



Research Paper

## Ukraine's Strength Of Liberal Democracy: The Strongest Solution To Deal With The Global Consequences Of The Battle For Ukraine

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### ABSTRACT

*This research paper entitled "Ukraine's Strength Of Liberal Democracy: The Strongest Solution To Deal With The Global Consequences Of The Battle For Ukraine" studies the state of affairs in Russia and assumes that Ukraine's acceptance of autonomous and democratic forms of governance and administration could be geopolitically an unwelcoming move for Russia. This paper offers little insights on Ukraine's integrative processes within the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and reasons how these processes are being opposed by Russia. The West proposes that the Crimean occupation by Russia violated the international law. The Crimean occupation and the conflict with Ukraine may also result in opening the way for unstructured political and socio-economic relations between Russia and the UN agencies. Some schools of thought have generated a series of ideas that clarify Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea. The driving factors behind such annexations and conflicts are domineering in the short term. Such annexations and conflicts can be fully and peacefully resolved when there is enough room for the citizenry of both the countries to exercise their fundamental right to free speech. Nevertheless, in the long run, validating a firm stance on this situation will depend on acknowledging what Russia, Ukraine and the West would optimise to achieve. The approach of the international community should not depend on the partial appeasement of the ambitions of a particular nation state. This approach, however, neither fully reverses nor fully contradicts the present-day geopolitical landscape. It simply puts forward the rudimentary global objective of developing an equal and sustainable world order by demolishing any principle that might seek to destabilize the peaceful status quo.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Crimea; European Union; Free Speech; Liberal Democracy; NATO; Russia; Ukraine.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Russian annexation of Crimea and the current status quo in the Donbas region of Ukraine might welcome a series of conflicts which may destabilize eastern Europe. The United Nations should impartially intervene in the situation by playing its role as the most potent negotiator of peace in this regard. The lack of impartial negotiation for peace will result in the escalation of violence and instability whereby disrupting global supply chains.

Analysing future prospects for solutions and undertaking extensive research on this conflict would allow researchers and political scientists to embark upon an intellectual journey towards an innovative period of scholarship in politics and international relations, the aim of which is to secure for itself the fundamental right to prevent conflict or build peace anywhere across the globe.

It just goes without saying that for all this to happen collaboratively, it is a prerequisite that certain fundamental reforms are initiated in the United Nations to solve the geopolitical challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. A key factor driving such reforms is the permanent renunciation of polarized political practices and identities when it comes to preventing war and establishing peace. Until this change is initiated, major powers will pursue their age-old polarized geopolitical projects, and conflicts will escalate when the polarized identities and elements of these projects start opposing each other.

## **II. UKRAINE'S STRENGTH OF LIBERAL DEMOCRACY**

An antagonistic or unprincipled interpretation perceives the Russian annexation as the key factor contributing towards the escalation of instability in Ukraine. Since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the driving factor which encouraged and directed the post-Soviet Russian leaders was the motivation to regain most of the significant resources and assets which were lost to Ukraine. These predominantly include the political, socio-economic and geopolitical assets which were lost owing to the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

The contradiction between the offensive approach and the defensive approach to perceive the Russia-Ukraine conflict ultimately results in the birth and consolidation of numerous debates on Ukraine's strength of liberal democracy. Such a contradiction also results in the amplification of the questionable debate as to whether or not Ukraine will be able to reinforce and sustain its strength of liberal democracy and emerge out as the champion of the liberal world order characterized by institutions of democracy and free speech.

The answers lie on the straightforward approach of recognizing the rudimentary agreement that the Russia-Ukraine conflict is not simply a one-sided geopolitical conflict, but it is rather a multifaceted one centred around the fundamental question of whether or not Ukraine will be an ally of the East or the West. It is also centred around the question of whether or not Russia will agree with the outstanding information on the borders of Russia and Ukraine, the related data and statistics of which has been deliberately agreed upon by the West after the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

Other facets of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine are centred around economic, socio-cultural and ethnic questions, the answers of which will determine whether or not eastern Europe is likely to enter an era of new-fangled civil wars and ethnic conflicts.

On the other hand, numerous western literatures in current years have perceived Ukraine's strength of liberal democracy as the collective result of widespread democratic reforms and societal transformations in eastern Europe. Schools of thought such as realism and positivism do not emphasize much on the day-to-day developments in Ukraine's national politics. According to such schools of thought, liberty, democracy and free speech are the keys to a successful, peaceful and sustainable society, simply because any other explanatory approach would fail to embody and justify the spread of the globally acclaimed values, namely democracy, liberty and free speech.

It is also important to emphasize the role played by the European Union in sponsoring, spreading and promoting autonomous institutions in post-Soviet eastern Europe. The Colour Revolution in Serbia, Georgia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan was characterized by events of uprisings, sedition, treason and mass protests against authoritative regimes. The Colour Revolution, according to many scholars, was a perfect recipe for the overthrow of corrupt, authoritative regimes in post-Soviet Eurasia.

### **III. ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE BATTLE FOR UKRAINE**

If our research would emphasize primarily on the region of Eurasia, our fundamental hypothesis should be centred around the question of whether or not it is academically feasible to perceive Russia's advancement as offensive or defensive. After the development of such hypothesis, the rationality of the research would depend on the researcher's academic investigation to examine the global consequences of the battle for Ukraine. The formations of new-fangled geopolitical clusters and groups across eastern Europe is just one of the many consequences. It is still uncertain as to whether or not such groupings will sharpen the geopolitical edge of Russia as in 2014, nevertheless, the collective geopolitical goal of the nation states in eastern Europe will be to extend the frontiers of legitimacy through the acceptance of the newly formed multilateral groups.

With the annexation of Crimea in 2014, the above process of acquiring legitimacy has already been initiated. It is not irrational to suppose Russia to take in charge of the economic corridor between Crimea and Russia and also between Ukraine and Crimea. Neither is it unreasonable to assume that the corridor may be extended as far as Transnistria and Moldova in eastern Europe. Such expansion might escalate the challenge for eastern Europe in particular and the West in general because it would pose considerable threat for Ukrainian neutrality, and may eventually contribute towards the formation of a more polarized Europe.

### **IV. CONCLUSION**

The amalgamation of Crimea with Moscow has posed considerable threat to the sovereignty of Ukraine. The key stakeholders who are not only involved but also impacted considerably by the Russia-Ukraine conflict are also important member states of the United Nations. They have not only adopted the United Nations Charter but have also expressed their allegiance towards securing and protecting the sovereignty of individual member states. Unfortunately, however, until now there is not even a single UN body nor a member state that is willing to act as an impartial mediator for peaceful resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The United Nations must strive towards achieving fundamental and sustainable reforms, and this can happen only when the UN agencies start acting as impartial negotiators of peace rather than just facilitating post-conflict retrieval and recovery mechanisms.

An in-depth scrutiny of the Russia-Ukraine conflict so far clearly denotes that a newly formed post-Soviet nation state like Ukraine cannot be expected to have the time, proficiency and armed expertise to advance its military competences in order to independently tackle the separatist attacks on its sovereignty and national integrity. Thus, as evident in the present scenario, Russia is in an advantageous position in this geopolitical war between the East and the West, purely for the reason that it is far more militarily experienced and therefore more regimentally proficient than Ukraine and its post-Soviet allies. This poses a significant threat to the West and its allies as well because disruption of peace in eastern Europe will eventually lead to the scarcity of political, economic, and military resources all across the Western hemisphere.

The delusions of the West stem from its ambitions to play a decisive role in the development of Ukraine into a democratic and stable post-Soviet European nation state. The West envisions to turn this into a reality without the intervention of Russia. However, such ambitions are easier said than done.

Postponing the membership of Ukraine in the European Union stands amounting danger for Ukraine. The prolonged delay in Ukraine's membership in the EU is simply carving the way for Ukraine to be unable to seize this opportunity permanently. Not only the United Nations but also the European Union in particular and the international community in general should take action with utmost accountability whereby strengthening Ukraine's institutions of liberal democracy, justice and free speech.

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