

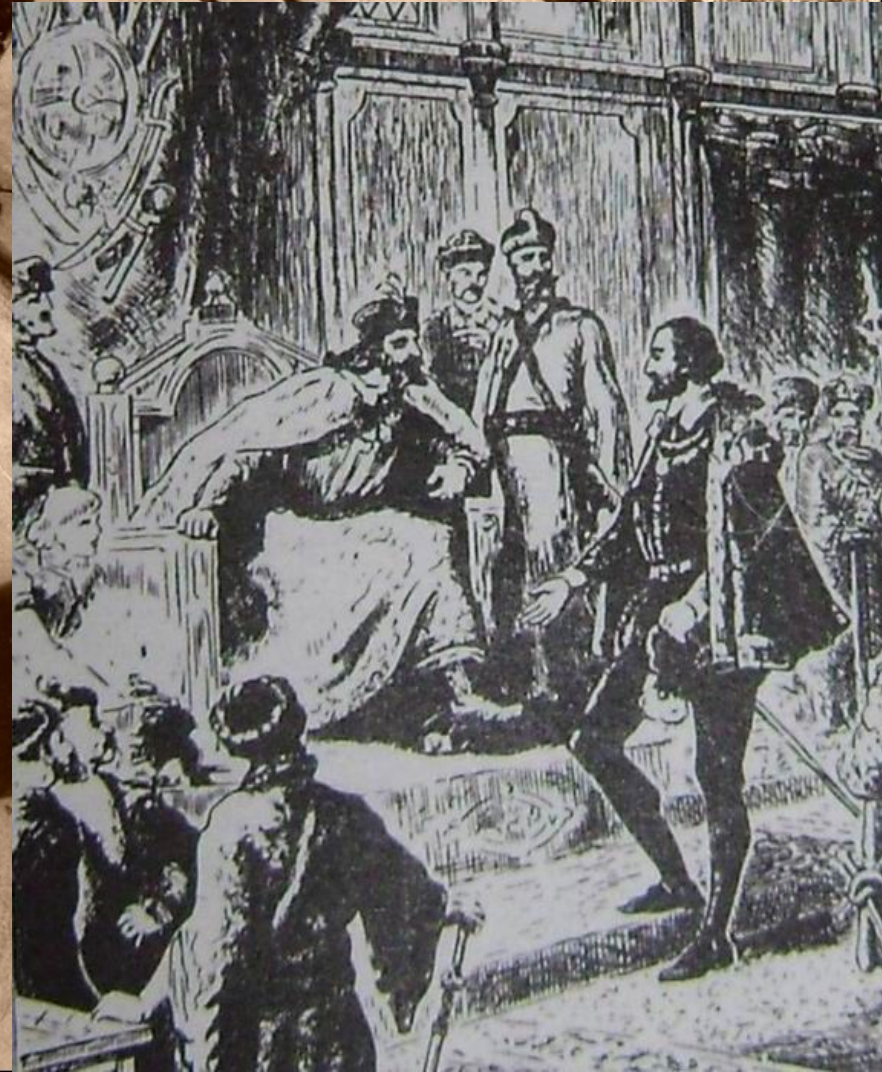
A close-up, sepia-toned photograph of an antique clock face. The clock features Roman numerals for the hours, with the numeral 'VI' prominently displayed at the top. The clock hands are ornate and dark, with a decorative, possibly jeweled, tip. The background of the clock face is light-colored with a subtle pattern. The overall image has a vintage, historical feel.

The history of Britain and Russia relations

Kharitonova Alyona, 51 gr.

Relations between England and Tsarist Russia

- The Kingdom of England and Tsardom of Russia established relations in **1553** when English navigator Richard Chancellor arrived in Arkhangelsk
- He returned to England and was sent back to Russia in **1555**, the same year the **Muscovy Company** was established





Ivan IV demonstrates his treasures to Jerome Horsey, the ambassador of Queen Elizabeth. Painting by A. Litovchenko , 1875

United Kingdom—Russian Empire relations

- The two empires found themselves as sometimes allies and sometimes enemies. The two states fought on the same side during **War of the Austrian Succession (1740—1748)**, but on opposite sides during **Seven Years' War (1756—1763)**
- On the 5th of September 1800 Britain occupied Malta, while the Emperor Paul I of Russia was the Head of the Malta government

United Kingdom—Russian Empire relations

- The Eastern Question and the fate of the **Ottoman Empire** (Османская империя) became of interest to both countries, and they both intervened in the Greek War of Independence **(1821—1829)**
- It led to the Crimean War **(1853—1856)** fought by Britain, France, and the Ottomans against Russia.

The Great Game (1813-1907)

- The rivalry (соперничество) between Britain and Russia developed over Central Asia in the **Great Game** of the late nineteenth century, as Russia desired warm-water ports in the Indian Ocean
- The Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907 made both countries part of the **Triple Entente**

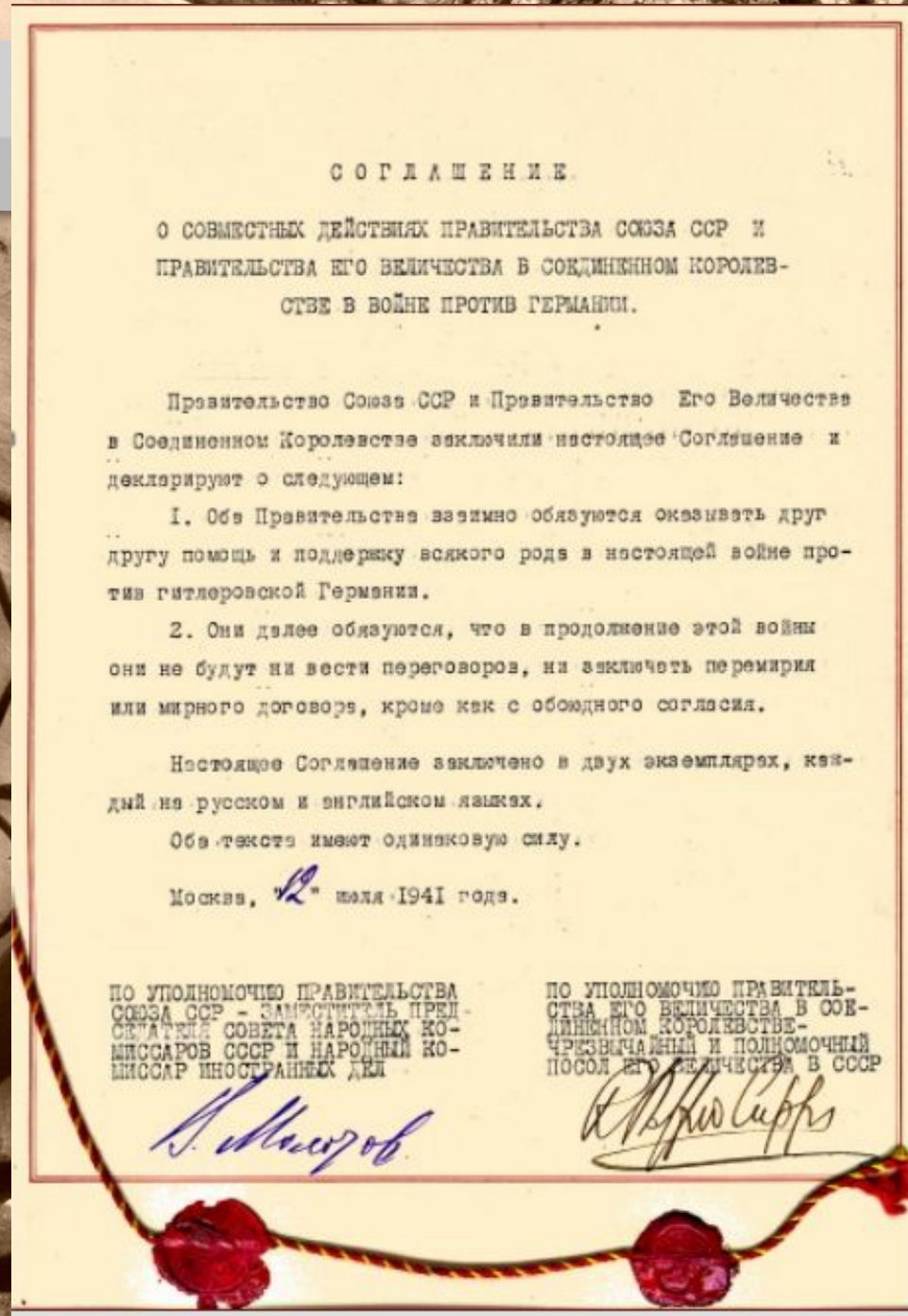


United Kingdom—Soviet Union relations

- The United Kingdom recognized the USSR (1917—1991) on February 1, 1924
- In **1938** Britain and France signed the Munich Agreement with Germany. The USSR opposed to the pact and refused to recognize Germany's annexation of part of Czechoslovakia.

- In **1941**, Germany launched Operation Barbarossa, attacking the USSR. The USSR became one of the Allies of World War II along with Britain, fighting against the Axis Powers.

Soviet-UK agreement against Germany



United Kingdom—Soviet Union relations

- The Soviet spy agency, the KGB, was suspected of the murder of George Markov in London in **1978**
- British prime minister Margaret Thatcher pursued a strong anti-communist policy in concert with Ronald Reagan during the 1980s
- Although relations became warmer after Mikhail Gorbachev coming to power in **1985**

United Kingdom—Russian Federation relations

- After the collapse of the USSR, relations were initially warm.
- In 2003, Russia requested the extradition of **Boris Berezovsky** and Chechen separatist **Akhmed Zakayev**, but Britain refused, having given them both **political asylum** (политическое убежище)
- In late 2006, former KGB officer **Alexander Litvinenko** was poisoned in London by radioactive metalloid, **Polonium-210** and died 3 weeks later.

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- During the **2008 South Ossetia war** between Russia and Georgia, the British Foreign Secretary, David Miliband, visited the Georgian capital city of Tbilisi to meet with the president and said the UK's government and people "stood in solidarity" with the Georgian people.
- In 2010 **MI5** (Military Intelligence, Section 5) warned that Russian spy operations in the United Kingdom are at Cold War levels.



British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Dmitry Medvedev at the 34th G8 summit on 7 July 2008