



The Repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis on the Future of the International System

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Abstract

This research deals with the current Ukrainian crisis in terms of causes and repercussions on the future of the current international system, which began when Ukraine announced on the twenty-fourth of February Moscow's start of its military operation in its territory. On the morning of the twenty-fourth of February of this year, Kyiv announced that Moscow had started its military operations with a ground invasion of its lands, a day after the President of Donetsk and the President of Luhansk asked the Russian President to intervene to protect them from the address of the Ukrainian forces, a step was taken by Moscow to raise the concern and fear of the world. From a possible clash between Russia and NATO in Ukraine after a war of statements and mutual threats between the two parties. As a result of this surprising step, there were analyzes and speculations about the future of the international system, and perhaps the future of the whole world. Especially in light of Russia brandishing the nuclear weapons card on more than one occasion, the latest of which was the Russian President's statement that puts the Russian nuclear deterrent forces on high alert. The crisis still exists until this writing, and its conditions change between signs of calm and escalation from time to time.

Keywords

The Russian-Ukrainian crisis, Russian invasion of Ukraine, The causes of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, The geopolitical importance of Ukraine, Security implications of the Ukraine crisis on Europe.

JEL Classifications: J11, F43

1. Introduction

1.1 Research Aims

- To identify the reasons and motives for the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

- Presentation and discussion of the geopolitical importance of Ukraine in relation to Western countries and America.
- Determine the nature of the most important political and economic repercussions that the Russian-Ukrainian crisis has produced on the world.
 - Knowing the nature of the strategic repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis.
 - Foreseeing the scenarios of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis.

2. Research Methodology

In its analysis of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, the study relied on a set of scientific approaches in a way that serves the progress of research, especially the historical method to discover the causes and roots of the crisis, in addition to the analytical approach to formulate the theoretical framework of the study. On the use of the approach of political realism within the study, by analyzing the Russian goals towards Ukraine and the West and the position of the great powers such as America and China in the crisis, the quantitative approach was also used in the analysis of international policy with regard to armaments or the use of Russia's nuclear weapons towards Ukraine and NATO countries.

3. Research Problem

Hence, the study focuses on analyzing the Ukrainian crisis to answer the core of the research problem in the study, which revolves around a major question: What Is the Future of The International System in Light of World Developments the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis?

4. Search Questions

- What are the reasons and motives for the Russian invasion of Ukraine?
- What is the importance of Ukraine for Western countries and America?
- What are the most prominent political and economic repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis?
 - What is the nature of the strategic repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis?
 - What are the most prominent scenarios of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis?

5. Key Words

- The Russian-Ukrainian crisis
- Russian invasion of Ukraine
- The causes of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis
- The geopolitical importance of Ukraine
- Security implications of the Ukraine crisis on Europe

I. Intro

The post-Cold War world experienced many ups and downs, first with the fall of the Berlin Wall, then the events of September 11, then the 2008 economic crisis, then the global pandemic and the subsequent collapse. largest country economy. However, according to the architect of American foreign policy "Henry Kissinger", the USA remains the dominant in international politics, according to Brezinsky, it is a branching amphibian that overlooks all continents of the world and has its bases.

Undoubtedly, the Ukrainian crisis is one of the concerns of the United States because it has become critical and evidence of this is the early forgetting of the "Covid 19" epidemic and the future that will happen to the economies of countries. Especially developing countries. The devastation indicates that, along with sanctions against Russia and the European Union's declaration of a state of emergency over the crisis, the Ukraine crisis has re-established the geopolitical narrative of international relations after it was forgotten in international politics for some time.

II. Research Axes

1. The reasons and motives for the exacerbation of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis:
2. The most prominent political, economic and military repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis globally:
3. Scenarios of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis:

First: The Reasons and Motives for the Exacerbation of the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis

The data on the weakness of the United States of America in the current international system, as in the accounts of a group of scholars and thinkers in international relations, including Raymond Aron and Gilpin are considered to be the "soft state". While Gilpin argues that the decline and rise of the powerful can only be achieved by controlling all current international changes and trying to predict reality by developing bad scenarios, Jeffrey Hart refutes both claims that the criterion of power in international relations consists of three things, control of actors and control of Events and control over resources, and this is where the Ukraine crisis is now, and all the great powers, whether Russia or the United States, are clearly trying to lead.

Where Russia sees Ukraine as aligned with the new Eurasian proposal, while the United States is trying to address Brzezinski's proposal that all countries of the world focus on Ukraine, so geopolitics is very useful in the current Ukraine crisis.

Therefore, it is necessary to address the most important causes and motives that led to this crisis: are they the causes of the Russian Federation only in restoring the disintegrated Soviet Union, or are they the causes of the conflict between the

eastern camp represented by the Russian Federation and the western camp represented by the United States, and with the coming to power of Vladimir Putin the Kremlin sought to restore its influence and control over its former lands. Especially Ukrainian lands.

In the same vein, Ukraine tried to reach out to the West through a cooperation agreement with the European Union in the summer of 2013. A few months after the agreement was signed, Moscow exerted enormous economic pressure on Kyiv and restricted imports into Ukraine, which was met with by the government of former President Yanukovich, who won in the 2010 elections, which sparked protests against the decision, which led to his decision. She fled to Russia in February 2014.

But in fact, Putin has repeatedly made several tests of the position of the United States and Western countries in general; Where Putin ordered the mobilization of some troops and military equipment on the Russian-Ukrainian border, and this drew the attention of the United States of America, which tried to hold talks between Putin and Biden, and after a few days Russia withdrew its control. The troops then declared the secession of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and then they were proclaimed by two people's republics, headed by Russian rulers. (Jović, 2014)

Russian President Vladimir Putin has also already achieved the bottom line in his plan and recognized the independence of the breakaway regions, after the previous stage in which there was a geographic link between the Russian lands and the Ukrainian Crimea bordering the Black Sea, where there are currently about 100,000. Jedny, the Russians are stationed at various points along the 1,200-mile-long Ukrainian border. (Fix, 2022)

Thus, the Russian pole is trying to see through what Alexander Dugin mentioned in his fourth political theory and what he is trying to achieve in imposing a separation wall on the West, which Russia considers consistent with the new Eurasian recommendations, contradicting the American angle that attempts to address recommendations Brzezinski, whose focus is on all countries of the world, and therefore the geopolitical outlook is strongly available in the current Ukrainian crisis.

A. Russia Annexed Crimea in 2014

The Kremlin took advantage of the power vacuum in Kyiv and Crimea in March 2014. At the same time, paramilitary forces began mobilizing for the uprising in the Donbass region of eastern Ukraine and the creation of Russia's "people's republics". The start of a military offensive after the elections were held in May 2014, In June 2014, Ukrainian President-elect Petro Poroshenko met with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Victory Day celebrations in Normandy. The meeting, later known as the Normandy Form Talks, was brokered by France and France. (Kingsley, 2022)

At about the same time, the Ukrainian army was able to repel the separatists, but at the end of August, according to how, Russia intervened militarily,

which Moscow denied. Ukrainian forces suffered heavy casualties, and the war ended in September with the signing of a ceasefire agreement in Minsk. During March and April 2014, pro-Russian elements rioted across Ukraine, with pro-Russian groups declaring parts of the "People's Republic" in Donetsk and Luhansk to be outside the control of the Ukrainian government. (Kirby, 2022)

In response, Ukraine has filed multiple international lawsuits against Russia, and has suspended many military cooperation and military exports. Several countries and international organizations-imposed sanctions on the Russian Federation and the Ukrainian citizens involved and responsible for the escalation. The cease-fire, which again witnessed heavy fighting in January 2015, was followed by the new ceasefire, which has been in effect since mid-February 2015, but it did not succeed as, In January 2018, the Verkhovna Rada passed a law defining the territories occupied by the Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic as "temporarily occupied by Russia", which describes Russia as an "aggressor". NATO and Ukraine accused Russia of directly participating in military operations in support of the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic.

Russia denies this, but Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin has acknowledged the GRU officers operating in Ukraine, insisting they are not part of the regular forces. Russia admits that Russian "volunteers" are helping republican separatists.

B. The Status of Religion and Russian Soft Power Toward Ukraine

Expanding Russia's influence in Ukraine is not only one of its major foreign policy priorities, it is an existential problem. For many Russian political elites, Ukraine is an integral part of Russia and its identity. Therefore, Russia is expanding its influence and control through the various tools it uses, such as: The Russian Orthodox Church, the media, formal and informal business networks, and non-governmental organizations. Not to mention the mobilization of many Ukrainian regions on thorny political and cultural issues related to the politics of common language, culture and historical heritage. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ukraine's goal of following a path completely independent of Russia or even returning to European civilization has posed a threat to Russia itself. The statements of former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev were also reflected. In 2009, "Russia and Ukraine were and are from the beginning of history, they are and are still just two neighbors, but sister peoples".

Russia has many tools to achieve and extend its soft power over Ukraine, and this study sheds light on the role of religion, especially since two-thirds of Ukraine's citizens are Orthodox. On the other hand, religions with multiple religious' symbols have repeatedly entered the Ukrainian public sphere. These include the results of the 2004 Ukrainian presidential election, as well as the effects of the Orange Revolution. All religious institutions led by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate took part in the presidential campaign and the Orange

Revolution and witnessed dozens of protesters praying together every day on Independence Square in Kiev. In a letter from the Russian Orthodox Church to the Ukrainian people, the church called for a Slavic Society rather than a Christian Society. As such, it uses ethnic rather than Christian or spiritual symbols to interfere in Ukraine's internal affairs. (Brien, 2022)

Where the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Moscow Patriarchate represents the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the role of religion as a source of Russian soft power over Ukraine is manifested through the so-called political orthodoxy and the "Russian world" project, in which the Russian Orthodox Church plays a very important role.

C. The First "Minsk" Agreement

On September 5, 2014, a ceasefire was reached at a meeting of the Contact Group to resolve the situation in Ukraine in Minsk. The meeting was attended by representatives of Ukraine, Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as leaders of the Donetsk and Luhansk republics. (Arbatov, 2015)

In September 2014, the OSCE issued an agreement with 12 common clauses to address the crisis. Separate clauses were drawn up on the commitment of the Kyiv authorities to decentralization. This included the passage of the Ukrainian Law on the Provisional Regime of Local Self-Government in Certain Districts of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions, later known as the Donbass Special Status Law.

While in September, a ceasefire entered into force, and in September 2014 the Verkhovna Rada passed a law on the special status of Donbass (signed by President Petro Poroshenko in October 2014). According to the document, these regions were granted a "special status" for three years, including the right to freely use the Russian language and create detachments of the armed forces.

The Ukrainian republics also found most of the document's provisions unacceptable and decided to hold presidential and parliamentary elections in November. Despite the signing of the Minsk Accords in September, the ceasefire was repeatedly violated, and skirmishes, including the use of artillery, continued on the line of contact between the warring powers.

D. Second Minsk Agreement

In January 2015, after several months of relative calm, the situation again sharply escalated (fighting at the Donetsk airport, Mariupol, etc.). In February 2015, the leaders of the four Normandy countries (Russia, Ukraine, France and Germany) met again in Minsk with the aim of reaching an immediate ceasefire and finding a solution to the crisis in southeastern Ukraine. The document is based on a ceasefire, the withdrawal of heavy weapons from the line of contact, the exchange of prisoners of war, the political settlement of the situation in Donbass, including

the implementation of the special status previously granted to the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Republics. (I. L. Krastev, M, 2022)

And in March 2015, the Verkhovna Rada approved a list of Donbass regions where special measures for local self-government are applied. The Verkhovna Rada provides for holding elections in these regions under the Ukrainian Constitution. and discussion of the law on the provisional regime of self-government in certain regions of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the future order of these regions in the framework of the implementation of the Minsk Agreement in accordance with the said law. (Stork, 2022)

E. Ukraine's Bid to Join NATO

In 2022, legislation was passed allowing troops of other countries to enter Ukraine for joint exercises. Noting that Article 17 of the Ukrainian Constitution prohibits the deployment of military bases for the forces of foreign countries on the territory of the country. But Kyiv is circumventing this constitutional provision and deploying so-called military missions instead of calling them military bases. Based on international documents and basic principles, which state that no country can enhance its security at the expense of other countries' security, Russia considers Ukraine's inclusion in NATO as a direct threat to Russia. (Csernatoni, 2014)

Second: The Most Prominent Political, Economic and Military Repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis Globally

With the escalation of the crisis in Ukraine, many are concerned about the growing impact of the global wave of inflation, especially since Russia and Ukraine, both sides of the conflict, are important to the global economy in the energy and food sectors. There is no doubt about Russia's position in the global energy market, as Russia is the fifth largest exporter of wheat in the world, and the fifth largest exporter of grain in the world.

As a result, as soon as Moscow announced its attack on Kyiv, the price of a barrel of oil crossed the \$100 barrier for the first time since 2014, while the price of natural gas rose to \$4 a barrel, according to American Henry. million calories, and the price of gold rose by about \$40 per gram. Due to the current international crisis, many people tend to invest in it as a safe haven for investment. Things did not stop there, as global stock exchanges recorded sharp declines in the wake of the crisis. Britain's FTSE 100 is down more than 3%, Germany's DAX is down 5.5%, and the Moscow Stock Exchange is temporarily suspended after the opening slump. Trading again, the influencer fell by more than a third and the ruble lost about 6.3 12% of its value. (Saunders, 2015)

All this came at a time when Moscow announced military action against Kyiv, even before the West imposed economic sanctions; This shows the magnitude of the huge economic impact of the crisis, and it is expected that it will have consequences as the crisis continues, and more negative effects.

The crisis will cast a shadow on the global energy markets, which are bound to reflect the prices of other goods and services, especially food commodities, which will inevitably be affected by the general decline in wheat and grain exports from the two conflicting countries. (Ottaway, 2013)

Which will further complicate matters for the poor countries, which are still mainly suffering from the repercussions of the Corona crisis, and that Western countries may resort to raising interest rates to confront the already high inflation wave; which affects investment in emerging markets; Because it will lead to the flight of investments to the American and European markets, to be safer; Which may portend a government debt crisis in those countries?

In addition, as the crisis continues, there is another crisis that can hit the metals and electronics economy. Russia has a prominent position in the metal markets, especially nickel and aluminum; Due to the semiconductor crisis that the world is currently going through, Russia alone meets the international industrial demand for nickel metal, about 26% of aluminum, and 13% of platinum; For example, if the Russian supply is affected by the price of nickel, which is usually used in the electronics industry; It will lead to a further increase in its price; There is no doubt that the importance of electronic equipment is not only in the lives of ordinary families, but also in various industries and fields, this will lead to deeper and deeper wounds in the international economy, which will negatively affect everyone. (Assessment, 2022)

It is worth noting that when Iran was prevented from doing business with the SWIFT system in 2012, under pressure from the United States, the country lost more than half of the revenue from the oil sector and 30% of the revenue from foreign trade, but Russia, despite all these sanctions, is still able to make transfers Finance using systems other than SWIFT. For example, the use of the Chinese system (cross-border) for large transfers, so Moscow is likely to be more dependent on Beijing, which issues digital currency and uses a payment system separate from the West, so a new confrontation with Moscow may also lead to the recent globalization of the economy accelerated rip. (Kirby, 2022)

As for the flight ban, experts warn that if Western companies cannot reach the Russian air corridor, they will have to divert their flights south to avoid tensions in the Middle East, which will also increase the time and cost of flights, and that Russian companies will avoid flying over Europe Canada and the United States. It should also be noted that Russia has been subject to economic sanctions since 2014, EU countries have lost nearly \$25 billion in exports to Russia, and the total monthly losses caused by the sanctions are \$4 billion, of which Germany has a share of 38%, and the West is already influenced by it.

The above conclusions confirm that there is no doubt that Russia studied the consequences of the economic boycott before entering the war and took steps to minimize the economic impact of US, European, and international economic sanctions. Russia is an exporter of two of the most important commodities in the world, gas and oil on the one hand, and wheat on the other hand, which is the most

important demand in the world today. So without Swift, It is very difficult for the West to deal with Russia. Moreover, Russia can take advantage of higher oil, gas and wheat prices in its revenues to counteract the impact of these sanctions.

Even internally, there is an opinion that the Russian oligarchy is taking advantage of the war in Ukraine to strengthen its control over the Russian economy. Russia's lack of access to foreign products due to longstanding sanctions against Moscow has allowed the growth of domestic Russian products, which are run by a group of companies mostly owned by people close to Putin, such as Putin and his intelligence partner Sergei Chemezov.

The agreement came in particular with the escalation of the Ukrainian crisis and China's announcement of its support for Russia's security demands, calling on Washington to stop the statement it described through China's ambassador to the United Nations, Zhang Jun. As "a megaphone diplomacy that does not lead to negotiations. Moscow is resorting to it based on the restrictions currently imposed on it." It is also worth noting that before 2019 Moscow and Beijing reached an agreement to use the local currency in commercial exchanges. The use of the US dollar in international trade, or perhaps other currencies in the basket of trade, would mitigate the severity of the US decision. (Rudik, 2022)

Especially since Russia has not completely banned the use of the dollar; Because its European allies need Russian energy, and an energy deal of this size between Russia and China could be a warning from Russia to the West that if Moscow is expelled from the global banks, it will not only block European energy, but will work to divert it to China, another Western competitor, and remove the United States from the top of the international system politically and economically. China is the world's largest oil importer and the second largest oil consumer after the United States; According to reports from the Chinese government and OPEC, since Washington is the largest oil producer in the world, China will import about 1,050 million barrels of oil per day in 2020. This is more than US imports by about 6.4 million barrels per day. (Liu, 2022)

Thus, Russia directing its oil production to China will greatly contribute to supporting and strengthening the Chinese economy. Especially since it will be transported by road through pipes; This makes it safer than oil that comes to China by sea, especially through the Strait of Malacca, which connects China with the Arab world and the Middle East; Where energy sources in general controlled by the United States as "the throat of Asia that should be in the clutches of America. Moreover, it seems that China is still confirming its alliance with Russia in that crisis; by suspending its services in Russia, meaning that the Russians are not Being able to transact financially with the outside world, especially with regard to remittances and e-commerce, Russian banks have announced that they will work to bypass this by relying on the largest banking system in China Since 2003. (I. L. Krastev, M, 2022)

In terms of political repercussions, the Russian-Ukrainian crisis has led to the sorting of many negative political effects that changed the level of inter-

relationships between the major countries on the scale of the international hierarchy of power within the structure of the international system. The crisis is likely to have political repercussions that affect not only the parties to the crisis, but also the picture of power distribution in the international system. In our view, Russia's decision to start military operations in Ukraine is a rejection of all Western threats and warnings - declaring the decline of the unipolar pattern that the world has witnessed since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 AD; When Moscow attacked countries of Western economic, strategic and political importance, as we shall see below, it did not respond forcefully and concretely from Washington, the leader of the Western Bloc; This would be the announcement of a Western withdrawal at the top of the international system.

It is true that the West has now re-supported Ukraine militarily, but the West's inability to prevent Moscow from attacking Ukraine in the first place and its political will by bringing Kyiv into NATO or even the European Union shows us how far. However, the weakness of the West in this document is the first encouragement for Ukraine to take serious steps in this direction. According to the report of the European Council on International Relations, even the West is divided over the crisis, and Europe cannot take a unified position on military action, but only condemn and condemn. While countries such as Poland, Sweden and Finland have urged Europe to take a tougher stance against Russia, France and Germany prefer de-escalation because, as mentioned earlier, they have strong relations with Moscow, which is in Russia's interest, And the Russians improve their chances of achieving the first goal of that war. He returned politically again to the top of the international system, or the so-called report of the Council of Europe (Yalta 2) after World War II, in reference to the Balta solution, which divides Europe into the West and the Soviet Union.

From a political point of view, this may be the crux of the matter; The crisis between the Helsinki model could define the political shape of Europe's collective security, on which the European Union is built, and a governance of a united and democratic Europe that adheres to the rule of law and sovereign equality among all member states. The state, and the second Yalta model, which is what the Russians want to achieve, and if they succeed, it will be a European recognition of Russia as the hegemonic polar power in Eastern Europe with global interests extending to other regions but if the West can support Ukraine and force Russia to withdraw; This might be considered a victory for the Helsinki model, which would erase the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Eastern European states and their distance from the orbit of Russian control. (Kirby, 2022)

Although Ukraine has good relations with the United States and Europe, Kyiv is not a member of NATO. This was an important factor in Putin's plan to attack Ukraine, because NATO members are obligated by the treaty to assist any other NATO member who is under attack. The alliance includes thirty countries, some of which are bordering Russia, so these countries have this protection, so Putin did not attack any of them. Even before the war, President Biden announced that the United States would not send American forces to Ukraine if it was attacked. So

Putin knows he can launch an attack without fear of a direct confrontation with the United States.

Likewise, Taiwan, unlike NATO, is not part of any US-led military support. But the United States has good relations with Taiwan because it provides defensive military equipment, but Washington does not have an explicit treaty commitment to help Taiwan if it is attacked. A few notes: The first is that the war in Russia will not go the way everyone expected, including Putin himself. Before the offensive began, 200,000 Russian soldiers attacked a country with a much smaller population and an army on the border, and analysts predict it could only take three or four days for Russia to invade and control Ukraine. But the fact is that after two weeks of fighting, Russia is still trying to gain control of major cities, and suffers losses on the battlefield.

Second: NATO and Western Europe strongly condemn the Russian attack and jointly impose sanctions on Moscow. Even Switzerland and Germany have changed their policies to join other countries. Former US President Trump once defamed NATO and before the crisis, the internal cohesion of European countries was just a matter of Russia. Outside of Europe, there are many other countries that support Ukraine politically and even financially. Thousands of foreign volunteers poured into Ukraine to join the country's defenses. The United Nations General Assembly voted strongly condemned. (I. Krastev, 2015)

In any case, China's core international interests now appear to be commercial, and Beijing may be more concerned about the global economic disruption caused by the war. Some may think that China can benefit financially from the crisis and thus maintain close relations with Russia without Moscow's 100% support. As things stand, the more the West withdraws from Moscow, the more likely the far-right will become popular, and thus the realization of the Balta 2 model could have repercussions for the European Union and democratic Western Europe. In particular, observers of the recent elections to the European Parliament in 2019 noted that far-right political parties in many European countries such as Britain, France and Germany, which are dominated by major European countries, continued to rise; With current events, the political map may change. changes not seen in Europe since the European Spring of the nineteenth century.

On the other hand, the crisis had many military repercussions. After the Ukrainian crisis, the German Finance Minister unexpectedly announced that his country was seeking to become one of the strongest, if not the best, armies in Europe, he said. His country's goal and purpose were commensurate with Germany's responsibility and importance in Europe, and he also announced that his country would allocate about 100 billion euros to support the army at a rate of \$33.5 billion annually. The announcement sent shares of German arms producers up; The share of Rheinmetall, the main arms supplier to the German army, increased by about a quarter, while the share of the German-based multinational "Hinzholt" increased by almost half, which in turn affected the share of Germany. The same is true of arms producers in Europe; Thales' stake in France has increased

by about 13%. While the share of BAI Systems in the London Stock Exchange increased by about 14%. (Badykov, 2014)

On the other hand, it can be said that Moscow's military action in Kyiv, when the West cannot stop it, is evidence of the collapse of the theory of European military deterrence, which will be confirmed if Russia succeeds in achieving its goals. As Europe will face new political and military realities, Moscow is allowed to intervene militarily in other regions in accordance with its interests, without regard to European security; We no longer live in the old world of freedom; Where the rules are enforced and violators are punished, we are now in the realm of power; Only such a force could deter such a force; Therefore, if Washington wants to get out of Europe, it must make its allies ready to balance the Russian military power, otherwise the security and sovereignty of European countries will be threatened.

Third: Scenarios of the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis

There are many future visions for ending the Ukrainian-Russian crisis, due to many factors and variables in the force factor in the conflict between the two sides, and the Ukraine war has entered its ninth week since the Russian war. The army invaded Ukrainian territory on February 24. Regarding the process of this war, how long it will last, and when it will end, there are many analyzes and expectations, and it can be said that we are in front of four possible scenarios in this war, which can be clearly identified as follows:

A. Scenario One: The Fighting Will Continue for More Months to Come

This scenario refers to the prolongation of the war more than expected at its beginning, the failure of Russian forces to besiege the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, as well as their withdrawal from Kharkiv, the second largest city in Ukraine, which is only about 20 kilometers from the Ukrainian capital Kyiv. Russian border, a month after its capture. This is in addition to the withdrawal of Russian forces from the vicinity of the cities of Chernihiv and Sumy, northeastern Ukraine. Although Russian forces in the south have succeeded in achieving a geographical link between the Russian lands bordering the Sea of Azov with Crimea, there is indifference to the remaining Ukrainian forces in some suburbs of the expected downfall of Mirapol. Fully over the next few days.

B. Scenario Two: The Expansion of the Current War

The second scenario means that the current war has the potential for expansion, so it is not limited to Ukrainian territory, especially after Putin raised the nuclear readiness of his forces, in addition to a strong warning message to NATO, of the consequences of opposing support for Ukraine. facing Russia. While some fear that the current fighting will turn into a nuclear war, the real fear is that

the situation will collapse, allowing the circle of fighting to expand and expand beyond the territory of Ukraine, including members of NATO and other neighboring countries, especially the state. Moldova. There are several scenarios in this regard, starting with a Russian warplane accidentally intruding into the airspace of a NATO neighbor, just as a Russian Sukhoi Su-24 stormed Turkish airspace on November 24 and was shot down in 2015. Although this incident has been contained, it is feared that the reaction in the Ukrainian case will be to carry out military counter-action, which will lead to a chain of reactions and counter-reactions, leading to an expanding circle of fighting and dragging the two parties (Russia and NATO) into a larger war. (I. L. Krastev, M, 2022)

C. Third Scenario: Settlement and Management of the Crisis

The third scenario is the possibility of reaching a political settlement due to the stalemate on the Ukrainian battlefield and the exhaustion of both armies, which hinders the ability of either side to achieve any military breakthrough. they. Putin previously set the following conditions for resolving the crisis with Ukraine:

- I. Purging the country of neo-Nazis, i.e., changing the regime to another regime accepted by Moscow.
- II. Disarmament.
- III. Abandoning the goal of joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and adhering to neutrality.
- IV. Ukraine recognizes the accession of Crimea to Russia.
- V. Negotiations on the disputed borders with the separatist republics of Luhansk and Donetsk (only a third of the Donbas region is under the control of the separatists, which the separatists demanded under the 2014 administrative border demarcation of the border and the withdrawal of Ukrainian forces from the area they control.

But it is worth noting that Putin abandoned his first demand and since then began negotiations with Ukraine in Istanbul, Turkey and this has not been repeated since then. The Ukrainian side publicly expressed its desire to discuss the issue of Ukraine's neutrality, which was previously rejected by the Ukrainian side.

Although the West doubts the sincerity of the intentions of the Russian side to enter these negotiations, and that it seeks only to gain time and procrastinate until it repositions its forces in Ukraine in preparation for the resumption of its extensive attack on the east of the country; However, the inability of the Ukrainian forces at the same time to achieve a decisive military victory and to defeat the Russian forces and expel them from the lands and positions they seized, may force the two parties to make concessions and drop the ceiling of their first demands to a kind of compromise related to all outstanding issues to get out of the current situation.

6. Conclusion

Although Ukraine has a long history of resistance movements and guerrilla capabilities, the decision to war cannot be underestimated, it is rejected by many

and is also seen as a crime against humanity, so the Russian military escalation of Ukraine led to the outbreak of the East. European countries: Fears that Washington will continue its diplomatic approach with Russia in order to find a consensual "temporary" solution to the need of the two sides without compromising the sovereignty of any allies, in addition to the need to continue coordination with the European Union forces to deal with the Russian side; As the Russian threat threatens European security, The crisis is expected to escalate further in the coming hours, as we may witness a new cold war between the eastern and western camps unless international efforts are made to reach consensus and a satisfactory solution to avoid a large-scale world war.

Disruptions in global food and fuel supplies will lead to higher energy and food prices, which confirms the importance of international intervention to stop the conflict, in order to ensure alleviation of the effects of global food insecurity and thus limit the rise in food prices and perhaps competition with China is somewhat stronger than Russia; And because it has become an important nuclear power, in addition to modernizing its conventional military forces much faster than Russia, it is also a technical competitor to the United States and its partners, which confirms that China will increase its influence in the coming period. Through initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). their strategic partners indefinitely into the future and in many ways to counter the threats they face.

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