Presidents and premiers, general secretaries and ambassadors all left more or less detailed accounts, soon to be published as *Three Hundred Conversations with Joseph Stalin* (Christian Ostermann, David Wolff and Vladislav Zubok, eds., Woodrow Wilson Press, 2014). Making use of this new source, as well as materials extracted from the Stalin, Molotov and Politburo collections in Moscow (RGASPI, GARF), this talk gives a Stalin-eyed view of the world at the beginning of the Cold War, providing his information on and perceptions of geopolitical strategy, revolutionary possibilities, and developmental options, as well as the ways and means of international conduct. Until the end, Stalin remained organized, encyclopedic, and dictatorial, the only maker of Soviet foreign policy.

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