

Communism

**Communism in Russia
simply burned itself out.**

It had demanded too much and delivered too little, creating an atmosphere of apathy in which the only pleasures were little ones and the future held no prospects.

By the 1980s, even the Soviet elite had lost faith in Communism, as it watched the outside world overtake the country in everything except military expenditures and alcohol consumption.

Its self-confidence gone, it put up feeble resistance and, seizing for its own benefit a great deal of state property, accepted the regime's demise with equanimity.

Richard Pipes, *Communism*