

# Mikhail Gorbachev

## Quotes

*People, Country, America, War, World, Democracy, Order, Civilization, Believe,  
Thinking, Russia, Mean, Communication, Earth, Important, Water, Moving,  
Leader, Government, President*

Peace is not unity in similarity but unity in diversity, in the comparison and conciliation of differences.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

If what you have done yesterday still looks big to you. You haven't done much today.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I believe in the cosmos. All of us are linked to the cosmos. So nature is my god. To me, nature is sacred. Trees are my temples and forests are my cathedrals. Being at one with nature.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

If not me, who? And if not now, when?

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It seems that the most important thing about Reagan was his anti-Communism and his reputation as a hawk who saw the Soviet Union as an 'evil empire.'

~Mikhail Gorbachev

When future generations judge those who came before them on environmental issues, they may conclude "they didn't know": let us not go down in history as the generations who knew, but didn't care

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It is my firm belief that the infinite and uncontrollable fury of nuclear weapons should never be held in the hands of any mere mortal ever again, for any reason.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It is better to discuss things, to argue and engage in polemics than make perfidious plans of mutual destruction.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We had 10 years after the Cold War to build a new world order and yet we squandered them. The United States cannot tolerate anyone acting independently. Every US president has to have a war.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

You cannot go to sleep with one form of economic system and wake up the next morning with another.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The time has come to choose a new direction of global development, to opt for a new civilization.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It is better to see once than to hear a hundred times.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Those who are late will be punished by life itself.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It will be difficult, even painful, but democracy will prevail in Russia. There will be no dictatorship, although relapses into authoritarianism are possible.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Sometimes when you stand face to face with someone, you cannot see his face.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I say again that I am an atheist. I do not believe in God.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The forests of Russia and Brazil are the lungs of the Earth.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Jesus was the first socialist, the first to seek a better life for mankind.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

In October 1917, we parted with the old world, rejecting it once and for all. We are moving toward a new world, a world of Communism. We shall never turn off that road.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I began to feel the desire for something more; I wanted to do something to make things better.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I think the United States is sick. It suffers from the sickness, the disease of being the victor and it needs to cure itself from this disease.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

For a new type of progress throughout the world to become a reality, everyone must change. Tolerance is the alpha and omega of a new world order.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Political leaders still think things can be done through force, but that cannot solve terrorism. Backwardness is the breeding ground of terror, and that is what we have to fight.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

America must be the teacher of democracy, not the advertiser of the consumer society. It is unrealistic for the rest of the world to reach the American living standard.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I support freedom and I support a free market economy, but it should be a socially oriented market economy. I support globalization, but it should be globalization with a human face.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

History punishes those that come late to it.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Without glasnost there is not, and there cannot be, democratism, the political creativity of the masses and their participation in management.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I am a Communist, a convinced Communist! For some that may be a fantasy. But to me it is my main goal.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

To me, nature is sacred. Trees are my temples and forests are my cathedrals.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Further global progress is now possible only through a quest for universal consensus in the movement towards a new world order.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

If people don't like Marxism, they should blame the British Museum.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The market is not an invention of capitalism. It has existed for centuries. It is an invention of civilization.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Without perestroika, the cold war simply would not have ended. But the world could not continue developing as it had, with the stark menace of nuclear war ever present.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The threat of environmental crisis is the 'international disaster key' to

unlock the New World Order.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The shortage of fresh water is the major ecological problem of this moment.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The phenomenon of UFOs does exist, and it must be treated seriously.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The world will not accept dictatorship or domination.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We are all passengers aboard one ship, the Earth, and we must not allow it to be wrecked. There will be no second Noah's Ark.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We need a new environmental consciousness on a global basis. To do this, we need to educate people.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

More socialism means more democracy, openness and collectivism in everyday life.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We have no right ever to forget that psychological warfare is a struggle for winning people's minds.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The model of the consumer society is something that will one day end. My personal view is that too much consumption is wrong.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Dangers await only those who do not react to life.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The threat of a world war is no more.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Politics is my second love, next to my love for Raisa [Gorbacheva].

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Nature is reminding us that it used to exist without human beings.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We need a new system of values, a system of the organic unity between humankind and nature and the ethic of global responsibility.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Certain people in the United States are driving nails into this structure of our relationship, then cutting off the heads. So the Soviets must use their teeth to pull them out.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Surely, God on high has not refused to give us enough wisdom to find ways to bring us an improvement in relations between the two great nations on earth.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

A society should never become like a pond with stagnant water, without movement. That's the most important thing.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The world's deteriorating ecology poses as great a danger to mankind today as did the nuclear standoff between the superpowers at the height of the Cold War.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I believe, as Lenin said, that this revolutionary chaos may yet crystallize into new forms of life.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Democracy must learn to defend itself.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Today, peace means the ascent from simple coexistence to cooperation and common creativity among countries and nations.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We are not abandoning our convictions, our philosophy or traditions, nor do we urge anyone to abandon theirs.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The market came with the dawn of civilization and it is not an invention of capitalism. ... If it leads to improving the well-being of the people there is no contradiction with socialism.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Montreal, this wonderful town! Pearl of Canada, Pearl of the world.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Democracy is the wholesome and pure air without which a socialist public organization cannot live a full-blooded life.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The opponents of perestroika had suffered a defeat, and then they organized the coup.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

If you want Russia to be a real fully developed partner, then America should invest in Russia and activate Russia as a strong nation.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The soviet people want full-blooded and unconditional democracy.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

You are fortunate to live here. If I were your President, I would levy a tax on you for living in San Francisco!

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Sometimes, the decisions have to be taken in minutes, even seconds, and there would be no time to make the right decision. We understood that this could have ended in catastrophe.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

An awareness of the need for some kind of global government is gaining ground, one in which all members of the world community would take part.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Contemporary social democracy is what I believe is the right concept.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

A new world order is taking shape so fast that governments as well as private citizens find it difficult just to absorb the gallop of events.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I believe in the cosmos. All of us are linked to the cosmos.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

People, human beings with all their creative diversity, are the makers of history.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

My life's work has been accomplished. I did all that I could.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

America has a right to be a leader. This leadership should be realized through partnership, not domination.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Women prevent the threads of life from being broken. The finest minds have always understood the peacemaking role of women.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It's America calling the shots in everything

~Mikhail Gorbachev

When I cleared out Moscow apartment after stepping down as president, they found all kinds of wiring in the walls. It turned out that they had been spying on me all along.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Life punishes those who come too late.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Americans have a severe disease - worse than AIDS. It's called the winner's complex.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It would be naive to think that the problems plaguing mankind today can be solved with means and methods which were applied or seemed to work in the past.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It will not be enough to rely on experts. Ordinary citizens must become experts too. It will take public opinion on a wide scale to ensure that world leaders act.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Every US President has to have a war.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

We were nearly one of the last to realize that in the age of information science the most expensive asset is knowledge.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Man is beginning to explore the galaxy. But how much remains undone on earth?

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The socialist tradition....goes back to Jesus Christ, not (Karl) Marx.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

For the first time ever, we have confronted in reality the sinister power of uncontrolled nuclear energy.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I envisage the principles of the Earth Charter to be a new form of the ten commandments. They lay the foundation for a sustainable global earth community.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

What we're talking about is creating new forms of life on the basis of new values.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

A new generation of more educated people started to be active. Then society required freedom, society demanded freedom.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I will never give up politics. I've tried to give it up three times, but I never made it. Politics mobilizes me. I won't last long if I give it up.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

My goal was to avoid bloodshed. But unfortunately there was some bloodshed, after all.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

In effect, according to Lenin, socialism and democracy are indivisible. By gaining democratic freedoms the working masses come to power.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

God has given us enough wisdom to make improvements in our relations.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

I paid too heavy a price for perestroika.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The human race has entered a stage where we are all dependent on each other. No other country or nation should be regarded in total separation from another, let alone pitted against another.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

There is only one superpower now and it doesn't know what to do with its status. As a result, we got Yugoslavia and Iraq, and the situation has only got worse.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

A New World Order is required to deal with the Climate Change crisis.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

It is really important to solve the problem of rational utilization and distribution of water supplies. I dare say, the shortage of fresh water is the major ecological problem of this moment.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

What we need is Star Peace and not Star Wars.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Every part of our program of perestroika - and the program as a whole, for that matter - is fully based on the principle of more socialism and more democracy.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Even today, a majority of people surveyed say that they regret the fact that the USSR collapsed. But only 9 percent say that they would want it back.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

Ideally, peace means the absence of violence. It is an ethical value.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

In Russia, there are those who make their money in criminal ways, but I earn everything myself.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

The time has come to develop integrated global policies.

~Mikhail Gorbachev

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