

Understanding Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

Badger Talks:
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Ukraine in maps



Ukraine in Europe



Ukraine compared to Eastern US



Areas of Russian military control in Ukraine





Why Did Putin Invade Ukraine?

- 1. Avenging the 1990s**
 - Perceived humiliation & weakness of Russia
 - NATO expansion as symbol
- 2. Ukraine “threat”**
 - Social revolution (2004, 2014),
 - Democracy, West-ward choices
- 3. Identity factors:**
 - Denial of Ukrainian national identity & sovereignty of FSU
 - Imperial ambitions, Soviet anti-Nazism, WWII myths
 - Ukrainians as Russians vs. mass-level ethnic hatred?

4. Massive miscalculation

- Ukrainians wouldn't resist
- Previous military victories (Chechnya '09, Georgia '08, Crimea '14, Syria '15)
- Sanctions would be weak (2014 experience)
- US divided, many would support Putin
- Europe, world would not care
- No media attention



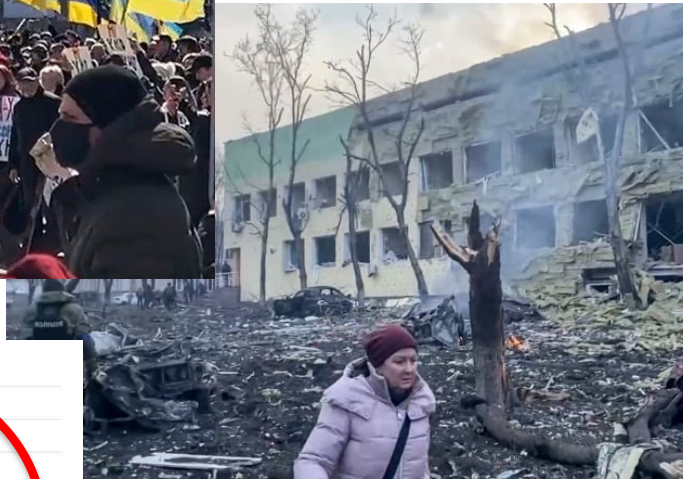
Ukrainian National Identity

1. Significant **divisions in the past**
 - Current territory covers multiple former empires & states
 - Ethnic, linguistic, religious differences
2. **Diverse nation building** has been remarkably successful
 - Big changes since 1991 & since 2014 in public opinion polls, voting
 - Zelensky: Russian-speaking, Jewish, President
3. **Unity in elite and mass views of the nation are critical to the war effort**
 - Planning, reduction of corruption since 2014
 - Motivation & will to win
 - Lack of collaborators, thwarting Russia's political strategy





Ukrainians protesting Russian troops in Kherson



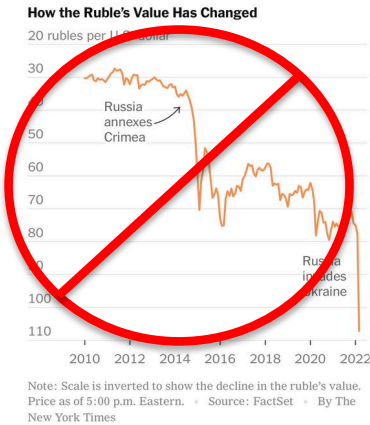
What's next

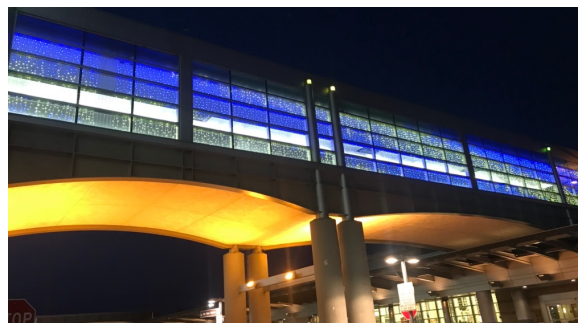
Ukraine:

- United, multi-ethnic-linguistic support for defending Ukraine
- More violence by Russia
- More international military support for Ukraine
- Ukraine will prevail & join EU, at great cost

Russia:

- Putin will not stop voluntarily, but his goals have been reduced
- Crackdown on dissent in Russia; elite or mass protests unlikely
- Sanctions can degrade state capacity to wage war, but take time
- Economy & polity damaged for decades





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HOME / WAR ON UKRAINE: INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

War on Ukraine: Informational Resources and Charitable Organizations

What can we do?

- Support democracy
- Talk to friends & family
- Take local action
- Give money for humanitarian aid
- Write to US congress & senators

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information on how we can help you.

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security precautions prevent me from accepting attachments
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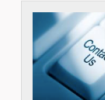
What's Your First Name?*

What's



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