A TIME LINE:

2014 UKRAINIAN REVOLUTION

RUSSIA ANNEXES CRIMEA, A PART OF THE UKRAINE

RUSSIA SUPPORTS PRO-RUSSIAN SEPARATISTS IN EASTERN UKRAINE WITH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

THE BEGINNING OF COLD WAR II

by

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About the Author

Clint Whitehurst holds a PhD in economics from the University of Virginia and did post-doctoral work in defense studies at Edinburgh University (Scotland). A majority of his research and publications are in the area of transportation/logistics and defense studies. He is Emeritus Professor of Management and Economics at Clemson, an Adjunct Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC and a Senior Fellow of the Strom Thurmond Institute of Government and Public Affairs at Clemson University.
Preface

This research paper traces Russia-Ukraine events—a time line—from the February 2014 “Ukraine Revolution” which deposed of Russian leaning Ukraine president, Vikor Yanukovych, to the September 2015 Ukraine proposal to grant autonomy to pro-Russia separatists living in eastern Ukraine. World reaction to these events during this period is also included.

Primary research sources were the print media, which included CIA World Fact Book, The Greenville (SC) News, Miami Herald, New York Times (cruise ship editions), Seneca (SC) Journal, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, and Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Secondary sources were the broadcast and cable news channels.

News stories were condensed into 5-10 line exerts. When longer sources were quoted, attribution of the source was acknowledged with permission to quote the source.

The timeline shows a nation ill prepared to deal with pro-Russia Ukrainians in Ukraine’s eastern provinces; Ukraine separatists armed and abetted by the Russian Federation. Although mostly bad there are some bright spots over this 17-month period NATO and the UN condemnation of Russia’s instigation and intervention in the affairs of a sovereign nation followed by economic sanctions. It also alerted the West that Russia was deadly serious about expanding Russian influence Soviet style in Europe. In response NATO forces were stationed in the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania). The timeline also shows a people weary of war but still managing to celebrate holidays, weddings and other social events, events taken for granted in the West.
2014 Ukrainian Revolution

February 2014. Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych, in an attempt to improve economic conditions in the Ukraine, in particular attracts capital, proposed an association agreement with the European Union (EU). Under the proposed agreement the EU would provide funds contingent on a number of economic, judicial and social reforms and at the same time the Ukraine would break its economic ties with the Russian Federation. The latter (break economic ties with Russia), Yanukovych refused to do considering the condition detrimental to the Ukraine in the long term. Instead, Yanukovych signed a treaty with Russia, which infuriated the EU-leaning population in Kiev. On February 17th Russia announced the first payment of a loan negotiated in 2013. It was $2 billion of an agreed $15 billion. At the same time Russia pressured the Ukraine to crush the growing protests. On February 18 protests against the Yanukovych government became more widespread leading to violent clashes between law enforcement personnel and the protestors. An estimated 80 protestors were killed. On February 21st President Yanukovych signed a compromise agreement with leaders that called for constitutional changes that would restore previously lost power to the Ukrainian parliament. It was too little and too late. Continuing violence, now a revolution caused President Yanukovych to flee to Russian speaking eastern Ukraine and ultimately to Russia.

The newly appointed interim government signed the EU agreement and also promised early elections. Russia accused the European Union and the United States of encouraging the revolution, a charge that both parties denied. Funds from the International Monetary Fund were promised an essentially bankrupt interim government contingent on the Ukraine adopting the reforms proposed by the EU. Russia refused to recognize the interim government calling the revolution a coup d'etat.

Primary source: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Russia Annexes Crimea: A Part of Ukraine

The removal of Viktor Yanukovych as President of the Ukraine can fairly be called the beginning of the Crimea crisis. On February 27 unidentified forces in Crimea took the regional parliament building and the building housing the Council of Ministers. The buildings were barricaded and the Russian flag rose. Later check points were established at points separating Ukraine and Crimea. As takeover of key points and buildings continued, on the political front, separatists named Sergey Oksyonov as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Crimea.

Primary source: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
**March 2014**

*Leaders of Crimea Republic ask Vladimir Putin for assistance to insure "peace and order" on the Republic's soil. Putin requests Federation Council of Russia to use Russian armed forces in Crimea.*

*Russian forces have complete control of Crimea and federal city of Sevastopol.*

*Putin says Russia does not consider annexing Crimea.*

*Supreme Council of Crimea sets date for referendum on status of Crimea. **President Obama orders sanctions over Russia take over of Crimea.**

*Supreme Council of Crimea declares formal independence. Russian ruble official currency. Crimea will switch to Moscow time.*

*Ukraine signs EU trade pact. Russia criticizes.*

*Ukraine orders its forces in Crimea to withdraw. Minister of Defense announces 50 percent of Ukrainian forces in Crimea defect to Russian Federation.*

*UN General Assembly adopts non-binding resolution declaring the Crimea referendum and subject status changes invalid. Vote 100 to 11 with 58 abstentions and 24 absent.*

*Putin officially recognizes Republic of Crimea and federal city of Sevastopol.*

**16 A referendum is held in Crimea on proposed annexation by Russia. Pro-Russian forces declare that 97 percent voted in favor.*

**18 Russian President Vladimir Putin signs an edict to annex Crimea.*
*Crimea officials allege vote for becoming a part of Russia was 97 percent.

*President Putin cites “the accession of the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol into Russia.”

**7 Protestors seize buildings in Donetsk, Luhansk and Khariv demanding referendum on autonomy.

**15 Kiev government announces its anti-terrorist operation to rid eastern Ukraine of pro-Russian rebels.

**16 A referendum is held in Crimea on proposed annexation by Russia. Pro-Russian forces declare that 97 percent voted in favor.

**18 Russian President Vladimir Putin signs an edict to annex Crimea.
Russia Supports Pro-Russian Separatists in Eastern Ukraine with Military and Economic Assistance

*Russian separatists seize parts of eastern Ukraine; industrial regions of Donetsk and Luhansk with population of 6.5 million. Fighting intensifies between Ukraine forces and rebels. Separatists allege that 27 percent of Donetsk population support independence from Ukraine.

*Putin acknowledges Russian military backing of Crimea self defense units to insure proper conditions for people of Crimea to be able to freely express their will.

*Russia stages war games on Russian border with Ukraine. U.S. pledges $25 million to help Ukraine defend itself. Supplies included packaged food, blankets, sleeping bags, helmets, and generators. No weapons.
May 2014

3-4 Ukraine suffers deadliest day of fighting. Two pilots killed in assault on rebel stronghold.

7 German foreign minister; conflict nearing point of no return; country close to war.

10 Putin celebrates "Victory Day." Russian president hails "return of Crimea; Ukraine fighting kills 7.

10 Ukraine rebels push vote amid violence. Pro-Russian separatists ready ballots for Sunday seeking legitimacy even as losses mount in clashes with military.

10 Loaded imagery is inflaming the crisis on both sides. In their battle to break away from Ukraine, pro-Russian separatists labelled Ukrainians from the past as Nazi collaborators and Ukrainians today as their ideological heirs. Problem with the message it distorts the truth. Ukrainians died in large numbers fighting Nazi Germany.

10 Germany vexed by ties to Russia. The port of Sassnitz, Germany is home to a rail ferry terminal that Communist East Germany built to receive goods from the Soviet Union. In recent years it has become one of Europe's important hubs for trade with Russia.

**11 Pro-Russian separatists declare independence in Donetsk and Luhansk.

12 Ukraine vote deepens crisis, violence mars vote on self-rule in eastern Ukraine.

17 Mill owner calms east Ukraine city. Steel industry executive spurs workers to aid police patrols and push out separatists; violence ebbs.

18 Crimea economy rattled by Russia takeover. Foreign banks, investors pull out.

21 Pro-Russian rebels in Ukraine face citizen anger. Pro-Russian rebels have declared the region independent vowed defiance.
23 Deadliest days for Ukraine troops: 16 slain in raid. Pro-Russian insurgents at military checkpoint killed 16 soldiers.

24 Putin promises to respect election. President Vladimir Putin pledges Russia will respect the results of Ukraine's presidential election, a strong indication that the Kremlin wants to cool down the crisis.

**25 Petro Poroshenko is elected Ukraine president.

27 Ukraine launches air strike on pro-Moscow rebels.

28 Fighting in eastern Ukraine intensifies after election.

30 Rebels down Kiev helicopter. Rebels shoot down a troop helicopter killing at least 12 soldiers, including a general who served in the Soviet army.

30 Ukraine ramps up offensive. Ukraine's recent military response stands in contrast to its more passive reaction when Russian forces invaded Crimea in February.
June 2014

5 Rebels capture 3 bases in eastern Ukraine.

8 Ukraine crisis intrudes on World War II D Day ceremonies. Presidents Obama and Putin meet face-to-face since Russian annexation of Crimea.

13 Ukraine: Three Russian tanks crossed into Ukraine along with armored vehicles and were attacked by military forces fighting pro-Moscow separatists.

14 U.S. says Russian tanks seen in Ukraine.

19 Ukrainian cease-fires promised "within days." Ukraine president promised that government troops would soon stop firing on pro-Russian armed separatists offering a chance to end fighting.

21 Ukraine orders one week cease-fire.

24 Separatists agree to abide by Ukrainian cease-fire. Russian and U.S. presidents trade demands over conflict. President Putin urges direct talks between government and rebels. Obama warned that Moscow would face additional costs if it does not help end crisis.

25 Ukraine cease-fire jeopardized when pro Moscow separatists shot down a Ukrainian military helicopter killing 9 servicemen.

27 Pro-Russian Ukrainians flee into Russia as final hours of cease-fire approach; some vowing never to return.

28 Ukraine's secret weapon against Putin. A feisty billionaire. Enter Ihor Kolomoisky an outspoken banking tycoon appointed governor of Dnepropetrovsk region in eastern Ukraine. So far he has bought tires, car batteries, and fuel for local militia as well as outfitting them. Also announced plan to buy contraband weapons.

28 Ukraine signs trade agreement with EU over Moscow's objections. Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko signed a free trade deal binding his country more closely to Western Europe.
New deadline set for Ukraine action. Kiev extends cease-fire after Europe, backed by U.S., sets steps for Moscow to take in 72 hours to avoid new sanctions.
July 2014

2 Rebels capture police headquarters in Ukraine. Interior Ministry headquarters in eastern Ukraine’s largest city fall to pro-Russia separatists after a five-hour gun battle.

6 Ukraine’s army gets new challenge governing Ukraine. Governing Ukraine resumed after its offensive against thousands of rebels in eastern Ukraine provinces. Success means that local government must be re-established, a task falling to military commanders.

6 Russian nationalists feel letdown by Kremlin. Russia’s most famous ideologist, Alexander Dugin, saw his star rise after Russia annexed Crimea. Now he is feeling jilted as Russia agrees to negotiate with Kiev.

8 Three Ukraine bridges blown up to block key roads and possibly hinder Ukraine military movements. Rebels claim it was the work of pro-Kiev saboteurs.

11 Divisions appear among pro-Russian separatists. Dozens of insurgents turned in their weapons in disgust as Russian inaction does little to end bickering between rebel factions.

**11 A Malaysian airliner is downed by an anti-aircraft missile over eastern Ukraine.

12 Ukraine president Poroshenko, president since May 2014, vowed vengeance in blood after 19 troops were killed in an insurgent rocket attack. Ukrainian’s flee rebel held city for fear of siege.

19 Downed jet claimed victims from 11 countries.

20 Putin cornered like never before. World condemnation of Russia swift, but no concrete action.

19 Disaster clouds Putin’s strategy for Ukraine. The downing of a Malaysia airliner is a major setback for Putin’s finely tuned Ukraine strategy.
19 U.S. blames attack on rebels. Obama says that missile that downed jet came from area controlled by Russia-backed Ukrainian separatists.

22 Victims bodies, plane debris could hold vital clues.

24 Prime Minister Arseny Yatseniuk, Prime Minister since February 22nd, submitted his resignation after two parties resigned from governing coalition. Yatseniuk favored more funding for military.

25 Volodymyr Groysman named new Prime Minister of Ukraine.

26 Vladimir Putin has responded to international outrage over downing of a Malaysian airliner by escalating his aggression.

26 U.S.: Russia fires across border into Ukraine by launching artillery attack from its soil.

26 U.S. says Putin "capable of downing jet."

27 Europe lines up on Russia sanctions. EU official says consensus emerging to allow broader economic measure soon.
August 2014

7 Russia to block US agricultural products. Hits at countries that have imposed sanctions. Ban includes all products from U.S. Likely ban on fruits and vegetables from EU countries.

9 Rebel leader gives Moscow distance. They used us then abandoned us. Ukraine replaces Russia as head of insurgency forces in eastern Ukraine.

12 Ukraine government allows Red Cross aid mission to eastern Ukraine.

14 Ukraine death toll spikes as attacks intensify. UN spokeswoman says overall death total reaches 2,086 as of August 10, 2014.

15 Ukraine objects to Russian aid convoy. More than 200 trucks stopped at Ukraine border. Ukraine says it will halt convoy unless Red Cross is allowed to inspect contents of trucks.

16 Russia denies any of its vehicles destroyed in Ukraine. Ukraine president says its forces destroyed most of the convoy.


17 Ukraine attack sends a tough message to Moscow. Attack is on a suspected convoy of Russian military vehicles.

21 Ukraine forces take over of much of Luhansk. Civilian death toll mounts. Luhansk has been without water, phone, or electricity for past three weeks.

23 West condemns Russia over convoy. Russia sends convoy of 130 trucks into Ukraine. Russia says mission is to deliver humanitarian aid. Ukraine calls crossing an invasion.
September 2014

2 Ukraine rebels say they will respect Ukraine sovereignty in exchange for autonomy.

4 Russia, Ukraine working on steps leading to a cease-fire.

**5 First cease-fire agreement is signed in Minsk, Belarus.

6 Ukraine and Russia backed separatists reach cease fire agreement. US skeptical. Obama hopes cease-fire will hold but wary that rebels will follow through.

6 NATO creates new military force to thwart, discourage aggression against NATO member countries.

7 Ukraine rebels agree on 12-step deal aimed at ending five-month conflict that cost almost 2,000 lives. Deal allows prisoner exchange and delivery of humanitarian aid.

7 Russia and Russia backed rebels gain ceasefire victory. Deal weakens Kiev control of rebel held areas while blocking Ukraine plans for western aid and military union with the EU.

9 EU adopts new Russian sanctions but holds off waiting to see if cease fire agreement in Ukraine holds.

10 Netherland investigators issue preliminary report that draws no conclusions about the downing of Malaysia flight 17. U.S. says report consistent with U.S. assessment that a missile was fired from rebel-controlled area in eastern Ukraine.

13 Ukraine agrees to delay EU deal on trade if Moscow agrees to drop threat to impose restrictions on Ukraine products. Week old cease-fire still holding.

14 Ukraine blunts attack at major airport. Russia sends trucks across border claiming purpose is humanitarian aid. Ukraine reiterates, "We are still in a state of war." adding Russia remains the key aggressor.
23 Separatists in eastern Ukraine say they are moving heavy artillery away from front lines.

25 Ukraine plans to apply for EU membership in 2020.

25 NATO reports significant pullback of Russian troops in eastern Ukraine.

30 Ukraine President Poroshenko says worst is over with respect to conflict in eastern Ukraine. Country will apply for EU membership in 6 years.

30 Ukraine reported over a dozen people, including soldiers and civilians, have died in clashes between separatists and Ukraine military personnel.
October 2014

3 Patriotism breaks out in Ukraine. Pro-Russian insurgents unite Ukrainians in all aspects—political, military, and media.

6 Tatars face campaign of repression for opposing annexation of Crime while Russians rejoice at joining Russian Federation.

7 Ukrainian activists throw Ukraine officials in trash bins as punishment for their corruption.

7 Daily lives in Ukraine is gradually returning to normal according to News First reporters in Kharkiv.

8 Russian government offers assistance to businesses hurt by western sanctions.

12 Ukraine conflict causes bitter family feuds. "Family feuds are not unique. The conflict has divided regions, pitted siblings against each other, and estranged children from their parents."

25 Ukraine poll to seal pro-Europe shift. Putin blames Kiev for stuck peace plan. Putin confirms Ukraine sovereignty but noted that borders have shifted. Russian Finance Minister said government must cut spending over next three years due to lower oil prices.
November 2014

1 Russian interest rate increase fails to stop rubles fall, a move that did little to stabilize Russia's currency.

8 Ukraine says Russia has sent tanks into rebel-held areas. NATO could not confirm the claim.

9 Associated Press reporters saw more than eighty unmarked military vehicles move into rebel controlled areas.

12 EU plan to monitor truce with drones hits bump. Divisions between Paris, Berlin and Kiev delay program.

**12 NATO commanders see Russian tanks and equipment being sent into Ukraine. Fighting rages for weeks.

13 Putin orders approximately 17,000 troops to return to their bases from a southeast region that borders Ukraine. However, the West continues to take position that Russia continues to supply insurgents with arms and other military aid.

15 Group meeting of 20 major economies in Australia, British Prime Minister threaten tougher sanctions following unconfirmed reports of Russian tanks and troops entering Ukraine.

16 Ukraine government suspends service to areas controlled by Russian separatists.

19 Merkel, Putin spar over Ukraine. The exchange was before world leaders as diplomatic efforts continued to defuse tensions along Russia-Ukraine border.

22 U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden threatened further sanctions if Kremlin failed to encourage peace in eastern Ukraine. No military aid, however, was offered to Ukraine.

25 Ukraine poll to seal pro-Europe shift.

27 Pro-Western bloc leads in Ukraine election.
29 EU to distribute funds to Kiev but further assistance will depend on reforms in Ukraine government. Assistance is 500 million euros in addition to an already 126 billion euros.
December 2014

10 Ukraine troops and pro-Russian separatists suspend hostilities after ignoring September cease-fire.

11 Ukraine notes first free day of casualties but peace is still fragile.

**12 Ukraine president notes that December 11, 2014 is the first day casualty-free day for Ukraine troops. President notes, however, that truce is still fragile.

13 Fall of Russian ruble hits firms doing business in Russia. The ruble has fallen to 58 against the dollar. Rubles fall has hurt small Western countries that export to Russia.

19 Putin vows to boost Russian ruble and improve economy in two years, i.e. less dependent on oil and gas exports. Putin also said the pro-Russian separatist’s territory should remain part of Ukraine. He also favors a quick exchange of prisoners.

**21 Russia called new U.S. sanctions useless and is willing to wait as long as necessary for U.S. to recognize its historic right to the Crimea peninsula.

22 Ukraine government uses it powers as weapon of war. Amid the hardship of winter in eastern Ukraine, the Ukraine government sees an opening to turn population against Russian separatists. Ukraine government is restoring pensions and other services to regions recaptured in the summer at the same time cutting services to areas occupied by separatists.

24 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe focus on how to insure cease-fire continues.
January 2015

7 EU sanctions against Russia remain. Overturning sanctions difficult given policy divisions in Europe. Talks next week between France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine seek to ease tensions.

13 Ukraine economy contracted by 8.2% in 2014. Expected to decrease 2.23% in 2015.

17 Pro-Russian forces shell Donetsk airport. Fighting continues throughout eastern Ukraine.

18 Pro-Russian separatists attack Donetsk airport. Government sends more troops to eastern Ukraine conflict area.

18 Ukraine forces repel attack on Donetsk airport.

21 Ukraine premier calls on Russia to stop sending troops to eastern Ukraine. Estimated number is 9,000 Russians entered Ukraine. Ukraine and Russia have agreed for Russia to pull back heavy weapons 9 miles from demarcation line.

22 Ukraine president Petro Poroshenko labels Russia responsible at World Economic Forum for conflict that has killed nearly 5,000 people.

23 Ukraine troops denied international POW status. Russia holds 31 Ukraine prisoners that were captured in eastern Ukraine last summer (2014).

23 Separatists capture main terminal of Donetsk airport. Ukraine says 10 soldiers died in defense of terminal. Ukraine military spokesman says withdrawal was tactical and that Ukrainian forces still control southern part of airport.

26 Ukraine president blames separatists for firing rockets that killed 30 people in city of Mariupol.
February 2015

2 Fighting in eastern Ukraine has ignited once again which ends any hope for a cease-fire any time soon.

3 With oil prices down more than 50%; ruble losing half its value; recession coming, Russian Treasury using rainy day funds, President Putin calls for "need to change economic structure."

5 Ukraine city (Donetsk) at war’s edge clings to the arts.

6 Chances of reaching a new peace plan diminish as suspicions increase about Russia’s aims in the Ukraine. On Friday Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel and French president Francois Hollande meet with Russian president to discuss proposals to end fighting.

7 Ukraine and separatists forces agreed to a truce to allow civilians to evacuate the disputed town of Debaltseve.

10 Depending on peace talks in Moscow, US President Obama will decide whether to provide Ukraine with lethal weapons. According to European allies such a decision would make the conflict worse.

11 Strategic port city of Mariupol prepares for separatist attack. Ukraine military says National Guard troops have begun offensive near Mariupol.

12 Leaders of Germany, France, Russia and Ukraine locked in negotiations to defuse escalating conflict.

12 Peace accords signed in Minsk, Belarus. Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe says situation remains "fluid and unpredictable."

12 A new agreement to halt the fighting is signed at Minsk. It is called Minsk II.

14 Fighting intensified two days ahead of cease-fire. Ukrainian military spokesman says 11 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed in the attack together with 40 wounded.
17 Poroshenko wants peacekeepers thereby giving up any attempt to unify nation by force.

18 Ukrainian security forces clash with demonstrators in Independence Square in Kiev killing scores.

24 Britain warns Putin more sanctions coming if rebels continue fighting.

27 Government and rebels begin pulling back heavy weapons as a step to end fighting in eastern Ukraine where more than 5,800 people have been killed since April 2014. Ukraine forces begin moving anti-tank guns to pre-designated area while rebel forces begin withdrawing self-propelled howitzers from front line.

27 Russian troops begin to take up positions in Crimea.

28 Ukraine cuts off train, bus service and power to Crimea as Ukraine and West target Crimea to pressure Kremlin and Crimea separatist leaders.

29 EU plans to distribute $625 million loan to Ukraine. EU Commission said Ukraine must become less dependent on EU and make serious attempts to attract foreign investment. Loan is an addition to a previous loan of $126 billion euros. EU officials also note that Ukraine will need to increase its $17 billion loan program from the international Monetary Fund.
March 2015

6 Nadiya Savchenko, Ukraine helicopter pilot, captured by pro-Russian rebels and transported to a prison in Moscow. Report: On June 30 2014 she appeared in police custody. Russia claims she crossed the border voluntarily and was taken into custody on their Russian side.

8 Rebel women soldiers have taken a day off to appear in a beauty pageant in Donetsk area. Pageant held to celebrate International Women’s Day.

15 A volunteer brigade fighting against Russian separatists is named the Azov Brigade. It is alleged that it includes Nazi sympathizers. The brigade has sparked controversy and has been accused of abuse against civilians.

April 2015

17 Russian president Vladimir Putin offers reconciliation with Western allies if they treat Russia as an equal and not a “vassal” state. In a TV interview Putin claimed the economy is improving and that the worst is over.

May 2015

16 Ukraine economies falter—shrinks by more than 17% compared to a year earlier. Ukraine government has forecast a 5% contraction in 2015. World Bank figure is 7.6%.

18 Donetsk considered the most lawless city in Ukraine where residents live under constant pressure from pro-Russian rebels.

27 U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden says U.S. is considering sending military equipment to Ukraine. At present aid are non-lethal supplies.
June 2015

5 Canadian Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, said that Russia should never be welcomed back to the G-7 (group of wealthy nations). At meeting of G-7 President Obama urged West to maintain Russian sanctions.

7 Lviv is Ukraine’s most thriving city. Tourism thrives although most tourists are Ukrainian. Meals are relatively cheap, public parks are well attended or one can go to the opera. Some of the 2012 European football championship games were held in Lviv’s stadium. Four journalists visiting the city were generally enthusiastic about Ukraine’s future.

20 Ukraine government offers additional bonds to its creditors. Government is seeking a 40 percent cut in the face value of present outstanding bonds. Negotiations continue with creditors holding approximately $9 billion of the country’s debt.

July 2015


25 Ukraine made a major interest payment on its bonds. The payment followed progress in debt restructuring talks of $19 billion of the country’s debt. The EU has promised to lend Ukraine 1.8 billion euros while the international monetary fund pledged $17.5 billion bailout for the country.
August 2015

8 Former Georgia president (Georgia is a republic on the Black Sea) Mikheil Saakashvili has been appointed to run one of Ukraine’s most corrupt regions. The appointment of Saakashvili is part of Kiev’s attempt to overhaul the Ukraine government. Saakashvili has the reputation of a maverick post-Soviet reformer who has threatened “hellfire” for corrupt and incompetent office holders.

19 UN reports 6,800 dead since Crimea annexed by Russian Federation. Truce/peace talks break down.

31 Ukraine government votes to amend Constitution to give greater power to Eastern Ukraine pro-Russian separatists. This was a condition demanded by Russia for a truce signed in Minsk in February.

September 2015

1 Violent protests erupted in Kiev against granting Illore power to pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine. Authorities reported one dead and one hundred wounded in grenade attack.

2 Russian separatists say plan does not go far enough. Some Ukrainians say plan is “un-Ukrainian.”

**Miami Herald—used with permission**
Conclusion

History may well conclude the conflict between the Ukraine and pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine, militarily supported by the Russian Federation, and was the beginning of a Second Cold War between Russia and the West.

In September 2015 there is no recognized border between Russia and the Ukraine, only a contested truce line in eastern Ukraine that separates pro-Russian Ukrainians and Ukrainians loyal to the Kiev government.

The parallel between actions taken by Russia in the Ukraine and those of Great Britain and France in ceding a part of Czechoslovakia to Germany in 1938 are unmistakable. The Allies believed then that the Munich accord would bring "peace in our time." NATO nations in providing food and blankets, but no military hardware, believe that this would insure the integrity of the Ukraine and a stable Europe.
APPENDIX A
UKRAINE AND CRIMEA

Source: CIA World Fact Book
Areas around underlined cities contested or occupied by pro-Russian Ukrainian Separatists'.
## APPENDIX B

### UKRAINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>603,550 km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukrainian Language</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Language</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>44,291,413 (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Kiev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita</td>
<td>$7,400 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airports, heliports, railways, roads, pipelines, waterways, merchant marine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** CIA World Fact Book

### Military

| Available for military service | 11,149,646 |
| Active personnel               |            |
| Ground forces                  | 204,000    |
| Air Force                      | 40,300     |
| Navy                           | 6,500      |
| Total                          | 250,800 (January 2015) |
| Reserves                       | 700,000 (March 2015) |
| Budget                         | $5.5 billion |
| Percent of GDP                 | 3% (2015)   |

**Source:** Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia