

AMERICA'S FUTURE

RUSSIA & UKRAINE



REAL HISTORY
REAL MONEY
REAL PEOPLE
REAL STAKES



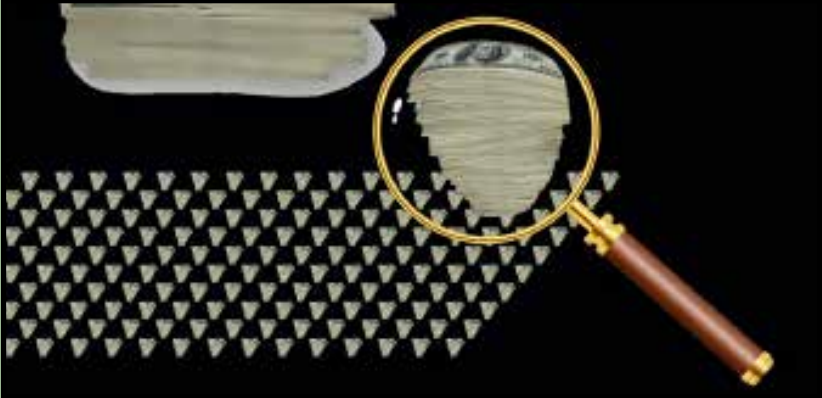
by Peter Fedynsky
Parma, OH

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VISUALIZING TRILLIONS



100 Billion vs. 25 Trillion

The front cover of this brochure is a visualization of what the Cold War cost: \$25 trillion* (2023 Dollars), or 25,000 billion. The stack of bills represents that unimaginable sum. The amount the U.S. has appropriated to assist Ukraine, roughly \$100 billion, is 250 times less. The difference is depicted visually with tiny cones beneath the stack, magnified on this page. There are 250 of them at relative scale. For comparison, American [online spending](#) between Thanksgiving and Black Monday in 2023 was \$38 billion.

* [Estimates](#) made five years after the end of the Cold War put its cost at \$13.1 trillion. That is \$25 trillion in 2023 inflation adjusted dollars.

EISENHOWER / SHEVCHENKO



**President Dwight Eisenhower
Shevchenko Monument Unveiling**

*Will ever our wait be over
For Washington's
New and righteous law?
Our wait indeed won't be in vain.*

*Jaras Shevchenko
December 8, 1857*

"We can be sure that this nation will, with its allies, sustain the strength - spiritual, economic and military - to foil any ill-advised attempt of dictators to seize any area where the love of freedom lives and blazes."

President Dwight D. Eisenhower
[Shevchenko Monument Unveiling](#)
Washington, DC.
June 27, 1964

INTRODUCTION



Collapse of the Berlin Wall, 1989
Photo: Hesse, Ulstein Bild

The end of the Cold War was to have paid the American taxpayer a peace dividend. In the decade following that conflict with the Soviet Union, the United States posted a budget surplus thanks to a robust economy with strong economic growth, low unemployment, and increased tax revenues from a booming tech sector. Also, the Clinton administration worked with Congress to pass key fiscal policies aimed at balancing the budget, including some spending cuts and tax increases for higher-income individuals. However, the peace dividend mostly failed to materialize. Funds were redirected to domestic programs, infrastructure, education, healthcare and other programs. Global commitments and new threats, especially terrorism, precluded substantial defense reductions.

Today, the United States has a debt approaching a staggering 34 trillion dollars.

The Cold War was expensive. It cost an estimated 25 trillion in 2023 dollars for the military, armaments, proxy wars, foreign aid, intelligence and soft power. The presumable goal had been to contain the spread of communism, which the Soviet Union aggressively promoted and lost. However, Russian President Vladimir Putin has called the collapse of the Soviet Union the “greatest catastrophe of the 20th century.” His regime is an amalgam of nostalgia for the perceived glories of commissars and czars. It is clear that his concern is not for communism but for Russia. As he seeks to revive the glories of empire, Soviet and Czarist, he threatens the world with a Cold War rematch and all of the hostilities and expenses it would entail. This places the United States in a bind; our nation can neither afford additional spending to contain Russia, nor can it afford not to make the costly effort to contain Russia. Again.

There is no easy choice and each is difficult to explain to hurting American voters who might not appreciate how a resurgent Russia will impact them. Suffice it to say that computers truncate distance, which allows Russian criminals to cross our virtual borders at will. It is no less important than our physical borders.

Communism, as it turns out, was simply another version of age-old Russian imperialism. Czarist Russia hid its expansionist ambitions behind pan-Slavism to spread Russian influence and control over Slavic neighbors at the expense of their independence or autonomy. Moscow past and present has attacked non-Russian Slavs and their distinct languages traditions and unique histories. Russians under communism called their ambitions internationalism; today’s Russia calls it “Russikiy Mir,” “Russian World.”

Communist Russia purported to support the self-determination of nations and equal rights for different nationalities. In practice, it suppressed the languages and cultures of non-Russian Soviet citizens.

Today’s Russia claims to focus on cultural unity, language, and shared heritage of post-Soviet peoples, but it is now doing it in Ukraine at the point of a gun. Many of Ukraine’s soldiers are Russian speakers who are laying down their lives because they see Russkiy Mir as a sham to deny their liberties and human rights.

This brochure will show that the common thread for centuries has been and will likely continue to be bloody Russian *autocracy*. Ukrainians today are fighting for liberty just as some of their brethren who became U.S. citizens fought for America’s freedom. Ukraine’s success will be ours. It will save us from another several decades of hemorrhaging money to protect American interests at home and abroad.

UKRAINIANS CONTRIBUTE TO U.S. LIBERTY



**Sgt. Michael Strank
Iwo Jima Flag Raiser
Ukrainian-American
Killed in Action, 1945**



UKRAINIANS CONTRIBUTE TO U.S. LIBERTY



General Samuel Jaskilka
USMC Asst. Commandant
1975-78



Maj. Gen. N. Krawciw
3rd U.S. Infantry Commander
1987-89



Monument to Ukrainian-Americans Veterans from
Cleveland Killed in WWII & Vietnam
St. Andrew's Cemetery
Parma, OH



Flag Blessing
Ukrainian-American
Vietnam Veterans Post 24
Parma, OH
June 15, 1991

TO MY FELLOW AMERICANS

Ukrainian-Americans and their ancestral homeland are owed no special favors because some of our kin died in wars to protect the freedom of the United States. It is the patriotic duty of all U.S. citizens, including native-born Americans who trace their heritage to Ukraine as well as immigrants who swore to “absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen...” American blood was spilled for the sake of liberty, which is represented by the Liberty Bell, the Declaration of Independence, and the solemn graves at Arlington Cemetery. Among the patriots buried there is Sergeant Michael Strank, an immigrant from the Ukrainian and Ruthenian town of Jarabina in what was then Czechoslovakia. He was among the courageous U.S. Marines who raised the Stars and Stripes on Iwo Jima during WWII. But I would be remiss not to share the Ukrainian-American experience of how Russia deviously undermines U.S. interests.

Though our numbers are small, only 0.3 percent of America’s population, our dedication to the liberty of the United States and Ukraine is firm. Ukrainian fighters have demonstrated that firmness to the world and to Russia, whose latter-day czar, Vladimir Putin, thought his troops could waltz into Kyiv in three days. Instead, he has wrought Russia’s “rasputitsia” on the world, the problem of things getting mired in deep mud on poor Russian roads.

Like all of my non-Ukrainian friends and neighbors, I am concerned that our nation faces daunting challenges, among others, illegal immigration, inflation, drugs, school shootings and a massive debt that inhibits our ability to address our common problems. We know such difficulties are welcome news in Russia, where bad news about us is good news for them. Unlike Americans who seek win-win resolutions to problems and try to keep ahead of the Joneses, Russia plays a zero-sum game of beggar thy neighbor. It has never been otherwise. Never.

The crux of the war in Ukraine is that a Russian victory will grant the Kremlin a geopolitical high ground to use against the United States, forcing our children to reckon with the kind of Russia that drained our parents’ generation of multiple trillions during the Cold War to contain that country. To think that a resurgent Russia will not hit Americans hard in the pocketbook is to engage in very risky thinking.

Though Ukraine is dear to me, I understand the overriding need for a pragmatic U.S. foreign policy. Experience suggests that helping Ukraine now must be an American priority, notwithstanding our domestic problems and budget woes. Should corrupt and bloodthirsty Kremlin autocrats win, our finances will only get worse. If we can’t afford to appropriate the many billions the Ukrainians urgently need now, it stands to reason that the trillions required later will preclude our shared desire to make America great again.

Ignoring the Russian threat because its army has become too weak to send tanks against NATO is to fight the proverbial last war. And why should Putin order a halt to the war he thought would be easy, if U.S. balloting in November might result in the election of candidates who could save him from disgrace and the prospect of a Russian revolt? With his empire renewed, he need not pursue any more land wars, since 21st century technology allows Russia to have its way without a shooting war - cyberattacks, bribery, blackmail, disinformation, espionage, money laundering, and energy dominance. Clausewitz and Sun Tzu would have advised as much. Russian diplomacy is also busy finding allies to topple the dollar as the global reserve currency, which would be an unmitigated disaster for all Americans.

Peter Fedynsky

AMERICA'S GOAL IN UKRAINE

Provide for common defense - Stabilizing Ukraine is crucial for regional security on NATO's eastern flank, a vital U.S. interest. Ukraine is a bridge between the Euro-Atlantic community of nations and Eurasia. This means stability in that country can improve broader regional dynamics and a more predictable international order.

Increase U.S. business opportunities - Though excessive corruption still plagues Ukraine, the country is making ever greater strides toward transparent contract law as it moves away from Moscow. Corruption in Russia is on an order of magnitude greater than Ukraine. Continued progress will make Ukraine a safe place to invest and do business. Russia is the very definition of an opaque society bound by red tape.

Develop markets - Ukraine contributes to bilateral trade with the United States. Among the advantages it offers are world partnerships in agriculture, manufacturing, metals, minerals, energy, tech services, aviation and rocket technology.

Enhance domestic U.S. borders - The digital age has made it possible to illegally and freely enter the United States without crossing any physical border. Russian hackers, among the best in the world, do it on a daily basis. They cost the U.S. government and ordinary citizens many millions of dollars. Ukraine has been a pioneer in computer technology, having published the first ever cybernetics dictionary in any language more than a half century ago. Loss of Ukrainian know-how would bolster corrupt Russian capabilities.

Protect common values - The U.S. and Ukraine share democratic values and principles. Supporting Ukraine's democratic development aligns with America's broader foreign policy goals of promoting democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. Encouraging Ukraine's reforms, anti-corruption efforts, and adherence to democratic norms reinforces these shared values.

WHY?

American security and prosperity depend on free markets, open sea lanes, military security, reliable allies, nuclear non-proliferation, accountable public officials, rule of law, respect for international borders, among other things. The war in Ukraine has a bearing on all of these interests because a Russian victory would embolden the Kremlin and raise its prestige among nations hostile to the United States and our spiritual and material values. This would allow Russia to encroach on our interests. Some of the economic consequences could be:

A weakened dollar that would decrease its value relative to other currencies, which could lead to higher prices for imported goods and services, resulting in higher inflation as imported goods become more expensive.

Higher interest rates potentially resulting from Federal Reserve efforts to maintain price stability. Higher interest rates could affect borrowing costs for businesses and individuals, potentially slowing economic growth.

Impact on investments tied to the dollar's strength, including U.S. Treasury bonds could produce fluctuations in financial markets, shaking stock portfolios and retirement savings.



Global competitiveness could be reduced as it becomes more expensive for American businesses to operate internationally as other currencies gain prominence.

Government borrowing costs could rise if demand for U.S. Treasury bonds decreases. The national debt burden would grow and potentially limit government spending on domestic needs.

Economic uncertainty stemming from currency changes and market fluctuations could impact job creation and economic growth. Businesses may become more cautious about hiring and investment amid uncertain economic conditions.

Higher defense spending is yet another consideration if closer Russian proximity to NATO requires more troops and bases to meet any potential threat.

The war in Ukraine is forcing the United States to make a choice between two bad options. A Russian victory in Ukraine would put Moscow back in the driver's seat in an area of the world that drained our resources during the Cold War. It would also allow the Russian military to regroup and continue harassing Ukraine for as long as it takes to reconstitute the Russian Empire. That would allow Putin or his successor to claim victory in what they see as the Cold War's second half. To the victor go the spoils.

HOW MUCH?

A lot. But less than the alternative. The American taxpayer has so far allocated about [\\$100 billion](#) of assistance for, not necessarily to, Ukraine, which needs still more to ensure its survival. The hesitance of many Americans and their representatives to divert funds from urgent domestic needs is understandable. But an appreciation of Ukraine and the stakes it represents is necessary to ensure that denial of funds is not counterproductive.

Ukraine is a nation long hidden from the world by a hostile Russian neighbor who seeks to hide it again. Last time that happened, Russia deployed hundreds of ICBMs and more than 1,000 nuclear warheads in Ukraine, using its industrial and human capacity to force us to appropriate vast sums on defense and proxy wars that we otherwise could have used domestically.

The United States spent an estimated 25 trillion in 2023 dollars for half a century to contain the Soviet Union, i.e. Russia during the Cold War. Americans believe it ended in victory with the demise of communism. Vladimir Putin thinks it's merely half-time. He has [called](#) the Soviet collapse the "greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century." The current Kremlin occupant does not lament the end of communism but rather the collapse of the mightiest Russian Empire ever. He seeks to do his Czarist and Soviet ancestors proud not for the sake of communism, but of Russia. Significantly, the former KGB agent of a leftist government, has lurched far right to embrace fascism. Whatever works. Where the USSR supported leftists around the world, Putin encourages right-wing movements and ideologies. Nothing has changed. He is openly seeking to make Russia great again at America's great expense.



Vladimir Putin
Getty Images

Containing Russia in a renewed Cold War would expose our children to the same multi-trillion dollar costs that drained our grandfathers of blood and treasure. Instead of spending on domestic needs, including security on our southern border, the United States will be forced to deepen its deficit on appropriations for the military, armaments, diplomacy, foreign aid, intelligence, proxy wars and soft power to keep Russia from reasserting its influence at our expense. The war in Ukraine is a costly proposition; another Cold War would be all the more so.

HOW LONG?

If only the war in Ukraine could have ended yesterday. No one except Vladimir Putin could silence the cannons today. Sadly, he seems to take marching orders from Russian invaders of the past that he openly admires, including Peter I, Catherine II and Joseph Stalin. Stalin!

Ukraine so far has weathered but one hard winter and the second is already heaping more destruction and deprivation. Yet Ukrainians continue to fight and embody New Hampshire's state motto, "Live Free or Die." Those are not mere words on a license plate.

The third winter of the American Revolution is a celebrated example on the virtues of patience. In December 1777, George Washington and his demoralized troops in Valley Forge were hungry, freezing, and bone tired. They had suffered defeats at the hands of superior British forces at Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown. The patriots' capital, Philadelphia, had fallen to the Red Coats. All appeared lost and the desertion rate was high. To boost morale, pamphleteer Tom Paine wrote an essay entitled "American Crisis," which General George Washington ordered his commanders to read to the troops.

Many are not familiar with Tom Paine but his words inspired the troops. It would take six winters before America won its freedom from British tyranny at Yorktown. Ukrainians too might not be familiar with Paine, but they rate FREEDOM highly. Helping them will help America fend off some of Russia's costly and deadly serious trouble around the world.



General George Washington with Major General Lafayette at Valley Forge, 1777

"THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated."

**Tom Paine
"American Crisis"
Valley Forge, PA
Winter of 1777**

BLANK CHECK?



Sen. J.D. Vance
C-Span

Ohio's freshman Senator J.D. Vance campaigned on the need for accountability in Ukraine. He is among a number of senators and representatives who ask on behalf of their constituents where U.S. funds are going. Can they be better spent on urgent domestic priorities? Their concerns cannot be dismissed but should be allayed. Mr. Vance's predecessor, retired Senator Rob Portman, and other members in both houses of Congress have outlined thorough steps taken to audit to Ukraine aid.

"I do not believe there is any American aid going anywhere in the world that is more subject to audit and accountability than the money to Ukraine. And that's good. I'm for that. I hear some of my former colleagues saying we're just giving them a blank check. Oh my gosh! There have been 47 different reviews of U.S. taxpayer spending in Ukraine. Forty-seven. There have been nine GAO audits. There are three inspector generals, one at the State Dept., one at the Dept. of Defense, one at USAID that convene a group of 20 different agencies. It is extraordinary."

[Cleveland City Club, November 17, 2023](#)



Sen. Rob Portman
Cleveland City Club



Sen. Angus King
CBS Face the Nation

[Ukrainians] "They're working with Deloitte, the accounting firm. They're working with SAP software. They're accounting for every spare part that's coming into the country. Plus, we have an inspector general from the Pentagon who's going over, I think, next month. I was very impressed by the level of accountability. And so this argument that somehow the money's being wasted, I don't think holds water."

[CBS Face the Nation, January 8, 2023](#)

"To date, the Inspectors General of DoD, State, and USAID have not identified any significant diversion, theft, or misuse of U.S. assistance to Ukraine."

Michael McCaul, Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee

Mike Rogers, Chair, Armed Services Committee

Mike Turner, Chair, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

["Proposed Plan for Victory in Ukraine," November 15, 2023](#)



FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE

From the outset of their independence in 1991, ordinary Ukrainians have staged mass demonstrations demanding the rule of law. Though corruption remains a problem, [international monitors](#) note that Ukraine has made significant progress fighting it, including establishment of reliable institutions of justice. U.S. Federal Judge [Bohdan Futey](#), who was appointed to the bench by President Reagan, helped advise Ukraine on its new constitution. Such institutions were non-existent during 400 years of Russian occupation of Central and Eastern Ukraine. In Western Ukraine, Tatar hordes were burning villages as late as the 18th century when American legislators were convening in Colonial Virginia's House of Burgesses. In the absence of legal institutions, Ukrainian oligarchs, most often in cahoots with the Kremlin, enriched themselves at the expense of the people, the nation, and foreigners whose trust they betrayed. The situation could be likened to Dodge City, Kansas that was once synonymous with lawlessness.



Bohdan Futey
Federal Judge

The United States Government and American NGOs used considerable soft power to help Ukraine's younger generation combat corruption. The young, many of whom were not yet born when the USSR collapsed, responded well. Oligarchs, working in concert with corrupt government officials, appropriated entire sectors of the economy and embezzled enough to even buy skyscrapers and a steel mill in Ohio. Some are now in jail. Ukrainians have also established an innovative public online procurement platform called ProZorro that ensures open and transparent access to public tenders in Ukraine. [<https://prozorro.gov.ua/en>]

Much of Ukraine's corruption was associated with the energy sector, where Russia plays a major regional and global role. The 2014 [Revolution of Dignity](#), a protest by millions of people across Ukraine, decreased the space for such corruption as President Viktor Yanukovich fled the country for Russia. He presumably lives there now in a gilded cage. [Mezhyhiria](#), the mansion he built for himself at public expense near Kyiv, is an obscenely ornate testament to the brazen corruption of the leader Ukrainians protested. But it is not even close to the scale of Vladimir Putin's [palace](#). Yanukovich's mansion and surrounding property is now a tourist attraction. There is progress and will be more if Ukrainians drive away Russia's invading army.



Mezhyhiria, Dining Room
Photo: Yuriy Dyachyshyn, AFP

FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE

“... the corruption [in Ukraine} is definitely not systemic anymore. But the fight with it is systemic. We have the whole infrastructure of this new anti-corruption entities from the investigation to prosecutors to the special anti-corruption court. We are working on judicial reform ... Nobody is untouchable. The Chief Justice of Ukraine was engaged in alleged bribery and he’s in prison right now. And one of the largest oligarchs in Ukraine, Mr. Kolomoysky, is in prison right now.”

Oksana Markarova, Ukrainian Ambassador to the USA

Cleveland City Club

November 17, 2023



**Revolution of Dignity, Demonstration for honest government
Kyiv, Ukraine - December 1, 2013**

Photo: Radio Liberty



**55 Public Square
Cleveland, OH
I. Kolomoysky, Owner**

Photo: Peter Fedynsky



**Alleged embezzler, oligarch Ihor Kolomoysky
Court hearing**

Kyiv, September 2, 2023

Photo: Stas Yurchenko

RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION



Anatoly Antonov
Russian Ambassador to U.S.
Telegram

On December 12, 2023, the same day Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited Washington on a mission to secure critical American aid, Moscow's envoy to the United States, Anatoly Antonov, [wrote](#) that U.S. weapons are prolonging the war - the war his country started and could end today. Writing on Telegram, Mr. Antonov falsely accused Ukraine of spreading U.S. weapons to various regions of the world. Senator Rob Portman has addressed this specific issue.

"I've been to the 101st Airborne and the 82nd Airborne on the border of Poland with Ukraine where all the equipment comes in. Serial numbers are taken. Now, out in the field, we have the ability to track these pieces. Here's an extraordinary fact ... which might change tomorrow. Not a single one of our military weapons - think of stingers or rocket launchers or anti-aircraft or the tanks now, or armored vehicles. Not a single one of the American pieces of equipment that have gone in has been taken by the Russians or misused or subject to some kind of corruption. Not a single one."

Former Senator Rob Portman
[Cleveland City Club, November 17, 2023](#)

Ambassador Antonov also provided fodder for indignant talk among some Americans that President Zelenskyy came to Washington as a "beggar." Such characterization of a leader seeking help to protect his citizens against brutal attacks is demeaning, especially when repeated by American politicians. The Ukrainian president's effort was precisely the kind of diplomatic mission, which Benjamin Franklin engaged in during the American Revolution. The oldest Founding Father [asked for and received](#) French financial and military support for the Colonies' cause.



Benjamin Franklin in Paris, 1778

RUSSIAN CAPITALISM

The collapse of communism in 1991 ended the Cold War ideological conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. Capitalism proved victorious and Russia began instituting basic tenets of the system - private ownership, a market economy, foreign investment and a [stock market](#) that deals in equities, bonds, derivatives, commodities, and other financial instruments. Ubiquitous advertising replaced ubiquitous communist sloganeering on street banners and TV. Many Americans believed capitalism and democracy would reinforce one another, fostering at long last individual freedom, economic opportunity, and innovation in Russia. But that country's essence did not change. Russia's centuries-long crony system endures; just as Soviet commissars replaced Czarist era boyars, oligarchs replaced the commissars. Whatever the name of the country or its system, be it monarchist, communist or capitalist, only a select few benefit. Today's oligarchs have amassed enormous wealth by acquiring state-owned companies, often [murdering competitors](#). Government officials collude with mafia, media, energy and industry moguls. A corrupt bureaucracy and judicial system support an opaque business environment that stifles individual merit and free competition. The ensuing concentration of wealth leads to gaping social inequalities, inefficiencies and temptation to steal from other nations to make up for a domestic inability to produce needed goods and services.



Moscow Stock Exchange

Russia also engages in hybrid warfare to steal or pollute America's own capitalist system with [cyberattacks](#), theft of intellectual property, economic espionage, money laundering, bribery, and human trafficking, among other crimes.

Though Russia replaced the Soviet hammer and sickle with the imperial double-headed eagle, the Kremlin's actions and policies continue to pose a multifaceted threat that includes geopolitical ambition, assertive foreign policy, authoritarian governance, security concerns, and hybrid warfare.



**Five Ruble Coin
Kerch Bridge to Crimea**

CYBERWARFARE AGAINST U.S.

Though Russia does not bear any gifts for America, some may interpret savings from the reduction or elimination of funding for Ukraine as a windfall for domestic needs. Ukraine, after all, is “over there.” But Russia is right here in America, using satellites and fiber optic cables as a Trojan Horse to violate our borders, steal our money and secrets and to assume our identities. And AI for dictators is close at hand.

Botnets - Malicious Russian actors create networks of compromised computers (botnets) to launch coordinated assaults, such as distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks to overwhelm and disrupt targeted systems. In June 2022, the U.S. Justice Department of Justice along with law enforcement partners in Europe dismantled the infrastructure of a Russian botnet that hacked millions of computers and other electronic devices around the world.



Cyber Espionage - State-sponsored Russian hackers steal sensitive information, intellectual property, or government secrets. They use advanced persistent threats (APTs) and sophisticated malware to infiltrate networks and remain undetected for extended periods.

Phishing Attacks - Bad actors in Russia frequently use phishing emails or messages to trick individuals into revealing sensitive information such as login credentials.

Ransomware Attacks - Russian criminal organizations deploy ransomware to encrypt a victim’s data and demand payment for its release. This type of attack has disrupted critical infrastructure and caused financial losses in the United States, including the Washington, DC Police Department and Colonial Pipeline.

Social Engineering - Russia employs psychiatrists, scientists, and neurologists to build psychological profiles of targets using their social media footprint. One technique known as trashing gathers data on individuals and organizations using discarded or forgotten data, including old email addresses and social media posts.

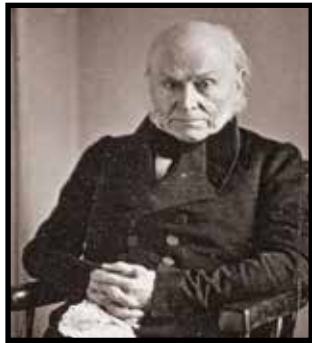
Supply Chain Attacks - Russia has compromised America’s software or hardware supply chain, injecting malicious code into products before they reach end-users. The SolarWinds hack in 2020 triggered a much larger supply chain incident that affected thousands of organizations, including the U.S. Government.

“...Russia will remain a top cyber threat as it refines and employs its espionage, influence, and attack capabilities. Russia is particularly focused on improving its ability to target critical infrastructure, including underwater cables and industrial control systems, in the United States as well as in allied and partner countries, because compromising such infrastructure improves and demonstrates its ability to damage infrastructure during a crisis.”

[2023 Annual Threat Assessment](#)
Office of the Director of National Intelligence

AMERICA FIRST

Opposition to aid for Ukraine revolves around war weariness following long, costly American conflicts and a need to address domestic issues, in particular the crisis on the southern border. There is also skepticism of government decisions, lack of clearly stated objectives, exit strategies, and transparency in past conflicts. Some opponents base their position on presidential admonitions against foreign entanglement. President John Quincy Adams warned against [“seeking monsters to destroy abroad.”](#) George Washington expressed a similar view in



John Quincy Adams

his [Farewell Address](#), noting the protection afforded by our “detached and distant situation,” i.e. the oceans that separate us from the world. However, neither president could have imagined missiles or the internet that nullify detachment and distance. We should instead heed Washington’s other advice to be constantly awake “...against the insidious wiles of foreign influence ... since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government.”



George Washington

Russia has long been the bane of freedom and is systematically preparing its next generation to threaten our children with its debilitating influence. It is therefore in America’s long-term interest to turn a blind eye to Ukrainians? Will Moscow stop in Ukraine? Or must it be stopped in Ukraine? If we cut aid to that country and Russia remains hungry, will we have a second chance as good as the one Ukrainians afford us now? Or is it more hopeless than Valley Forge seemed long ago?

Proponents of aid to Ukraine do not dispute domestic imperatives but argue that today’s world requires proactive measures abroad to protect our quality of life into the 22nd century. There



Zbigniew Brzezinski

are already a few American children who will live to see the year 2121, which will be 300 years since the sixth American president warned against seeking monsters to destroy overseas. Nor should we seek any. But even opponents of aid to Ukraine agree that Vladimir Putin is a demonstrable monster. He is pulverizing Ukraine to revive the Russian Empire. As former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Bzezinski [put it](#), “It cannot be stressed enough that without Ukraine, Russia ceases to be an empire, but with Ukraine suborned and then subordinated, Russia automatically becomes an empire.” If that empire in its czarist and communist iterations threaten the United States, it follows that we will be safer and wealthier if

we support Ukraine before it becomes too expensive to do so.

As we decide a course of action, we should consider whether assistance to date has been timely and sufficient. Will belated American provision of air power change the war’s dynamic just as the tank did in WWI? Another consideration is that Russian troops are also stuck on a stationary front and suffer from poor morale.

The future well-being of our republic is dependent on Ukraine’s ability and willingness to fight. It not in our interest to let them down.

RUSSIA IN NORTH AMERICA

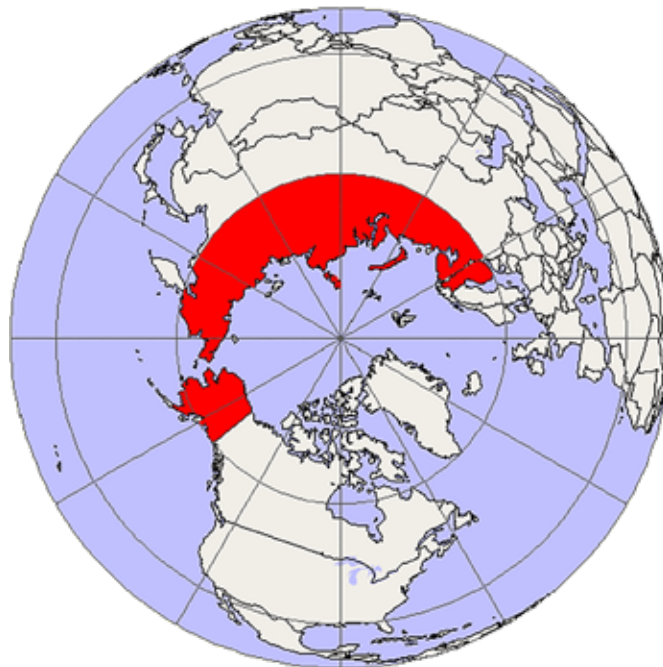
President George Washington managed relations with European powers including Britain and France but had no substantial issues with Russia. But a quarter century later, Russia was expanding its influence in North America at U.S. expense. Just two months after John Quincy Adams issued his Independence Day warning against seeking “monsters to destroy overseas,” Russian Czar Alexander I directly challenged U.S. interests with what is known as his [Ukase of 1821](#). It expanded Russian ocean claims as far south as the Oregon coast. The decree restricted U.S. maritime activities in the area. President James Monroe rejected the Russian claim, arguing that it violated previous agreements and international law.



Czar Alexander I

"The pursuits of commerce, whaling, fishing and other industry, on all islands, ports and gulfs, including the whole northwest coast of North America to the 45°50' north latitude, are all included in this edict for the purpose of granting the same exclusivity to Russian subjects. ... All foreign vessels are prohibited not only from landing on the coasts and islands belonging to Russia, but, also, does not permit them to approach these islands and coasts within less than one hundred Italian miles, without the vessels being subject to confiscation, along with the whole cargo"

**Czar Alexander I
Ukase of 1821**



**Czarist Russia's Polar Reach
13 Time Zones across Russia to Alaska**

CRIMEA

A little-known footnote regarding Crimea is the role that American heroes played there. After the American Revolution, U.S. Navy founder Admiral John Paul Jones helped Russia take



John Paul Jones
U.S. Navy Founder

Crimea as commander of a ship squadron during the Russo-Turkish War. His career as fleet commander came to an ignominious end because Russians [falsely accused](#) the American hero of rape. More recently, former Republican Presidential Nominee John McCain, a Navy Captain, [strongly condemned](#) Russia's annexation of Crimea as a gross violation of international law and Ukraine's sovereignty. McCain advocated a robust response from the United States and its allies to counter Russian actions and for providing Ukraine with assistance to resist Russia.

Crimea is but a tiny point on the map compared to the huge expanse of the Russian Federation. Moscow seems to forget Ukraine's historic claim to the peninsula. Ukrainian Kozaks allied with Russian forces [provided the critical military prowess](#), bravery, and strategic skills to help Russian commander Grigori Potemkin seize Crimea in 1783. The 1954 transfer of the peninsula to the Ukrainian SSR is often mistakenly attributed to Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, supposedly as a "gift." In fact, it was a collective [decision](#) by the Presidium of the Soviet Communist Party because Crimea is dependent on Ukraine for its water and supplies. Ukrainians before and after the Soviet demise contributed billions to development of the peninsula. Though Soviet Ukraine was a fiction, it had de facto legal rights and after 1991, de jure rights to Crimea that Russia recognized. And violated. Its residents freely voted with the rest of Ukraine to withdraw from the USSR in 1991. Russia's 2014 referendum in Crimea was conducted at the point of a gun. Only a handful of countries recognize it as part of Russia, including North Korea, Cuba, Syria and Belarus.



PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

President Ronald Reagan advanced a doctrine of “peace through strength,” which emphasized a robust defense and preparedness as crucial elements of domestic and international stability. However, the war in Ukraine revealed that U.S. arms production had been neglected and in need of revitalization. President Donald Trump addressed part of the manufacturing issue when he [intervened](#) to prevent closure of America’s last tank factory, the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, OH. That facility receives some of the funds designated for Ukraine.

Ukraine’s requests for specific weapons, including Javelin anti-tank missiles, drew attention to gaps in U.S. capabilities not only to readily arm allies, but also to avoid perceptions of weakness that might tempt hostile powers to test the United States. Drones used extensively in Ukraine have revealed a need for modernization of U.S. military doctrine and stockpiles. In addition, the Russian invasion has highlighted bureaucratic hurdles in timely delivery of military assistance, which should be streamlined to make certain that America’s arsenal is ready to meet any threat on all fronts.



**Donald J. Trump Visit to Joint Systems Manufacturing Center
Lima, OH**

Photo: Carlos Barria/Reuters

Many billions of dollars in assistance for Ukraine has remained in the United States to pay for domestic U.S. arms production. But as Senator Rand Paul recently pointed out, that is a reprehensible justification for continued funding of the war in Ukraine. Unfortunately, war is, always was and will be reprehensible. Losing a war also has reprehensible consequences. America’s future is inescapably riding on Ukraine’s victory or defeat. Now, that Vladimir Putin has imposed war upon Ukraine and U.S. interests, America faces a fateful black and white choice: arming or disarming a nation that can work with us or be forced to work against us long into the future. As we pray for a just peace, we must also strive for a holistic understanding of the implications of our decisions. Neither Americans nor Ukrainians launched the war but we must live with its consequences.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Three nuclear powers signed the [Budapest Memorandum](#) in 1994 to provide Ukraine with assurances of its security in exchange for that nation's nuclear arsenal. At the time, it was the world's third largest. Ukraine honored its side of the bargain. Russia did not. By violating Moscow's solemn commitment to Ukraine, Vladimir Putin scoffed at his country's presumable goal of protecting humanity from nuclear proliferation.

Failure to honor Great Power assurances to Ukraine erodes trust in all international security commitments. This weakens the credibility of such agreements and makes it more challenging to convince others to follow Ukraine's peaceful example. If countries perceive that such assurances are not reliable, they may be more inclined to develop or acquire nuclear weapons as a means of ensuring their own security. Bad actors on the global stage are likely to be encouraged to develop or expand their own nuclear arsenals with which to blackmail others in pursuit of global or regional interests.



Photo: AP

Ukraine, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

**Memorandum on security assurances in connection with Ukraine's accession to the Treaty
on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Budapest, 5 December 1994**

Entry into force: *5 December 1994 by signature*

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES

Had Ukraine not relinquished its nuclear arsenal in the spirit of [Isaiah 2:4](#), there would be no war or need for American assistance today.



UN-100N/RS-18 ICBM'S - 130 Total
Six Warheads Each
1700 Total Warheads



Tactical Nuclear Weapons
Up to 4,200 Total)



Raduga Kh-55 "Kent" Cruise Missiles
1068 Total



Launch Silos
40 Total



Tu-95 "Bear" Strategic Heavy Bomber
29 Total



Tu-160 "Blackjack" Strategic Bomber
15 Total

PROXY WARS

As the United States poured men and money into South Vietnam, the USSR was a major supplier of military aid to the North, such as arms, missiles and fuel. Moscow also delivered food, transport vehicles, metals, fertilizers, arms, munitions and other commodities. 55,000 American's died in Southeast Asia. **One of the lessons of that war should be that a dedicated native force fighting for independence on its own turf with foreign assistance can defeat a superpower.**



Soviet D-74 122 mm field gun

Other instances of Russian material support of American adversaries include:

Korean War (1950-1953): weapons and equipment to communists after the invasion of South Korea by North Korean forces.

Angolan Civil War (1975-2002): The Soviet Union supported the Marxist MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) while the United States backed the opposition group UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola). The conflict was fueled by the superpower rivalry, with each side supporting conflicting factions.

Nicaraguan Civil War (1978-1990): The Soviet Union supported the Sandinista government in Nicaragua, providing military aid, weapons, and economic support. The U.S. backed the Contras, a rebel group fighting against the Sandinistas, through financial and military assistance.

Though not strictly proxy wars, Russia is now supporting Arab Middle Eastern countries that threaten our ally, Israel. In 2015, Moscow supported Syria's Assad regime and was involved in airstrikes, logistical support, and troop deployments in support of government forces. The aid turned the tide in favor of Assad, allowing his regime to stabilize and regain control of much territory.

North Korea - Satellite photos indicate that Pyongyang is sending arms via rail and sea for use by Russian forces in Ukraine. President Putin visited the North Korean capital in September.



**Leaders of DPRK and Russia
Kim Jong-un and Vladimir Putin
Photo: KCNA via KNS**

“There are [no technical hurdles](#) to shipping 100 or even 1,000 kilograms of plutonium from that [Russian] facility to North Korea. Needless to say, that would allow North Korea to "exponentially" increase its nuclear arsenal.”

**Siegfried Hecker, Former Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory**

GOOD NEIGHBOR

Unlike Russia, Ukraine has provided diplomatic and material aid that supports U.S. interests and diplomacy. Ukrainian forces have also participated in numerous international [peacekeeping efforts](#) in some of the world's hotspots.

Afghanistan - NATO International Security Assistance Force, 2000-01

Afghanistan - NATO Int'l Security Assistance Force, 2007-14

Angola - UN Mission in Angola (MONUA), 1996-99,

Bosnia - NATO Implementation & Stabilization Forces (IFOR & SFOR), 1995-95

Congo - UN peacekeeping operation in the Congo DR (MONUSCO), 2012-22

Croatia - UN Interim Administration for E. Slavonia, Baranya & W. Srem, 1996-98

Croatia - UN Mission on the Prevlaka Peninsula, 1992-2002

Ethiopia & Eritrea - UN peacekeeping mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, 2004-08

Former Yugoslavia - UN Protection Force, 1992-95

Georgia - OSCE mission, 1995-2005

Georgia - Ukrainian humanitarian mission, 1993

Georgia - UN Mission, 2008-09

Guatemala - UN Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA), 1997

Iraq - Ukrainian peacekeeping mission in Iraq, 2005-08

Ivory Coast - UN Operation, 2011-12

Kosovo - NATO Int'l Peace Support Force in Kosovo (KFOR), 1999-2022

Kosovo - OSCE Verification Mission in Kosovo, 1998-2001

Kuwait - Humanitarian Mission in the State of Kuwait (UNIKOM), 2003

Lebanon - UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), 2000-06

Liberia - UN Peacekeeping Mission, 2008-09

Macedonia - UN Preventive Deployment Mission, 1995-99

Mali - UN peacekeeping contingent (MINUSMA), 2019-22

Moldova - Joint peacekeeping forces in Transnistria Security Zone, 1998-2022

Sierra Leone - UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), 2001-05

Sudan - UN Mission in Sudan, 2005-11

Tajikistan - UN Mission, 1994-2000



Ukrainian BTR-80 on patrol in Iraq

AMERICAN VALUES

Many American leaders have referred to America as a shining city on a hill, a notion mentioned in [Matthew's Gospel \(5:14\)](#). Its first recorded use in America was by Governor John Winthrop in a [sermon](#) delivered in 1630 to describe the obligation of the early Massachusetts Bay Colony to serve as a model society lest its sins be exposed for the world to see. In our time, the phrase has been used by Presidents Kennedy, Reagan and Obama as well as Senators Mitt Romney and Ted Cruz, among others. It is an appeal not to America's wealth or military might, but to its spiritual values, which our material well-being happens to depend on. It is a vision of America not as just a nation, but an idea and symbol of freedom, democracy and opportunity.

Intangibles have tangible benefits too.

Global Relationships - Democracy, freedom, and human rights foster strong alliances, enhance security, intelligence sharing, and joint defense efforts.

Soft Power - American values serve as a beacon to other nations, inspiring added respect for our might and helping shape more stable and secure global environment.

Reputation - As in business, values build trust and positive brand loyalty. This attracts friends who prioritize ethical and socially responsible behavior.

Ours is a society that values freedom of speech, assembly, prayer and protest. These are God-given rights that our Constitution prohibits the government from infringing upon. In Russia, *the government* - mere humans, define how any person may behave and severely punishes those who challenge the supreme leader, who is no less mortal than those he persecutes. Autocrats not only wield the power of life and death over millions, they use absolute power to twist reality itself through such Orwellian devices as Memory Holes, Newspeak, Thought Crimes, Doublethink and Two Minutes of Hate. They are not fictions, but rather lies that represent a danger to America's friends in nations other than Ukraine.

We must care enough about our values to follow through on our decades-long effort to help teach Ukrainians how to live by them. And they have indeed been steadily replacing Soviet values with ours. To become indifferent to Ukraine now would not only risk renewed Russian imposition of its influence on others, but it would deny even ordinary Russians an example in their neighborhood of democratic virtues. Their leaders trample on them.



“... we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us. So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause him to withdraw his present help from us, we shall be made a story and a by-word through the world. We shall open the mouths of enemies to speak evil of the ways of God, and all professors for God's sake.”

**Governor John Winthrop
Massachusetts Bay Colony**

MEDIA & DEMOCRACY

When President Harry Truman said , "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen," he meant that if someone can't handle a tough job or criticisms that come with it, stay away. Vladimir Putin deals with the heat by turning it off just like the communists and monarchists that preceded him in centuries past.

A typical heat source in a democracy is a free press. In the first years following the Soviet collapse, Russia saw a proliferation of independent newspapers, television channels, radio stations, and magazines. They offered diverse and unprecedented viewpoints, creativity and content on political, social, and economic issues that began late in the Soviet era with President Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost policy. Media independence waned as oligarchs and business tycoons took control of media outlets, which led to biased reporting and manipulation to serve vested private and government interests. A harbinger of Russia's return to strict censorship was the canceling of a popular political claymation show called "[Kukly](#)," or "Dolls" that took potshots at Vladimir Putin, not unlike American satire of U.S. presidents.

The Kremlin's absolute media monopoly deprives ordinary Russians of the right to make informed decisions, to participate in governance, and hold authorities accountable. Without public discourse, innovative solutions to problems and grievances are ignored, public officials are not accountable and loyal political opposition is non-existent. In Ukraine, a comedian who starred in a TV program that made fun of presidents became president himself. He is not immune from criticism at home or abroad.



**Vladimir Putin Clamation
"Kukly" TV Program**



President Zelenskyy with four predecessors
Photo: Inna Kuznetsova/Radio Liberty

Unlike Russia, Ukraine has had eight presidential elections; their result was never a forgone conclusion. Presidential transitions have all been peaceful, with the exception of President Viktor Yanukovych, who fled Ukraine in February 2014. He abandoned the presidency despite an [international agreement](#) to hold a special election in December of that year. Protests against his regime lasted through an entire winter after he broke his commitment to sign an association agreement with the EU. Yanukovych's betrayal of Ukraine's western

aspirations was motivated by what amounted to a 13 billion dollar Russian bribe to Ukraine to rejoin Moscow. Ukrainians would have none of it. The current war affirms how serious they are.

Russia cannot be said to have had any meaningful transitions of power. Vladimir Putin was appointed to the presidency and Russian elections are considered a sham in which the ruler gets an unreal 99% of the vote in some regions.

U.S. SOFT POWER

The United States devoted considerable resources to reach the people of Ukraine with soft power, including shortwave Voice of America radio broadcasts behind the Iron Curtain. The effort has been aimed at strengthening democratic institutions, supporting electoral processes, government reforms, rule of law and transparent governance. American aid helped Ukraine make headway on democratic reforms before the Russian invasions of 2014 and 2022. Free elections monitored by international observers have so far yielded peaceful transfer of power among six presidents. Russia has had three, one of them a placeholder for Vladimir Putin, an appointee, who gamed Russia's constitution to stay in power through 2034. Ironically, Russia encourages criticism of Ukraine for postponing its upcoming presidential election, portraying President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as undemocratic. Ukrainians, however, understand that standing in line to cast ballots with Russian missiles targeting even [pizza parlors](#) would be like shooting fish in a barrel.

The American government and NGOs have also provided development assistance for healthcare, education, infrastructure development, and economic empowerment. U.S.-based NGOs played a crucial role in supporting Ukraine's civil society. These efforts include promoting human rights, freedom of speech, media independence, and empowering grassroots movements to engage in civic activism. Programs such as the Fulbright Scholarship, academic exchanges, and cultural initiatives have facilitated the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and cultural understanding between the U.S. and Ukraine.

Voice of America broadcasts since the late 1940s also beamed messages of freedom to Ukraine. VOA's effort paid off with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Just 13 months after the end of the Cold War, the VOA Ukrainian Service produced the very first U.S. Government TV broadcast to hit overseas airwaves in conjunction with Ukrainian State Radio and TV. The program, *Window on America*, has enjoyed an audience in the millions and is recognized as a brand that remains on the air more than 30 years after its inception during the George H. W. Bush administration.



**Voice of America, Short Wave Relay Station
Bethany, OH**

To abandon Ukraine just as it is on the cusp of meeting Western standards of democracy would render 75 years of American soft power hypocritical and ultimately fruitless. It would also close vital channels of communication in a critical part of the world.

RUSSIAN SECRET POLICE

The history of Russian secret police agencies spans several centuries and various regimes, each contributing to the evolution of these institutions. The roots of Russian secret police can be traced back to the reign of Ivan the Terrible in the 16th century. Ivan established the Oprichnina, a secret police force tasked with consolidating his power and suppressing opposition. Throughout subsequent czars' reigns, secret police forces operated under different names and with varying degrees of power and influence. The Okhrana, established in the late 19th century during the reign of Alexander III, became particularly known for its surveillance and intelligence-gathering activities.

Unlike Nazi Germany's Gestapo, Russian secret police forces were never dismantled, nor was the previous regime forced to reckon with horrid crimes committed at the behest of the state. Nor were any reforms undertaken aimed at banning such repressive and totalitarian organizations.

Bolsheviks who overthrew the Russian monarchy founded the Cheka in 1917, the first Soviet secret police agency. Under different names like the NKVD, KGB, and others, these agencies expanded functions of Okhrana to control dissent, conduct intelligence operations, and maintain political control.

Soon after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, the removal of the statue of Cheka founder and mass murderer Felix Dzerzhinsky was televised and cheered by ordinary Russians. But the KGB, the final Soviet successor to the Cheka, was renamed. The Federal Security Service (FSB) emerged as its main successor. The FSB, along with other intelligence and security agencies, inherited some of the expertise and practices from the Soviet era but also adapted to the changing geopolitical landscape.



Removal of Dzerzhinsky Statue, Aug. 22, 1991
Alexander Zemlianichenko/AP



Restoration of Dzerzhinsky Statue, Sep. 17, 2023
Photo: SVR

“It wasn’t just any monument. It was a symbol of Soviet injustice, a symbol of a totalitarian system.”

[Irina Bogantseva](#)
Moscow City Council

Over the centuries, Russia acquired ever more sophisticated methods of espionage, infiltrating opposition groups, maintaining state security, and dealing with perceived threats to the regime. The evolution of these agencies was marked by a blend of continuity. Building on past practices, they adapted to new technologies, ideologies, and geopolitical circumstances.

RUSSIAN CULTURE

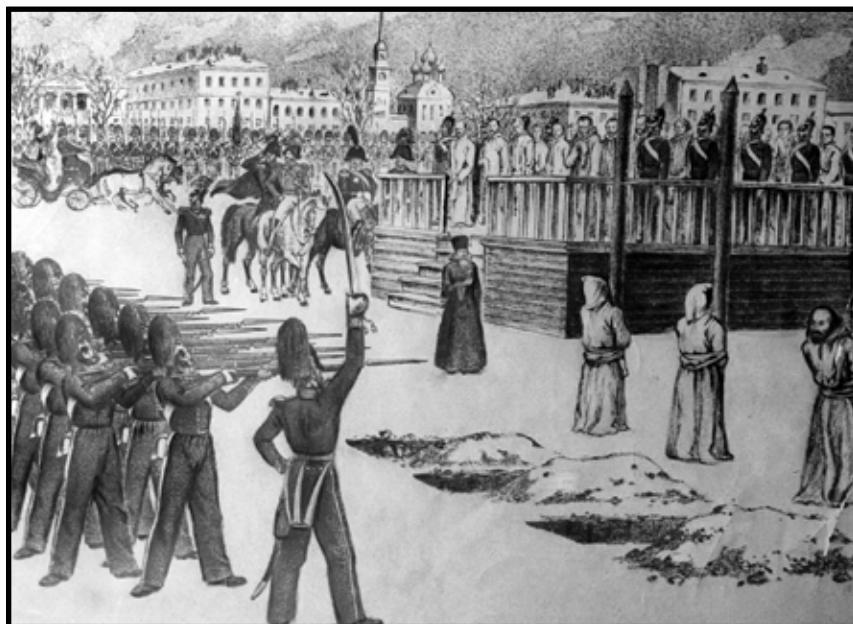
The world admires Russian culture and Russians are rightfully proud of it. But all too often, how that culture was produced is shocking. Artists, composers, performers, poets and writers - even Nobel laureates - have been persecuted and many executed for ideas that are paraded by subsequent regimes, which assume the reflected glory of Russian creative genius. Intimidation squelches inspiration. A titan of world literature, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, was held for eight months in solitary confinement before facing a firing squad in a mock execution for no other reason than failure to report a letter by another writer about religion and government. The mock shooting was followed by hard labor in prison. So it has been for countless other great minds in Russia.

“The most terrible part of the punishment is not the bodily pain, but the certain knowledge that in an hour, then in ten minutes, then in half a minute, your soul must quit your body and you will no longer be a man, and that thlt is certain — certain! That’s the real point: the certainty of it. A murder by sentence is far more dreadful than a murder committed by a criminal. ... Our Lord Christ spoke of this anguish. No one should be treated this way — no one.”

Fyodor Dostoyevsky



Dostoyevsky in Hard Labor Camp (Christmas at the Dead House), Konstantine Pomarantsev, 1862



Semionov-Platz Mock Execution Ritual, B. Pokrovsky

KREMLIN'S PERSECUTED (Partial List)

Abrikosov, Alexei	Nobel Prize Winning Physicist	Emigrated
Akhedzhakova, Liya	Actress	Banned
Akhmatova, Anna	Poet	Banned
Aksyonov, Vasily	Novelist	Emigrated
Akunin, Boris	Writer	Emigrated
Alekhine, Alexander	Chess Grandmaster	Emigrated
Andreev, Leonid	Playwright	Emigrated
Anti-Fascist, Jewish	Activist Group	Many Members Executed
Babel, Isaac	Writer & Translator	Tortured & Executed
Baryshnikov, Mikhail	Ballet Dancer	Defected to Canada
Belov, Anatoli	Actor	Emigrated
Berdyaev, Nikolai	Philosopher	Emigrated
Bergholz, Olga	Poet & Writer	Imprisoned
Berkovich, Zhenya	Theater Director	Imprisoned
Borovik, Artyom	Journalist	Suspicious Plane Crash
Brodsky, Joseph	Poet	Exiled
Bulgakov, Mikhail	Writer & Medical Doctor	Banned
Bunin, Ivan	Writer - Nobel Prize Winner	Emigrated
Bykov, Dmitry	Writer & Journalist	Poisoned & Emigrated
Center, Sakharov	Human Rights Museum	Closed
Chagall, Marc	Artist	Emigrated
Chaliapin, Feodor	Singer	Emigrated
Chekhov, Mikhail	Actor	Emigrated
Chorny, Sasha	Poet	Emigrated
Dostoevsky, Fyodor	Novelist	Prison & Mock Execution
Dovlatov, Sergei	Writer & Journalist	Persecuted & Emigrated
Eidelman, Tamara	Historian	Emigrated
Ekimov, Alexey	Nobel Prize Winning Physicist	Emigrated
Erdman, Nikolai	Dramatist & Screenwriter	Exiled
Filipenko, Sasha	Writer	Emigrated
Filippenko, Aleksandr	Actor	Emigrated
films, Sokurov's	Film Director Films	Banned
Frank, Semyon	Philosopher	Emigrated
Galich, Alexander	Poet & Screenwriter	Emigrated
Geim, Andre	Nobel Prize Winning Physicist	Emigrated
Gelman, Marat	Art Manager & Columnist	Emigrated
Genis, Alexander	Writer & Broadcaster	Emigrated
Gippius, Zinaida	Novelist & Poet	Emigrated
Glukhovsky, Dmitri	Writer	Emigrated
Grebenshchikov, Boris	Singer	Declared Foreign Agent & Fined
Guberman, Igor	Electrical Engineer & Writer	Gulag & Emigrated
Gumilev, Nikolai	Poet, Military Officer	Executed
Herzen, Alexander	Journalist	Exiled
Ilyin, Ivan	Philosopher	Emigrated
Ivanovich, Daniil	Poet & Writer	Starved in Prison
Ivanovich, Sergei	Businessman	Emigrated
Kabakov, Ilya	Artist	Emigrated
Kamsky, Gata	Chess Grandmaster	Emigrated

KREMLIN'S PERSECUTED (Partial List)

Kandinsky, Wassily	Artist	Emigrated
Karsavin, Lev	Philosopher	Emigrated
Kasparov, Garry	Chess Grandmaster	Emigrated
Khamatova, Chulpan	Actress	Emigrated
Kissin, Evgeny	Pianist	Emigrated
Korchnoi, Viktor	Chess Grandmaster	Emigrated
Korolyiv, Serhiy	Rocket Engineer	Labor Camp
Korzhasin, Nahum	Poet	Emigrated
Kosteniuk, Alexandra	Chess Grandmaster	Emigrated
Kschessinska, Mathilde	Ballerina	Emigrated
Latvian, Skatuve	Actors	All Members Executed
Liudmilla	Writer	Emigrated
Leontovych, Mykola	Composer ("Carol of the Bells")	Executed
Lermontov, Mikhail	Poet & Painter	Exiled
Lifar, Serge	Dancer & Choreographer	Emigrated
Likhachev, Dmitry	Linguist	Gulag
Listyev, Vlada	Journalists & TV Anchor	Murdered
Lossky, Nikolay	Philosopher	Emigrated
Lyubimov, Yuri	Stage Actor & Director	Exiled
Makarevich, Andrey	Rock Musician	Emigrated
Mandelstam, Osip	Poet	Perished in Gulag
Mayakovsky, Vladimir	Poet	Suicide under Duress
Memorial	Human Rights Center	Closed
Merezhkovsky, Dmitry	Novelist & Poet	Emigrated
Meyerhold, Vsevolod	Theater Director & Actor	Tortured & Executed
Mikhoels, Solomon	Actor	Run Down by Truck
Milashina, Elena	Journalist	Repeatedly Assaulted
Muratov, Dmitry	Journalist & Nobel Peace Prize	Doused with Red Dye
Nabokov, Vladimir	Novelist, Poet & Translator	Emigrated
Nazarov, Dmitri	Actor	Fired for Poetry
Neizvestny, Ernst	Sculptor & Artist	Ostracized & Emigrated
Nekrasov, Viktor	Writer & Journalist	Emigrated
Nijinsky, Vaclav	Dancer & Choreographer	Emigrated
Novoselov, Konstantin	Nobel Prize Winning Physicist	Emigrated
Nureyev, Rudolph	Ballet Dancer	Defected to France
Osorgin, Mikhail	Writer & Journalist	Emigrated
Parajanov, Sergei	Film Director	Imprisoned
Pasternak, Boris	Nobel Prize Winning Writer	Banned
Pavlova, Anna	Ballerina	Emigrated
Pelevin, Viktor	Writer	Emigrated
Petrychuk, Svetlana	Playwright	Imprisoned
Politkovskaya, Anna	Journalist	Murdered
Prokudin-Gorsky, Sergey	Chemist & Photographer	Emigrated
Pugacheva, Alla	Singer-Songwriter	Emigrated
Pushkin, Alexander	Poet	Exiled
Rachmaninoff, Sergei	Composer	Emigrated
Radishchev, Alexander	Writer	Exiled
Raihelgauz, Joseph	Theater Director	Fired

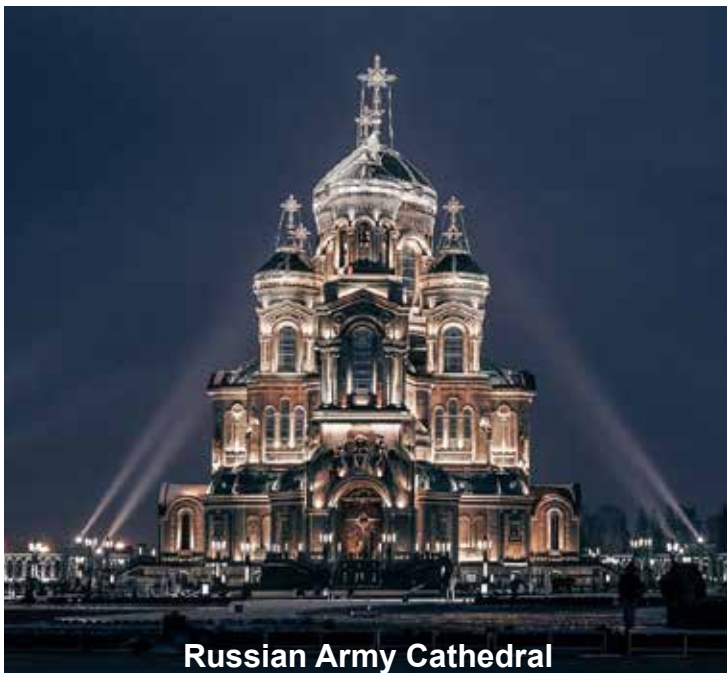
KREMLIN'S PERSECUTED (Partial List)

Rain, TV	Independent TV Channel	Entire Staff Expelled
Reich, Zinaida	Actress	Murdered by NKVD
Repin, Ilya	Artist	Emigrated
Rodnyansky, Alexander	Film Director & TV Executive	Emigrated
Rostropovich, Mstislav	Cellist & Conductor	Exiled
Ryzhakov, Valery	Actor	Fired
Sakharov, Andrei	Nuclear Physicist	Exiled
Schwartz, Evgeny	Writer & Playwright	Banned
Serebrennikov, Ошкшлл	Stage & Film Director	Emigrated
Shalamov, Varlam	Writer & Journalist	Tortured & Gulag
Shenderovich, Viktpr	Satirist	Emigrated
Shevchuk, Yuri	Rock Musician	Prohibited from Performing
Shishkin, Mikhail	Writer	Emigrated
Sikorsky, Ihor	Helicopter Inventor	Emigrated
Smolyaninov, Yuri	Actor	Emigrated
Soldatov, Andrei	Investigative Journalist	Emigrated
Solzhenitsyn, Alexander	Writer - Nobel Prize Winner	Gulag & Exile
Sorokin, Pitirim	Sociologist & Political Activist	Emigrated
Sorokin, Vladimir	Writer	Emigrated
Stepun, Fyodor	Historian & Sociologist	Emigrated
Stravinsky, Igor	Composer	Emigrated
Tabidze, Titsian	Poet	Executed
Tarkovsky, Andrei	Director & Screenwriter	Emigrated
Teffi, Nadezhda	Humorist Writer	Emigrated
Theater, Tairov	Chamber Theater	Closed
Tolstoy, Leo	Novelist	Excommunicated
Tregulova, Zelfira	Tretyakov Gallery Director	Fired
Trojanova, Yana	Actress	Emigrated
Tuminas, Rimas	Theater Director	Emigrated
Vavilov, Nikolai	Botonist & Geneticist	Died in Prison
Vishnevskaya, Galina	Opera Singer	Exiled
Vitorgan, Maxim	Actor	Replaced by Deep Fake
Volpin, Mikhail	Screenwriter	Gulag
Voskresensky, Mikhail	Pianist	Emigrated
Vvedensky, Alexander	Poet & Dramatist	Died Underway to Gulag
Vyrypaev, Ivan	Playwright / Screenwriter	Emigrated
Vysotsky, Vladimir	Singer-Songwriter	Banned
was, Tsvetaev	Poet	Suicide under Duress
Yefremov, Mikhail	Actor	Imprisoned
Yesenin, Sergei	Poet	Suicide (Staged by Authorities?)
Yevtushenko, Yevgeny	Poet & Writer, Nobel Nominee	Emigrated
Zabolotsky, Nikolay	Poet & Translator	Tortured & Gulag
Zimin, Dmitry	Radio Scientist & Businessman	Emigrated
Zubov, Andrei	Historian	Emigrated
Zvyagintsev, Andrey	Film Director & Screenwriter	Emigrated
Zworykin, Vladimir	Inventor	Emigrated

MILITARIZED RUSSIAN CHURCH

The Russian Orthodox Church appears to be eagerly participating in a Kremlin drive to militarize society. No longer persecuted by Soviet era atheism, Orthodox clergy have blessed the state's strategic bombers, tanks and other weapons of war, [including an ICBM](#) capable of reaching the U.S. However, many religious organizations have been increasingly persecuted or banned if they are seen as competing with Russian Orthodoxy. Some Evangelical churches, Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons and selected Muslims are prohibited by the so-called [Yarovaya Law](#) from preaching or proselytizing.

Russian newspaper editor Dmytri Muratov, who shared the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize, warned in his [acceptance speech](#) that "[Russian] authorities are actively selling the idea of war. People are getting used to the thought of its permissibility."



"It is deeply gratifying to note the enormous constructive contribution of the Russian Orthodox Church and other Christian denominations in unifying society, preserving our historical memory, educating youth and strengthening the institution of family. Church organizations prioritize ... supporting our warriors taking part in the special military operation (in Ukraine). Such massive, complex and truly selfless work deserves sincere respect."

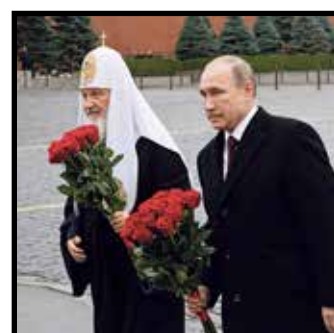
Vladimir Putin
[January 7, 2023](#)
Orthodox Christmas

"The Church recognizes that if someone, driven by a sense of duty, the need to fulfill the oath, remains faithful to his calling and dies in the fulfillment military duty, then he undoubtedly commits an act tantamount to sacrifice. He sacrifices himself for others. And therefore we believe that this sacrifice [washes away all the sins that a person has committed.](#)"

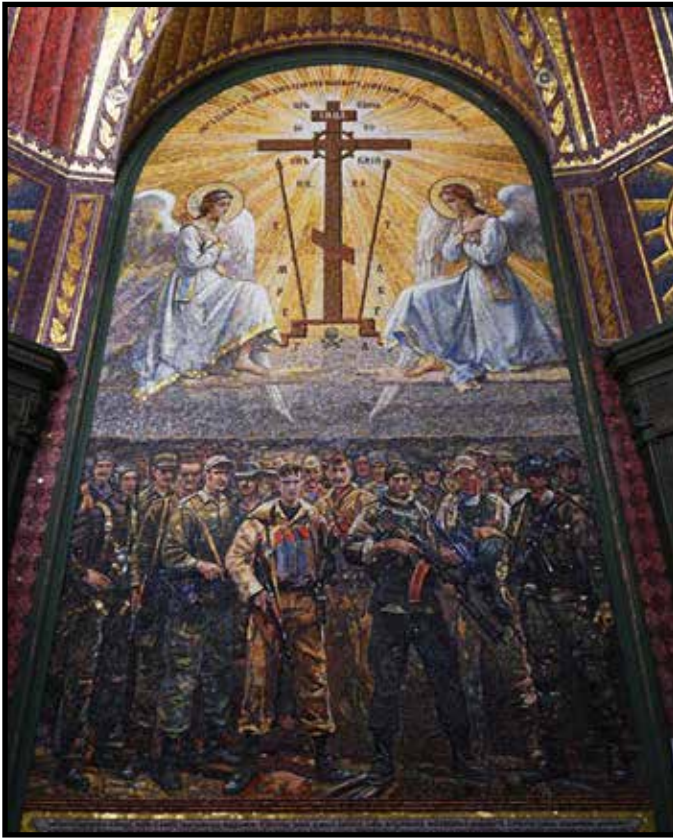
Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill
Alexander Nevsky Church
Moscow Oblast
[September 25, 2022](#)



ROC Patriarch Kirill & President V. Putin



MILITARIZED RUSSIAN CHURCH



Mosaics & Stained Glass
Orthodox [Cathedral](#) of the Russian Armed Forces, Moscow

RUSSIAN MILITARY IN UKRAINE



“... Shrines, chapels, icons,
Smoke of myrrh and candelabras,
And unflagging bowing
Before Your sacred image.

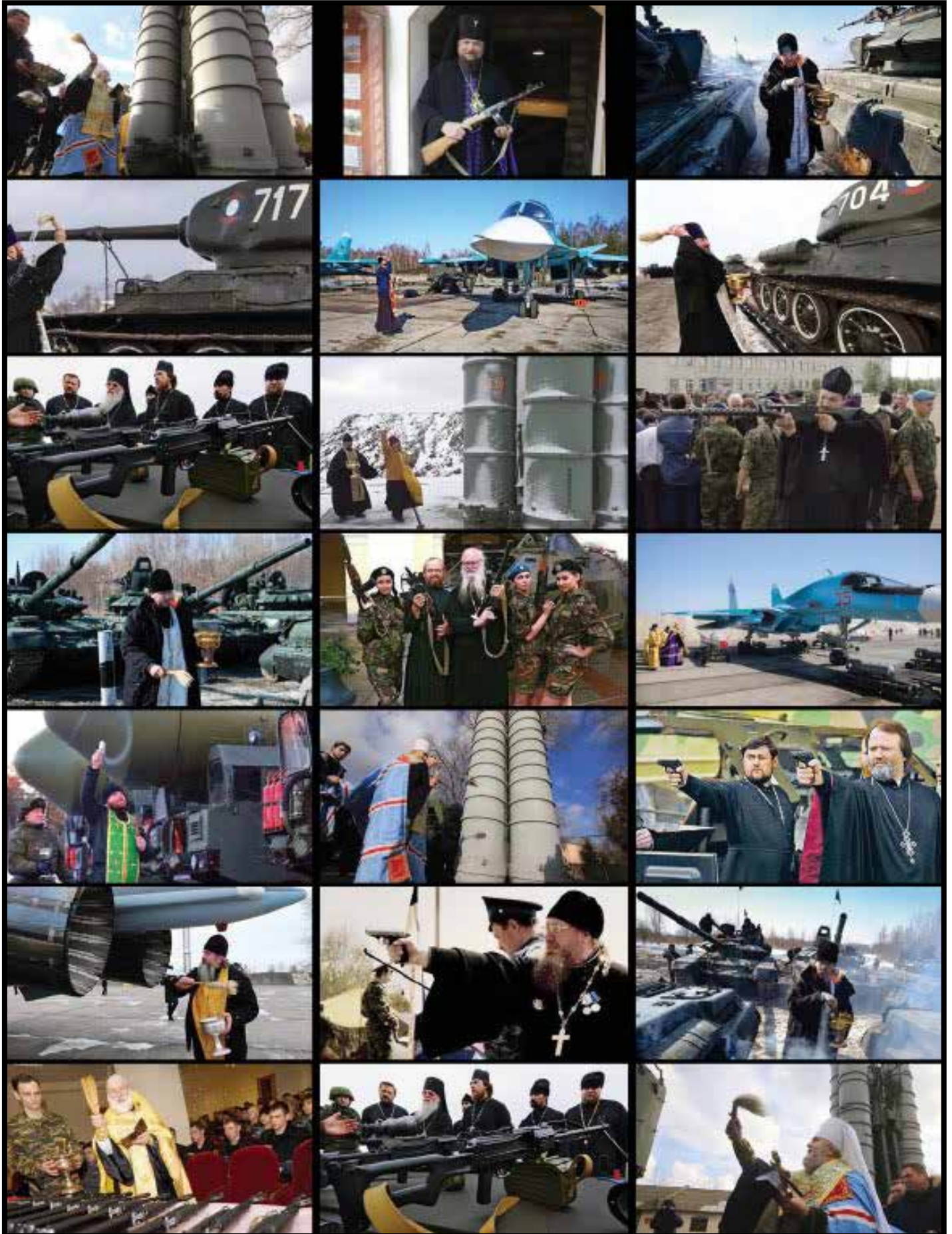
They implore for theft, for war, for blood,
To spill a brother’s blood, and then they
Gift You with an altar cloth
Stolen from a burning ruin!!”

**Taras Shevchenko, Ukrainian Poet
“The Caucasus”
1845**

Clockwise from top:

- 1. St. George’s Church, 1873. Zavorychi Artillery Shelling**
- 2. Transfiguration Cathedral, 1808, Odesa Missile Attack**
- 3. Synagogue, 1910
Jewish School, 1920s, Novozlatopil Artillery Shelling**

GUNS & CLERGY

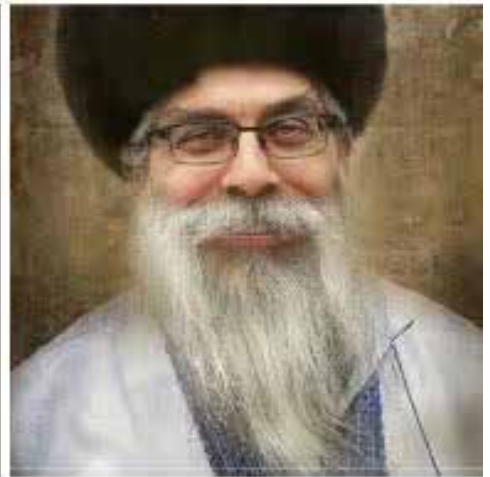


RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF UKRAINE

[“The Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations](#) considers it its moral duty to once again appeal to the international community: the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, and other NATO countries. We call on all of Ukraine’s partners and allies, all people of goodwill around the world, to rush to the aid of the people of Ukraine.”



Valerii Antoniuk
Head - Union of Evangelical
Christians-Baptists



Yaakov Dov Bleich
Chief Rabbi
of Kyiv and Ukraine



Epiphany (Dumenko)
Primate
Orthodox Church of Ukraine



Sándor Zán Fábíán
Bishop - Transcarpathian
Reformed Church



Vyacheslav Horpynchuk
Bishop
Ukrainian Lutheran Church



Marcos Hovhannisyán
Bishop - Ukrainian Diocese
Armenian Apostolic Church



Hryhorii Komendant
President
Ukrainian Bible Society



Anatoliy Kozachok
Senior Bishop
Ukrainian Pentecostal Church

RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF UKRAINE



Vitalii Kryvytsyi
Bishop - Roman Catholic
Church of Ukraine



Stanislav Nosov- President
Seventh Day Adventist Church
of Ukraine



Onuphry (Berezovsky)
Primate
Ukrainian Orthodox Church



Leonid Padun
Senior Bishop - Ukrainian
Christian Evangelical Church



Ayder Rustemov
Supreme Mufti
Muslims of Crimea



Pavlo Shvarts
Bishop - German Evangelical
Church of Ukraine The



Sviatoslav Shevchuk
Father & Head - Ukrainian
Greek Catholic Church



Akhmed Tamim
Supreme Mufti of Ukraine

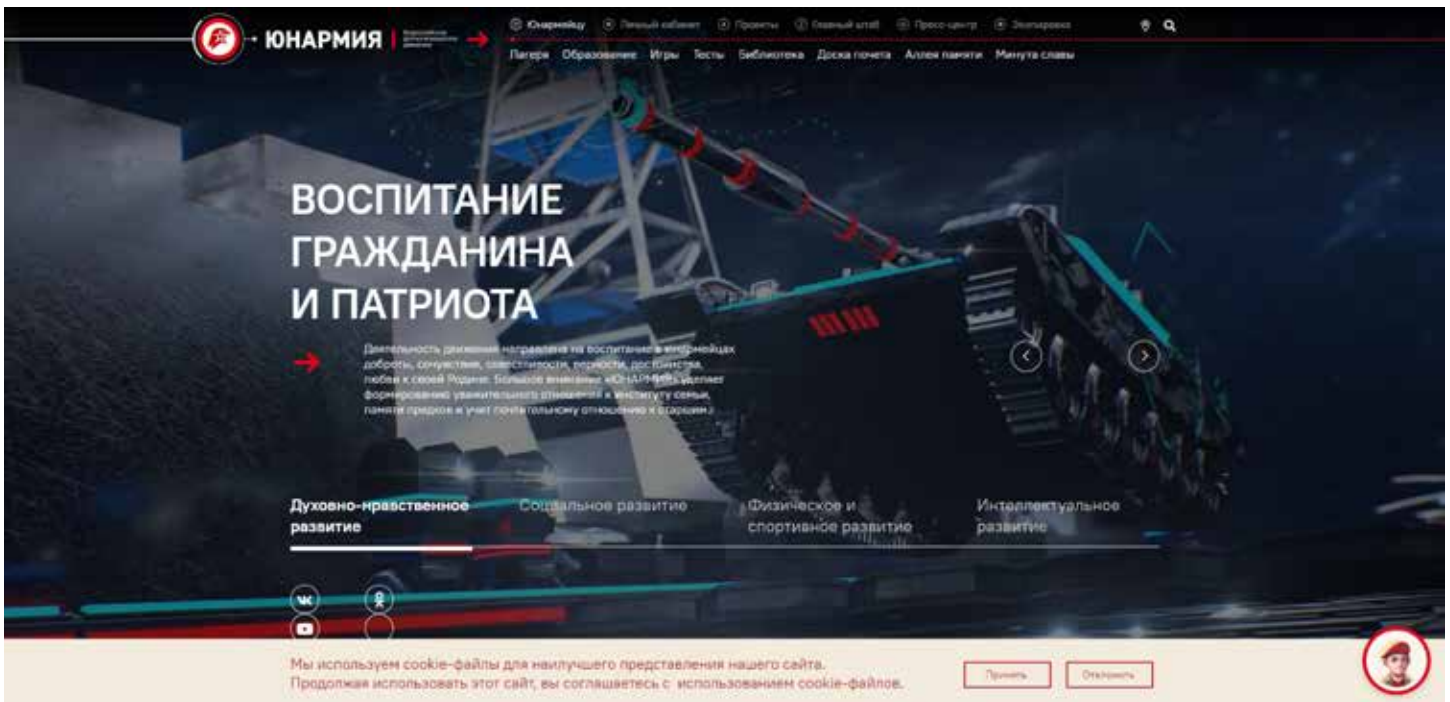


Oleksandr Zaitsev
Senior Bishop
Ukrainian Evangelical Church

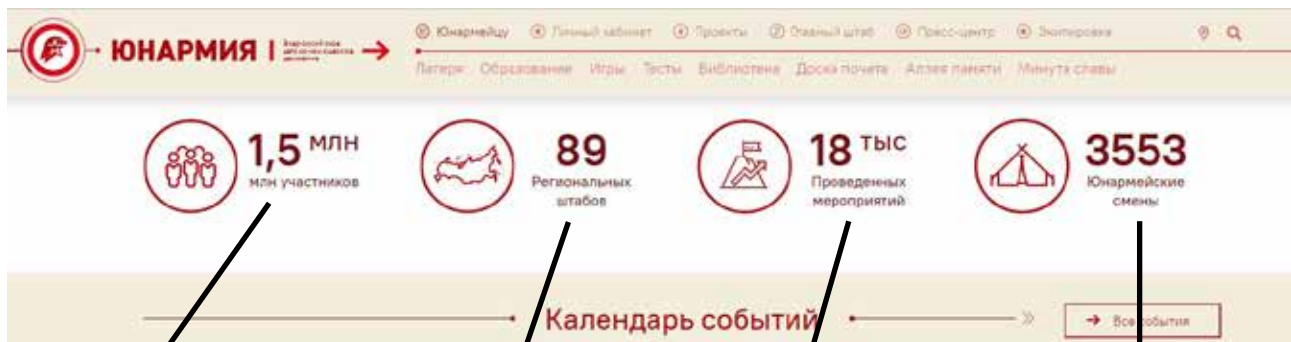
RUSSIAN YOUTH ARMY

“... Today’s ideologues promote the idea of dying for your country and not living for your country.

Dmitry Muratov
Nobel Peace Prize Winner
December 10, 1921



“Education of a Citizen and Patriot”
Russian Youth Army Web Site
<https://yunarmy.ru/>



1.5 million
Participants

89
Regional
Headquarters

18,000
Events

3,553
Camps

MILITARIZED RUSSIAN YOUTH

In late October, 2015, a state-sponsored event at the Kremlin brought together more than 650 leaders of clubs and associations from 77 regions of the Russian Federation to coordinate their efforts. In opening remarks to participants, Kremlin Chief of Staff Sergei Ivanov told participants "... it is important for people working in patriotic education to have an understanding of the general goals and also concrete content guidelines and common approaches and methods for educational programmes." <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/administration/50562#>

The New York Times [reported](#) in 2021 that the Russian government that year launched a \$185 million four-year Kremlin program aimed at increasing "patriotic education" in Russia. 1.5 million children as young as eight have joined the ranks of a uniformed Youth Army (Yunarmy).



**Tank Mine Instruction
Sunday School, Holy Trinity Church
Supon Village, Tula Oblast
January 2018**

<https://potsreotizm.livejournal.com/9031770.html>

"Over the past eight years, the Russian government has promoted the idea that the motherland is surrounded by enemies, filtering the concept through national institutions like schools, the military, the news media and the Orthodox Church."

**New York Times
December 22, 2021
Section A, Page 1**

"We'll show you everything!
Just let us take you by the hand.
How to lay the bricks for dungeons,
How to forge some shackles,
And how to wear them too!..
And how to weave a knotted whip —
We'll teach you everything; just give us
All your azure mountains... for
We've now seized the field and sea."

**Taras Shevchenko
"Caucasus," 1845**

MILITARIZED RUSSIAN YOUTH



MILITARIZED RUSSIAN YOUTH



DENYING UKRAINE

The Russian military has devoted considerable manpower and amounts of expensive ammunition for deliberate and systematic attacks on Ukrainian churches, museums, libraries, schools, theaters, monuments and even hospitals. Such barbarism is meant to destroy the culture of a people that Vladimir Putin has said does not exist. That culture has been under assault by Moscow since the 12th century when that city's founder, [Yuri Dolgorukiy](#), invaded and briefly occupied Kyiv. Over the centuries, Russian rulers have anathemized, censored or burned Ukrainian books, closed institutions of higher learning, banned theater performances, and incentivized use of Russian. In 1863, Russian Interior Minister Pyotr Valuev issued a [decree](#) banning use of Ukrainian, saying the language "never was, is not and cannot be."

In February 1956, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev [said](#) the Joseph Stalin did not deport Ukrainians from their homeland like he did the Crimean Tatars "only because there were too many of them and there was no place to which to deport them."

On the eve of last year's invasion of Ukraine, Vladimir Putin again [expressed](#) Russia's historical animus toward its neighbor, blaming Soviet founder for inventing the nation. "Soviet Ukraine is the result of the Bolsheviks' policy and can rightfully be called 'Vladimir Lenin's Ukraine.' He was its creator and architect," said Putin.



Vladimir Lenin
Alleged "Inventor" of Ukraine

The wanton and mindless liquidation of Ukrainians who simply wrote, danced, acted, sang and otherwise expressed their spirit to enrich the public raises the howling question: why? Who besides cutthroats was left to lead? Did they not foster a devious criminal culture? It was barbarism clear and simple and so it remains. It is unlikely to be appeased. While it may not come to American shores, but such criminality will find other forms of "expression" with which to take perverse pleasure in "sticking to the Americans."

GENOCIDE / RUSSIAN INTENT

United States under the Reagan Administration ratified the U.N. Genocide Convention to prevent and punish acts of genocide during times of war and peace. The agreement was adopted in 1948 by a unanimous vote in the United Nations, partly in response to the Jewish Holocaust.

Today, the atrocities that Russian forces are committing in Ukraine include all five genocidal acts enumerated in the Genocide Convention. Canada, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Ukraine have accused Russia of genocide. In Russia, statements by prominent public officials are reminiscent of chilling threats issued by Nazi leaders about Jews. Such [statements](#) reflect willingness to destroy Ukrainians and incite violence and hatred among Russians.



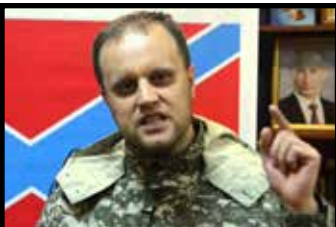
“Simply put, 2 million people . . . These 2 million people should have left Ukraine, or must be denazified, which means to be destroyed.”

Aleksey Zhuravlyov
Parliamentarian



“Never let morality prevent you from doing the right thing. I understand the importance of a humanitarian component . . . but morality shouldn’t get in the way.”

Elena Ponomareva
Political Scientist



“We will kill as many of you as we have to. We will kill one million or five million; we can exterminate all of you.”

Pavel Gubarev
Donbas People’s Militia



“We should wait for the right moment and cause a migration crisis for Europe with a new influx of Ukrainians.”

Andrei Sidorov,
Deputy Dean of World Politics
Moscow State University



“The Jews are a parasitic race that feeds like a foul fungus on the cultures of healthy but ignorant peoples. There is only one effective measure: cut them out.”

Joseph Goebbels
[“The Jews are Guilty!”](#)
November 16, 1941

HOLODOMOR

In October 2018, the U.S. Senate adopted a [resolution](#) introduced by Ohio Senator Rob Portman expressing sympathies to the victims, survivors, and families the Holodomor, an artificial famine perpetrated by the Kremlin that claimed the lives of many millions of Ukrainians in 1932-33. Mr. Portmans' resolution also recognized the [1988 findings](#) of the Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine that Joseph Stalin committed genocide against Ukrainians. In October 2006, President George W. Bush signed Public Law 108-340, which authorized the Government of Ukraine to establish a [memorial](#) on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Holodomor. That memorial now stands a short walking distance from the U.S. Capitol near Union Station.

AMERICAN WANT ADS
for the best
APARTMENT
values!

CHICAGO AMERICAN
CHICAGO, MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1935

SECOND SECTION
NEWS, FEATURES

HUNGER, DESPAIR, DEATH IN UKRAINE AGONY



Through the hunger-ridden Ukraine tramps this man seeking his wife and child. He was torn from them and sent to Siberia in 1930. He walked back—1,000 miles—to find that they had vanished.



Weary of the struggle, a mother sought rest by a roadside in the Ukraine. She slept and did not wake. Her baby crawled a few inches before death touched it also.



Thomas Walker, at the risk of his own life, took this photograph near Kiev. (APC photos copyrighted, by American Newspapers, Inc.)

Soviet Starving Tell Own Stories; Jailed for Eating Dogs

STARVATION stalks through the Ukraine section of Soviet Russia, leaving ghastly trail of death and agony. The most fertile grain producing district... The facts contained in the series of articles, of which this is the fourth, were obtained by Thomas Walker, an American newspaperman, now a resident in London, at the peril of his life.

He was afraid she had died on the way. There was not a crumb of bread in the house, and this boy had not eaten in five days. Dogs, Cats Gone. (Have Been Eaten) One of the saddest things about this trip was the absolute lack of animal life. In villages that were once famous for their dogs and cats, hardly one was to be seen, and when visible it was usually closely guarded. There is a law in this district which provides a penalty of three years...

CONCENTRATION LABOR CAMPS. For eating seed wheat in the process of a spring planting on a Collective Farm a peasant was tried and sentenced to five years hard labor on a Forced Labor Farm. For having a few grains of wheat in his pockets after the day's work, another was sentenced by three years' hard labor. The so-called trial was the same. The peasant is led before a judge, who hears the evidence and passes sentence without any argument or other unnecessary delay.

He had a few inches from the mother's arms and perished. In the course of the afternoon I found seven more bodies—all dead from starvation. Two little boys about 4 years old, and one little girl of 10 years or thereabouts. My women was beginning to be a great source of worry to me. I was convinced that if the Holobevka caught me with these photographs I would be sent to the Gulag—but I went on. I came upon three peasants who had made a rough camp near the highway. One was ill with fever, the stated, although it was not...

“Survival was a moral as well as a physical struggle. A woman doctor wrote to a friend in June 1933 that she had not yet become a cannibal, but was "not sure that I shall not be one by the time my letter reaches you." The good people died first. Those who refused to steal or to prostitute themselves died. Those who gave food to others died. Those who refused to eat corpses died. Those who refused to kill their fellow man died. Parents who resisted cannibalism died before their children did.... At least 2,505 people were sentenced for cannibalism in the years 1932 and 1933 in Ukraine, though the actual number of cases was certainly much higher.”

[Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin](#)
Historian Timothy Snyder

UKRAINE'S EXECUTED RENAISSANCE

After Russia's October Revolution of 1917, the victorious Bolsheviks were confronted with the diverse ethnic and national composition of the former Russian Empire. To prevent uprisings and gain local expertise, Lenin implemented a policy called [korenizatsiya](#) or indigenization, which emphasized native languages and traditions as a practical means of governance.

In Ukraine, indigenization unleashed pent up creative energy in literature, painting and performing arts. But Joseph Stalin pounced. He centralized power, liquidated political opposition and snuffed out non-Russian cultural expression, though he was Georgian himself. Hundreds of Ukrainian intellectuals were systemically murdered, exiled, imprisoned, banned, cowed or co-opted. The wanton and mindless liquidation of Ukrainians, Russians, and others who simply wrote, danced, acted, sang and otherwise expressed their spirit to enrich the public raises the howling question: Why? Who besides cutthroats was left to lead? Did they not foster a criminal culture? It was barbarism clear and simple and so it remains. It is not likely to be appeased. While it may not come to American shores, but such criminality will find other forms of "expression" with which to take perverse pleasure in "sticking to the Americans."

The destruction of Ukraine's cultural elite following their brief day in the sun is known as "[The Executed Renaissance](#)." Ukraine still copes with the scars that period inflicted on its identity and historical narrative.



Krushelnycky Family

Seated L-R **Volodymyra-Dermatologist**, **Taras-Writer**, Maria (mother), Larysa, **Antin-Writer**
Standing L-R **Ostap-Film Historian**, Halya (Wife of Ivan), **Ivan**, Nataliya (Wife of Bohdan),
Bohdan-Economist

Names in red = Persecuted & shot in 1930s

VICTIMS OF EXECUTED RENAISSANCE



M. Boychuk
Painter



Kost Bureviy
Playwright



V. Chechvansky
Humorist



V. Cherniakhivska
Poet / Translator



Oles Dosvitny
Novelist



M. Drai-Khmara
Poet / Scholar



D. Falkivsky
Poet



P. Fylypowycz
Literary Scholar



M. Khvylovy
Publicist



H. Kosynka
Novelist



H. Kotsiuba
Writer



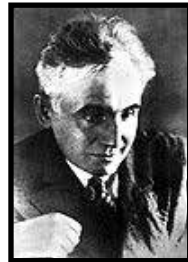
N. Kotsiubynska
Art Historian



Krushelnycka, V
Doctor / Editor



M. Kulish
Playwright



Les Kurbas
Theater Director



L. Mohylanska
Poet



I. Mykytenko
Novelist



Ivan Padalka
Artist



E. Pluzhnyk
Poet



V. Polishchuk
Literary Critic



Vasyl Sedlyar
Illustrator



O. Slisarenko
Futurist Writer



M. Sopilka
Poet / Novelist



Dmytro Tas
Writer



Marko Voroniy
Children's Writer



Yuriy Vukhnal
Writer



M. Yaloviy
Association Head



V. Yaroshenko
Story Writer



M. Yohansen
Writer



Mykola Zerov
Poet

WAR CRIME INDICTMENTS

In March, the International Criminal Court in the Hague issued [indictments](#) against Russian President Vladimir Putin and Commissioner for Children’s Rights Maria Lvova-Belova for alleged abduction of Ukrainian children. The Geneva Convention prohibits occupying powers from transferring civilians to another territory. However, upwards of 20,000 Ukrainian children have been abducted to Russia. Russian citizenship has been imposed on them, and they are forbidden from learning the Ukrainian language or preserving their ethnic identity.



Press Release: 17 March 2023 | Українська мова | Русский

Situation in Ukraine: ICC judges issue arrest warrants against Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and Maria Alekseyevna Lvova-Belova International Criminal Court Statement



Vladimir Putin & Maria Lvova-Belova
Photo: Sputnik



Photo: Reuters
Qatari Ambassador to Russia Sheikh Ahmed bin Nasser al-Thani with Ukrainian children before departure to Ukraine. Return took place according to a Qatari-mediated agreement. Dec. 5, 2023



Lord David Alton
British House of Lords
www.davidalton.net

“From the early months of the war, we have heard disturbing stories of Ukrainian children being abducted and taken to Russia and being subjected to accelerated illegal adoptions there. In August, at a UN Security Council session, Kateryna Rashevskya, a legal expert at the Regional Center for Human Rights, reported that Russian Federation agents had taken at least 19,546 children to Russia from Ukraine since 24 February 2022.”

[Lord David Alton of Liverpool](#)
British House of Lords
21 September 2023

ABDUCTED CHILDREN

CBS *60 Minutes* reported in November on Ukrainian mothers and grandmothers who travel over long and circuitous routes from Ukraine in a difficult effort to recover their abducted children in Russia. Upwards of 20,000 have been reported kidnapped but the actual figure could be much higher. Here are just 30 listed on www.childrenofwar.gov.ua as of mid-December.



Viktor Andriyets



Anna Babenko



Nazar Berezhenyov



U. Bezpertsova



Bohdan Bokov



Uavid Chanhli



Sofia Delikatna



Kost Drehval



Anastasia Diachuk



Tikhon Ekkert



Andriy Hatchenko



Chrystyna Holub



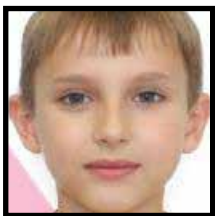
Anna Ivashova



S. Karapetyan



Diana Kobzar



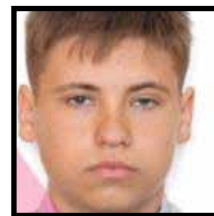
Ilya Kolybabcuk



Ivan Kucher



Dmytro Lysenko



Kyrylo Maltsev



Daniel Matchyshyn



Murat Melnyk



Margarita Myroniuk



Kateryna Popova



Ivan Sichov



Tsarova, Myroslava



Tyzhnevoy, Kost



Yatchenko, Anastasia



Zakizyanov, D.



Zarembovskyy, Y.



Mykola Zhukov

SIZE OF UKRAINE

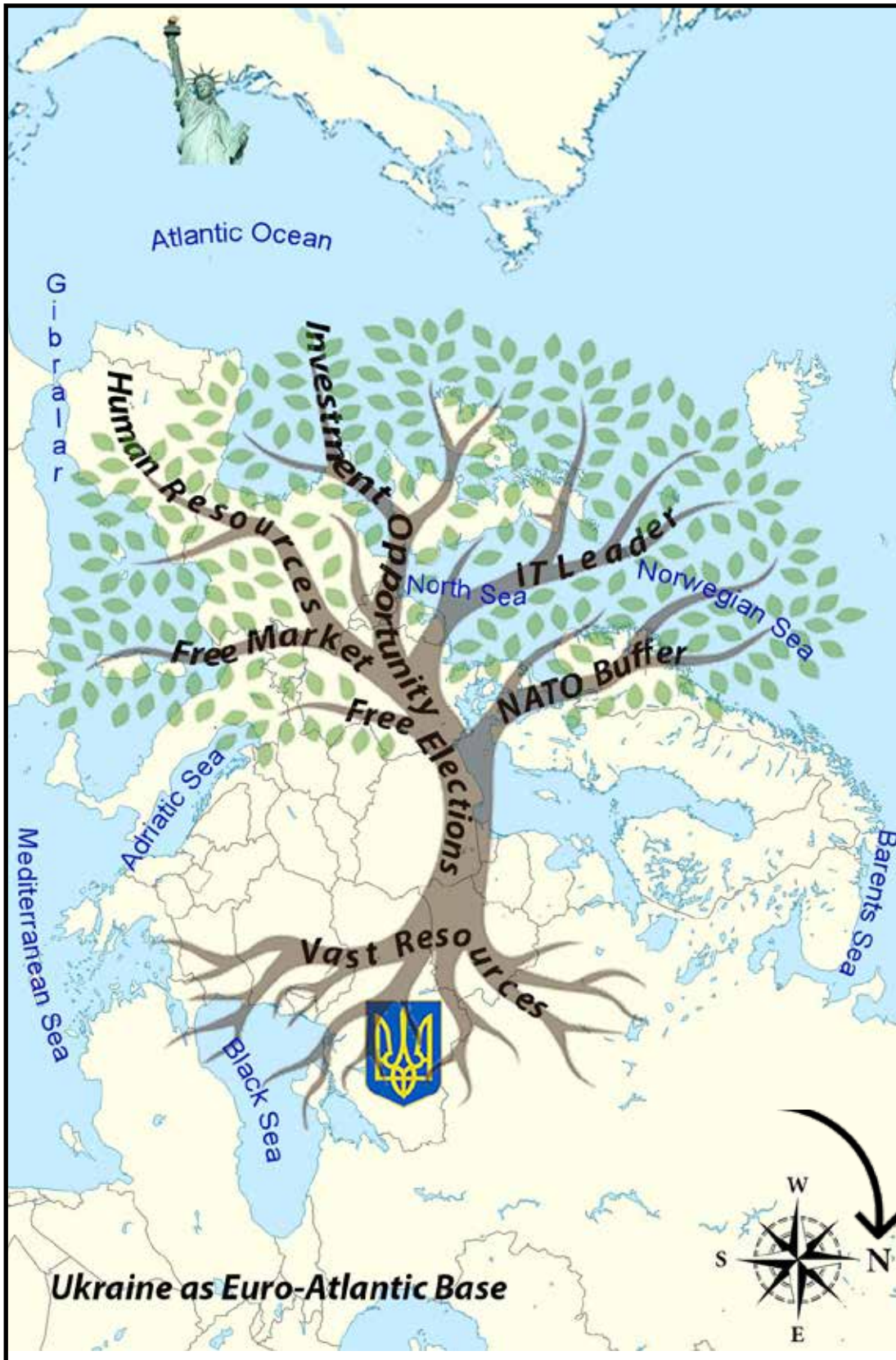
Ukraine is vast. The distance between the country's easternmost city of Luhansk to Lviv in the west is greater than the distance between Prague and London.

Ukraine is among the claimants of being the [geographic center](#) of Europe. If taking into consideration the entire landmass of the Continent and calculating the point equidistant from its extreme geographical points, the center is in the Carpathian village of Dilove. Ukraine's location makes it a geopolitically strategic buffer between NATO countries and Russia. A stable and sovereign Ukrainian nation contributes to stability in Central Europe and the Baltics, inhibiting any renewed westward spread of authoritarian Russian power.



EURO-ATLANTIC FOUNDATION

The American and European interest in Ukraine can be visualized by turning the map clockwise 90 degrees. This places Ukraine not off to the side, but at the base of the Euro-Atlantic region in the geographic center of the Continent. Ukraine's alignment with Western democracies will nurture them. A reinvigorated Russia in control of Ukraine in whole or in part will drain the U.S. and Europe.



EURO-ATLANTIC FOUNDATION

Geopolitical friction between Russia and other European powers contributed to the portrayal of that country as an ominous and far-reaching force, symbolized by an octopus in political cartoons of the time. Fears of Russian domination have not vanished and are especially pointed in Baltic countries and Central Europe, which had been controlled by Moscow until 1991.



UKRAINIAN KNOW-HOW

America's first atomic bomb, the first moon landing, the first satellite launch, helicopters and computer memory all have one thing in common: a Ukrainian invented or played a key role such seminal achievements. The individuals shown below are not mentioned for the sake of name-dropping but rather to pose an implicit question to legislators who propose to defund Ukraine about disposition of such talent. Which country should they serve? How? The United States, voluntarily? Or Russia, under duress?



George Kistiakowsky - Explosives expert & science advisor to President Dwight Eisenhower. Led the Manhattan Project effort to invent the detonator for the first atomic bomb.



Ihor Sikorsky - Inventor of the helicopter.



Serhiy Korolyov - Key figure of the Soviet ICBM program. Led the Soviet space program, overseeing the Sputnik and Vostok space projects that included launching the first human into Earth orbit.



Lyubomyr Romankiv - (co)inventor on over 65 U.S. patents Co-inventor (along with David Thompson) of the technique, which enabled creation and development of magnetic hard drives and personal computers.



Yuriy Kondratyuk (Olexander Shargey) - Developed the mathematics for Lunar Orbit Rendezvous (LOR) needed to land on the Moon and return to Earth.

UKRAINIAN KNOW-HOW



Fedir Pirotsky - inventor of the world's first railway electrification system and electric tram.



Oleh Antonov - Aircraft Designer. The Antonov Design Bureau in Kyiv, Ukraine created the AN-225 (Mriya), the world's largest airplane that holds the record for the heaviest cargo lift. It was destroyed shortly after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

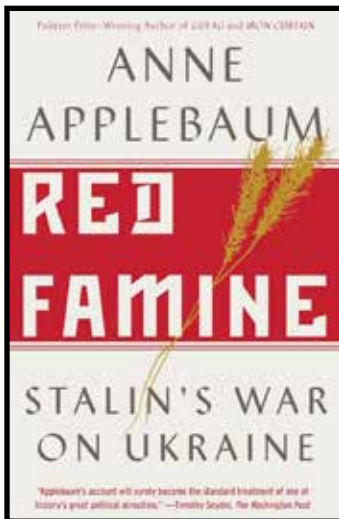


George Gamow - Discovered the first mathematical model of the atomic nucleus, worked on radioactive decay, star formation, stellar nucleosynthesis, Big Bang nucleosynthesis (which he collectively called nucleocosmogogenesis), and molecular genetics.

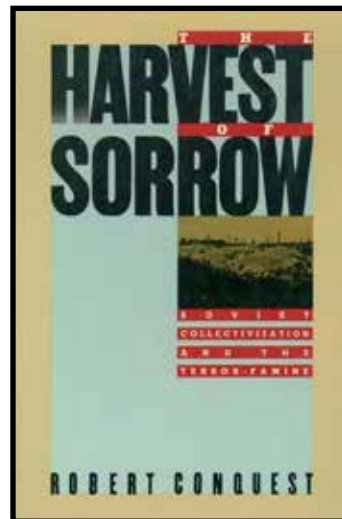
“Ukraine is an amazing country. The human resources are extraordinary and they're still there. It is not as if all those scientists left Ukraine. The opportunity in the digital age in Ukraine for economic development is tremendous. But also they have amazing natural resources, everything including critical minerals that we need for our own transition, but also gas reserves and also of course, an amazing agricultural capability, really per capita probably the best in the world.”

Former Senator Rob Portman
[Cleveland City Club, November 17, 2023](#)

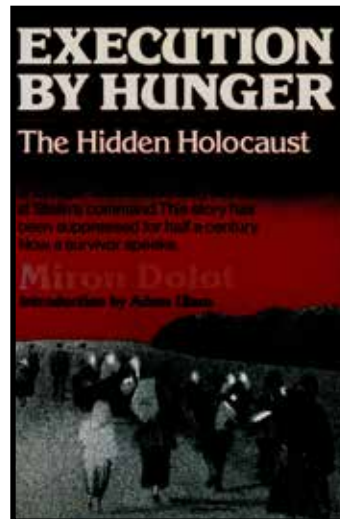
FURTHER INFORMATION



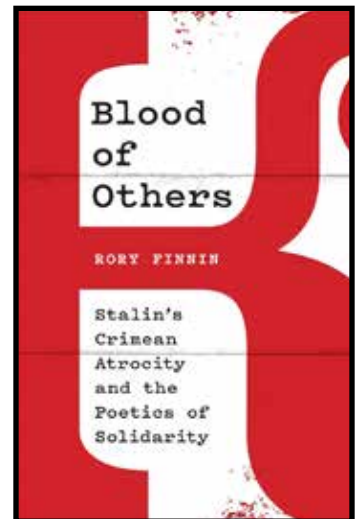
[Anne Applebaum](#)



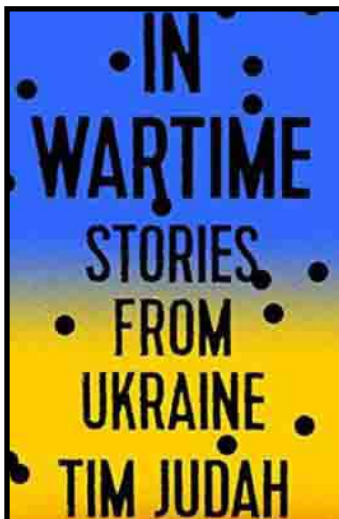
[Robert Conquest](#)



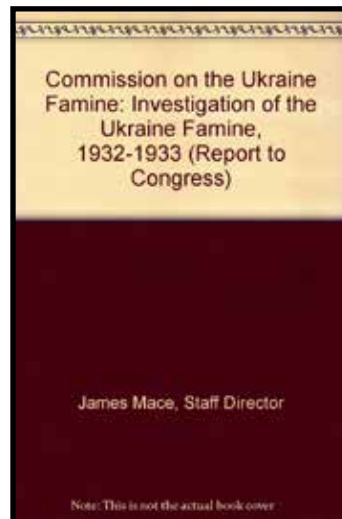
[Miron Dolot](#)



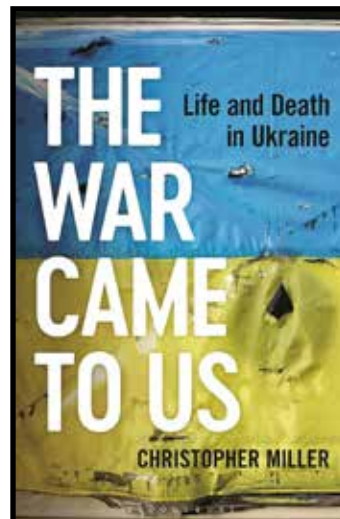
[Rory Finnan](#)



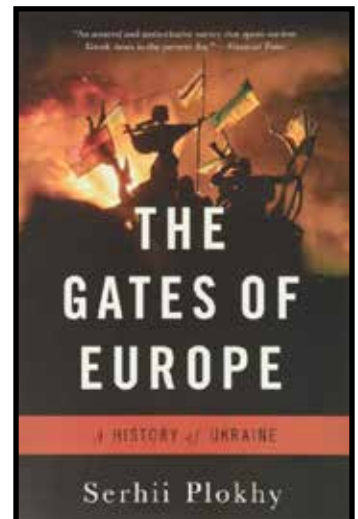
[Tim Judah](#)



[James Mace](#)



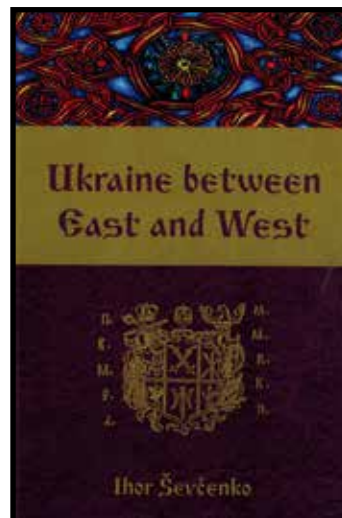
[Christopher Miller](#)



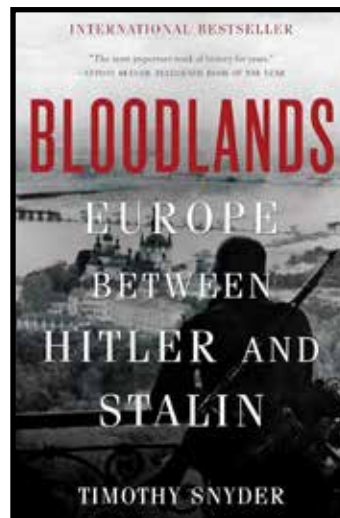
[Serhii Plokhy](#)



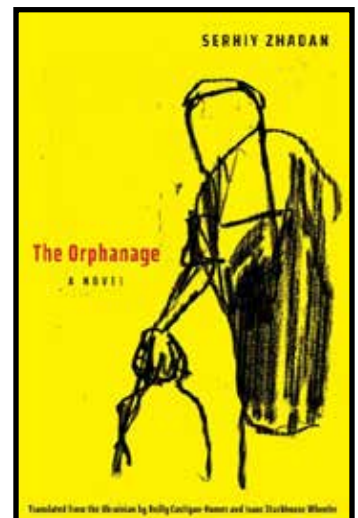
[Yuri Shcherbak](#)



[Ihor Sevcenko](#)



[Timothy Snyder](#)



[Serhiy Zhadan](#)

MAKING OF MODERN UKRAINE

“Ukraine must have existed as a society and polity on 23 February 2022, else Ukrainians would not have collectively resisted Russian invasion the next day.”

Yale History Professor Timothy Snyder

<https://rb.gy/7z7arb>

Topic 1: Ukrainian Questions Posed by Russian Invasion

Topic 2: The Genesis of Nations

Topic 3: Geography and Ancient History

Topic 4: Before Europe

Topic 5: Vikings, Slavers, Lawgivers: The Kyiv State

Topic 6: The Grand Duchy of Lithuania

Topic 7: Rise of Muscovite Power

Topic 8: Early Jews of Modern Ukraine

Topic 9: Polish Power and Cossack Revolution

Topic 10: Global Empires

Topic 11: Ottoman Retreat, Russian Power, Ukrainian Populism

Topic 12: Habsburg Curiosity

Topic 13: Republics and Revolutions

Topic 14: Interwar Poland's Ukrainians

Topic 15: Ukrainization, Famine, Terror: 1920s-1930s

Topic 16: Colonization, Extermination, Ethnic Cleansing

Topic 17: Reforms, Recentralization, Dissidence: 1950s-1970s

Topic 18: Before and After the End of History

Topic 19: Oligarchies in Russia and Ukraine

Topic 20: Maidan and Self-Understanding

Topic 21: Comparative Russian Imperialism

Topic 22: Ukrainian Ideas in the 21st Century

Topic 23: The Colonial, the Post-Colonial, the Global





**Dnipro River at Kaniv
View from the grave of
Poet Taras Shevchenko**



<http://tinyurl.com/4a97ymkf>

FUTURE NEWS

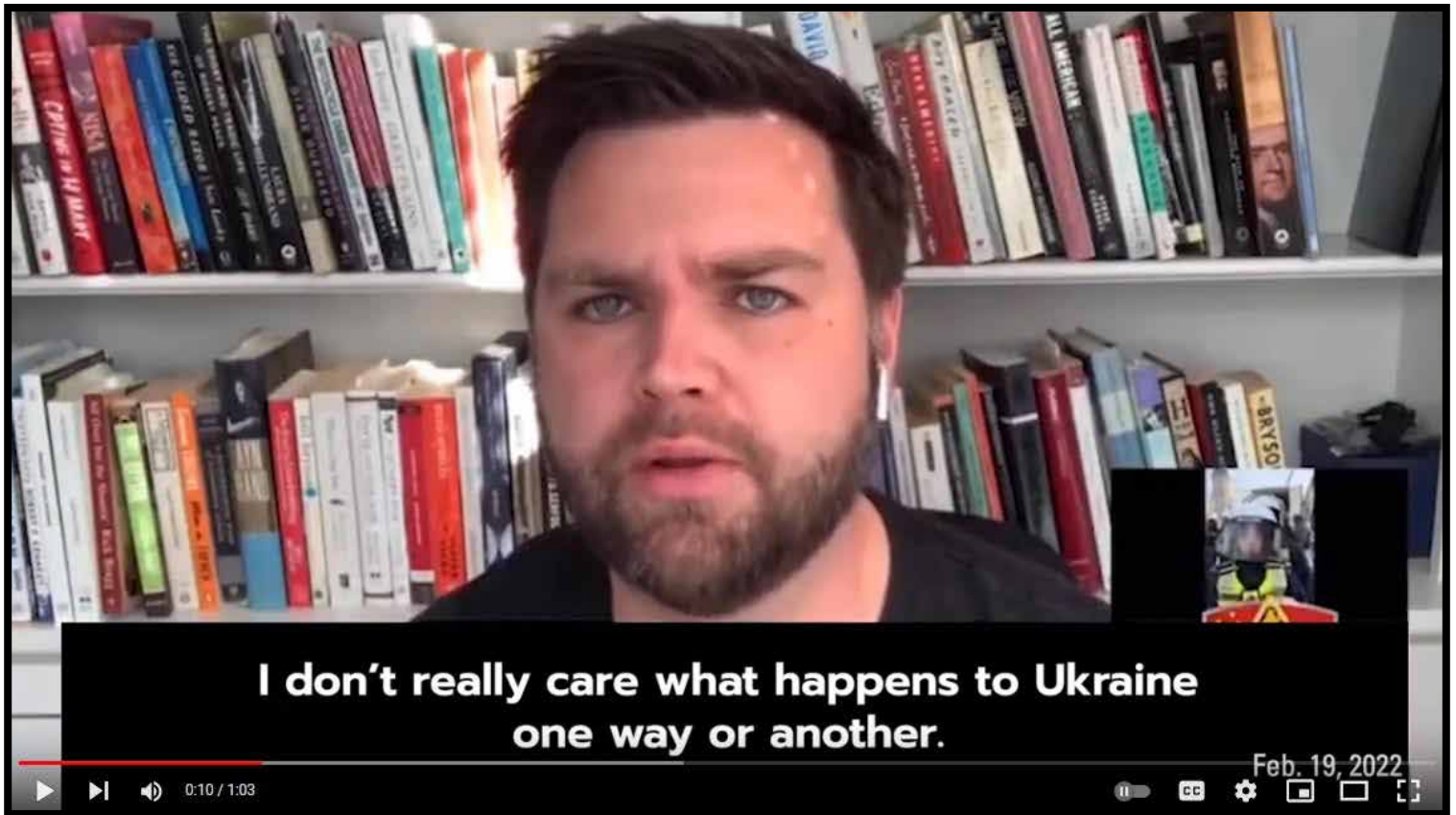
A semi-satirical report of what a Russian victory in Ukraine might entail.

FUTURE NEWS

HOPE IT'S FAKE

Russia Defeats Ukraine Empire Revived

[Allies Rally 'Round Emboldened Putin](#)
[Conquered Assets Bolster Moscow](#)
[New Global Reserve Currency?](#)
[Taxes for Cold War II?](#)
[Russian Wheat: 1/3 of Global Supply](#)



Candidate J. D. Vance
[Steve Bannon's War Room Podcast](#)
February 19, 2022

Ask JD, What's Plan B?

THE INSIDE SCOOP



XI: You got a bit roughed up winning that piece of real estate.

PUTIN: Yeah, but what's a few 100 thousand lives? And with Ukraine now adding to our weapons capacity, we'll have plenty. Need any?



LUKASHENKO: Launching the full-scale invasion of Ukraine from Belarus was great. And now your nukes on our territory. How exciting!

PUTIN: You're very kind, Alex. Let's keep the Poles and Balts guessing and feed more disinformation to useful idiots in the U.S.



PUTIN: Thanks for the drones. They came in handy.

RAISI: You scratch my back, I scratch yours. We appreciate your help destabilizing the Mid-East. As Lenin put it, "the worse it is, the better."



KIM: Hey, thanks for the nuclear technology, Vlad.

PUTIN: It's the least we could do. Your conventional weapons made a difference. But lucky for us that the Americans dragged their feet.



MODI: Much obliged for accepting rupees instead of dollars for oil.

PUTIN: Pleasure doin' business with you. Say, why doesn't everyone just dump the dollar?



ALASSAD: Welcome to the Indicted War Criminals Club. You're the best.

PUTIN: Glad to be in such good company.

20-20 HINDSIGHT

The United States was among the nuclear powers that pressured Ukraine to give up its nuclear arsenal, the world's third largest (See below). The agreement to do so was the 1994 Budapest Memorandum and America assured Ukraine's security along with Great Britain and Russia. The point was to discourage nuclear proliferation. The lesson is, don't trust Americans and get some nukes so you too can blackmail the world.



**UN-100N/RS-18 ICBM'S - 130 Total
Six Warheads Each
1700 Total Warheads**



**Tactical Nuclear Weapons
Up to 4,200 Total**



Raduga Kh-55 "Kent" Cruise Missiles



**Launch Silos
40 Total**



**Tu-95 "Bear" Strategic Heavy Bomber
29 Total**



**Tu-160 "Blackjack" Strategic Bomber
15 Total**

Though Russia does not bear any gifts for America, some may interpret savings from the reduction or elimination of funding for Ukraine as a windfall for domestic needs. Ukraine, after all, is “over there.” But Russia is right here in America, using satellites and fiber optic cables as a Trojan Horse to violate our borders, steal our money and secrets and to assume our identities. And AI for dictators is close at hand.

Botnets - Malicious Russian actors create networks of compromised computers (botnets) to launch coordinated assaults, such as distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks to overwhelm and disrupt targeted systems. In June 2022, the U.S. Justice Department of Justice along with law enforcement partners in Europe dismantled the infrastructure of a Russian botnet that hacked millions of computers and other electronic devices around the world.



Cyber Espionage - State-sponsored Russian hackers steal sensitive information, intellectual property, or government secrets. They use advanced persistent threats (APTs) and sophisticated malware to infiltrate networks and remain undetected for extended periods.

Phishing Attacks - Bad actors in Russia frequently use phishing emails or messages to trick individuals into revealing sensitive information such as login credentials.

Ransomware Attacks - Russian criminal organizations deploy ransomware to encrypt a victim's data and demand payment for its release. This type of attack has

disrupted critical infrastructure and caused financial losses in the United States, including the Washington, DC Police Department and Colonial Pipeline.

Social Engineering - Russia employs psychiatrists, scientists, and neurologists to build psychological profiles of targets using their social media footprint. One technique known as trashing gathers data on individuals and organizations using discarded or forgotten data, including old email addresses and social media posts.

Supply Chain Attacks - Russia has compromised America's software or hardware supply chain, injecting malicious code into products before they reach end-users. The SolarWinds hack in 2020 triggered a much larger supply chain incident that affected thousands of organizations, including the U.S. Government.

“...Russia will remain a top cyber threat as it refines and employs its espionage, influence, and attack capabilities. Russia is particularly focused on improving its ability to target critical infrastructure, including underwater cables and industrial control systems, in the United States as well as in allied and partner countries, because compromising such infrastructure improves and demonstrates its ability to damage infrastructure during a crisis.”

**2023 Annual Threat Assessment
Office of the Director of National Intelligence**

FUTURE NEWS

HOPE IT'S FAKE

Russia

The New Generation

[Meet Putin's Successors](#)

[Killers - Start 'Em Young](#)

[Ukrainian Children Indoctrinated](#)



What's Plan B, Daddy?

In late October, 2015, a state-sponsored event at the Kremlin brought together more than 650 leaders of clubs and associations from 77 regions of the Russian Federation to coordinate their efforts. In opening remarks to participants, Kremlin Chief of Staff Sergei Ivanov told participants “... it is important for people working in patriotic education to have an understanding of the general goals and also concrete content guidelines and common approaches and methods for educational programmes.” <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/administration/50562#>

The New York Times [reported](#) in 2021 that the Russian government that year launched a \$185 million four-year Kremlin program aimed at increasing “patriotic education” in Russia. 1.5 million children as young as eight have joined the ranks of a uniformed Youth Army (Yunarmy).



Tank Mine Instruction
Sunday School, Holy Trinity Church
Supon Village, Tula Oblast
January 2018

<https://potsreotizm.livejournalcom/903170.html>

“Over the past eight years, the Russian government has promoted the idea that the motherland is surrounded by enemies, filtering the concept through national institutions like schools, the military, the news media and the Orthodox Church.”

[New York Times](#)

December 22, 2021
Section A, Page 1

“We’ll show you everything!
Just let us take you by the hand.
How to lay the bricks for dungeons,
How to forge some shackles,
And how to wear them too!..
And how to weave a knotted whip —
We’ll teach you everything; just give us
All your azure mountains... for
We’ve now seized the field and sea.”

[Taras Shevchenko](#)

“Caucasus,” 1845

RUSSIA'S FUTURE LEADERS



PAST IS PROLOGUE



FUTURE NEWS

HOPE IT'S FAKE

Russia True Religion

Hallowed Be Thy Bomb
Guns Protect Almighty God
Terrible Swift Sword



St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral
Parma, OH
November 5, 2022

What's Plan B, J. D.?

AIMING AT SALVATION



UKRAINE FIRE SALES

500 religious sites
damaged or destroyed
in Ukraine.



VIDEO TESTIMONIES OF RUSSIAN WAR CRIMES IN UKRAINE



Denis Gorenkov:

"After Russian troops entered the Kyiv region, their headquarter was located in the building of our religious mission in Irpin. As result, our building was totally destroyed."

<https://youtu.be/CCgbwdlDqck>



Fr. Sergiy Chudinovich:

"Russian military threatened me in every possible way. They put me on my knees, put my head on a chair, pressed me down with a knee, and said that they would rape me with the baton."

<https://youtu.be/T5vaeQD43hw>



Pastor Valentyn Zahreba:

"For many believers today, the issue of survival is becoming extremely important. Now both of our church buildings in Mariupol are destroyed."

https://youtu.be/cK_zpo7wBoA



Oleg Bondarenko:

"Russian soldiers threw me into a sewage well, where I spent two days. Every day they mauled someone from the local population to death: they shot their legs and broke their hands."

<https://youtu.be/lzxRAO6rCuE>



Fr. Andrii Klyushev

"Russians wanted to get into our church. They broke down the doors to our bell tower, climbed it, then a Russian sniper climbed the fire escape to the roof of our church and use it as a firepoint."

<https://youtu.be/gEp3oZtGGyM>



Rabbi Moshe Azman:

"No one asked Russians to come in Ukraine to "denazify" someone, but they came and shot peaceful citizens of Russian-speaking cities of Kharkiv, Mariupol, and Kyiv region."

<https://youtu.be/F5-Tsr20YkA>



Mufti Said Ismagilov:

"Russia destroyed four Muslim religious buildings in Donbas. This happened as a result of heavy missile and artillery attacks by the Russian troops."

<https://youtu.be/txA-UAJH-l8>



Imam Rustem Asanov:

«Russians hate us. They have only one goal – the destruction of the Ukrainian nation as a whole. If they hear the Ukrainian language or see the Ukrainian flag, it tears them apart from the inside.»

<https://youtu.be/SPBeKYh9dM4>



Fr. Ruslan Mykhalkiv:

"Russian soldiers shelled and robbed the Catholic seminary in the Kyiv region. They damaged many windows broke down doors, and burglarized the seminary."

<https://youtu.be/RpDJ59MW4Fo>



Pastor Vyacheslav Keba:

"When Russian soldiers came to our adaptation center, they started with shelling, then began to break everything, and finally stole many things."

<https://youtu.be/BhkNtHXoXvM>

Hallowed Be Thy Bomb

Putting Faith in Weapons of War
Russian Orthodox Clergy

















<http://tinyurl.com/4a97ymkf>