

## **RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE**

**According to the prevailing wisdom in the West, the Ukraine crisis can be blamed almost entirely on Russian aggression. Russian President Vladimir Putin, the argument goes, annexed Crimea out of a long-standing desire to resuscitate the Soviet empire, and he may eventually go after the rest of Ukraine, as well as other countries in eastern Europe. In this view, the ouster of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich in February 2014 merely provided a pretext for Putin's decision to order Russian forces to seize part of Ukraine. But this account is wrong: the United States and its European allies share most of the responsibility for the crisis**

- John Mearsheimer, Distinguished Service Professor of  
Political Science at the University of Chicago.

### **DISCLAIMER**

I stand firmly in spirit with the people of Ukraine and their right to defend themselves against the illegal invasion from Russia.

I view any and all aggression in these matters as the gravest war crime in accordance with the Nurembourg principles, seeing that it carries with it all the atrocities that follow.

I respect any nation's voluntary attempts to aid the Ukrainians in battle and rebuilding.

I am not arguing a pro-russian position on the Russo-Ukrainian war. Nor am I arguing a pro-western line.

### **ARGUMENT**

I am making the argument that *the key to a peaceful and diplomatic settlement has been in western hands for almost 30 years*. Instead of having consideration for Russian security interests, whether that may be the driving factor or not, the West has repeatedly been uncooperative and outright provocative. When I state that the invasion was provoked it must not be misunderstood: *This is a provocation of Russia by the US and NATO, not Ukraine*.

I have full understanding of the fact that many Ukrainians wish to enter NATO. But the geopolitical ramifications of this choice are too dire to be left in the hands of one European nation. Due to the nature of Nuclear arms this concerns all of us.

It is a result of the frightening reality that we are facing an adversary that is formidable and feels existentially threatened. Again, this might be a national security concern for Russia, or it might be a regime concern for Putin as some Russian experts postulate, but nonetheless we are facing a terrifying prospect: WW3.

### **STATEMENT**

Current events in Europe are not a display of democracy vs. imperialism, but two empires fighting a proxy war in Ukraine, killing their host in the process, and it should be stopped. Washington is the provocateur, and U.S meddling in the ousting of Viktor Yanukovich is documented throughout the paper. Additionally, Nord Stream 1 and 2 was sabotaged by the West, not Russia. The last statement is based on stated intentions by Joseph Biden and high ranking U.S diplomats prior to the sabotage. Seymour Hersh's report is not taken into consideration, but can be read here<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/02/10/how-america-took-out-the-nord-stream-pipeline/>

- 1949** - NATO is formed: 12 Members (demand for applicant nations: *Military integration*)<sup>2</sup>
- 1952** - Greece and Turkey are first non-founding nations to join.<sup>3</sup>
- 1955** - West Germany joins NATO.<sup>4</sup> UK, US and France end occupation of Germany.<sup>5</sup>  
- **May 14**. Soviet Union form the **Warsaw Pact**<sup>6</sup>
- 1982** - Spain joins NATO as part of democratic transformation resulting from the end of Franco's regime in 1975.<sup>7</sup>
- 1989** - **Berlin Wall falls.**
- 1990** - USSR/US Agreement of unified Germany joining NATO with restrictions on NATO troop deployment in East Germany.<sup>8,9</sup>
- 1991** - **June 1**. **Warsaw Pact** dissolves.<sup>10</sup>  
- **George Bush & Mikhail Gorbachev et al. verbal agreements, Unification of Germany. "NATO not one inch to the east"**<sup>11</sup>  
- **December 8**. Russia, Ukraine, Belarus establishes CIS<sup>12</sup> (Commonwealth of Independent States)  
- **December 26**. **USSR** dissolves.
- 1999** - Poland Hungary and the Czech Republic joins NATO<sup>13</sup>  
- **March 24**. US-led NATO launches a 78-day continuous bombardment against Yugoslavia without the approval of the UN Security Council, and without consultation with Russia.<sup>14</sup> 22 tons of bombs dropped, 15 of them Depleted Uranium Bombs still causing increased cancer rates years later.<sup>15</sup>
- 2002** - **June 13**. US, under Bush, leaves the anti ballistic missile treaty<sup>16</sup>
- 2008** - **April 2-4**. NATO Bucharest Summit(with Putin invited): "Georgia and Ukraine will become part of NATO."<sup>17</sup>  
(Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy opposes, later says it was due to the likeliness of inducing RU invasion)<sup>18</sup>

<sup>2</sup> <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/nato>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.nato.int/cps/fr/natohq/declassified\\_181434.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/fr/natohq/declassified_181434.htm)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/topic/North-Atlantic-Treaty-Organization/The-role-of-Germany>

<sup>5</sup> <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/cwr/107189.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/event/Warsaw-Pact>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified\\_195140.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_195140.htm)

<sup>8</sup> <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201696/volume-1696-I-29226-English.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US\\_Russia\\_1990.pdf](https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/US_Russia_1990.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/this-day-in-politics-march-31-1991-236664>

<sup>11</sup>

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/russia-programs/2017-12-12/nato-expansion-what-gorbachev-heard-western-leaders-early>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/place/Soviet-Union>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.nato.int/docu/comm/1999/9904-wsh/pres-eng/03acce.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <https://balkaninsight.com/2019/03/22/78-days-of-fear-remembering-natos-bombing-of-yugoslavia/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202206/1267807.shtml>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2002-07/news/us-withdraws-abm-treaty-global-response-muted>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.nato.int/docu/update/2008/04-april/e0403h.html>

<sup>18</sup>

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220404-merkel-defends-2008-decision-to-block-ukraine-from-nato>

- August - **Russia invades Georgia**<sup>19</sup>
- 2010** - **January 22**. President of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, awarded **Stepan Bandera** the posthumous title of *Hero of Ukraine*.
- **February 25**. Viktor Yanukovich is elected Prime Minister of Ukraine.<sup>20</sup>
  - **April 21**. Kharkiv Accords signed by Yanukovich(UA) and Medvedev(RU)
  - **April 27**. Russian and Ukrainian parliaments ratify Kharkiv Accords.<sup>21</sup>
- 2012** - Law on the principles of the State language policy, aka the Kivalov-Kolesnichenko law is passed, granting Russian language status as regional language, upsetting opposition<sup>22</sup>
- 2011** - NATO Bombs Libya, killing civilians<sup>23</sup>
- 2013** - Viktor Yanukovich rejects EU association agreement in favour of Russian offer<sup>24,25</sup>, leading angry demonstrators to fill Kiev's Independence Square (The Maidan)
- **December 13**. Victoria Nuland speech to U.S.-Ukraine Foundation in which she claims to have travelled to Kiev three times in the first weeks of the demonstrations in support, even handing out cookies to demonstrators at the Maidan on December 5.<sup>26</sup>
- 2014** - **February 4**. Video released on YouTube reveals U.S. meddling in Maidan through phone call between Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and US Ambassador to Ukraine, Geoffrey Pyatt.<sup>27,28</sup>
- **February 20**. Video footage surfaces of snipers firing on protesters in Kiev. 50-110 Murdered depending on sources. The Yanukovich regime is instantly blamed by Ukraine's interim authorities.<sup>29</sup> It is dubbed the *Maidan Massacre*.
  - **February 22**. Maidan Revolution matured - ousting of *President Viktor Yanukovich*<sup>30</sup>
  - **February 23**. Oleksandr Turchynov temporarily assumes office with OSCE observers present.<sup>31</sup> The Ukrainian parliament voted to repeal the Kivalov-Kolesnichenko law of 2012 that granted Russian the status of regional language.<sup>32</sup>
  - **February**. **Russia invades Crimea**<sup>33</sup>
  - **March 5**. Leaked phone conversation between EU foreign policy chief Cathy Ashton and Estonia's foreign minister Urmas Paet, reveals that the feb 20. Snipers were

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/the-2008-russo-georgian-war-putins-green-light/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.oscepa.org/en/news-a-media/press-releases/press-2010/yanukovich-wins-ukraines-presidential-election>

<sup>21</sup> [https://dbpedia.org/page/Kharkiv\\_Pact](https://dbpedia.org/page/Kharkiv_Pact)

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/jul/04/ukrainians-protest-russian-language-law>

<sup>23</sup> <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/03/20/nato-killed-civilians-in-libya-its-time-to-admit-it/>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ukraine-russia-deal-special-report-idUSBRE9BI0DZ20131219>

<sup>25</sup>

<https://www.osw.waw.pl/en/publikacje/analyses/2013-11-27/ukraine-withdraws-signing-association-agreement-vilnius-motives-and>

<sup>26</sup>

[https://www.amazon.com/Frontline-Ukraine-Borderlands-Richard-Sakwa/dp/1784535273/ref=sr\\_1\\_1\\_twi\\_pap\\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1501604503&sr=1-1&keywords=richard+sakwa](https://www.amazon.com/Frontline-Ukraine-Borderlands-Richard-Sakwa/dp/1784535273/ref=sr_1_1_twi_pap_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1501604503&sr=1-1&keywords=richard+sakwa)

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSxaa-67yGM#t=89>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26079957>

<sup>29</sup> <https://apnews.com/article/f5855b135cc741c68bcd72357c9e7833>

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-25182830>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/ukraine/123759>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/the-truth-behind-ukraine-s-language-policy/>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.history.co.uk/articles/putin-s-gamble-russia-s-2014-invasion-of-crimea>

not ordered by Yanukovich but the opposition.<sup>34</sup> Estonian government later confirms the authenticity of the phone call, but Paet denies the alleged content.<sup>35</sup>

- **March 16.** Republic of Crimea holds referendum, majority votes for reunification with Russia.<sup>36</sup>

- **March 18.** Vladimir Putin signs accession agreement with the Republic of Crimea<sup>37</sup>

- **March 21. Russian Annexation of Crimea**

- **April 6.** War in the Donbas breaks out (Luhansk Donetsk)<sup>38</sup>

- **June 7.** Petro Poroshenko is elected President of Ukraine.

- **September 5. Minsk 1** is signed by the *Trilateral Contact Group* in Minsk, Belarus<sup>39</sup>

- US/UK begins training of an average of 10.000 Ukrainian soldiers a year from 2014-2022<sup>40,41,42,43</sup>

**2015** - **February 12. Minsk 2** is signed.

- **September.** Annual conference of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco releases the first academic study of the *Maidan Massacre*. They conclude that it is a false flag operation<sup>44</sup> with involvement of far right organisations, specifically the *Right Sector* and *Svoboda*. And oligarchic parties, such as *Fatherland*.


**2016** - **July 9.** NATO-Ukraine Commission (NUC) endorsed the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) to Ukraine.<sup>45</sup> Objective: "to reform its Armed Forces according to NATO standards and to achieve their interoperability with NATO forces by 2020.

**2018** - **February 28.** Ukraine's Constitutional Court declares the 2012 Kivalov-Kolesnichenko law unconstitutional.<sup>46</sup>

**2019** - **May 20.** Volodymyr Zelenskyy is elected President of Ukraine.

**2021** - **June.** Nato Conference Brussels: Official Statement: "We reiterate our full support to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. We stress the importance of ensuring its safety and full and unhindered access throughout the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea and the Russia-Ukraine border, in accordance with its mandate. We further call on Russia

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<sup>34</sup>  Breaking: Estonian Foreign Minister Urmas Paet and Catherine Ashton discuss Ukraine over ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEgJ0oo3OA8>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-ashton-conversation-leaked/25286848.html>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/russia/sevastopol.htm>

<sup>37</sup> <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/20604>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.crisisgroup.org/content/conflict-ukraines-donbas-visual-explainer>

<sup>39</sup>

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/2020/05/minsk-conundrum-western-policy-and-russias-war-eastern-ukraine-0/minsk-1-agreement>

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-ukraine-crisis-usa-training-idUKKBN0MF2KS20150319>

<sup>41</sup> <https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/05/09/ukraine-military-2014-russia-us-training/>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.france24.com/en/20150417-hundreds-us-military-trainers-arrive-ukraine>

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.defenseone.com/threats/2017/10/ukraine-us-trains-army-west-fight-east/141577/>

<sup>44</sup>

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/266855828\\_The\\_Snipers'\\_Massacre\\_on\\_the\\_Maidan\\_in\\_Ukraine](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/266855828_The_Snipers'_Massacre_on_the_Maidan_in_Ukraine)

<sup>45</sup>

[https://www.nato.int/nato\\_static\\_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf\\_2016\\_09/20160920\\_160920-compreh-ass-package-ukraine-en.pdf](https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2016_09/20160920_160920-compreh-ass-package-ukraine-en.pdf)

<sup>46</sup>

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-polytics/2412584-constitutional-court-declares-unconstitutional-language-law-of-kivalovkolesnichenko.html>

to reverse its recognition of the Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions of Georgia as independent states"<sup>47</sup>

- 2021** - **July 12**. Article/essay by Putin about Russo-Ukraine "You are welcome to create a state of your own" "What Ukraine will be, is up to its citizens to decide" <sup>48</sup>
- **November 10**. Washington reports unusual Russian troop movements near the Ukrainian border.<sup>4950</sup>
  - **December 17**. Russian foreign minister issues draft treaties to U.S. and NATO, proposing a new security framework in Europe demanding that Ukraine will not be a member of NATO. Russia is ignored.<sup>515253</sup>
- 2022** - **January 7**. Kremlin reports phone call between Vladimir Putin and Emmanuel Macron "The key question was ignored: how the United States and its allies intend to follow the principle of security integrity ... that no one should strengthen their security at the expense of another country's security," the Kremlin said. <sup>54</sup>
- **January 21**. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with Russia's foreign minister Sergej Lavrov. Russia asks the US and NATO for certain security guarantees, including binding pledges that NATO won't admit Ukraine or expand further east. <sup>55</sup>
  - **January 26**. U.S State Department Spokesperson Ned Price: "I want to be very clear: if Russia invades Ukraine one way or another, **Nord Stream 2** will not move forward,"<sup>56</sup>
  - **January 27**. Victoria Nuland: "If Russia invades Ukraine, one way or another, **Nord Stream 2** will not move forward."<sup>57</sup>
  - **January 28**. Sergey Lavrov tells journalists in Moscow: "The main issue is our clear position on the inadmissibility of further expansion of NATO to the East and the deployment of strike weapons that could threaten the territory of the Russian Federation."<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news\\_185000.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_185000.htm)

<sup>48</sup> <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/66181>

<sup>49</sup>

<https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/soldiers-separatists-sanctions-a-timeline-of-the-russia-ukraine-crisis-2782377>

<sup>50</sup>

<sup>51</sup>

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/russia-makes-sweeping-demands-security-guarantees-us-amid-story?id=81821816>

<sup>52</sup>

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2021/12/21/russias-draft-agreements-with-nato-and-the-united-states-intended-for-rejection/>

<sup>53</sup>

<https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/soldiers-separatists-sanctions-a-timeline-of-the-russia-ukraine-crisis-2782377>


<sup>54</sup>

<https://www.voanews.com/a/putin-says-west-has-not-addressed-key-concerns-in-ukraine-standoff/6417021.html>

<sup>55</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/01/26/europe/ukraine-russia-latest-news-wednesday-intl/index.html>

<sup>56</sup>

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/nord-stream-2-will-not-move-forward-if-russia-invades-ukraine-state-dept-2022-01-27/>

<sup>57</sup>  Nuland in January: "If Russia Invades Ukraine, Nord Stream 2 Will Not Move Forward"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLeAgMF0Q6Y>

<sup>58</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/01/27/europe/ukraine-russia-news-thursday-lavrov-intl/index.html>

- **February 11.** Zelensky rejects Minsk 2 negotiation offer from Putin<sup>59</sup>
- **February 18-20.** OSCE registers 2158 breaches of ceasefire and 1100 explosions.<sup>60</sup> According to Russian news sources this intensification of the conflict led to a mass-evacuation of civilians to Russia, and the subsequent appeal to recognise the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts as independent republics issued to Putin from pro-russian separatists.<sup>61</sup>
- **February 21.** Putin Speech stating the opposite of what western media proclaims: That Russia accepts and even respects the geopolitical outcome of the dissolution of USSR. That Ukraine is free to form any type of nation it wishes to, but with one limit: Ukraine can not, due to Russian security concerns, be a member of NATO.<sup>62</sup>
- **February 23.** Joseph Biden: "we have closely coordinated our efforts to stop the **Nord Stream 2** pipeline if Russia further invaded Ukraine... As I have made clear, we will not hesitate to take further steps if Russia continues to escalate."<sup>63</sup>
- **February 24. Invasion of Ukraine.**
- **February 28.** First post-war peace talk in Belarus yields no results.<sup>64</sup>
- **March 3.** Second round of peace talks, no results.<sup>65</sup>
- **March 7.** Third round of peace, overall deal not reached, positive outlook on humanitarian corridors according to Ukrainian delegation.<sup>66</sup>
- **March 10.** Fourth round of peace talks, no progress.<sup>67</sup>
- **March 14.** Fifth round of peace talks, nothing tangible.<sup>68</sup>
- **May 23.** Ukrainian court orders arrest of Viktor Yanukovich for treason. Reason for Treason: Signing of the Kharkiv Accords in 2010, which were ratified by parliament.<sup>69</sup>
- **September 26.** Nord Stream 1 and 2 are sabotaged.<sup>70</sup>
- 2023 - January** US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Victoria Nuland hailed the destruction of the **Nord Stream** pipelines, saying that "the [US] administration is very gratified to know that Nord Stream 2" would not be operating.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2022/02/11/russia-ukraine-minsk-agreements/>

<sup>60</sup> [https://www.osce.org/files/2022-02-20-21%20Daily%20Report\\_ENG.pdf?itok=82567](https://www.osce.org/files/2022-02-20-21%20Daily%20Report_ENG.pdf?itok=82567)

<sup>61</sup>

<https://sputniknews.com/20220222/osce-mission-confirms-violation-of-humanitarian-law-by-ukrainian-troops-in-lpr-militia-says-1093259117.html>

<sup>62</sup> <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/67828>

<sup>63</sup>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/02/23/statement-by-president-biden-on-nord-stream-2/>

<sup>64</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/28/world/europe/ukraine-russia-talks-belarus.html>

<sup>65</sup>

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/politics/2nd-round-of-russia-ukraine-peace-talks-begins-in-brest-belarus/2522737>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.dw.com/en/ukraine-and-russia-hold-third-round-of-talks/a-61039008>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/10/top-russia-ukraine-diplomats-arrive-in-turkey-for-talks>

<sup>68</sup> <https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-5229ea0b8bb56c10462ee0e00df61116>

<sup>69</sup>

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukrainian-court-orders-ex-presidents-arrest-absentia-treason-charge-2022-05-23/>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.isdp.eu/the-sabotage-of-nord-stream-1-2/>

<sup>71</sup> <https://tass.com/politics/1568469>

## Common counter arguments:

### Russia can't decide the NATO membership status of a sovereign nation.

1.- Ideally that would be true. But there is no reason to assume that we live in a geopolitical world based on democracy and following the rules. In reality the entire western hemisphere is under US control in accordance with the Monroe Doctrine. We still can't buy cigars from Cuba because they violated this principle in 1962.

Reactions of the United States to Soviet, socialist or communist regimes and movements within the western hemisphere include but are not limited to:

1961 - American forces trained Cuban exiles for the failed Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba.

1962 - Overthrow of democratically elected president in Argentina.

1971 - Supported toppling of President in Bolivia

1973 - Backing of far right military dictatorship in Chile until 1990.

1989 - Invasion of Panama, ousting Manuel Noriega in 1989

2.-The second reason the geopolitical world is not unanimously considered a democratic endeavour, is due to the academically proven fact that the world leader, *the United States of America is not a functioning democracy internally*<sup>72737475</sup> Some might argue that this does not affect the legitimacy of international democracy, but I disagree. However, it doesn't matter what you or I believe. From an eastern perspective European Nations are vassal states, and our leaders are lap dogs following orders from Washington. When the U.S wants European nations not to trade with Cuba, Iran or Russia we simply adhere. When the U.S attacks German infrastructure we ignore it. In their view the West is a gang of pretend democracies following a plutocracy.

This of course does not legitimise the war, but it erodes our basis for arguing within the framework of stated values. We do not adhere to our internally perceived values which we will look at later (page 13). We do not respect sovereignty<sup>76</sup> and therefore an argument based on those values holds no merit in the international arena. This is not about ideals, but power. It's realpolitik unfortunately.

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<sup>72</sup>

[https://scholar.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/mgilens/files/gilens\\_and\\_page\\_2014\\_-testing\\_theories\\_of\\_american\\_politics.doc.pdf](https://scholar.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/mgilens/files/gilens_and_page_2014_-testing_theories_of_american_politics.doc.pdf)

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.businessinsider.com/major-study-finds-that-the-us-is-an-oligarchy-2014-4?r=US&IR=T>

<sup>74</sup> <https://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/G/bo3624792.html>

<sup>75</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Investment\\_theory\\_of\\_party\\_competition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Investment_theory_of_party_competition)

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202203/1257219.shtml>

### **The Monroe Doctrine is out of effect**

The only one who has postulated that is John Kerry in 2013.<sup>77</sup> And Soviet Premier Nikita Krushchev in 1961<sup>78</sup>

Kennedy invoked it in 62 during the Cuban missile crisis<sup>79</sup>, Reagan used the 1823 policy principle to justify U.S intervention in El Salvador<sup>80</sup>, likewise did his successor G.H.W. Bush when ousting Manuel Noriega from Panama.<sup>81</sup>

Trump's National Security Advisor John Bolton reiterated the sentiment in 2019 when defending the government's hard line against the "dictator" Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela. The Monroe Doctrine is in effect.<sup>82</sup>

### **US involvement in the Maidan Revolution and subsequent ousting of Viktor Yanukovych is disproven by NewsGuard as a myth and NewsGuard has furthermore made a list of web pages that are "untrustworthy".<sup>8384</sup>**

According to the American Institute for Economic Research, NewsGuard itself falls short of the criteria it holds its listed sites to.<sup>85</sup>

It also has firm ties to high tiers of corporate sectors, finance and government.<sup>86</sup> It is a partner of Microsoft. It was founded by Steven Brill and Louis Gordon Crovitz, the latter being a former Phi Beta Kappa graduate from University of Chicago, vice president of Dow Jones and publisher of The Wall Street Journal.

He therefore has intimate ties with News Corp, the conglomerate that owns several major publishing assets including WSJ. Having him in charge of fake news filtering is a legitimate conflict of interests.

### **It's the East expanding west, not the West expanding east.**

This statement can not be true. There may be a case made for mutual symbolic expansion, or crossover interests, but NATO is certainly expanding, as is their stated goal.<sup>87</sup> And the Russians has opposed this since 1990<sup>88</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/BL-WB-41869>

<sup>78</sup>

<https://colinatoxford.wordpress.com/about/to-what-extent-was-the-monroe-doctrine-invoked-during-the-cuban-missile-crisis/>

<sup>79</sup> <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/cuban-missile-crisis>

<sup>80</sup>

<https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1896&context=jil>

<sup>81</sup> <https://www.jstor.org/stable/45316478>

<sup>82</sup>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2019/03/04/what-is-monroe-doctrine-john-boltons-justification-trumps-push-against-maduro/>

<sup>83</sup> <https://static.poder360.com.br/2022/02/2014-Coup-1.pdf>

<sup>84</sup> <https://www.newsguardtech.com/special-reports/russian-disinformation-tracking-center/>

<sup>85</sup> <https://www.aier.org/article/who-fact-checks-the-fact-checkers-a-report-on-media-censorship/>

<sup>86</sup> <https://www.newsguardtech.com/>

<sup>87</sup> [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_27444.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_27444.htm)

<sup>88</sup> <https://www.jstor.org/stable/40396653>



**Chechen Warlord Ramzan Kadyrov has said he wants to invade Poland next.**

Kadyrov is not in charge of anything relating to decision making regarding the invasion. That's akin to arguing that the US intended to nuke North Korea because one hawkish general named Douglas MacArthur personally wanted to.

**Russia experts like Sam Greene say that the invasion is not about Russian security concerns, but about Putin's subjective regime security concerns.**

That postulation has zero explanatory power as to where we are today. He does not back this up with any sources or evidence, he just reckons it's so.

Honestly I am quite surprised that this man is considered an expert on Russia at all. Look at this excerpt for instance.

*"To be clear, you don't have to accept that Ukraine or NATO posed a threat to Russia prior to February 2022 to believe that he went to war to make Russia more secure. But you do have to be able to identify a plausible national-security calculus in Putin's actions — and I can't find one. Even if Putin believed that he could take and hold Ukraine, he could not have believed that it would yield anything other than massive sanctions and a more aggressive NATO military posture, and thus less security. Short of that, he must have known — and he certainly knows now — that the war would bring military and economic costs for Russia itself."<sup>89</sup>*

This shows a complete lack of fundamental understanding of the situation in my opinion, and I think this "expert" can be safely ignored for now.

**Russia is not *really* concerned with NATO expansion, but with democratic expansion and loss of influence.**

If that was the reason for Russia to Invade Ukraine it would have done so any time it was ready, after the Ukrainian democratic constitution was adopted on June 28. 1996.

It's quite a leap to ignore the NATO issue that corresponds in perfect chronological tandem to the invasion, in order to reach an explanation with minimal to no chronological cohesion.

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<sup>89</sup> <https://tldrussia.substack.com/p/why-putin-fights>

## **There was no written agreement between the West and East about limitations of NATO expansion, Gorbachev admits so.**

This is technically true. There was no written treaty, but several verbal assurances and promises *protected, at least in spirit, by a written treaty*<sup>90</sup>, and they've since been stored in the US national security archives<sup>91</sup>

(U.S law considers a verbal contract legally binding)<sup>92,93</sup>

One of the first things you'll learn about in a business education aimed at international trade is *mercantile culture*, and how it's radically different from country to country. The miscommunication that may result from this dissonance can be a common pitfall for companies and it is therefore normal to spend resources on cultural consultants before going into business abroad.

Russia is a **high context** country with a culture that revolves around collectivism and interdependence on group relationships. Russians employ a communication style that relies on environmental, non-verbal, traditional, and symbolic cues when communicating. These rules of communication are understood without being explicitly stated.<sup>94</sup>

**Low-context** communication is prevalent in many cultures in North America and Europe. They include the US and Canada, as well as many countries in the EU, such as Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, and Belgium.

If you're communicating with people in these countries, they'll generally expect you to say (or better yet, put in writing) exactly what you mean to say, rather than allude to your point. They want action-based problem-solving, explicitly stated decisions, facts, and logic.<sup>95</sup>

Considering this cultural dissonance (and U.S law):

**Treaty on the final settlement with respect to Germany, signed at Moscow September 12, 1990**<sup>96</sup> states that the US, UK and its allies have "regard to the rights and responsibilities of the Four Powers relating to Berlin and to Germany as a whole, and the corresponding wartime and post-war agreements and decisions of the Four Powers. (4 powers = China, Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States.)

This clearly presents an issue regarding the later invitation of Ukraine into NATO: The treaty also emphasises respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination for nations.

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<sup>90</sup> <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201696/volume-1696-I-29226-English.pdf>

<sup>91</sup>

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/russia-programs/2017-12-12/nato-expansion-what-gorbachev-heard-western-leaders-early>

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.lawdepot.com/blog/are-verbal-agreements-legally-binding/>

<sup>93</sup>

[https://www.eversheds-sutherland.com/global/en/what/articles/index.page?ArticleID=en/global/South-africa/Is\\_your\\_word\\_your\\_bond\\_The\\_enforceability\\_of\\_verbal\\_agreements](https://www.eversheds-sutherland.com/global/en/what/articles/index.page?ArticleID=en/global/South-africa/Is_your_word_your_bond_The_enforceability_of_verbal_agreements)

<sup>94</sup> <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/high-context-countries>

<sup>95</sup> <https://globisinsights.com/career-skills/communication/high-low-context-communication-survival/>

<sup>96</sup> <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201696/volume-1696-I-29226-English.pdf>

It furthermore claims that the Four Powers are "determined to take account of everyone's security concerns."

So the written treaty does not mention NATO expansion, however it does protect corresponding wartime and *post-war agreements and decisions*.

Excerpts of verbal agreements regarding NATO expansion made between the 4 Powers:

**1.** Secretary Baker's assurances to Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze just before the formal meeting with Gorbachev on February 9, 1990,<sup>97</sup> (heavily redacted compared to Russian version)

Baker to Shevardnadze: "A neutral Germany would undoubtedly acquire its own independent nuclear capability. However, a Germany that is firmly anchored in a changed NATO, by that I mean a NATO that is far less of [a] military organization, much more of a political one, would have no need for independent capability. There would, of course, have to be iron-clad guarantees that NATO's jurisdiction or forces would not move eastward. And this would have to be done in a manner that would satisfy Germany's neighbors to the east."

**2.** U.S. Department of State, FOIA 199504567 (National Security Archive Flashpoints Collection, Box 38) MEMORANDUM.<sup>98</sup> (Heavily redacted by U.S classification office)  
Baker to Gorbachev: "The President and I have made clear that we seek no unilateral advantage in this process" of inevitable German unification. Baker goes on to say, "We understand the need for assurances to the countries in the East. If we maintain a presence in a Germany that is a part of NATO, there would be no extension of NATO's jurisdiction for forces of NATO one inch to the east."

**3.** Record of conversation between Baker and Gorbachev February 9 1990, source: Gorbachev Foundation Archive, Fond 1, Opis 1.<sup>99</sup>  
Baker assures Gorbachev that "neither the president nor I intend to extract any unilateral advantages from the processes that are taking place,"  
"not an inch of NATO's present military jurisdiction will spread in an eastern direction."  
"We believe that consultations and discussions within the framework of the 'two+four' mechanism should guarantee that Germany's unification will not lead to NATO's military organization spreading to the east." Gorbachev responds by quoting Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski: "that the presence of American and Soviet troops in Europe is an element of stability."

**4.** Memorandum of conversation between Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl February 10, 1990.<sup>100</sup>

Kohl early in the conversation assures Gorbachev, "We believe that NATO should not expand the sphere of its activity. We have to find a reasonable resolution. I correctly understand the security interests of the Soviet Union, and I realize that you, Mr. General Secretary, and the Soviet leadership will have to clearly explain what is happening to the Soviet people."

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<sup>97</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16115-document-04-memorandum-conversation-between>

<sup>98</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16116-document-05-memorandum-conversation-between>

<sup>99</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16117-document-06-record-conversation-between>

<sup>100</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16120-document-09-memorandum-conversation-between>

**More can be found here:**

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/russia-programs/2017-12-12/nato-expansion-what-gorbachev-heard-western-leaders-early>

Under Secretary of State Robert Zoellick is either lying, has amnesia, or was less privy to the debating table than he remembers. <sup>101</sup>

**These talks occurred before the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, therefore no one was considering NATO expansion as being a reality.**

Documentably false. Hans-Dietrich Genscher stated clear concerns for this exact outcome as detailed by this February 1, 1990 cable between U.S. Embassy Bonn and Secretary of State, Washington D.C. <sup>102</sup>

Point 8. (Genscher makes it clear that the changes in eastern europe and the german unification process must not lead to an impairment of soviet security interests)

"Therefore, NATO should rule out an expansion to the east, i.e moving it closer to the soviet borders"

There is also a memorandum of British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd's conversation with West German Foreign Minister Genscher on February 6, 1990 <sup>103</sup>

The British memorandum specifically quotes Genscher as saying "that when he talked about not wanting to extend NATO that applied to other states beside the GDR. The Russians must have some assurance that if, for example, the Polish Government left the Warsaw Pact one day, they would not join NATO the next."

**More can be found here:**

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/russia-programs/2017-12-12/nato-expansion-what-gorbachev-heard-western-leaders-early>

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<sup>101</sup> <https://hls.harvard.edu/today/there-was-no-promise-not-to-enlarge-nato/>

<sup>102</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16112-document-01-u-s-embassy-bonn-confidential-cable>

<sup>103</sup> <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/16113-document-02-mr-hurd-sir-c-mallaby-bonn>

## The Donbass and Crimea referendums are not legal.

Legality in international law is unfortunately not easily held up to a *western golden standard* or precedence given the fact that NATO and the U.S. repeatedly break it\* and ignore UN Security Council authorization requirements.<sup>104105106107108109110111</sup>

\*Technically the U.S. often does not break treaties. The U.S. instead consistently enters international treaties with a plethora of **if's, and's and but's**.

The U.S. will occasionally write or rewrite the international rules in accord with the changing needs of the U.S. establishment.<sup>112</sup> Most of the time the U.S. simply ignores international agreements all together<sup>113</sup>

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Let's compare the democratic authenticity recognized by the West, of the Donbass and Crimea referendums to the interim government of Oleksandr Turchynov ..

Russia insisted on having third parties, SCO and BRICS verify the referendums.<sup>114</sup> It is so far not possible to verify the exact extent to which third parties were privy to the referendums, but that there were third parties present seems to be the case.<sup>115</sup>

It is not recognised.<sup>116117</sup>

If the maidan massacre was committed by the right wing opposition in order to oust Yanukovich and later enter government, then it was a coup.

In any case there is so far no evidence that Yanukovich orchestrated the Maidan Massacre, only to the contrary.

Yet it was under this assumption that the people of the Maidan ousted him and opted for, in the heat of upheaval, an interim government consisting of extreme far-right elements.<sup>118</sup>

It is recognised.<sup>119</sup>

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<sup>104</sup> <https://www.globalissues.org/article/129/violation-of-international-law>

<sup>105</sup> [https://rrojasdatabank.info/agfrank/nato\\_kosovo/msg00003.html](https://rrojasdatabank.info/agfrank/nato_kosovo/msg00003.html)

<sup>106</sup> <https://scholarship.law.georgetown.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2902&context=facpub>

<sup>107</sup>

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2016/10/12/how-us-violates-international-law-plain-sight>

<sup>108</sup>

[google.com/search?q=us+breaks+international+law&oq=US+breaks+inter&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0i19i512j0i19i22i30i625i3.7287j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=us+breaks+international+law&oq=US+breaks+inter&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0i19i512j0i19i22i30i625i3.7287j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

<sup>109</sup> [https://law.unimelb.edu.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/1681149/Simpson.pdf](https://law.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1681149/Simpson.pdf)

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.publicaffairsbooks.com/titles/vincent-bevins/the-jakarta-method/9781541724013/>

<sup>111</sup>

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/nato-bombing-campaign-in-yugoslavia-violated-international-law-say-s-amnesty-1.279711>

<sup>112</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/PLAW-107publ56>

<sup>113</sup> <https://www.cfr.org/blog/international-treaties-united-states-refuses-play-ball>

<sup>114</sup>

<https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2022/09/21/russia-asks-sco-brics-countries-to-verify-donbass-referendums/>

<sup>115</sup>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/controversy-breaks-out-over-presence-of-indian-observer-in-donbas-referendum/article65945427.ece>

<sup>116</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ukraine-crisis-usa-idUSBREA280GK20140309>

<sup>117</sup>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/ukraine-crisis/u-s-wont-recognize-east-ukraine-independence-vote-s-n103426>

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/mar/04/who-governing-ukraine-oleksandr-turchynov>

<sup>119</sup> <https://tass.com/world/720696>

When it comes to international law it is important to remember that the U.S. has, despite being signatory to it, explicitly opted out as state party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.<sup>120</sup><sup>121</sup>

(I'm slightly baffled by the complete whitewashing of this fact on prime source websites. Perhaps they've been moved to another server or web domain, even the footnotes on Wikipedia regarding this matter are all linking to "page not found" and therefore this information is apparently left to dry on the Waybackmachine internet archive. Thank you Waybackmachine <3)

In fact, the U.S. placed sanctions on the International Criminal Court in September 2020<sup>122</sup>

The U.S. consistently opposes the International Criminal Court<sup>123</sup> and is the only country condemned for international terrorism by the World Court. It was also the only country that had rejected a Security Council resolution calling on states to observe international law. The U.S. furthermore blocked enforcement of the judgements by the U.N. Security Council. This paper is not about that, the facts are well documented, simply start by searching for "Nicaragua vs. United States".

Russia and Ukraine are not signatories to the Rome Statute.<sup>124</sup> Russia has veto power in the UN Security Council, so no cigar there, and the General Assembly cannot issue sanctions so we're out of luck.

From a Russian perspective there is no realistic precedence to measure by, and therefore apparently no authentic reason to abide by international law.

(This is not whataboutism. These facts do not make the Ukraine invasion defensible. I'm making the case that if you decide to employ this argument of international legality, you will be laughed off stage by anyone outside the western sphere of cultural influence. It has no merit and comes forth as utterly naive. In fact, as westerners we supposedly have the democratic power to influence *our* states, not foreign ones, yet we only react in complete unison when other states overstep *our* lines.)

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<sup>120</sup>

[https://web.archive.org/web/20110118070450/http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=XVIII-10&chapter=18&lang=en](https://web.archive.org/web/20110118070450/http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XVIII-10&chapter=18&lang=en)

<sup>121</sup>

[https://web.archive.org/web/20110118070450/http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=XVIII-10&chapter=18&lang=en#10](https://web.archive.org/web/20110118070450/http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XVIII-10&chapter=18&lang=en#10)

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/international-criminal-court-condemns-us-economic-sanctions>

<sup>123</sup>

<https://archive.globalpolicy.org/international-justice/the-international-criminal-court/us-opposition-to-the-icc.html>

<sup>124</sup> <https://www.mpg.de/18442939/putin-is-abusing-international-law>

**Ukraine will win this war, there is no need to kowtow to Russia's demands.**

This is no certainty at all. Perhaps the contrary, and this point might turn more people over to look for diplomatic solutions instead of escalation.

NATO secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned that Ukraine is using up ammunition several times faster than its allies can provide it.<sup>125</sup><sup>126</sup> Russia meanwhile is apparently "flexing" its surge capacity<sup>127</sup>

Adm. Daryl Caudle, commander of US Fleet Forces Command, called on the nation's defense industries to step up their game, saying "you're not delivering the ordnance we need."

"It's so essential to winning. And I can't do that without the ordnance," Caudle said at a symposium in Washington last month, adding that the US is "going against a competitor here, and a potential adversary, that is like nothing we've ever seen."

Trevor Taylor, professorial research fellow in defense management at the Royal United Services Institute think tank in London, points as far back as decisions that were made during the Cold War.

"NATO's 'Flexible Response' stance during the Cold War was that its members should have the forces in being and stocks to hold all its territory for a period of about three weeks in the event of a 'Warsaw Pact' attack,"

"The costs of maintaining that capability for any longer period were unacceptable, and so NATO stressed that it would also have to be ready eventually to initiate the use of nuclear weapons."

"The combination of no immediate threat and the financial pressures on European governments over the past couple of decades led to a conspiracy of dressing the shop window while letting the stockroom empty out," said Nick Witney, senior policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations.<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>125</sup>

<https://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory/nato-chief-ukraines-ammunition-outstripping-supply-97082620>

<sup>126</sup> <https://www.csis.org/analysis/rebuilding-us-inventories-six-critical-systems>

<sup>127</sup>

<https://www.shephardmedia.com/news/defence-notes/russia-flexes-surge-capability-muscles-analysis/>

<sup>128</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/02/14/europe/western-ammo-shortage-ukraine-intl-cmd/index.html>

**The narrative involving far-right elements in Ukraine's interim government is nothing but an unfounded conspiracy theory perpetuated by Russian disinformation campaigns.**

We need to mature to the fact that disinformation emanates from both sides, all the time. Therefore we must independently verify the statements made by both the Kremlin and Washington propaganda systems. With that in mind, let's go through the facts:

1. Oleh Tyahnybok is a neo-nazi. This is no secret, never has been. He directly targeted Jews and ethnic Russians for years<sup>129</sup>



2. The most prominent far-right group in the new government was **Svoboda**<sup>130131132</sup>, led by Oleh Tyahnybok. **Svoboda** has strong contacts with right-wing extremists in other countries. In May 2013 a **Svoboda** parliamentary delegation under the leadership of representative **Michail Holovko** paid a visit to the far-right *NPD parliamentary faction* in the German state of Saxony.<sup>133</sup>

3. Secretary of the Ukrainian National Security and Defence Council was **Andriy Parubiy**<sup>134</sup> Parubiy was the founder of the *Social National Party of Ukraine*, a fascist party styled on Hitler's Nazis, with membership restricted to ethnic Ukrainians. The Social National Party would go on to become **Svoboda**

4. Deputy Secretary of National Security was **Dmytro Yarosh**.<sup>135</sup> Yarosh is the leader of the **Right Sector**, a group of hardline nationalists.<sup>136</sup> According to Wikipedia's logs, on Monday the **Right Sector** entry described the party as having "borderline fascist or neo-fascist views." On Tuesday the page was modified 174 times, including changes to describe **Right Sector** as an "organization to protect demonstrators" and a "youth patriot organization."<sup>137</sup> After the intervention of Wikipedia administrators, the page was locked and reverted to saying that **Right Sector** was "described by major Western newspapers as having far right or neo-fascist views."

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<sup>129</sup>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/09/world/europe/ukraines-ultranationalists-do-well-in-elections.html>

<sup>130</sup> <https://www.svoboda.org/>

<sup>131</sup> <https://www.ibtimes.com/euromaidan-dark-shadows-far-right-ukraine-protests-1556654>

<sup>132</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-20824693>

<sup>133</sup> <https://www.dw.com/en/far-right-weighs-on-ukraine-government/a-17519960>

<sup>134</sup> <https://www.channel4.com/news/svoboda-ministers-ukraine-new-government-far-right>

<sup>135</sup>

<sup>136</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-27173857>

<sup>137</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ukraine-crisis-far-right-insight-idUKBREA2618B20140307>



5. One prominent member of the **Svoboda** Party was **Igor Miroshnichenko**, who in december of 2013 said that Ukranian-Amercian Jewish actress Mila Kunis was "no Ukrainian, but a kike"<sup>138</sup>

6. Ukraine, *and this is very unpopular to mention right now*, is and has been a modern hotspot for neo-nazism, fascism and far-right sentiments.<sup>139140141142143</sup>

7. European Parliament resolution of 13 December 2012 on the situation in Ukraine (2012/2889(RSP))<sup>144</sup>

J. whereas the Verkhovna Rada(Ukraine Parliament) is examining Bill 8711, a liberticidal piece of legislation that will limit freedom of expression and assembly for those who support the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people; whereas the United Nations Human Rights Committee recently ruled that this breaches Articles 19 and 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

8. Is concerned about the rising nationalistic sentiment in Ukraine, expressed in support for the **Svoboda** Party, which, as a result, is one of the two new parties to enter the Verkhovna Rada; recalls that racist, anti-Semitic and xenophobic views go against the EU's fundamental values and principles and therefore appeals to pro-democratic parties in the Verkhovna Rada not to associate with, endorse or form coalitions with this party;

**Associate professor at Lund University Pers Anders Rudling said to channel4:**

"Two weeks ago I could never have predicted this. A neo-fascist party like **Svoboda** getting the deputy prime minister position is news in its own right...

There are seven ministers with links to the extreme right now. It began with **Svoboda** getting 10 % of the vote in the last election, it is certainly a concern in the long run."

"It doesn't help Ukraine to be selective and ignore this problem. Russia is using this to legitimise their unjustified aggression, I am not backing up that aggression by speaking about the rise of **Svoboda**."

This does not legitimise the invasion, still we must be objective, otherwise we have no chance of resonating with anyone outside of western propaganda spheres.

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<sup>138</sup>

<https://www.jta.org/2013/04/26/global/ukrainian-jews-worry-that-rise-of-svoboda-party-will-bring-anti-semitism-back-into-vogue>

<sup>139</sup> [https://civic-nation.org/ukraine/society/radical\\_right-wing\\_political\\_parties\\_and\\_groups/](https://civic-nation.org/ukraine/society/radical_right-wing_political_parties_and_groups/)

<sup>140</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26359150>

<sup>141</sup>

[https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2023/01/12/stepan-bandera-the-ukrainian-anti-hero-glorified-following-the-russian-invasion\\_6011401\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2023/01/12/stepan-bandera-the-ukrainian-anti-hero-glorified-following-the-russian-invasion_6011401_4.html)

<sup>142</sup>

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/analytical-brief/2018/far-right-extremism-threat-ukrainian-democracy>

<sup>143</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-cohen-ukraine-commentary-idUSKBN1GV2TY>

<sup>144</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-7-2012-0507\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-7-2012-0507_EN.html)

**Russian military presence reaches further into Ukraine than the stated objectives warrant, proving more sinister and expansive plans in Putin's strategy.**

One reason the Russian military reach might have to temporarily stretch further than the exact contours of its desired territory would be the need for ground control.

Occupation during wartime requires a perimeter of ground between your troops and the enemy, otherwise you haven't occupied anything but the opposition's crosshair. In strategic terms, occupying a territory within enemy reach, is like standing openly in front of a loaded gun aimed at your head. You would naturally want to remove the gun's aim from your vital parts before commencing any task that is constructive, strategic or forwardly oriented.

So when Russia invades the eastern regions of Ukraine, say Luhansk, it may well only want to occupy that territory but will see itself obligated to ensure ground dominance some distance into Kharkiv. That distance might depend on the effective range of enemy artillery.

When Ukraine received HIMARS missiles that range increased to 75 km. If you are a Russian commander or strategic analyst, you'll probably take a compass onto a map and draw a 75 km circle or curve around your occupied area and that will illustrate the territory requiring ground control, thus troop presence.

## **PROPOSAL FOR A SOLUTION:**

Unfortunately the West has waited too long to reach the negotiating table and any ideal solution is past tense. Therefore the only course of action that does not lead to escalation is in my opinion clear:

The West needs to ratify the referendums of Zaporizhia, Kherson, the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR), Luhansk People's Republic (LPR) and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.(ARC)

The results of the referendums were more clear than anyone in the West expected. <sup>145</sup>  
98.42% of voters in Ukraine's separatist-controlled Luhansk region voted in favour of joining Russia

87.05% of voters in Ukraine's Kherson region voted in favour of joining Russia

93.11% of voters in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhya region supported joining Russia

97% of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea voted for integration of the region into the Russian Federation, with an 83% voter turnout, and from Sevastopol there was also a 97% vote for integration with Russia, with an 89% voter turnout. <sup>146</sup>

Of course it has to be argued that the ideal environment of democracy was not attainable at the time of the referendums, seeing that the peninsula and eastern parts of Ukraine were under heavy Russian military occupation.

It is worth noting though, that Russia insisted on having the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

and BRICS countries provide verification of the holding of the referendums correctly. <sup>147</sup>

There is so far no evidence that anyone had a gunbarrel held to their head while voting. Considering this I think the West needs to cut its losses and grant the four regions their desired status as independent republics under the Russian Federation.

Furthermore the West has to issue an assurance to Russia that Ukraine and Georgia will not become members of NATO.

It would probably be necessary to lift some sanctions as well.

### **This would likely end the war.**

Afterwards we should seek a diplomatic solution to a second round of peacetime referendums in the eastern oblasts of Ukraine, observed by both sides, in order to verify the democratic validity of the results. We can figure this out while avoiding an extension of the destructive bloodshed.

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<sup>145</sup>

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/russia-ukraine-war/final-vote-count-in-donetsk-referendum-ends-in-favor-of-joining-russia/2696403>

<sup>146</sup>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2014/03/16/290525623/crimeans-vote-on-splitting-from-ukraine-to-join-russia>

<sup>147</sup>

<https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2022/09/21/russia-asks-sco-brics-countries-to-verify-donbass-referendums/>

## QUOTES, EXCERPTS

*"the Ukrainian government resorted to paramilitary militias. They are essentially made up of foreign mercenaries, often far-right activists. As of 2020, they constitute around 40% of Ukraine's forces and number around 102,000 men according to Reuters . They are armed, financed and trained by the United States, Great Britain, Canada and France. There are more than 19 nationalities – including Swiss"*

**- Jacques Baud / French Intelligence Research Center, former NATO military analyst<sup>148</sup>**

*"Another indication that the West was not taking Russia seriously was the absolute failure of the West to undertake anything that can remotely resemble serious diplomacy to seek a diplomatic solution to this problem. Russia made a concerted effort to see the Minsk accords implemented, but this was rejected by the West, by the US, Germany and France, despite the promises of all the leaders of those three nations, to put pressure on Ukraine to accept the Minsk accords. Had the Minsk records been accepted and been implemented in full, there would not have been a war. This was a very simple solution, one that the West did not seek, because I don't believe they thought Russia was serious about a military operation."*

**- Scott Ritter, former US Marine Corps intelligence officer<sup>149</sup>**

*"We've been working for years building up this enormous 600,000 man standing army with one purpose in mind to attack Russia and turn Eastern Ukraine into a platform for attacks on everything in Russia, including the use of theatre ballistic missiles.*

*The Russians has finally felt compelled to intervene and they have,"*

*"The US media has systematically misinformed the American public about events in eastern Europe and portrayed Russia's special operation as an "unprovoked attack" on Ukraine."*

**- Col Douglas McGregor, former advisor to the Secretary of Defense in the Donald Trump administration.<sup>150</sup> (Yes, this is a Tass link. Western media is ignoring him. You can verify the statement on his YouTube channel.<sup>151</sup>)**

There is no easy solution to the war in Ukraine, but the current track we are on is unsustainable. Through global demonstrations for peace, we seek to pressure the two sides to establish a ceasefire and to take steps toward negotiations for long-term peace.

**International Peace Bureau<sup>152</sup>**

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<sup>148</sup>

<https://scheerpost.com/2022/04/09/former-nato-military-analyst-blows-the-whistle-on-wests-ukraine-invasion-narrative/>

<sup>149</sup> <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202301/1283188.shtml>

<sup>150</sup> <https://tass.com/world/1560505>

<sup>151</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/@douglasmacgregorcol5835>

<sup>152</sup> <https://www.ipb.org/topics/ipb-statements/>

-We condemn military actions on both sides, the hostilities which harm civilians. We insist that all shootings should be stopped, all sides should honor the memory of killed people and, after due grief, calmly and honestly commit to peace talks.

-We condemn statements on the Russian side about the intention to achieve certain goals by military means if they cannot be achieved through negotiations.

-We condemn statements on the Ukrainian side that the continuation of peace talks depends on winning the best-negotiating positions on the battlefield.

-We condemn the unwillingness of both sides to a ceasefire during the peace talks.

### **Ukrainian Pacifist Movement<sup>153</sup>**

#### **Freedom, Aggression and Human Rights - Noam Chomsky**

"The common view that internal freedom makes for humane and moral international behaviour is supported neither by historical evidence nor by reason. The United States itself has a long history of imposing oppressive and terrorist regimes in regions of the world within the reach of its power, such as the Caribbean and Central American sugar and banana republics (Trujillo in the Dominican Republic and the Somozas in Nicaragua were long-lived progeny of U.S. intervention and selection). Since World War II, with the great extension of U.S. power, it has borne a heavy responsibility for the spread of a plague of neofascism, state terrorism, torture and repression throughout large parts of the underdeveloped world. The United States has globalized the "banana republic." This has occurred despite some modest ideological strain because these developments serve the needs of powerful and dominant interests, state and private, within the United States itself."

- Excerpt from *The Washington Connection and Third World Fascism*, 1979

As in the case of deployment of offensive weapons on the Russian border, there is a straightforward answer. Ukraine can have the same status as Austria and two Nordic countries throughout the whole Cold War: neutral, but tightly linked to the West and quite secure, part of the European Union to the extent they chose to be.

The U.S. adamantly rejects this outcome, loftily proclaiming its passionate dedication to the sovereignty of nations, which cannot be infringed: Ukraine's right to join NATO must be honored. This principled stand may be lauded in the U.S., but it surely is eliciting loud guffaws in much of the world, including the Kremlin. The world is hardly unaware of our inspiring dedication to sovereignty, notably in the three cases that particularly enraged Russia: Iraq, Libya and Kosovo-Serbia.

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There is, in fact, a surreal quality to the U.S. rejection of Austrian-style neutrality for Ukraine. U.S. policy makers know perfectly well that admission of Ukraine to NATO is not an option for the foreseeable future. We can, of course, put aside the ridiculous posturing about the sanctity of sovereignty. So, for the sake of a principle in which they do not believe for a moment, and in pursuit of an objective that they know is out of reach, the U.S. is risking what may turn into a shocking catastrophe.

- **Noam Chomsky**

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<https://www.pressenza.com/2022/04/statement-of-the-ukrainian-pacifist-movement-against-perpetuation-of-war/>

### Something else to consider

▶ Scott Ritter: Ukraine cannot win this war. It's a 'fantasy.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCR-Phtgx0k&t=1s>

▶ Ukraine Crisis - What You're Not Being Told

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWkfpGCAAuw>

**NATO, master of the world.** By Noam Chomsky

<https://mondediplo.com/1999/05/02chomsky>

▶ The Chris Hedges Report: Ukraine and the crisis of media censorship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N0H7PIJcEP0&t>

**Economically unstable trajectory.**

<https://www.politico.eu/article/european-union-ukraine-war-debt-crisis-aid-loans-18-billion/>



U.S. Senator John McCain, centre, speaks as Democratic senator from the state of Connecticut, Chris Murphy, second left, and Opposition leader Oleh Tyahnybok, right, stand around him during a Pro-European Union rally in Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013. AP



Ms Nuland met opposition heads (L-R) **Oleh Tyahnybok**, Vitaly Klitschko and Arseniy Yatseniuk<sup>154</sup>



U.S. Senator John McCain, right, meets Ukrainian opposition leaders Arseniy Yatsenyuk, left, and **Oleh Tyahnybok** in Kiev, Ukraine, Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013. AP<sup>155</sup>

<sup>154</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26080715>

<sup>155</sup>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/john-mccain-meets-oleh-tyahnybok-in-ukraine-2013-12?r=US&IR=T>



1488. Germany planned to send 14 Leopard 2<sup>156</sup> and 88 Leopard 1 tanks<sup>157</sup> to Ukraine. The number of Leopard 1 tanks was chosen by Rheinmetall AG, the number of Leopard 2 tanks was chosen by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

I'm not claiming that there is any underlying reason for this, or that it is not a coincidence. Several countries have agreed to send 14 tanks of different kinds, which likely can be explained by the NATO Abrams Armor Company size of 14 tanks.

- It is at best unfortunate and certainly doesn't look good considering the situation.



<sup>156</sup>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/01/25/germany-announces-it-will-send-14-of-its-leopard-2-battle-tanks-to-ukraine.html>

<sup>157</sup>

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-02-03/germany-gives-green-light-to-export-leopard-1-tanks-to-ukraine>



To reiterate: **This is not a defence of Russian actions in Ukraine.** I'm not suggesting that Russia has legitimate claims to any parts of the post Soviet nations. In my opinion this is about survival of the Ukrainian people stuck between two empires, and to this end I don't see escalation as a viable option.

Article 5 of the Washington Treaty practically ensures the breakout of WW3 should Putin respond militarily to any NATO nation getting involved on the ground. This leaves us with two options:

1. Keep sending arms to Ukraine and cross our fingers that a single European nation can defeat a military superpower, furthermore that Putin will accept this outcome.

A gamble with the lives of Ukrainians and Russians.

2. Negotiate for peace now. Reconsider territory afterwards through peacetime referendums observed by international diplomats.

Why is my criticism aimed towards Western elements of the situation? I can't affect the East. I am making this document exactly because I believe that we are seeing a surge of hawkish hot tub hardliners in the West due to an abundant distribution of a one-sided narrative. I don't need to remind anyone that Putin is a xenophobic political gangster who will poison dissidents and rig elections. That's already a truism here and would make the paper three times longer while shifting its main focus: *the lives of Ukrainians and Russian soldiers*. It might not be a welcomed take these days but they are human beings as well, victims of an information war before they were perpetrators of a physical war. Our men and women went to Iraq believing falsehoods too. Doesn't principally take away from their courage, dedication or humanity. They were misinformed, as is almost anyone handed a rifle and sent to the front lines.

At least if you ask me, but what do I know, ask ol' Smedley instead <sup>158</sup> <sup>159</sup>

Thanks for your time.

Frank Imer Dusenberg

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<sup>158</sup> <https://americanswhotellthetruth.org/portraits/major-general-smedley-butler/>

<sup>159</sup> <https://vault.fbi.gov/smedley-butler/Smedley%20Butler%20Part%201%20of%202>

