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# Trump's #1 'Accomplishment': Getting Americans to Trust Putin and Russia

Before I started this separate column on politics, I would occasionally get political in my page 3 real estate column. One such column was published on Nov. 15, 2018 with the headline, *"Yes, the Russians Wanted Trump Over Hillary, But Their Real Goal Is to Divide America."*

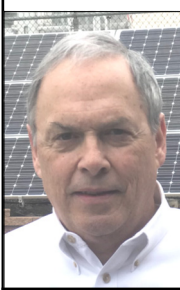
Another column, published on Feb. 27, 2020, carried the headline, *"Why Wouldn't the Russians Want Trump Re-Elected? Look at His Accomplishments."*

Both columns can be found at [JimSmithColumns.com](http://JimSmithColumns.com).

Vladimir Putin found a willing co-conspirator in Donald Trump, and our country will keep paying the price up to and after this fall's election. As John Bolton, Trump's longest serving National Security Advisor, has written, Putin has "played Trump like a fiddle." As Mary Trump, a clinical psychologist, has explained, the presi-

Talking Turkey columns are posted at [JimSmithBlog.com](http://JimSmithBlog.com), where I'm able to add other content and multiple links.

## Talking Turkey



By JIM SMITH

dent's obvious-to-all narcissism is what made him such a willing and eager victim of any foreign despot who wanted his compliance. The key that unlocks the president — simple flattery. "We fell in love," Trump said of Kim Jong-un, the North Korean dictator.

While the President has demeaning nicknames for his opponents (like "Sleepy Joe" and "Lyn' Ted Cruz") and even for our European allies, he has no such nicknames for most dictators and has never, that I can recall, said anything negative about Putin.

Others in a position to speculate, if not know, believe that Putin "must have something on Trump." It may be as simple as financial greed, because it has been revealed that Trump was working to secure a deal for Trump Tower Moscow right up until he was elected, and he probably doesn't want to endanger that possibility when and if he leaves office by alienating Putin while still president.

More sinister theories are that Putin

has salacious video footage of Trump with two prostitutes (set up by Putin, of course) in the Moscow Ritz-Carlton presidential suite where Trump stayed during the Miss Universe event in Moscow. If true, you can understand that Trump would do anything not to have that video released.

Recently, I've gotten to know James Tolley, who is working hard to educate Americans about "Active Measures," a Soviet-era technique used to destabilize a country from within. His website is [www.peaceful.ly](http://www.peaceful.ly).

It spells out the methodology to which I was referring in my Nov. 15, 2018 column. To quote Tolley, "This process is also called "ideological subversion," a decades-long process to use ideology, front groups, disinformation, social engineering, and psychological warfare in order to demoralize and split a society into competing factions. These factions are then brought into ever-increasing power struggle with each other... Political power struggles are escalated into physical power struggles, with the goal of destabilizing a country. After a country has been destabilized, a crisis is manufactured.

This crisis allows for the reshaping of the institutions of society. The people, tired of crisis and chaos, demand that anyone, even a fascist government, create order at any cost, including the loss of freedoms, rights, surveillance, and the installation of an authoritarian regime. The savior is delivered, which the people are convinced to accept wholeheartedly. Finally, a new "normal" is installed, where the people have no real rights and are controlled through violence and intimidation."

I am reading former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's best-selling book, *Fascism: A Warning*. I recommend it. As a Jew who fled Hitler's Germany as a kid, she knows the topic.

## Thanks for Your Continued Support

Publishing this weekly column costs me a lot each month, but I would happily spend that much money and more to defeat Donald Trump. Nevertheless, I welcome (and am gratified by) the ongoing financial support I get from you, my readers. I'm more than halfway to my \$20,000 GoFundMe goal, which you can add to using the URL [www.FundTalkingTurkey.com](http://www.FundTalkingTurkey.com).