

Russia

In Soviet days most of us were really quite happy with a dacha, a colour TV and access to special shops with some western goods, and holidays in Sochi.

We were perfectly comfortable, and we only compared ourselves with the rest of the population, not with the western elites.

...

It used to be that official rank gave you top status. Now you have to have huge amounts of money too. That is what the 1990s did to Russian society.

A "senior former Soviet official" quoted by Anatol Lieven, Financial Times, Nov. 30, 2022