

## ***DESCRIPTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS:***

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards, and human rights. Today, the United Nations provides a forum for its 192 member states (countries) to express their views. The UN has 4 main purposes:



- To keep peace throughout the world;
- To develop friendly relations among nations;
- To help nations work together to improve the lives of poor people, to conquer hunger, disease and illiteracy, and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedoms;
- To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations to achieve these goals.

## ***DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMITTEE:***

Under the UN Charter, the Security Council has the responsibility to maintain international peace. It is the most powerful body of the United Nations. The other committees can only make recommendations, but the Security Council makes decisions that countries have to follow. The Security Council meets throughout the year to address the most serious security issues facing the UN and the world.

The Council is made up of fifteen nations. Five nations are permanent members and the remaining ten seats rotate every two years among the other nations in the UN. The five permanent members are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. Each of these nations have "**veto power**," which means that whenever any one of these countries votes "no" on a resolution, that resolution automatically fails.

The Security Council may deal with international conflict in many ways. When fighting breaks out, the Council's first goal is usually to call for a **ceasefire**, or an end to violence. It may also send peacekeeping forces to protect citizens and ensure that any UN decisions are properly carried out. The Security Council can use more forceful measures too. One such measure is to impose economic **sanctions**, which prevent a country from receiving money or trade. In the most serious situations, the Security Council can order member nations to use military force against parties they deem a threat to international peace and security.

## TOPIC: THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Over the past two past years, Ukraine has faced a series of crises, one after the other. The current trouble began in November of 2014 when then-President Yanukovich rejected a trade agreement put forward by the European Union. This trade agreement would have brought Ukraine closer to the EU but Yanukovich instead opted to strengthen ties with Russia. Protestors flooded the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, condemning the shift to Russia.



The Ukrainian government came under international scrutiny when police forces began attacking peaceful protesters and the clashes became increasingly violent. The end of those protests came in February, 2014, when Yanukovich was pressured into stepping down and a new government was installed. However, days later the **Autonomous Republic** of Crimea, a territory of Ukraine, was invaded. Although Russia initially denied involvement, it was later proved that they had taken over-- ostensibly to protect ethnic Russians from discrimination and persecution from the new government. Despite international protests, Russia then held a widely contested **referendum** that led to the **annexation** of Crimea as part of Russia.

Although the protests in the capital died down after the new government came to power, violence erupted in the eastern provinces. These provinces have plunged into a war between the newly formed pro-Russian militias and the Ukrainian army over control of territory. The Ukrainian government is scrambling to stem the progress of pro-Russian militias westward; struggling to reverse their control of cities in the east; and floundering in its attempts to keep the countryside, which has been plagued by lawlessness, bandits, and violence, under control. Both the Ukrainian government and the separatist forces have been accused of war crimes, including torture, kidnapping, indiscriminate destruction, and the killing of civilians. Russia has also come under criticism from the international community for its invasion of Crimea, its alleged support of the rebels through arms deals, and for amassing troops and artillery on the Ukraine-Russia border. The war also created a refugee problem as thousands of people fled into Russia and other parts of Ukraine after losing their homes.

The crisis in Ukraine is a threat to the lives of Ukrainian citizens, the survival of its fledgling government, as well as peaceful relations between Ukraine, Russia, and the rest of Europe. It is a complex and many faceted issue that the international community has a responsibility to address in order to protect the citizens of Ukraine from conflict, restore regional stability, reestablish the norms of international law, and prevent more human rights violations. As the Security Council it is your mission to resolve this matter as effectively as possible.

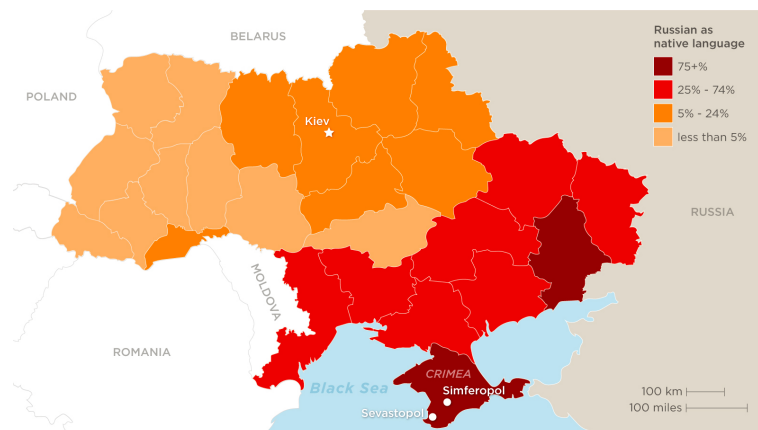
## BACKGROUND:

### *History of Ukraine:*

Ukrainians trace their distinct cultural heritage to the **Kyivan Rus**, a Slavic state which was the largest European state in the tenth and eleventh centuries.<sup>1</sup> After fragmentation and conquest by the Mongols, the territory went through periods of independence and subjugation, as the Russians, Turks, and Poles fought for control of the land. The area that encompasses modern Ukraine was incorporated wholly into the Russian Empire in the late 18th century. After World War I and the fall of the Russian czar in 1917, Ukraine gained some level of independence until 1921, when the new Russian regime began asserting control again. In December of 1922, Ukraine was incorporated into the Russian Empire's successor state, the United Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

It is important to know the early history of Ukraine because it shows that Ukrainians have fought for their own nation and nationality throughout history, and why they claim to have a separate identity from Russians and other Slavic peoples. Ukrainians again asserted this identity in the collapse of the USSR in 1991 when the leaders of the new state, Ukraine, declared themselves independent. Despite moves towards capitalism, the economy struggled as it suffered from government corruption and a reliance on Russian oil supplies. Russia has many natural gas pipelines that run through Ukraine to the rest of Europe, which gives Russia a lot of sway over the Ukrainian economy.

The demographics of Ukraine are also important to understand. Despite the fact that 77.8% of its citizens are ethnic Ukrainian, there is also a large minority of Russian citizens that have ties to Russia, and for whose protection Russia claims responsibility. Traditionally, the western, ethnic Ukrainians have leaned more towards integration with the European Union, while the eastern, more Russian provinces (including Crimea) have favored Russia.



<sup>1</sup> US Government. "Ukraine." *Central Intelligence Agency*. Central Intelligence Agency, 2014. Web. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/up.html>

The conflict between these two sides was shown in the 2004 Orange Revolution. In a presidential election that pitted former Europe-friendly Viktor Yushchenko against Russian influenced Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Yushchenko faced harassment, media bias, and even poisoning while on the campaign trail, but was up comfortably in the polls by eleven percent. However, when the tallies came in, Yushchenko's opponent won due to seemingly miraculous jumps in voter turnouts in eastern provinces. International observers immediately called foul, and Yushchenko insisted the results were fraudulent, even going so far as to take the presidential oath of office in front of the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian Parliament). There were mass protests and strikes throughout the country over the obvious corruption, and the revolution was dubbed "orange" because that was the color worn by Yushchenko supporters. In response to the protestors and after an inquiry, the Ukrainian Supreme Court invalidated the results of the first election and scheduled a re-vote, which Yushchenko won handily. It was a great triumph for democracy in Ukraine. <sup>2</sup>



A key figure in the Orange Revolution was Yulia Tymoshenko, a Ukrainian politician that would go on to serve as Yushchenko's Prime Minister for two different terms. She ran for president against a resurrected Yanukovich campaign in 2010. This time, Yanukovich won, and the election was given a clean bill of health by the international community. Tymoshenko was imprisoned for corruption and abuse of power, charges her supporters

have claimed were trumped up by the opposition. From prison, she has served as a figurehead for the Ukrainian opposition to Russian influence and the Yanukovich regime. <sup>3</sup>

### *Euromaidan Protests:*

President Yanukovich, a native of the eastern province of Donetsk Oblast, came into power partly in reaction to the 2008 global financial crisis. When the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko

---

<sup>2</sup> Karatnycky, Adrian. "Ukraine's Orange Revolution." *ForeignAffairs.com*. Foreign Affairs, Mar.-Apr. 2005. Web. <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/60620/adrian-karatnycky/ukraines-orange-revolution>

<sup>3</sup> BBC NEWS Europe. "Profile: Yulia Tymoshenko." *BBC News*. BBC, 23 May 2014. Web. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-15249184>

party failed to fix the sinking economy, voters reacted by putting the opposition in power. In an attempt to ease Ukraine's debt, the European Union began negotiating the **Ukraine-European Union Association Treaty**. The EU claimed that negotiations couldn't go forward until Ukraine addresses some of its justice and corruption problems (including the imprisonment of Tymoshenko). President Yanukovich promised to make the effort to comply with the EU's policy, but on November 21st, 2013, he announced that he was abandoning the EU route, and instead turning to an economic package offered by Russia.<sup>4</sup>



After Yanukovich announced his plan to accept Russia's package protesters took to the streets of Kiev, as they had ten years earlier. By the end of the week, hundreds of thousands of people had gathered to express their displeasure at the withdrawal from the EU agreement. The police began responding to peaceful protests with tear gas and rubber bullets, as well as beatings and arrests. The protesters set up a makeshift camp in **Maidan Nezalezhnosti** (Independence Square) and began constructing barricades to prevent police and soldiers from attacking. The term

applied to the protests, "Euromaidan," comes from the initial cause of unrest, the severing of ties with Europe, and the main gathering place of the protestors, the Maidan Nezalezhnosti. As violence escalated, the protesters also decried government corruption and the human rights abuses that were being perpetrated by the government forces. Hundreds died.<sup>5</sup> Despite several ceasefires and talks, a compromise couldn't be reached, as the Euromaidan citizens began clamoring for Yanukovich to step down and for a new government to take his place.<sup>6</sup> He refused to give up power until February 22nd, when the Ukrainian Parliament voted him out of office, at which point he fled to Russia. A warrant was issued for his arrest for his association with the death of the protestors.<sup>7</sup>

Yulia Tymoshenko was released from prison within hours and hurried to the Maidan to make a speech about her new hope for Ukraine. The Ukrainian Parliament elected Oleksandr

---

<sup>4</sup> Traynor, Ian, and Oksana Grytsenko. "Ukraine Suspends Talks on EU Trade Pact as Putin Wins Tug of War." *The Guardian.com*. The Guardian, 21 Nov. 2013. Web.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/nov/21/ukraine-suspends-preparations-eu-trade-pact>

<sup>5</sup> Balmforth, Richard, and Thomas Grove. "Ukraine Police Smash Pro-Europe Protest, Opposition to Call Strike." *Reuters*. Thomson Reuters, 30 Nov. 2013. Web.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/30/us-ukraine-protest-idUSBRE9AT01Q20131130>

<sup>6</sup> Miller, Christopher, and Enjoli Liston. "Ukraine Crisis: Bloodshed on Europe's Doorstep as EU Tries and Fails to Stop Killing." *The Independent*. Independent Digital News and Media, 20 Feb. 2014. Web.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraine-crisis-fresh-clashes-break-out-despite-president-viktor-y-anukovyichs-truce-with-opposition-9140428.html>

<sup>7</sup> Higgins, Andrew. "With President's Departure, Ukraine Looks Toward a Murky Future." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 22 Feb. 2014. Web.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/23/world/europe/with-presidents-departure-ukraine-looks-toward-a-murky-future.html>

Turchynov as **acting president** and prime minister. The Presidential election of May 25th handed the presidential power over to Petro Poroshenko, who is the current president of Ukraine. The new government ratified the previously stalled Ukraine-EU Association Agreement in June, but agreed that, due to the current unrest in Ukraine, the treaty wouldn't be implemented until December 2015. The new government has forsworn cooperation with Russia, and committed to reducing corruption and improving the economy. However, they have many new challenges to face.

### *Crimean Crisis:*

Just four days after Yanukovich's ousting, troops stormed the Crimean Peninsula. The men didn't wear any insignias, and quickly took over government buildings, airports, and other tactical areas. Ukraine and much of the international community claimed that Russia had invaded, citing the Russian weaponry carried by the soldiers, as well as their Russian speech and accents.<sup>8</sup> Russian President Vladimir Putin denied that it was Russian troops involved in the takeover, claiming instead that Crimean volunteers had formed a defense force. Russia did not admit that it had any troops in Crimea until August, and still insists that they are just bolstering the Crimean forces.<sup>9</sup> **National sovereignty** and **territorial integrity** are important ideas that the UN, especially the Security Council, is dedicated to upholding. The invasion of another country is prohibited in the UN Charter, as is the annexation of territory. With Russia's seat on the Security Council, it has been difficult to confront the Russians about this breach of international law. Ukraine failed to take back Crimea militarily, and the occupying force called for a referendum on the status of Crimea. On March 16th, a referendum was held where Crimeans could vote for one of two options:



1. Are you in favor of the reunification of Crimea with Russia as a part of the Russian Federation?
2. Are you in favor of restoring the 1992 Constitution and the status of Crimea as a part of Ukraine?<sup>10</sup>

The first option would mean Russia would absorb Crimea. The second option means that Crimea would remain as part of Ukraine, but

<sup>8</sup> Higgins, Andrew, and Steven Erlanger. "Gunmen Seize Government Buildings in Crimea." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 27 Feb. 2014. Web. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/28/world/europe/crimea-ukraine.html>

<sup>9</sup> Reuters UK. "Putin Admits Russian Forces Were Deployed to Crimea." *Reuters.com*. Reuters, 17 Apr. 2014. Web. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/04/17/russia-putin-crimea-idUKL6N0N921H20140417>

<sup>10</sup> Sneider, Noah. "2 Choices in Crimea Referendum, but Neither Is 'No'." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 14 Mar. 2014. Web. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/15/world/europe/crimea-vote-does-not-offer-choice-of-status-quo.html>

revert to an earlier constitution that gave it far more power as an individual entity, including the power to conduct relations with other states, giving it de facto independence. There was no option to preserve the status quo of being part of Ukraine with limited independence. Over 95% of Crimean voters chose to become a part of Russia, and within days the Crimean parliament formally acceded to the Russian Federation.<sup>11</sup> Under the Ukrainian constitution, the entirety of the Ukrainian populace must vote for Crimea's right to **secede**, not just Crimeans, because the decision affects the whole country. Therefore, Ukraine has declared the referendum invalid.

Currently, the status of Crimea is disputed, with Russia claiming it as its own territory, and Ukraine declaring that it is Ukrainian territory under foreign occupation. By taking Crimea, Russia has gained potential fuel supplies located in the Black Sea, as well access to more ports on the Black Sea; however, much of Crimea's infrastructure, like gas and electricity is tied to Ukraine, so it will be difficult for Russia to find a way to fix these crucial issues.<sup>12</sup>

### *Unrest in the East:*

While a majority of Kiev and western Ukraine was in favor of dismissing Yanukovich and against the Russian occupation of Crimea, the east was a different story. With their cultural and economic ties to Russia, eastern Ukrainian began having demonstrations against the new government in Kiev. They clashed with groups of pro-Maidan citizens, as well Ukrainian police and military that arrived to restore order. The pro-Russian citizens began occupying government buildings and forming local militias to defend their objectives. The Ukrainian army began moving against these militias, whom they consider terrorists.<sup>13</sup>



On May 11th, two of the separatist provinces held Crimea-style referendums on independence from Ukraine. Both provinces, **Donetsk** and **Luhansk** voted to become independent states, and have indicated their desire to join the Soviet Union. They declared themselves the Donetsk People's Republic and the

<sup>11</sup> BBC News Europe. "Crimea 'votes for Russia Union'" *BBC News*. BBC, 16 Mar. 2014. Web. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26606097>

<sup>12</sup> Broad, William J. "In Taking Crimea, Putin Gains a Sea of Fuel Reserves." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 17 May 2014. Web. [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/18/world/europe/in-taking-crimea-putin-gains-a-sea-of-fuel-reserves.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/18/world/europe/in-taking-crimea-putin-gains-a-sea-of-fuel-reserves.html?_r=0)

<sup>13</sup> BBC News Europe. "Will the Donetsk Referendum Matter?" *BBC News*. BBC, 12 May 2014. Web. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-27344412>

Lugansk People's Republic, and furthermore, that as independent states they had the right to expunge the Ukrainian military from their territory. The government in Kiev doesn't recognize these referendums either, and neither does the international community. However, these are the regions where the most conflict can be found. The rebels have taken control of many towns in these provinces, and the Ukrainian military has been hard put to recapture all of them, especially since Russia is widely accused of supplying them with artillery, tanks, and troops. The area is collectively called the Donbass region, thus the the conflict is known as the **War in Donbass**.



The situation gained additional complications when passenger airliner Malaysia Airlines MH17 crashed in the Donetsk region of Ukraine on July 17th. All 298 people aboard were killed.<sup>14</sup> After a Dutch investigation, it was concluded that the plane broke up in midair after being hit by many objects travelling at high speeds, leading Western government to believe that it was shot down by Ukrainian rebels using a surface-to-air missile that was supplied by the

Russians. Russia claims that it was the Ukrainian army that shot down MH17. There is an ongoing investigation, but the incident highlighted how conflicts that are allowed to fester can spread to harm innocent people.

On September 5th the Ukrainians and separatists signed the **Minsk Protocol**, a treaty that had twelve provisions for peace.<sup>15</sup> These include: an immediate ceasefire monitored by the **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**, an inclusive national dialogue that includes the decentralization of power in the Donbass region, the immediate release of hostages, and disbandment of illegal militias. The ceasefire was broken by numerous sides in the ensuing month, but still stands as the framework for peace. There is also the issue of human rights violations that have been committed by both sides. Amnesty International claims that the Ukrainian armed forces and the separatist militias have engaged in torture, kidnapping, hostage taking, indiscriminate **shellings**, and killings, all of which violate the laws of war as established in the Geneva Convention.<sup>16</sup> They also criticized Russia for indirectly

---

<sup>14</sup> BBC News Europe. "Malaysia Plane Crash: What We Know." *BBC News*. BBC, 9 Sept. 2014. Web. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28357880>

<sup>15</sup> Mission of Ukraine to the European Union. "Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine." *Mfa.gov.ua*. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, 8 Sept. 2014. Web. <http://mfa.gov.ua/en/news-feeds/foreign-offices-news/27596-protocolon-the-results-of-consultations-of-the-trilateral-contact-group-minsk-05092014>

<sup>16</sup> Amnesty International Media Centre. "Amnesty International | Ukraine: Mounting Evidence of War Crimes and Russian Involvement." *Amnesty.org*. Amnesty International, 7 Sept. 2014. Web. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/ukraine-mounting-evidence-war-crimes-and-russian-involvement-2014-09-07>



and directly fueling the conflict, and thus perpetuating these crimes. Over 3,500 people have died in Ukraine, 117,000 have been internally displaced, and 168,000 have fled to Russia.<sup>17</sup>

## INTERNATIONAL ACTION:

In December of 2013, Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said of the violence at the Euromaidan protests, "I appeal to all parties to act with restraint, avoid any further violence and to uphold the democratic principles of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly." The US and other Western nation's voices support what they saw as a people's fight for democracy, but also condemned any violence. Russia declared that outside influence on the revolution was apparent and damaging, and that the revolution was more of a rampage. The UN and Western nations have expressed their acceptance of the new Ukrainian government, while Russia has stated that the result of the Euromaidan was little more than **coup**, and therefore unacceptable.<sup>18</sup>

As for the situation in Crimea, the UN General Assembly passed Resolution 68/262 on March 27th entitled "Territorial Integrity of Ukraine."<sup>19</sup> By a vote of 100 to 11 with 58 abstentions, the GA voted to affirm Ukraine's territorial integrity and to call upon all members and non-government organizations to disregard the Crimean referendum. Meanwhile, in the Security Council, Russia vetoed a draft resolution that would have invalidated the Crimean referendum and supported Ukraine's independence and sovereignty.<sup>20</sup> The veto didn't sit well with many members of the Council with the French representative remarking that Russia had vetoed the UN Charter and the US representative saying the Russia doesn't have the power to veto the truth, and that other options would have to be sought for a peaceful solution.

After the invasion of Crimea, the United States and European Union placed sanctions on Russia.<sup>21</sup> These sanctions apply to Russian senior officials and businesses that they believe are contributing to the violation of Ukraine's territorial activity, either by making the decisions about the invasion of Crimea or financing it. The Russian finance, energy, and arms sectors are thus under heavy pressure through the banning of long-term loans being taken out by Russia in the EU, banning future arms deals, and the export of energy technology, as well as targeting

---

<sup>17</sup> Troianivski, Anton. "Ukraine Refugees Caught in Crossfire." *The Wall Street Journal*. Dow Jones & Company, 19 Aug. 2014. Web. <http://online.wsj.com/articles/ukrainian-refugees-caught-in-crossfire-1408405173>

<sup>18</sup> Herszenhorn, David, and Peter Baker. "Russia Steps Up Help for Rebels in Ukraine War." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 25 July 2014. Web.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/26/world/europe/russian-artillery-fires-into-ukraine-kiev-says.html>

<sup>19</sup> UNGA. "Resolution 68/262 Territorial Integrity of Ukraine." *UN News Center*. UN, 1 Apr. 2014. Web. [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/262](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/262)

<sup>20</sup> UN News Centre. "UN Security Council Action on Crimea Referendum Blocked." *Un.org*. United Nations, 15 Mar. 2014. [http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=47362#.VEqcpYvF\\_no](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=47362#.VEqcpYvF_no)

<sup>21</sup> BBC News Europe. "How Far Do EU-US Sanctions on Russia Go?" *BBC News*. BBC, 15 Sept. 2014. Web. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28400218>

major oil companies. There are also travel bans and **asset freezes** on wealthy Russians connected to President Putin or the invasion.

The United Nations has not yet published a resolution addressing the war in Ukraine, although several sessions of the Security Council have been convened to address the issue. Resolution 2166 was passed on July 21st condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, demanding all military activity in the area be ceased so the plane could be properly investigated.<sup>22</sup> The West has speculated that Russia's involvement with the rebels caused the plane's demise because without Russian arms the separatists wouldn't have the artillery to bring down an airplane. Russia has denied these accusations. Countries around the world, including the US, have been sending non-lethal military equipment to Ukraine.<sup>23</sup>

### **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:**

In recent weeks, the ceasefire signed in Ukraine has become tenuous. Fighting has erupted and is especially intense in the Donetsk airport, a tactical position that looks over rebel-held Donetsk.<sup>24</sup> The Red Cross has condemned the heavy shelling of the area. Ukraine has also accused Russia of sending in drones to help with the rebels' reconnaissance, which Russia has denied. Russia has repudiated accusations that they have sent troops to help the rebels, insisting that if any Russians are serving in the Ukrainian militias they are unaffiliated volunteers. There is also concern about Ukraine's economy because the war severely hampers its ability to repay its debts and rebuild its economy.<sup>25</sup> Ukraine accepted a \$17 billion bailout package from the **International Monetary Fund** last April, and there are worries that they won't be able to adhere to the **austerity measures** prescribed to get them out of an economic crisis.<sup>26</sup>



<sup>22</sup> UNSC. "Resolution 2166 (2014)." *UN News Center*. UN, 21 July 2014. Web.

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2166%282014%29](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2166%282014%29)

<sup>23</sup> Payne, Sebastian. "Ukraine to Get \$53 Million in 'non-lethal' Aid from the United States." *Washington Post*. The Washington Post, 18 Sept. 2014. Web.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/ukraine-to-get-53-million-in-non-lethal-aid-from-the-united-states/2014/09/18/c2c19c28-3f4b-11e4-b0ea-8141703bbf6f\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/ukraine-to-get-53-million-in-non-lethal-aid-from-the-united-states/2014/09/18/c2c19c28-3f4b-11e4-b0ea-8141703bbf6f_story.html)

<sup>24</sup> Coomarasamy, James. "Ukraine City Readies for Rebel Advance." *BBC News*. BBC, 6 Oct. 2014. Web.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-29503377>

<sup>25</sup> BBC News Business. "Ukraine's Economy: How Bad Is the Mess?" *BBC News*. BBC, 1 May 2014. Web.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26767864>

<sup>26</sup> Reuters UK. "Ukraine PM Says Likely to Readjust IMF Programme." *Reuters.com*. Reuters, 24 Sept. 2014. Web.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/09/24/uk-ukraine-imf-idUKKCN0HJ2GT20140924>

## ***RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FORMULATING A RESOLUTION:***

There are several crises that the Security Council must deal with at this meeting. First is the ongoing violence in eastern Ukraine. If the September 5th ceasefire doesn't hold, a new one needs to be put in place and the UN should be involved in shaping and monitoring the terms of peace. Even if the UN itself cannot be on the ground, it can delegate to regional bodies in the area and NGOs to report on the ceasefire and make sure it is enforced. The UN should address the accusations of war crimes that have been levied against both sides in the conflict, as well as the human rights violation that are occurring. The Security Council has the power to condemn people who transgress international law, and recommend situations to international courts if it believes that there has been a violation.

Thought should also be given to the stability of the Ukrainian government. How will it be protected from encroachment from separatists, and how can we ensure that it doesn't become corrupt or weak, thus fueling instability? Think of what recommendations can be made about the treatment and financing of refugees and internally displaced people. The flow of arms to the rebels is also enabling them to continue the conflict, so determine how that can be stemmed. Should new information come to light about the Malaysian Airlines crash, be ready to confront the perpetrators. If no progress is being made on the investigation, jump start it; if some party is impeding the process, remove the impediment. The thorny question of Crimean allegiance is also up for debate, although a resolution on that issue may be challenging.

We encourage you to think of new and creative solutions. Peace isn't just achieved by sending in troops to enforce it (although that is sometimes necessary). Unravel the causes of the conflict, and find ways to address them. It may be challenging to work around conflicts of policy, but common ground can be found in the interest of global peace and security.

## ***QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:***

1. What was your country's opinion on the protests, violence, and government change in the Euromaidan? Does your country recognize the legitimacy of the new government?
2. What was your country's reaction to the Crimean referendum and Russian annexation? The referendums in the other provinces?
3. Does your country give monetary or material support to Ukraine or the separatists?
4. Does your country currently have sanctions on Russia?
5. There is contention in the Security Council at the moment, but what problems, whether it be violence, human rights, or war crimes, can everyone agree on?

## ***TERMS AND PHRASES:***

**Acting President:** A temporary official that fulfills the role of president until one can be elected.

**Annexation:** the incorporation of territory into a country.

**Asset Freeze:** preventing a person or organization or country from accessing possessions and money. Often, organizations and charities keep valuable assets—possessions and money—in banks. Authority figures may cause banks to prevent anyone from accessing those assets.

**Austerity Measures:** Rules intended to reduce a country's debt by cutting back spending and/or raising taxes.

**Autonomous Republic:** An administrative division within a state that usually has some degree of autonomy more than a province; Crimea, for instance, has its own constitution and Presidential Representative, but its foreign affairs were governed by Ukraine, and the government was ultimately responsible to Ukraine.

**Ceasefire:** temporary stop to armed conflict, and usually a step before discussing a permanent peace treaty.

**Coup:** A sudden change in government that is either illegal or achieved through force.

**Donetsk:** A province in south-eastern Ukraine that declared itself independent on April 7th, 2014, and is being called the Donetsk People's Republic; one of the main provinces revolting against Ukraine in the War in Donbass.

**International Monetary Fund:** An international organization that promotes international monetary cooperation and exchange rate stability, facilitates the growth of international trade, and provides resources to help members in get out of debt or to assist with poverty reduction

**Kyivan Rus:** A Slavic state in Europe that lasted from the 9th to 13th century and from which Ukraine claims a cultural hereitage.

**Luhansk:** A province in south-eastern Ukraine that declared itself independent on April 27th, 2014, and is being called the Lugasnk People's Republic; one of the main provinces revolting against Ukraine in the War in Donbass.

**Maidan Nezalezhnosti:** The central square of Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, where the protests that overthrew President Yanukovich were held.

**Minsk Protocol:** The agreement between Ukraine, the Donetsk People's Republic, the Lugansk People's Republic, and Russia on September 15th, 2014, that calls for the end of the war and sets out provisions for peace.

**National Sovereignty:** The principle, enshrined in the UN charter, that a state has the right to govern itself without interference from any outside body.

**Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe:** An international organization that deals with security issues from arms control to free elections. They are currently monitoring the cease fire in Ukraine.

**Referendum:** A vote that is put to the electorate rather than the normal legislative body of a government; in this case, the vote was for secession.

**Sanctions:** action by one or more states toward another state that are intended to pressure the targeted state to comply with a law or resolution.

**Secede:** The formal withdrawal of a state from a treaty or organization, or the withdrawal of a territory of a state from the state.

**Shellings:** Bombardment with explosives.

**Territorial Integrity:** The principle, enshrined in the UN Charter, that nations' borders should not be changed by internal force or by outside aggression.

**Ukraine-European Union Association Treaty:** An agreement between the EU and Ukraine that created great economic and social ties between the two entities. It was drafted in 2012, but President Yanukovich pulled out of negotiations, prompting the Euromaidan Riots. The entire treaty was signed on June 27th, 2014.

**Veto Power:** ability of a permanent Security Council country (US, UK, France, China, or Russia) to reject a resolution so that it cannot be passed.

**War in Donbass:** The conflict going on between pro-Russian separatists in the Donbass region of Ukraine, including Donetsk and Luhansk, and the Ukrainian government. The conflict started after the seizure of the Ukrainian government by pro-European politicians as well as the invasion of Crimea.