Analysis of the Influence of the War between Russia and Ukraine on International Relations

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Abstract: The end of World War II heralded the dawn of a new era in which expansionist invasions, while not completely disappearing, had formed their own rules for more than half a century. These rules were invariably invented by Western countries led by the United States, and their ideas are mainly derived from the summary of the lessons learned during the colonial period, but the overall framework is still that framework. Therefore, when another country comes out to follow suit, it means that its own interests will be harmed, so Western countries led by the United States will naturally try their best to prevent it.

Keywords: The influence of the War, Russo-Ukrainian war, international relations.

# Introduction

Although the Russian-Ukrainian war is ostensibly a Russian-Ukrainian contradiction, it is actually an open and secret struggle between the United States and other Western countries and Russia and its allies. From past experience, in any battle, once the United States intervenes, the United States can emerge unscathed, not only causing heavy losses to the participating countries, but also allowing the United States to occupy the battlefield for a long time and have a large number of military resources, it can be said that the United States has never lost in battle, however, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine puts the United States in a situation of mutual harm (*War in Ukraine | Americares Emergency Response*, 2022).

However, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine is now beginning to bear fruit. Russia does not want to lose the four eastern countries of Ukraine and Crimea, Ukraine has lost hope of becoming a member of NATO, and the US plan to intervene in Eastern Europe has failed. This is a heavy blow to the United States and a divisive global geopolitical situation, causing concerns about US global hegemony. In addition, from the diplomatic and economic perspectives, the trend of global multiploidization has taken shape. The United States was once firmly opposed to multiploidization. But with the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian war, many swing countries saw the true intentions of the United States and began to impose severe sanctions on Russia (*Almost 2 years in, here’s where Russia’s invasion of Ukraine stands | CBC News*, 2023).

# Causes Analysis

The underlying causes of the war include the "Ukrainization and de-Russification" of the region after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the split of national identity caused by Russian-Russian nationalism in China, the insecurity caused by the "eastward expansion of NATO", Russia's plan to re-establish influence in the former Soviet Union, the 2014 pro-EU demonstration movement in Ukraine that overthrew Viktor Yanukovych's pro-Russian regime, and the subsequent Crimean crisis and Donbass separatism. The war revolves around the status of Crimea in southeastern Ukraine and the Donbas region in the east. Specifically, it is divided into the following five points (*The End of WWII and the Division of Europe | CES at UNC*, 2022).

## 2.1. Historical Reasons

Ukraine was part of the former Soviet Union and was not independent until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Russia and Ukraine have a long history, and the two countries have close ties in culture, language, religion and other aspects. However, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, relations between the two countries gradually drifted apart, especially the differences between Ukraine and Russia in political direction and foreign relations (Sullivan, 2022).

## 2.2. Political Reasons

In 2014, Ukrainian President Viking Yanukovych was overthrown and a pro-Western government took over power. Russia believes that this is an interference from the United States and European countries in an attempt to establish a pro-Western regime around Russia. Thus, Russia supports the independence of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and supports pro-Russian militants in eastern Ukraine. The Government of Ukraine considers this a violation of its territorial integrity and is trying to solve the problem by force (*Profile: Ukraine’s ousted President Viktor Yanukovych - BBC News*, 2014).

## 2.3. Economic Reasons

Ukraine is a resource-rich country rich in agricultural and industrial resources. Russia is Ukraine's main trading partner and supplier of natural gas, and the two countries have very close economic ties. However, as political relations between the two countries deteriorated, economic relations also suffered (Ukraine - Resources, Power, Economy | Britannica, 2022).

## 2.4. Cultural Reasons

Russia and Ukraine have similar cultural and linguistic backgrounds, but there are also some differences and controversies. For example, Russia and Ukraine have historical, religious, cultural and linguistic differences, which exacerbate conflicts and conflicts between the two countries (*Ukrainian and Russian: how similar are the two languages?*, 2022).

# The Ambitions of the Leaders of the Three Kingdoms

There is no doubt that the initiators of this war are Putin and Zelensky, both with lofty ambitions and conflicting goals, which led to a series of conflicts between them, with huge and irreversible effects. The Democratic administration of the United States, led by Biden, also unexpectedly intervened in this war. According to statistics, since the outbreak of the war, the Biden administration has supplied Ukraine with at least $36 billion and a large number of weapons (*Leadership at War: How Putin and Zelensky are Defining the Conflict*, 2022).

# The Policy of the Country Concerned

## 4.1. The United State

The US strategy for intervening in the Russian-Ukrainian war mainly includes early intervention, alliance, comprehensive sanctions, valuing values, and prudent handling. Judging from the current results, the US intervention strategy is basically effective, strongly supporting Ukraine's resistance and causing a serious setback to Russia's "special military operation" against Ukraine. It is likely that the United States will apply the strategy of intervening in the Russian-Ukrainian war to Taiwan affairs to hinder China's reunification cause. This will further exacerbate the existing strategic mutual suspicion between China and the United States, and worsen the already tense situation in the Taiwan Strait. This greatly affected China's internal affairs (*Operations management of smart logistics: A literature review and future research | Frontiers of Engineering Management*, 2022).

Schultz's strategy has always been to support Ukraine, but he is reluctant to let Germany ignite. In many cases, however, German politicians have made statements that are the exact opposite of Schulz's expectations. However, as German foreign minister, Berber's statement represents Germany's attitude, and apology at this time means that Germany is not willing to completely fall out with Russia. However, this does not mean that Germany really maintains its support for Russia. After all, history cannot forget that the destruction of the "Third Reich" of Germany owes much to the former Soviet Union. As part of the former Soviet Union, Russia, while inheriting most of the "legacy" of the Soviet Union after the collapse of the Soviet Union, undoubtedly dominates the hatred of the "Axis powers" towards the Soviet Union. As a big country, Germany suffered a lot of oppression after World War II, and the German government must have a certain sense of revenge. After all, if Germany had won the Second World War, it would have had a higher position than it is now, so Germany could not support Russia.

## 4.2. France

Before the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, French President Emmanuel Macron and Russian President Putin had many exchanges and communications, hoping to ease tensions. After the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, Macron also made a public speech, hoping to maintain dialogue between Western countries and Russia and avoid further deterioration of the overall situation. However, in recent years, new news has come one after another, and French President Emmanuel Macron's position on the Russian-Ukrainian conflict has changed a lot, announcing that armored vehicles made in Western countries will be supplied to Ukraine. It is reported that Macron is also the first Western leader to make such a commitment to Ukraine. Analysts believe that this means that the move will be a major change for France in this conflict.

In April, French President Emmanuel Macron visited China and met with Chinese leaders. During the meeting, Macron elaborated on France's position in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, appreciated China's important role in the political settlement of the Ukrainian crisis, stressed that France advocates resuming political negotiations and resolving the crisis through diplomatic means to achieve lasting peace in Europe, and hopes to strengthen communication with China in this regard and work together for peace. The French government has changed its attitude towards the Russian-Ukrainian war many times in a short period of time, indicating that the French government is independent and has not been intimidated and influenced by the Biden administration.

## 4.3. China

There is a view that China is the beneficiary of this conflict, because the United States has been forced to focus its military security attention on the European direction, which has won a strategic opportunity for China's development. Biden also believes that the Russian-Ukrainian conflict has forced Russia's development to look east and become China's gas station. Opponents believe that the Russian-Ukrainian conflict has greatly worsened China's strategic security environment, strengthened US hegemony, activated NATO's status, damaged China's economic interests in Ukraine, and affected the overall situation of economic cooperation between China and Europe, and China is also a victim. Both of these statements are very extreme, and there are no absolute beneficiaries of the so-called war. Throughout the ages, there have been countless wars, large and small, in the world. Whether it is a civil war or a foreign war, it is the ordinary people who are negatively affected. According to statistics, since the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian war, more than 200,000 soldiers have been sacrificed in the two countries, not including those civilians who were accidentally injured by shells.

Since the end of World War II, expansionist invasions aimed at annexing land have clearly receded, and wars for domination and occupation of land are becoming a thing of the past.

However, with the revival and awakening of unilateralism and the Cold War mentality, some countries have been forced to pick up the past war mode in order not to squeeze their own strategic security.

## 4.4. Russia

The current test that Russia is experiencing on the battlefield of Ukraine is actually a helpless move out of its own security interests in the context of changes in international relations.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly stressed publicly that Russia is not prepared to encroach on Ukrainian territory, as he said in 2008, Ukraine will still exist as an independent state.

However, when the tanks of the Russian army crossed the Ukrainian border, the West began to collectively question the actions of the Russian army, believing that it was no different from aggression.

The West sees Russia's alleged invasion as contrary to the essence of their time. But they seem to have forgotten what they did in Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

But the last thing the West lacks is excuses, they think that the bombing and dismemberment of the FRY is because of the so-called "genocide", they think that the invasion of Iraq is because Saddam Hussein wants to annex Kuwait, they think that the overthrow of the Afghan regime is to eliminate terrorism.

In Western perceptions, the most recent expansionism occurred more than thirty years ago, when Iraq invaded Kuwait.

The measure is also extremely ridiculous, such as the US invasion of Iraq, and the purpose of the US military is not to change the country's borders or annex land to the United States.

The West seems to have forgotten the problem that one of the reasons Russia is conducting a special military operation is to help the Luhansk and Donetsk republics.

The United States dismember Yugoslavia into six republics, while Russia became an aggressor by doing so. The West demands that Russia respect the territorial integrity and sovereign unity of Ukraine, believing that the actions of the Russian army have touched their bottom line.

Even alarmist statements say that the Russian-Ukrainian war is like opening a Pandora's box, and other countries will follow the same path as Russia and begin to change international borders by force.

It also issued a strong warning that the once powerful countries are likely to embark on the path of national expansion in order to regain their former glory, and more and more countries will disappear from the map in the future.

The Western countries led by the United States in the field of public opinion warfare are absolutely kings, and the war they launched themselves is to liberate mankind, and Russia's war is the awakening of the devil,

Since the United States declared its independence on July 4, 1776, there have been only 21 years without war in its 240-year history.

Among them, the United States launched 201 wars under the pretext of implementing United Nations resolutions, implementing humanitarian assistance, maintaining world peace, and protecting the lives and property of American citizens, resulting in a serious humanitarian crisis.

In order to create the Russian threat theory, they often cleverly avoid the modern era and lead everyone back to history.

Austria, Prussia, and Russia, for example, partitioned Poland between 1772 and 1795, completely disappearing from the map of Europe for more than a century.

The disappearance of a country in more than 100 years will evoke everyone's fear of Russia and remind everyone of the fate of Ukraine next.

So the West that led by the United States, think about the fate of Palestine, and it was tacitly approved by Western countries when Israel was wantonly on someone else's territory.

The most ridiculous thing is that Western countries believe that if Putin overthrows the current Ukrainian regime and chooses to replace it with a regime loyal to it, it will deal a serious blow to the Ukrainian people.

In fact, the author still agrees with the West on this point, after all, the examples of failure in Afghanistan, Linia and Iraq are already there.

But Russia and Ukraine belong to the same ethnic group, so the problems that the West fears are unlikely to arise. The end of the Second World War heralded the dawn of a new era in which expansionist invasions, though not completely disappeared, had developed their own rules for more than half a century. These rules are invariably invented by Western countries led by the United States, and the idea is mainly derived from the summary of the lessons learned during the colonial period, but the overall framework is still that framework. Therefore, when another country comes out to follow suit, it means that its own interests will suffer, so the Western countries led by the United States naturally try their best to prevent it (*Fact-checking Putin’s claims that Ukraine and Russia are ‘one people’*, 2022).

# Conclusion

From past experience, in any battle, once the United States intervenes, the United States can be unscathed, not only causing heavy losses to the participating countries, but also allowing the United States to occupy the battlefield for a long time, with a large number of military resources, it can be said that the United States has never lost in battle, However, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine puts the United States in a situation of mutual harm.

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The root causes of the war include the "Ukrainization and de-Russification" of the region after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the split in national identity caused by Russian nationalism in China, the insecurity caused by the "eastward expansion of NATO", Russia's plans to re-establish influence in the former Soviet Union, the overthrow of Viktor Yanukovych's pro-Russian regime in Ukraine in 2014, and the subsequent Crimean crisis and Donbass separatism. The war revolves around the status of Crimea in southeastern Ukraine and the Donbas region in the east.

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