

awareness that continued economic development of the Soviet system necessitates qualitative as well as quantitative improvements in production. Where a highly centralized economy and polity was suitable to the forced-pace, extensive economic growth of the Stalin years, somewhat more loosely structured economic and political regimes are necessary for effective social contributions to intensive growth. Accordingly there is a tendency to relax the command system of economic planning and management, and to modify Stalinist budgetary priorities to provide greater incentives for productivity. Similarly, within the political system a degree of ideological and institutional diversity is permitted as theoretical and practical debate occurs within prescribed limits, and as experts are encouraged to play a larger role in policy formation. Simultaneously, terror is virtually eliminated, and the Soviet citizen finds it comparatively easy to predict the use of coercion by the regime. Repression is directed against dissidents and others active outside the boundaries of permissible political activity. A continued intensive effort is made to block the spread of bourgeois ideas. The propaganda apparatus continues to depict Western societies, if not all Western governments, in an unfavourable light. And the Soviet defense and police establishments continue to be the subjects of campaigns of praise.

Activism in policy toward the West and limited internal