges in International Relations. The ascent to power of Vladimir Putin may be seen as a challenge or a threat to the interests of some nations and international entities. It may affect Russia's interactions with other countries, including economic cooperation, diplomacy, and security policy.

Civil society's reaction to the constitutional amendments

Responses from Russia's civil society members to recent revisions to the country's Constitution have been diverse, depending on the population in question. Civil society organizations, including human rights organizations and political opposition parties, opposed the amendment because it would grant Putin excessive power and undermine democratic values. Those who support Vladimir Putin reacted positively to the modification to the Constitution since it was as a vital move to build the country and get past the challenges presented by the political system in Russia. In the

meantime, other social groups applauded the amendment. Protests against the proposed revisions to the Constitution have been staged by various community organizations, such as the demonstrations in Moscow in 2020 and attended by students and activists. On the other hand, the Russian government responded to the demonstrations by carrying out a crackdown and arresting some people (RFE/RL, 2020).

Protests and demonstrations have occurred in numerous regions of Russia as a reaction to the revisions made to the Constitution. Members of civil society are organizing protests against the modifications, and those individuals are also using social media, street marches, and support drives to express their ideas

Civil society's responses to proposed constitutional amendments in Russia can be categorized in various ways, and these classifications are highly variable depending on a wide range of criteria, including political history, views, and perceptions of the proposed changes. The following are some potential responses that could take place (Puddington, 2020).

First: Support for the Amendment. The consolidation of power and the maintenance of political stability in their countries may need constitutional revisions, which some members of civil society may view as a necessary step. They could interpret the reforms as making Russia more substantial and ensuring reliable leadership.

Second: Criticism of Political Limitations. Civil society organizations and activists may join in voicing their opposition to the proposed constitutional

modifications because they restrict political space and stifle resistance. They can express their concerns about human rights violations, the absence of political plurality, and the limited opportunities for democratic and fair political involvement.

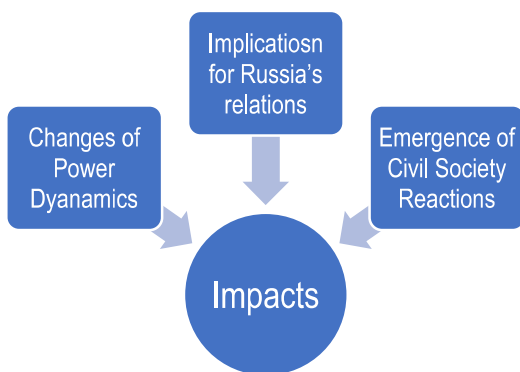
Third: Dissatisfaction with the Amendment Process. There is a possibility that specific subsets of civil society will feel unsatisfied with the process of amending the Constitution itself. They can bring attention to the fact that there was insufficient public participation, a lack of openness, or the process was allegedly manipulated. They may view the revisions as actions performed without considering the goals and desires of the general population as a whole.

Fourth: Action and Protest. To demonstrate the displeasure with the changes made to the Constitution, those sectors of civil society opposed to the modifications can engage in direct action and demonstrations. It could include protests, online campaigns, or other initiatives to criticize and oppose constitutional changes.

The survey findings indicate that most Russians favor amending the Constitution in 2020. According to a study in February 2020 by the independent media agency Levada Center, over 48% of respondents supported the revisions, while just 14% opposed them. The others, about 38%, reported that they had yet to decide (Trenin, 2020b). Nevertheless, critics have been in the process of changing the Constitution, including observers and human rights advocates. These criticisms have been leveled concerning the propaganda effort and the intimidation of political opponents. Critics have also expressed concern about

several contentious policy shifts, including introducing term limits for the presidency and legal safeguards for former leaders of Russia. As a consequence of this, some communities are opposed to the change. Nevertheless, in July 2020, the constitutional revisions were finally approved, despite the criticism and opposition they faced, and they have been in effect since August 2020

Figure 1. The Impacts of Putin's Political Communication Force



Source: Research Finding

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the research conducted on the Amendments to the Russian Constitution as Putin's Political Communication Power, it is possible to conclude that Putin makes good use of political communication tactics to influence public opinion and enhance his position. Putin's political communication strategy comprises various components, including his authoritarian and charismatic communication style, effective use of media and communication channels, Utilization of propaganda, manipulation of information, and dynamic approach. In the context of proposed changes to the Russian Constitution, this study underlines the importance of a

solid grasp of political communication's power. As a result, Putin can construct a narrative that bolsters his position within the Russian political system and supports constitutional modifications if he employs a practical, well-coordinated media strategy. Research indicates, however, that Putin's political communication strategy has been the subject of debate and criticism. Concerns have been raised over the media's control and manipulation of information and the prevalence of messages that benefit the administration. The reactions of members of civil society to the revisions to the Constitution likewise differed, with some supporting them and others rejecting the repercussions for Russian politics and the country's relationships with foreign nations.

Putin's status as Russia's leader was bolstered due to the content of the constitutional modifications, which included boosting presidential powers and extending the term limits for the presidency. Both of these changes gave Putin additional authority over the country. Nevertheless, the strategic choices that Vladimir Putin makes for Russia regarding the country's foreign and defense policy have the potential to affect Russia's ties with other nations. In addition, revisions to the Constitution have the potential to provoke responses from members of civil society, such as demonstrations and criticism of political choices made by the government. The changes made the Russian Constitution understood as a component of the political strategy that Vladimir Putin employs to ensure his position as the leader of Russia. However, it is necessary for political watchers to closely monitor and assess this

amendment's impact and ramifications to avoid any unintended consequences.

The further researchers should carry out the additional research to obtain deeper knowledge about the political communication approach used by Putin in revising the constitution. A more in-depth investigation of political discourse, media consumption and propaganda strategies used can be included in this study. In addition, there is a need to push for tighter oversight of the constitutional amendment process and political activity in Russia in general. Ensure transparency in the political process and monitor potential abuse of power.

There is also a need for encouragement and support from advocacy groups for human rights and civil society in Russia to protect freedom of expression, the right to opinion, and free political participation. Moreover, efforts are needed to increase public awareness by educating the public about the importance of political participation, understanding of the Constitution, and the impact of constitutional amendments on their lives. Encourage open dialogue and critical discussion on political and constitutional issues.

These recommendations are intended to improve understanding of the Russian Constitution amendment process. Additionally, they aim to advance democratic ideals, the right to free speech, and the principles of justice in the country's political system.

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