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### **Russia's Strategic Interests: Focus on South America**

The presentation will explore the multifaceted historical relationship between Russia and South America, tracing its evolution from the ideological confrontations of the Cold War to the current narrative of strategic partnerships and economic imperatives. In the post-Cold War era, Russia has actively reassessed its global role, and South America has become a key arena for diplomatic and economic renewal. The first unit of reflection reviews the seminal moments that shaped the geopolitical landscape, such as the Cuban Revolution. It examines Russia's conscious engagement with nations such as Brazil, Venezuela and Bolivia, exploring the nuanced interplay of economic cooperation and strategic engagement. Particular emphasis will be placed on complex relationships such as harmonious cooperation with Brazil and a symbiotic alliance with Venezuela that includes economic, military and diplomatic ties. It also underlines Russia's strategic interest in Bolivia's lithium resources, which unfolds in the broader context of the global clean energy transition. The success of these collaborations is examined in the context of internal strife, environmental concerns and the challenges posed by geopolitical complications. This presentation will provide insights into the adaptability and durability of modern geopolitical cooperation, highlighting the need for a strategic sense to navigate the complexities of international relations.

**Keywords:** *Russia, South America, Lithium war, Geopolitics, Russian-South American relations*