# Why Russia might Invade Ukraine



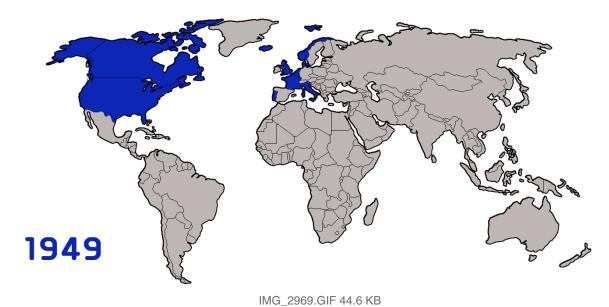
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#### Sources:

BBC
CNN Boarder Tensions
CNN Emmanuel Macron
Channel 4 News

#### WHAT:

- Russia is looking to invade Ukraine to stop them from joining NATO and to reunify the countries
- Vladimir Putin is moving thousands of troops to the Ukrainian boarder
- Russia is performing "military exercises" with Belarus
- NATO allies are sending supplies to Ukraine.
- Political talks to de-escalate the situation have largely failed with the Minsk agreement being violated every single day



## Source

## WHEN:

Conflict originally started in 2014, but has dramatically escalated in recent years

## WHERE:

The Russian Ukrainian boarder



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## WHY:

- Before the Soviet Union Fell, a large portion (including Ukraine) was part of the Soviet Union/Russian Empire
- NATO is still expanding, and is letting many of the new Eastern European countries that were formally part of the Soviet and Russian empires to join
- In 2014 protests in Ukraine for more connections to EU and NATO instead of Russia threw out their Pro-Russian Leader
- Russia takes the opportunity to invade Crimea and supported rebels who seized parts of Ukraine
- Vladimir Putin believes that Ukraine and Russia are one people, and should be reunited as so.



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## Source

#### **CONNECT:**

How does this connect with the idea of nationalism?

This Conflict Really stems from whether or not Ukraine should be it's own nation. Putin believes that because of the rich and long lasting cultural and historical ties, that should be a part of Russia, while many Ukrainian Citizens disagree, looking more towards joining the EU and NATO.

Does it connect to any topics of <u>identity</u>? Explain.

Ukrainian citizens are dealing with a Identity Crisis. Either they can identify as Russian, like the Russian backed separatists that now occupy a small portion of Ukraine. Or they can identify as Ukrainian, an independent nation that can make it's own choices away from the influence of Russia.

Opinion: What is your opinion on this topic? What evidence do you have to support your opinion?

Like a lot of people, I think invading Ukraine is a terrible idea. Not only is Russia going to have to deal the Ukrainian Army, but also significance funding and maybe even direct involvement from the NATO allies. I hope that Putin is only showing force. Causing conflict to prevent Ukraine from joining NATO. Putin wants to spread Russian nationalism. In 2014 when he Invaded Crimea, he got a huge popularity boost back

home, but now only 17% of Russians actually support the reunification of the two countries according to Levada Centre. He is eventually going to have to pull the trigger or lose it all, and that's a scary thought.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- What do you think Putin is going to do?
- What should Canada do? Sanctions, equipment, troops, etc.
- How to you think this will end

https://youtu.be/Fb9U1uoYCOc