

ITSMUN



ITSMUN'22

UNSC

STUDY GUIDE

Guide by the Under Secretary General:

Demir McAlister Yazıcı

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Welcome Letter from the Secretary General:

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to ITSMUN'22, the fifth annual session of Izmir TAKEV Schools Model United Nations Conference. We are more than thrilled to meet you at our conference between the 10th and 12th of April, 2022.

Our theme for this year's ITSMUN is "Future Awaits", representing the notion of hope in a chaotic world. We chose "Future Awaits" because we sincerely believe that our world is waiting for its young leaders, pioneers, and collaborators like you to find solutions to the most crucial global problems.

ITSMUN'22 will draw attention to creating new and applicable solutions for current and past world issues and work on creating better solutions for the past, present, and future. The delegates at ITSMUN'22 will be representing various countries and debating on solutions as they are in the committees and councils of the United Nations.

At ITSMUN'22, we are sure that you will be meeting a future version of yourself, someone full of enthusiasm and joy and eager to learn from others. We are looking forward to meeting young ideas and great debates this April.

We aim to create the conference experience we all have missed over the last two years and hope to exceed your expectations doing so. We hope that ITSMUN'22 becomes a memorable experience for all.

Yours Sincerely,

Idil Secil

Secretary-General of ITSMUN'22

Letter from the Under Secretary General:

Dear Delegate,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to ITSMUN'22. Over the past 2 years, we have all faced times that we thought we would never face. I know it has been one of the hardest times mankind has faced, where almost our lives came to a stop. I believe we have left the hardest times behind and there is light ahead. Model UN has shaped my high school years and has even contributed to my further education. It's an area where I was thought how to express my opinion with respect and learn how to research. My advice for all delegates is not to forget that the world we live in today is the only one we have and planning for a sustainable and peaceful environment is in our hands. Even though MUN is a simulation it is important to remember that we are the diplomats of the future, and it is us that will shape it.

Being one of the first face-to-face conferences since the beginning of the pandemic, I encourage everyone to participate, debate, find constructive solutions, and most importantly enjoy.

Sincerely,

Demir McAlister Yazıcı

Under-Secretary-General for UNSC

Introduction to the Committee:

As the most powerful UN body, the Security Council has many obligations. The most important one is of course to maintain international peace and security. The UNSC is also responsible for:

- investigating disputes and conflicts that might lead to international discord.
- finding solutions for such conflicts.
- determining actions that are threats to international peace and security.
- calling on member nations to implement measures such as sanctions or military action against an aggressor.
- exercising the trusteeship functions of the UN in strategic areas.
- recommending the admission of new member states, as well as recommending the appointment of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly.
- together with the General Assembly, electing judges of the International Court of Justice.

The UNSC consists of 15 member nations. Out of these 15 members, 5 nations, specifically the US, The UK, France, Russia and China, make up what is called the P5 (Permanent Five). The remaining 10 all serve a two-year term, with five members rotating each year. In the Security Council, the P5 members hold a veto power, which allows them to fail any clause, resolution or amendment.

What makes the Security Council different from other committees is the special authority it holds. Members of the Security Council have the right to use operative clauses such as Condemns, Strongly/Further Condemns, Demands, Decides. This gives the Security Council the power to enforce any resolution that passes upon all members of the UN.

In the Security Council resolutions are debated on a clause-by-clause basis. This is to ensure that all clauses have time to be improved with the help of all nations and that a whole resolution fails due to an unfavorable clause.

History of Committee:

After World War I, the League of Nations was established to maintain harmony between the nations. However, due to the lack of representation of half of the world's population and participation from several major powers - such as the US, USSR, Japan and Germany - it could not achieve its goal. On January 1, 1942, President Roosevelt, of the USA, Prime Minister Churchill, of the UK, Maxim Litvinov, of the USSR, and T. V. Soong, of the Republic of China, signed a short document which is now known as the United Nations Declaration. The day after, the representatives of twenty-two other nations also signed this document and after 26 signatures, the term "United Nations" was officially used for the first time.

Between August 21, 1944, and October 7, 1944, the delegations from the Allied "Big Four", the Soviet Union, the UK, the US and the Republic of China met in Washington D.C. to negotiate the UN's structure in the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. During this conference, many of the Security Council's roles and composition were determined, except for the actual method of voting, which was addressed at the Yalta Conference in 1945. France, the Republic of China, the Soviet Union, the UK and the US were selected as permanent members of the Security Council; the US attempted to add Brazil as a sixth member but was opposed by the heads of the Soviet and British delegations. Veto rights of permanent members created a contentious issue. The Soviet delegation argued that each nation should have an absolute veto that could prevent matters from even being discussed, while the British argued that nations should not be able to veto resolutions on conflicts they were a part of.

At the Yalta Conference, veto rights were discussed, and it was decided that the permanent members could veto any action by the council, but not procedural resolutions, meaning that the permanent members could not rule out debate on a resolution. During the UN Conference on International Organization, April 25, 1945, a delegate from the Australian delegation whose name is Herbert Vere Evatt pushed to further restrict the veto power of the permanent members. Nevertheless, twenty votes to ten, his proposal failed.

On 24 October 1945, the UN officially came into existence and on 17 January 1946, the Security Council met for the first time at Church House, Westminster, in London, United Kingdom. The main purpose of the Security Council was to save future generations from the terror of war.

Originally, the Security Council had five permanent and six non-permanent members. But the Security Council composition was amended in 1963, four more non-permanent members were added to the council. Since then, the Security Council has had five permanent and ten non-permanent members.

Topic: Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

Definitions:

Annexation: Annexation is a state gaining control over the territory of another state, usually by force. For land to be annexed, the annexe must cement their acquisition by incorporating it into their administration, such as deploying their police troops, enforcing their law in courts, holding elections, etc.

Cession: Cession is when a nation willingly gives the territory to another nation. It usually occurs following negotiations and a treaty between two countries

Fascists: Fascism is a form of far-right, authoritarian ultranationalism with forceful suppression of any opposition or criticism. People who support this political belief are called fascists.

Autonomy: Autonomy means the right or condition to self-govern. Being autonomous is being able to make your own decisions independently, without being influenced by others.

“Escalate to de-escalate” strategy: A popular phrase used to explain Russia's military doctrine. A strategy of using coercive threats and nuclear weapons to de-escalate a conflict.

Oligarchs: Especially in Russia, an oligarch is a wealthy person with political power.

OSCE: Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe: With 57 participating States, the OSCE is one of the world's largest regional security organizations. The OSCE works for stability, peace and democracy for over a billion people, through political dialogue about shared values and through practical work that aims to form a long-lasting difference. The organization uses a comprehensive approach to security that encompasses the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions.

No-fly-zone: A no-fly-zone is a prohibition of flying certain or all types of aircraft over a certain area for security reasons. They are often used to protect civilians, prevent surveillance, launch attacks, transport troops and weapons. They must be enforced militarily.

Sanctions: Penalties imposed by one country on another, to stop it from acting aggressively or breaking international law. They are among the toughest actions nations can take; it is short of going to war.

SWIFT system: The Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, legally S.W.I.F.T., is a Belgian cooperative that allows banks to pass information about financial transactions.

General Overview:

The conflict started when pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich was forced out of office in 2014, after months of protests. The protest broke out when Yanukovich was pressed by Moscow not to sign an association treaty with the European Union. In 2014 Russia took advantage of the removal of Yanukovich with the annexation of Crimea under the order to "return Crimea to Russia" and support separatists in the region. This was supported by pro-Russian demonstrations in the Crimean port city of Sevastopol after Yanukovich fled to Russia. Putin and Russia claimed to protect Russians from "far-right extremists" that so-called overthrow President Yanukovich. Russia conducted a

referendum on the annexation of Crimea, which was considered illegal under the Ukrainian Constitution and not recognised by the international community. The European Union and the United States imposed sanctions on Russia after annexation.

Over the years Ukraine has made it clear that it wants closer relations with the European Union and the western defense alliance NATO. Russia and Putin don't want this to happen. Ever since the cold war, NATO and the EU have expanded towards eastern Europe and the Russian border. Putin sees this as a threat to Russian security and an attempt by western powers to prevent Russia from continuing its dominance as a world power. So how far will Russia go?

Some have suggested that Vladimir Putin seeks to control Ukraine and overthrow its democratically elected government. Russia states its goal is to free Ukraine from oppression and the Nazis. Under this false narrative of a fascist since 2014, Putin has said that he will bring "those who committed numerous bloody crimes against civilians" to justice. Putin and Russia have denied aiming to occupy Ukraine and has rejected a UK accusation before the war that they were plotting to install a "pro-Russian puppet", but at the time Putin had stated that he would not invade as well. On 24 February, President Putin declared Russia could not feel "safe, develop and exist" because of what he claimed as a constant threat from Ukraine. Immediately airports and military headquarters were attacked, this was followed by tanks and troops rolled in from Russia. Putin's justifications have been to protect people subjected to bullying and genocide and aim for the "demilitarisation and de-Nazification" of Ukraine.



**<https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-apps/imrs.php?src=https://arc-anglerfish-washpost-prod-washpost.s3.amazonaws.com/public/YCY4AG6VG5AMXLAPTOG7NMDVY4.jpg&w=916>

Statement of the Problem

Tensions further rose in Eastern Ukraine when Putin moved to officially recognise the pro-Russian breakaway regions of the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LPR) as independent states, enabling Russia to move military resources into these areas in anticipation of extending protection to allies. This development meant frantic diplomatic negotiations pursued by western states had come to nothing.

Putin wants the US and NATO to promise that they would never allow Ukraine to become a member of the alliance, claiming that Ukraine should be a neutral state. Russia also called NATO to terminate all military activity in Eastern Europe.

Western powers have rejected those demands and say that Russia cannot be allowed a say on Ukraine's foreign policy decision and must defend NATO's "open-door policy".

UKRAINE-RUSSIA CRISIS

Conflict at a glance

The threat of conflict looms in Eastern Europe with more than 100,000 Russian troops amassed along the border with Ukraine. Russia denies it has any plans to invade.



Source: News agencies



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After the conflict in the two separatist regions of Donetsk and Luhansk that are known as Donbas, an agreement was signed in 2015 that called for a ceasefire in the region, the departure of foreign forces and a certain amount of autonomy for the separatist-held areas. Russia claims that it was never part of the conflict and fighting never really stopped, accusing Kyiv of breaching the agreement. Ukraine accuses Russia of the same. As Putin announced the recognition of the independence and sovereignty of the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic tensions rose.

Timeline of Events (History of the Problem):

1918: Ukrainian Independence

With the collapse of the Russian monarchy in 1917, Ukrainians established their coordinating body, the Central Rada (council) which turned into a revolutionary parliament. The Russian Government granted Ukraine autonomy under the name of the Ukrainian People's Republic, but at the time the Bolsheviks refused to recognise it and invaded Ukraine to include it as a Soviet State. The Ukrainian People's Republic declared full independence in January 1918 and signed a peace treaty. During the Russian civil war, UNR wasn't recognized by either side, but the Bolsheviks were forced to create the Soviet Ukrainian Republic in 1922 which became a founding member of the Soviet Union.

In the 1930s Stalin returned to the unfinished task of dismantling the Ukrainian nation that had developed during the Revolution. 4 million Ukrainian perished in a state-engineered famine, which in Ukraine is known as Holodomor. Stalin also destroyed the Ukrainian cultural elite and promoted the Ukrainians as the Russian's "younger brother".

1945: The enlarged Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic:

Following an agreement with Hitler on the division of East-Central Europe, Stalin invaded Eastern Europe in 1939 and took the Ukrainian lands Poland had kept after a war with the Bolsheviks in 1919. The Soviets also pressured Czechoslovakia into giving up Rusyn lands. This resulted in the Ukrainian SSR incorporating almost all territories with an ethnic Ukrainian majority. This was a longstanding goal of the Ukrainian patriots, to create a united Ukraine. But the Soviet Union and Nikita Khrushchev (Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union) pursued a course of cultural assimilation into Russia rather than

promoting Ukrainian autonomy. This was faced with armed resistance against the Soviet enforcement by Ukrainian nationalists in the former Polish territories up until the 1950s.

1954: The transfer of the Crimean Peninsula:

Crimea became an independent republic within Russia despite being connected by land to Ukraine. This was because of the strategic importance of the peninsula. Neither Russians nor Ukrainians were a majority on the peninsula. In the 1920s the Soviets cultivated the culture of the Crimean Tatars, who had lived on the peninsula since the 13th century. When the Soviets retook Crimea from Nazi Germany in 1944, Stalin ordered a forced deportation of the Tatars. This was considered genocidal by many historians. As a result of the deportation, Russians became a numerical majority.

1991: The collapse of the Soviet Union:

When Mikhail Gorbachev (The eighth and final leader of the Soviet Union) loosened ideological controls that resulted in a mass rejection of Soviet Communism, Ukrainian and Russian activists worked together to ensure new politics that included freedom of speech and free elections. Russian President Boris Yeltsin's administration did not try to preserve the Soviet Federation but rather sought an independent Russia. This made President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine an ally of Yeltsin on the basis that both reject Soviet legacy. This was supported by The Ukrainian referendum in 1991 that spelt the end of the union. Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus initiated their formal dissolution. However, with economic reforms failing in the 1990s, Yeltsin and other Russian figures appealed to domestic nationalists nostalgic for the Soviet Empire by criticizing Ukraine. In 1997, a treaty between Russia and Ukraine protected the integrity of the Ukrainian borders. Also, an agreement that Russia and Western nuclear powers also guaranteed in the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 when Ukraine agreed to surrender its Soviet nuclear arsenal. This treaty expired in 2019.

2004: Orange Revolution:

The Orange Revolution was a protest in 2004 after Regime-controlled media claimed victory for Viktor Yanukovich in the presidential election against Viktor Yushchenko. The protest was prompted by reports from many domestic and foreign election monitors as well as the widespread public opinion that the elections between leading candidates Viktor

Yushchenko and Viktor Yanukovich were rigged. The nationwide protest succeeded when the Ukrainian Supreme Court ordered a revote. The second round of votes was declared to be “free and fair”. Yushchenko won the election with a 52% vote.

2014: The annexation of Crimea and the war in the Donbas:

When a popular revolution in Ukraine removed pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich and pro-Western democratic powers, the Russian authorities took advantage of the turmoil to establish military control over Crimea. The Russian government had the idea that the incorporation into Russia would be highly backed by the Russian majority, because of the attraction to higher salaries and better career opportunities. But the results of the referendum were implausible. Aside from a few pro-Russian outliers like North Korea, Syria, and Venezuela decisively condemned the annexation. Russia faced western sanctions as a consequence, thus Russian authorities started to repress local Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar activists. Having ensured control over the Crimean Peninsula, Russia also fomented rebellions in other south-eastern Ukrainian regions. But this only succeeded in Donbas, a depressed industrial region with a Russian majority. When the Ukrainian army attempted to re-establish control, Putin’s administration covertly sent army units to support the pro-Russia separatists. The active phase of war continued until the fall of 2015, with the renewed escalation in 2017 and early 2020.

2015: The Minsk Agreement and Minsk II. Agreement:

*The Minsk agreement was signed five months into the 2014-2015 crisis by; Ukraine, Russia, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and by Russian-backed separatist leaders Alexander Zakharchenko and Igor Plotnitsky that set out a 12-point ceasefire deal. It included prisoner exchanges, the delivery of humanitarian aid and the withdrawal of heavy weapons, but the agreement was violated by both sides. The following February Minsk II was signed as a successor. The agreement included clauses of an immediate ceasefire, withdrawal of all heavy weapons, an exchange of hostages and prisoners... *The full agreement can be found “[here](#)”. The two sides remain in dispute over the purpose of Minsk II. Ukraine views the agreement as means by which it can re-establish control over its borders, whereas Russia sees it as a chance to grant autonomy to rebel territories.*

The Current Situation

Following the full-scale invasion on February 24, this has become the largest mobilization of military forces in Europe since the end of World War 2. With the start of the invasion, Moscow has been denied a quick road to victory. Russia has failed to capture major cities, including Kyiv the capital. The Russians have been weighed down by an ill-prepared military and strong civilian resistance fighters. But we must not forget that Russia still has superior military power. The US intelligence agencies say that Putin is frustrated by the slow pace of military advancement and Russian troops have increased attacks on civilian targets and infrastructure. Resorting to tactics previously used in Syria and the Chechnya wars. So far, the war has created a devastating humanitarian toll and killed thousands of lives. It has also created a new refugee crisis with more than two million Ukrainians fleeing the country. Multiple rounds of diplomatic talks between Russia and Ukraine have failed. The United States and the European Union have imposed hard sanctions on Russia. This has caused lots of western companies to suspend operations, causing turning the clock back on Russia's opening to the west.

Recent Russian attacks have targeted civilian infrastructure, damaging preschools, post offices, museums, sports facilities and factories. Power and gas lines have been cut, bridges and railway stations have been blown up, civilians have been killed in their cars. It has been stated that 1,500 civilian buildings, structures and vehicles have been damaged. The ICC has opened a formal investigation into war crimes. Under international humanitarian law, deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects can be considered a war crime.

Major Parties Involved:

Russia:

The statement that Russia's goal of invading Ukraine is to occupy a portion of the entire country should be taken by caution. The goal of a short time occupation to install a pro-Russian government is unlikely as it wouldn't gain international legitimacy.

For a new Ukrainian government to be recognized domestically and internationally, it would mean for the previous government to relinquish and dissolve. What happened in Afghanistan can be shown as an example, after the Taliban took over, the former government could not form a marginally influential government. So, what is Putin's and Russia's goal of invading Ukraine? Firstly, Putin wants Ukraine to accept the change in Crimea. If a legitimate administration in Ukraine agrees, this would mean for the international community to agree as well. Putin would like Ukraine to become an allied state with close relations with Russia. Lastly, Russia wants the west, particularly the United States, to acknowledge Russia's position in Eastern Europe and Eurasia, this meaning the former Soviet lands. Furthermore, Putin seeks that the United States lifts most, if not all sanctions imposed on Russia. Of course, there are other domestic reasons why Putin wants all of these, but they come second. Putin describes NATO's expansion in Eastern Europe as menacing, and the possibility of Ukraine joining NATO as a threat. Putin also insists that Ukraine is fundamentally a part of Russia.

United States of America:

President Biden made it clear that American troops would not be sent to fight in Ukraine. Ukraine not being a member of the NATO alliance does not come under the commitment of collective defense. Instead, the United States has sent anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons, has increased military presence in NATO countries bordering Russia and has ordered 7,000 troops to be sent to Europe. The US has also deployed an armored brigade combat team to Germany, to ensure Eastern European NATO members. The Biden administration has announced sanctions on Russia's largest bank and some oligarchs. Aiming at cutting them out of the global financial system and preventing Russia from importing American technology that is critical to defense, aerospace and maritime industries. The United States has also stopped energy imports from Russia and sanctioned the company behind an energy pipeline connecting Russia to Germany. Penalties and restrictions imposed by the United States and Europe are also throttling banks and businesses in Russia, limiting the Russian government's ability to use its foreign currency reserves, stopping millions of Russians from using their credit cards and accessing their bank accounts.

European Union:

Ever since 2014 with the annexation of Crimea, the EU has assisted Ukraine in reducing its economic dependence on Russia. The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement of 2014 was signed and made the EU Ukraine's largest trading partner. But we must not forget the economic ties it has with Russia. The European Union is Russia's biggest trading partner with 37.3% of the country's total trade goods in 2020. This has come with a certain amount of power to the EU as it has imposed sanctions on Russia to deter Putin from continuing. But the EU must be careful as Russia is the main supplier of crude oil, natural gas, and solid fossil fuels to Europe. The EU is energy-dependent on Russia, and this will be used against them at times of crisis. More so Nord Stream 2, an offshore natural gas line that will run between Russia and Germany has further upped the energy dependence of the EU on Russia, but the project is still in Russia's economic interest.

On March 15, 2022, the EU decided to impose a fourth package of economic and individual sanctions on Russia. More detailed information [here](#).

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):

On 16 March 2022, NATO released a press release that condemned the actions of Russia and called out for Russia to "immediately cease its military assault, to withdraw all its forces from Ukraine and to turn back from a path of aggression." Furthermore NATO stated that it is coordinating requests of assistance from Ukraine and supporting allies in the delivery of humanitarian and non-lethal aid. Individual NATO member countries are also sending weapons, ammunition, medical supplies and other important military equipment to Ukraine. The question of why NATO isn't sending troops or declaring a no-fly zone over Ukraine can be simply answered because NATO doesn't want the war to escalate and spread beyond Ukraine as that would mean a full-fledged war in Europe. NATO has stated that they along with other European countries have placed restrictive measures and severe sanctions both economically and politically. NATO has also deployed troops to eastern alliance members and has activated NATO's defense plans that prepare the alliance to respond to any developments that could occur in alliance countries.

China:

As China has close ties to Russia it has avoided indicating a clear stance on the current situation. China hasn't condemned Russia's decision to recognize separatist regions in Ukraine but has stated that "every country's sovereignty and territorial integrity should be respected. China has declined to label the ongoing war an invasion. Russia and China have long-standing relations as tensions with the US have grown. Their alliance spans military cooperation, propaganda strategy and energy security being the most important as China becomes an important importer of liquefied natural gas for its fast-growing economy. China's foreign ministry has blamed the crisis on the ineffectiveness of the Minsk agreement of 2015. Despite China's close ties with Russia, it also has friendly relations with Ukraine and is counted by Ukraine to be its top trading partner and a major military hardware client. At the same time, China also aims to maintain close ties with the EU, especially as the US lobbies the bloc to follow its aggressive China strategy. China blames NATO for fuelling tensions in Eastern Europe. It calls for NATO to abandon its ideologized cold war approach.

China has already decided to send economic and financial support during its war on Ukraine. The US delegation that had met Chinese officials in Rome stated that it was important to keep lines of communication open. However, the US walked away from Rome pessimistically, and China had already decided, thus it would be unlikely that they would change their course of action.

United Kingdom:

24 February Boris Johnson stated that "The UK cannot and will not just look away" at Russia's "hideous and barbaric" attack on Ukraine. The UK has imposed sanctions on Russia and its elites, with these being luxury goods, individual sanctions on oligarchs and Russian business leaders, oil and gas, and financial measures. The UK stated that it has sanctioned over 1,000 individuals, entities, and subsidiaries, including 69 leading oligarchs. A joint decision by all G7 countries including the UK has decided to remove Russian banks from the SWIFT system. The British government is providing financial, humanitarian and vital medical supplies to Ukraine. It has been stated that the UK has committed almost £400 million overall, including £200 millions of public donations to the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine humanitarian appeal. The UK is also providing

military aid to Ukraine. The British government has stated that it has delivered over 4,000 anti-tank weapons, alongside rations and medical equipment. Furthermore, the British government has also changed the immigration system to support British nationals and their families who usually live in Ukraine and Ukrainians in the UK. The UK has also started a sponsorship scheme called “Homes for Ukraine”, allowing individuals, charities, community groups and businesses in the UK to bring Ukrainians to safety.

Belarus:

Since the start of the current conflict, Belarus has been a close ally to Russia. Supporting the annexation of Crimea and the current ongoing invasion of Ukraine. Ihar Tyshkevich has stated in an article that there are a couple of reasons why Lukashenko the Belarusian president is siding with Russia. He stated that there was a “matter of money” and “staying in power”. After elections in Belarus in 2020, Lukashenko faced massive protests that almost ousted him from power but was supported by Russian troops to help quell the unrest. At the same time, Belarus has become significantly reliant on Russia for economic, political and military support. It is important to state that after the 2020 crisis that Lukashenko faced, he amended the constitution and also removed the concept of neutrality to allow the deployment of Belarusian troops abroad. Siding with Russia may backfire economically. The Belarusian economy is slowing down and sales of potassium export, the key export of the country and losing the Ukrainian market. This means the Belarusian economy will be dependent on Russia.

Relevant United Nations Action

- The UN announced the allocation of \$20 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund to Ukraine.
- On March 2, 2022, The General Assembly adopted its [previous resolution](#) that calls for Russia to withdraw military troops from Ukraine.
- On March 4, 2022, the Human Rights Council launched an investigation of potential human rights violations in Ukraine.

US-EU-UK sanctions on Russia:

US Sanctions and Export Controls:

The recent sanctions by the US have targeted the vital Russian energy sector, prohibit imports and exports of luxury goods, and prohibits US investment in any sector of the Russian economy, [detailed information can be found here](#).

EU Sanctions and Export Controls:

Recent EU sanctions expanded the initial EU sanctions package and targeted Belarus along with Russia. The EU is motivated to show the consequences of the unjustified military aggression against Ukraine and show that these actions come at a high price. The current sanctions imposed are SWIFT Ban, Financial Restrictions-Russia, Financial Restrictions-Belarus, Energy Sector, Trade-in Iron and Steel Products, Maritime Navigation Goods, and Radio Technology, Luxury Goods, State-Owned Russian Media Outlets, Russian State-owned Entities, Designated Persons, Enforcement and Trade and Export Controls. [Detailed information can be found here](#).

UK Sanctions:

Recent sanctions and export controls have been strengthened by the passing of new legislation that covers a wide range of sectors that include critical industry goods and technology, aircraft, ships, and aviation. [Detailed information can be found here](#).

U.S., EU, and UK sanctions on Russia escalate in response to Russia's continued invasion of Ukraine

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=1ea89d61-16b7-43f8-ab8b-bb4442412195> “

Questions to Ponder:

- What can and should the UNSC do to stop the war?
- Considering the history of the UNSC and Russia, should Russia's veto power be abolished?
- Are the sanctions effective? What type of sanctions can be imposed?
- How involved should NATO be? Will the involvement of NATO shorten or lengthen the war?
- How is the involvement of other countries and organizations affecting the situation?
- Could this war between Ukraine and Russia turn into World War III? What should the UNSC do to prevent this from happening?
- Is this situation the result of not acting until it was too late considering the history of the problem?
- The risk of a nuclear war – Considering the number of nuclear weapons Russia has and President Putin mentioning them multiple times, would tactical nuclear weapons be used? If so, what could be the consequences?
- Are NATO and the European Union at fault for trying to expand to Eastern Europe?
- Should NATO declare a no-fly zone over Ukraine? Would this help to deescalate the ongoing conflict?

Suggestions for Further Research:

With all research, it is recommended that you use credible and verifiable sources. It is crucial for you to know your country's stance on the situation. Therefore, it is advised that you gather information from state organizations or state-sponsored media, as they will provide you with the clearest information regarding your state's position. It is also recommended that you use foreign sources to get a more nuanced view of the situation.

It is essential that you know the intentions of both parties so that when the time comes to prepare a resolution, you can appeal to both sides. In this case, looking into how the Russian government views themselves as saviors and how the expansion of NATO and the EU has exasperated them or how the annexation of Crimea has affected public perception of Russia in Ukraine will give you insight on how to create a resolution that is appealing for all parties involved. It is important to be up to date on recent developments. Further research is advised on the following topics.

- 
- Background of the conflict,
 - The current situation,
 - The situation of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions,
 - How have the implications of sanctions affected Russia and Belarus?
 - The Ukrainian refugee crisis,
 - The future implications of this war regarding EU-Russia relations and US-Russia relations,
 - The threat of the current war spreading to Europe. What can be done to prevent such a situation?
 - How to resolve the current conflict.

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