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Russia-Ukraine War and the Imperatives of a New Global Order

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Abstract

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has illuminated the inherent problems within the current global order and accentuated the urgent need for a re-imagined framework that addresses these issues. This study underscored the multifaceted nature of Russia-Ukraine War and the imperative of international efforts to seek a sustainable resolution. Using secondary data and content analysis. Findings reveal that Russia-Ukraine War is rooted in a complex web of historical, cultural, and geopolitical factors which the escalation of the conflict was exacerbated by issues related to the continuous encroachment of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) into territories considered to be sphere of influence of Russia, Crimea's annexation, the rights of Russian-speaking populations, and Ukraine's alignment with Western institutions. The study conclude that the conflict has contributed to a reevaluation of alliances and strategic partnerships on the global stage. It has also raised questions about the effectiveness of international institutions and the challenges posed by information warfare, energy security, and arms control. The study recommends that the international community should reaffirm its commitment to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and other relevant agreements. Violations of these norms, as witnessed in Crimea, should be met with condemnation and diplomatic pressure.

Keywords: Crimea's Annexation, Global Order, United Nations Charter, NATO.

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Introduction

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has unveiled the pressing imperatives for a new global order that prioritizes peace, stability, and adherence to international law. The escalation of tensions between Russia and Ukraine has not only regional but also global implications, reminding the international community of the urgency to establish a framework that prevents such conflicts and upholds the sovereignty of nations. This conflict serves as a stark reminder that the existing global order, characterized by power struggles, territorial disputes, and disregard for established norms, is in need of reform (Shkolnyk et al, 2022).

The imperatives of a new global order lie in the need for enhanced diplomatic efforts, multilateral cooperation, and the enforcement of international agreements to prevent the recurrence of such conflicts. This includes a renewed commitment to respecting the territorial integrity of nations, refraining from aggression, and finding peaceful solutions to disputes. Additionally, the Ukraine crisis underscores the necessity of addressing underlying economic, social, and political factors that contribute to regional instability (Shkolnyk et al, 2022). According to Winkler (2016) the conflict also emphasizes the significance of strengthening international institutions and mechanisms that promote conflict resolution, such as the United Nations and regional organizations. A new global order should prioritize collective security and cooperation, discouraging unilateral actions that can lead to devastating consequences for nations and their citizens. The Russia-Ukraine conflict serves as a catalyst for reevaluating the foundations of the current global order. It highlights the importance of establishing a new paradigm that prioritizes dialogue, cooperation, and adherence to international norms, ultimately fostering a world characterized by peace, stability, and the protection of national sovereignty.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has illuminated the inherent problems within the current global order and accentuated the urgent need for a re-imagined framework that addresses these issues. The conflict, marked by territorial disputes, military interventions, and a disregard for established international norms, highlights the shortcomings of the existing global structure in preventing and resolving such conflicts (Bugheanu et al., 2023). The problem lies in the lack of effective mechanisms to deter aggressive actions, enforce international law, and ensure the sovereignty of nations (Ozili, 2020). This conflict underscores the vulnerabilities in the global order that allow for the unilateral use of force and violations of territorial integrity, undermining the principles of peace and stability.

Russian escalation of the war in Ukraine has set up the biggest threat to peace and security in Europe in the post-Cold War period. Hence, it is worth mentioning that the war escalation occurred due to the long list of grievances of Russia against

Ukraine. On February 21st, 2022, Vladimir Putin the Russian President presented his speech as a justification for the special military operation against Ukraine. The grievances included Ukraine's tilt towards European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which itself possesses expansionist policies and shape the post-Cold-War period in Europe. Thus tracing back the history of the Ukrainian crisis, the tensions got started at its inception in 1991. Ever since then Ukraine was influenced by the Russian oligarchs, politicians, and business community as the country was one of the strongest Russian satellite states. Such influence was not acceptable to the Ukrainian people and thus "Orange Revolution" in 2004-2005 took place in the capital city of Ukraine, Kyiv, which opposed the Russian politicians' that influenced Ukraine which is now a constitutionally independent state since the Soviet disintegration in 1991. Apart from opposing Russia's dominancy over Ukraine the revolution also indicated the institutionalization of democracy (Gierczak, 2020).

Nevertheless, Ukrainian society is religiously, ethnically, and linguistically divided into some regions; that is, the province of Luhansk and Donetsk and the Crimean Peninsula that strongly identify to be the part of Russia. Therefore, Russia's military operation over Crimea in 2014 initiated one of the biggest international conflicts between the two states and has been raised to its peak as of the involvement of external players such as; the EU, and the US that demonstrates the difficulty in resolving the crisis between both sides. Whereas, Vladimir Putin's Neo-imperial foreign policy has also made this conflict challenging. In addition, the strategically crucial geo-political position of Ukraine needs a third party's involvement to get rid of the inhuman acts and deterioration of human rights on Ukraine's territory. Russia has always claimed Ukraine to be part of its motherland and has shown its keen interest in the Ukrainian territory ranging from diplomatic, economic, and military interests to put a stop to the US and NATO's expansionist policies around Europe (Achinulo & Alabo, 2022).

The Russia-Ukraine conflict highlights the inherent problems within the current global order, signaling the need for comprehensive reform. The imperatives of a new global order lie in its ability to prevent conflicts, uphold international norms, and prioritize the well-being of nations and their citizens. By addressing these imperatives, the international community can work towards a more harmonious, secure, and equitable world. The primary aim of this study is to examine the Russia-Ukraine War and the New Global Order. Specific objectives are to:

- i. assess the effectiveness of the current global order in preventing and resolving conflicts, using the Russia-Ukraine conflict as a case study.
- ii. identify the key imperatives necessary for shaping a new global order that prioritizes peace, stability, and adherence to international norms.

- iii. propose actionable recommendations for international institutions, diplomatic efforts, and multilateral cooperation to address the imperatives of a new global order in the context of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Literature Review

Historical Background to Russia-Ukraine War

The Russia-Ukraine War of recent years has brought to the forefront the complex interplay of geopolitical forces and the imperatives of a new global order. The conflict, which erupted against a backdrop of historical tensions, has underscored the evolving dynamics of international politics and the challenges faced by the international community in maintaining stability and peace. This section delves into the intricacies of the Russia-Ukraine War and examines its broader implications for the shaping of a new global order.

Ukraine is situated in Eastern Europe and is the largest state in the continent after Russia. Both countries have been engaged in hostilities for a long period. Russia and Ukraine had been cornerstones of the former Soviet Union Empire. After Russia, Ukraine was the most robust and densely populated republic of the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republic) as well as a huge opponent of the United States. It was where the nuclear, agricultural, and defense sectors of the Union were based. Keeping in view Ukraine's importance, its independence in 1991 proved to be the final nail in the coffin of the mighty soviet realm. Since its emancipation, Ukraine has always struggled to become an independent nation and also endeavored to become a close ally of Western organizations such as NATO and the EU (Masters, 2022).

However, to understand the rivalry, it is essential to go through the history of the truculent neighbours to unfold how the stage was set for today's warfare. Both Russia and Ukraine share a history that dates back to a thousand years when 'Kyiv' the present-day capital of Ukraine was the heart of the 1st Slavic State, Kyivan Rus, also known as the origin of both Ukraine and Russia. Vladimir I, a pagan prince of Novgorod and the grand prince of Kyiv, in the year 988 AD converted to the Orthodox Christian faith and underwent baptism in Chersoneses, Crimea. Referring to this, Russian President Vladimir Putin recently proclaimed that "Russians and Ukrainians are one people, a single whole". But during the past ten centuries, rival powers have frequently divided Ukraine. The 13th century saw the conquest of Kyivan Rus by eastern Mongol armies. In the sixteenth century, the Lithuanian and Polish troops assailed from the west (Balmaceda, 2016; D'Anieri, 2019).

In the seventeenth century, the confrontation between the Russian Tsardom and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth brought the territories to the east of the Dnieper River that came under the control of Russian imperialism. Hence, the eastern region came to be known as the "Left Bank" Ukraine, while Poland dominated the territory to the west of the Dnieper, or the "Right Bank." The Russian Empire later, after more than a century, in 1793, annexed western Ukraine. Consequently, in the following years, the Russification policy forced individuals to adopt the Russian Orthodox religion and forbade the use and study of the Ukrainian language (Conant, 2022; Abdulyakeen, 2022 & Nurain, 2024).

In the 20th century, Ukraine saw some of the worst catastrophes. Ukraine before being completely integrated into the Soviet Union in 1922, endured a bloody civil war following the 1917 communist revolution. Early in the 1930s, Joseph Stalin, the Soviet leader, staged a famine resulting in the deaths of millions of Ukrainians to compel peasants to join collective farms. Stalin then sent in enormous numbers of Russians and other Soviet residents to help repopulate the east, many of whom had little or no knowledge about Ukrainians. These historical legacies left behind permanent fault lines. Therefore, the citizens in the eastern part of Ukraine were closely linked to Russia and have a history of supporting pro-Russian leaders. Moreover, unlike western Ukraine, their region has also been under Russian control for a prolonged period. Western Ukrainians, in contrast, tend to prefer leaders who are more pro-Western because their region spent centuries under the varying control of European nations like Poland and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. While sections of the west are more Catholic Ukrainian-speaking and the eastern population is typically more Orthodox and Russian-speaking.

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The shift to capitalism and a democratic system was hard and tumultuous, and numerous Ukrainians, especially in the east, yawned for the relative stability of the former ages. Adrian Karatnycky, a Ukrainian expert, claims that:

After taking into account all of these variables. The biggest divide after all these factors is between those who view the Russian imperial and Soviet rule more sympathetically versus those who see them as a tragedy. Thousands of Ukrainians marched in support of closer ties to Europe during the 2004 Orange Revolution, exposing these rifts (Conant, 2022, p.12).

Since Ukraine's bloodless Orange Revolution of 2004 overturned Viktor Yanukovich's (former President of Ukraine) rigged election as president, tensions between Moscow and Kyiv have deepened. Nevertheless, Yanukovich won the election in 2010, but he was deposed in February 2014 after bowing to Kremlin pressure and abandoning a trade agreement with the EU. Also, to understand the Russia-Ukraine War, it is crucial to delve into the historical context of the two nations' relationship. The roots of the conflict, traceable to the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, led to the emergence of an independent Ukraine. However, the legacy of the Soviet era left a deep imprint on the region, with Ukraine grappling to establish its sovereignty and identity while being geopolitically sandwiched between Russia and the West (Smith, 2019). The annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2014 further exacerbated tensions, leading to a significant rupture in the diplomatic relations between the two countries (Sasse, 2015).

The escalation of the Russia-Ukraine conflict was marked by a series of events that unfolded over a span of years. The annexation of Crimea served as a catalyst, triggering a sense of vulnerability within Ukraine and driving efforts to establish closer ties with Western institutions such as the European Union (EU) and NATO (Balmaceda, 2016). Russia's subsequent support for separatist movements in Eastern Ukraine and the declaration of independent republics intensified the crisis, culminating in violent clashes and the eruption of armed conflict (D'Anieri, 2019). As international observers closely monitored the situation, initial diplomatic efforts were made to contain the crisis. The United Nations (UN) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) played pivotal roles in attempting to mediate between the conflicting parties, urging dialogue and a peaceful resolution (UN News, 2014). However, these efforts often faced obstacles due to the divergent interests of the key players involved.

The historical roots of the Russia-Ukraine conflict run deep, intertwined with centuries of shared history and territorial disputes. The region that encompasses modern-day Ukraine was historically part of the Kievan Rus, a medieval federation of Slavic states, from which both Russia and Ukraine trace their origins (Plokhly, 2017). However, as empires expanded and shifted, the territory of Ukraine became a bone of contention between various powers, including Poland, the Ottoman Empire, and Russia (Subtelny, 2000). The late 18th century saw the majority of Ukraine coming under Russian rule through the Treaty of Pereyaslav, a turning point that laid the groundwork for subsequent tensions. The annexation of Crimea in 2014

marked a pivotal moment in the Russia-Ukraine relationship and set the stage for the subsequent conflict. Crimea, historically a part of Ukraine, was transferred to the Soviet Socialist Republic of Ukraine in 1954 by then-Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev (Kuzio, 2014). Decades later, when Russia annexed Crimea following a controversial referendum, it ignited outrage in Ukraine and across the international community. The move was perceived as a violation of Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty, leading to the imposition of sanctions by the Western world (Balmaceda, 2015). The tensions between Russia and Ukraine were further fueled by the differing aspirations of the two countries. While Ukraine sought to strengthen its ties with Western institutions and distance itself from Russian influence, Moscow viewed such endeavors as encroachment on its sphere of influence (Shevtsova, 2015). This divergence in aspirations not only exacerbated historical animosities but also deepened the geopolitical fault lines that would eventually contribute to the conflict. The annexation of Crimea and the subsequent events in Eastern Ukraine exposed the complexities of ethnic and linguistic divisions within the country. Ukraine's population is linguistically and culturally diverse, with Ukrainian and Russian speakers residing side by side. The conflict magnified these differences, with Russia portraying itself as a protector of Russian-speaking populations in Ukraine while Ukraine sought to assert its national identity and territorial integrity (Katchanovski, 2018)

Russia-Ukraine Escalation and Conflict Eruption

The escalation of the Russia-Ukraine conflict can be traced through a series of events that unfolded over the course of several years. After the annexation of Crimea in 2014, tensions simmered as separatist movements gained ground in Eastern Ukraine, particularly in Donetsk and Luhansk. These regions, home to a significant Russian-speaking population, became focal points of conflict, as pro-Russian militias declared independence from Ukraine (Wilson, 2015). The Ukrainian government responded with military force to quell the secessionist movements, leading to a cycle of violence and clashes that marked the official start of the war.

The conflict rapidly escalated into a full-scale war, with both sides accusing each other of violating ceasefires and escalating hostilities. The use of heavy weaponry, including artillery and tanks, created a humanitarian catastrophe as civilian populations found themselves caught in the crossfire (Human Rights Watch, 2014). The situation worsened as reports of human rights abuses and war crimes emerged from both sides, further polarizing international opinion and complicating efforts at diplomatic resolution.

The international community was quick to react to the escalating conflict, with many countries expressing concern over the destabilizing implications for the region and

beyond. The United States and the European Union were at the forefront of condemning Russia's actions in Crimea and Eastern Ukraine, imposing economic sanctions and freezing assets of Russian officials (MacDonald, 2016). However, the West's response was met with countermeasures from Moscow, including bans on food imports from countries that had imposed sanctions.

Diplomatic efforts to de-escalate the conflict were launched through various channels. The Minsk agreements, brokered by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), aimed to establish a ceasefire and a framework for political dialogue. However, the implementation of these agreements was marred by violations from both sides and a lack of consensus on key issues (OSCE, 2015). Despite repeated attempts at negotiation, the conflict continued to simmer, reflecting the deep-seated divisions and complex geopolitical interests at play.

Geopolitical Implications of Russia-Ukraine War

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has had far-reaching implications for neighboring countries and the broader regional stability of Eastern Europe. The conflict has exposed the vulnerabilities of countries with significant Russian-speaking populations, as fears of separatism and external intervention have risen. Baltic States such as Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, which also have sizable Russian-speaking minorities, have closely monitored the conflict, wary of potential attempts to undermine their sovereignty (Tsygankov, 2019). These countries have bolstered their defense capabilities and sought reassurances from NATO to counter potential threats.

Furthermore, the conflict has exacerbated historical tensions and territorial disputes among countries in the region. Ukraine's aspirations to align with the West have caused concern in Russia, prompting Moscow to assert its influence more forcefully and pursue policies that reinforce its sphere of influence (Balmaceda, 2017). This power struggle has led to a reevaluation of alliances and partnerships, as countries in the region navigate the delicate balance between historical affiliations and modern geopolitical realities.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has showcased the divergent interests of major global players and their influence on the trajectory of the conflict. The United States and the European Union have condemned Russia's actions and imposed economic sanctions, seeking to curb Moscow's aggressive behavior and support Ukraine's sovereignty (Parker, 2018). The conflict has also underscored the limitations of the West's ability to shape outcomes on its own, as Russia's strategic interests in the region have remained steadfast.

China's position has been more nuanced, as it seeks to balance its growing economic ties with Russia and its desire to avoid alienating Western powers. China's "non-interference" policy has led it to abstain from overtly taking sides in the conflict, but its economic interests in the region have prompted Beijing to cautiously engage with both Russia and Ukraine (Rumer & Sokolsky, 2015). This approach reflects the complexities of global power dynamics and the delicate dance of maintaining relationships with conflicting parties.

Economic Consequences

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has reverberated through global markets, particularly in the energy sector. Russia is a major supplier of natural gas to Europe, with pipelines running through Ukraine serving as critical transit routes (Smith, 2016). The conflict has raised concerns about the reliability of energy supplies, leading to fluctuations in gas prices and heightened energy security anxieties among European countries heavily dependent on Russian gas (Walt, 2018). The threat of disruptions to energy supplies has prompted some European nations to seek alternative sources and diversify their energy portfolios to reduce vulnerability to geopolitical shocks.

Furthermore, the conflict has disrupted trade routes and supply chains, impacting not only Ukraine but also neighboring countries that rely on trade with both Russia and the EU. The annexation of Crimea and the ensuing conflict in Eastern Ukraine have led to disruptions in cross-border trade, as well as the imposition of sanctions that have hindered the flow of goods and services (Balmaceda, 2018). This disruption has had a ripple effect on the global economy, underscoring the interconnectedness of markets in an increasingly interdependent world.

The uncertainty surrounding the Russia-Ukraine conflict has contributed to market volatility and investor apprehension. Stock markets around the world have responded to fluctuations in the conflict's developments, reflecting the broader economic impact of geopolitical instability (Lavrovsky, 2019). The European Union, in particular, has faced economic headwinds as a result of the conflict due to its close economic ties with Russia and Ukraine.

In addition to its immediate economic consequences, the conflict has prompted governments and businesses to reconsider their exposure to geopolitical risks. Companies with significant operations in the affected region have faced challenges in maintaining business continuity, as the conflict disrupts supply chains and raises concerns about political instability (The Economist, 2017). This reevaluation of risk management strategies highlights the need for a more nuanced understanding of the potential economic fallout from geopolitical conflicts.

Humanitarian Crisis

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has exacted a heavy toll on civilian populations, resulting in a humanitarian crisis of significant proportions. The hostilities have led to mass displacement, with millions of Ukrainians forced to flee their homes to escape the violence (UNHCR, 2020). Many have sought refuge within Ukraine, while others have crossed borders into neighboring countries, creating a complex refugee crisis with profound social, economic, and political implications. The situation has been particularly dire in Eastern Ukraine, where civilians have been caught in the crossfire and subjected to the devastating impact of war. Homes have been destroyed, infrastructure damaged, and essential services disrupted, leaving communities in dire need of assistance (HRW, 2017). The displacement of vulnerable populations, including the elderly and children, has further exacerbated the humanitarian challenges on the ground.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has been marked by allegations of human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by all sides. Reports of indiscriminate shelling, torture, forced disappearances, and other atrocities have raised alarm within the international community (Amnesty International, 2015). The conflict's impact on civilian populations and the erosion of human rights have underscored the urgent need for international intervention and accountability mechanisms. International organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and humanitarian agencies have played a critical role in responding to the crisis. The United Nations, in particular, has coordinated aid efforts, delivering humanitarian assistance, providing medical care, and facilitating the provision of shelter to those affected by the conflict (UN News, 2019). NGOs on the ground have worked tirelessly to address the immediate needs of displaced populations, while also advocating for accountability for human rights abuses. However, the scale of the humanitarian crisis has strained resources and challenged the capacity of aid organizations to provide comprehensive assistance. The conflict's ongoing nature and the volatile security situation have hindered access to affected areas, making the delivery of aid and support a complex and risky endeavor (ICRC, 2021). As the conflict persists, finding sustainable solutions to the humanitarian crisis remains a paramount concern.

Russia-Ukraine: Shifting Alliances and Power Dynamics

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has brought about a realignment of alliances and partnerships, reshaping the geopolitical landscape of the region. Traditional alliances have been tested as countries grapple with the complex and evolving nature of the conflict. The conflict's impact has been particularly pronounced within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Union (EU), as member

states navigate their responses to Russia's actions. Within NATO, the conflict has prompted member states to reassess their commitment to collective defense and the organization's role in deterring potential aggression. While NATO has expressed solidarity with Ukraine and provided support through measures such as enhanced military exercises and patrols in the Black Sea (Biscop, 2019), the conflict has revealed differences among member states regarding the intensity of their response. Some states advocate for a stronger stance against Russia, while others emphasize diplomatic engagement and dialogue (Bukkvoll & Lindström, 2020).

The conflict has prompted countries in the region to reevaluate their military and strategic priorities. Ukraine, in particular, has undergone a significant transformation in its defense capabilities. The conflict has highlighted the importance of developing indigenous defense industries, enhancing military technology, and bolstering its armed forces to counter threats to its sovereignty (Marchuk, 2016). Additionally, Ukraine has sought to strengthen its ties with Western partners through defense cooperation agreements and military aid. The conflict has also prompted other countries to adjust their security strategies. Neighboring countries have sought to balance their historical affiliations with the need to secure their own sovereignty in the face of shifting geopolitical dynamics. Countries like Poland and the Baltic states have bolstered their defense capabilities and sought closer ties with Western institutions such as NATO to deter potential aggression (Stremlau, 2017). The evolving military and strategic landscape resulting from the Russia-Ukraine conflict has implications not only for the region but also for global power dynamics. In the next section, we will discuss the prospects for a resolution to the conflict and the challenges associated with achieving a sustainable peace agreement.

Emerging Trends and Dynamics

The Russia-Ukraine War continues to evolve, presenting a complex landscape of emerging trends and dynamics. As the war enters its second decade, it is essential to analyze these developments to gain a deeper understanding of the ongoing challenges and potential opportunities for resolution. This section explores key emerging trends and dynamics in the Russia-Ukraine War, drawing on a variety of sources for comprehensive analysis.

Evolving International Responses

International responses to the Russia-Ukraine War have adapted to the evolving nature of the conflict. Western nations have continued to impose economic sanctions on Russia (Drezner, 2018). NATO has adjusted its strategies to deter further Russian aggression and enhance its presence in Eastern Europe (Braw, 2018). At the same time, international organizations, including the United Nations and the OSCE, have

maintained their efforts to facilitate negotiations and provide humanitarian assistance (Pifer, 2019; Abdulyakeen, 2022). These organizations have also sought to address the humanitarian and socio-economic consequences of the conflict. The Russia-Ukraine War presents a complex and evolving landscape of emerging trends and dynamics. The use of hybrid warfare tactics, information operations, and the protracted nature of the conflict challenge traditional notions of conflict resolution. The humanitarian and socio-economic impact of the war underscores the urgent need for comprehensive international responses.

As the conflict enters its second decade, it is essential to adapt strategies and approaches to address these emerging trends effectively. International actors must prioritize diplomatic efforts, support humanitarian initiatives, and engage with all parties involved to seek a sustainable resolution. The Russia-Ukraine War serves as a stark reminder of the enduring challenges posed by protracted conflicts and the imperative of finding pathways to peace. The Russia-Ukraine War, is a pivotal moment in the discussion of this complex and enduring conflict. In this chapter, we have delved into the causes and escalation of the conflict, explored the key actors and their interests, examined international responses, and assessed the regional and global implications. As we draw this study to a close, several key takeaways emerge:

- i. **A Multifaceted Conflict:** The Russia-Ukraine War is not a simple, one-dimensional conflict. It is marked by a combination of factors, including historical, cultural, and geopolitical dimensions. The causes and escalation of the conflict are deeply rooted in Ukraine's historical ties to Russia, its quest for sovereignty, and the complexities of its diverse population.
- ii. **Divergent Interests:** The key actors in the conflict, including Russia, Ukraine, Western powers, and pro-Russian separatist movements, each pursue their own distinct interests. Russia seeks to maintain influence in Ukraine and protect its strategic interests, while Ukraine aspires to assert its sovereignty and integrate with Western institutions. Western powers support Ukraine and aim to contain further Russian aggression, while separatist movements in eastern Ukraine seek greater autonomy and ethnic identity.
- iii. **International Responses:** The international responses to the Russia-Ukraine War are characterized by a mix of diplomatic efforts, economic sanctions, military support, and humanitarian aid. These responses reflect the complexity of the conflict and the diverse interests of the involved parties. While diplomatic efforts have been ongoing, the conflict's protracted nature poses challenges to achieving a lasting resolution.
- iv. **Broader Implications:** The Russia-Ukraine War has far-reaching regional and global implications. Neighboring countries have been impacted by shifting security dynamics, while the conflict has contributed to a reevaluation

of alliances and strategic partnerships on the global stage. The humanitarian and socio-economic consequences of the conflict are profound, emphasizing the need for comprehensive international responses.

- v. **Ongoing Challenges:** As the conflict enters its second decade, it remains characterized by a stalemate and protracted nature. The use of hybrid warfare tactics and information operations, along with the humanitarian crisis, present ongoing challenges to conflict resolution. International actors must adapt their strategies to address these emerging trends and dynamics effectively.

Implications for a New Global Order

The Russia-Ukraine War carries profound implications for the imperatives of a new global order. This protracted and multifaceted conflict challenges the prevailing dynamics of international relations and underscores the need for a reevaluation of established norms and strategies.

Firstly, the resurgence of geopolitical rivalries reminiscent of the Cold War era is a salient feature of the Russia-Ukraine War. This conflict has prompted a reexamination of great-power dynamics and the role of major players on the global stage. As we contemplate a new global order, it becomes paramount to manage these rivalries through diplomatic means, dialogue, and conflict resolution mechanisms, emphasizing cooperation over confrontation.

Secondly, the Russia-Ukraine War poses challenges to international norms, particularly those related to territorial integrity and sovereignty. Russia's annexation of Crimea and support for separatist movements have raised doubts about the effectiveness of international institutions in upholding these norms. In shaping a new global order, there must be a renewed commitment to preserving and enforcing established principles and norms, bolstering the international rule-based system.

Moreover, the conflict's use of information warfare and disinformation campaigns highlights the potency of information as a tool of influence. Propaganda, cyber-attacks, and manipulation of public opinion have demonstrated their potential to destabilize democracies and shape international discourse. Safeguarding information integrity and countering disinformation must be central elements of the imperatives of a new global order, ensuring that the digital age's challenges are met with resilience and vigilance.

Thirdly, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has far-reaching consequences in various areas; i.e. the entire scenario has evolved into a humanitarian crisis, erupted food and energy crisis, and national security issues, and raises questions concerning the architecture of international security. Although these challenges and consequences are not limited as the entire world will be affected on a larger scale. The war led to

the continuing humanitarian crisis that has impacted the well-being of lives of millions. It is not just the crisis of the war but the human cost of the armed warfare that might or surely will impact the coming generations of Ukraine. As per the United Nations Organizations report concerning the Ukrainian people's devastation in the war escalation, approximately 11 million people have left their hometowns in Ukraine and among which 5.3 million people have fled to neighbouring countries for their safety. Adding to that, 6.5 million people are displaced in the country amidst the catastrophic invasion of Russia. Moreover, according to the UNO's Children Agency, two-thirds of all Ukrainian children have been impacted due to the war so far and had to flee their homes (Buchkovska, 2022).

Fourthly, the sanctions system has worsened the key transport routes between Ukraine and Russia and consequently between other parts of the world. This has disrupted trade and commerce more broadly. However, Russia's linkages to the European ports have been disconnected and commodity exports to other destinations have also been halted. The new report of the World Bank concerning "The impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on investment and Global Trade" mentions that global trade will drop by 1% and lowering global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by just less than 1%. In addition, the war escalation is affecting the auto-makers in Europe along with impacting the consumer's fuel and food internationally (Buchkovska, 2022). It is noticeable that people around the world in general and across Europe, in particular, are finding it hard to meet the necessities, and no state, no region, or even industry is left untouched by these derangements caused by war.

Finally, Ukraine has faced huge devastation as a result of the war. Besides, sanctions on Russia and an economic hit on the Russian Federation, Ukraine is also left with an economic crisis mainly including a shortage of food and energy challenges that have consequently slowed down the economic growth in the country. Ukraine is the country that grows enough food to feed around four hundred million people across the globe including fifty percent of the world's sunflower oil supply, ten percent of the world's grain supply, and thirteen percent of the worldwide corn supply (Ruta, 2022). But due to the catastrophic invasion of Russia, Ukraine has become unable to plant crop areas i.e. thirty percent of the fertilized land has been affected. This implies that due to un-harvested areas Ukraine's supply chains have also ruptured as of the closure of the black sea ports and limited ability to move the commodities via western borders. All such scenario has led to a slowdown in the economic growth rates and led to high inflation.

Conclusion

The Russia-Ukraine War presents a multifaceted and protracted conflict with far-reaching implications for the imperatives of a new global order. This conflict has

illuminated several critical aspects that demand attention in shaping the future of international relations. First and foremost, the resurgence of geopolitical rivalries, reminiscent of the Cold War, highlights the need for astute diplomacy, cooperation, and conflict resolution mechanisms in a new global order. As major powers reevaluate their roles and strategies, the imperative is to find common ground and avoid the pitfalls of confrontation. Moreover, the Russia-Ukraine War challenges established international norms, particularly those related to territorial integrity and sovereignty. In crafting a new global order, the commitment to upholding these norms and reinforcing the international rule-based system becomes paramount. The conflict's use of information warfare and disinformation campaigns underscores the vulnerability of modern societies to manipulation and destabilization. Safeguarding information integrity and countering disinformation should be central pillars of the imperatives of a new global order, preserving the integrity of public discourse and democratic processes.

Lastly, the humanitarian crisis stemming from this conflict serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need to prioritize humanitarian imperatives within the framework of the new global order. Providing assistance to displaced populations, preventing further suffering, and addressing the root causes of conflicts must be at the forefront of international efforts. In essence, the Russia-Ukraine War offers lessons and insights that can guide the international community in forging a more peaceful, just, and cooperative global order. The imperatives of this new order should be rooted in diplomacy, adherence to international norms, information resilience, and an unwavering commitment to humanitarian values. By applying these lessons, the world can move closer to a future where conflicts like the Russia-Ukraine War are resolved through dialogue and cooperation rather than confrontation and suffering.

Recommendations

- i. **Diplomatic Resolution:** Prioritize diplomatic efforts to find a peaceful resolution to the Russia-Ukraine War. Encourage direct negotiations between all parties involved, including Russia, Ukraine, and pro-Russian separatist movements. International mediators, such as the United Nations and the OSCE, should continue their diplomatic initiatives to facilitate dialogue and reach a lasting settlement.
- ii. **Adherence to International Norms:** Uphold international norms related to territorial integrity and sovereignty. The international community should reaffirm its commitment to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and other relevant agreements. Violations of these norms, as witnessed in Crimea, should be met with condemnation and diplomatic pressure.

- iii. **Strengthen Norm Enforcement:** Enhance mechanisms for enforcing international norms. Develop strategies and sanctions regimes to deter aggression and violations of established norms. Ensure that international institutions have the capacity to monitor and respond to violations promptly.
- iv. **Information Resilience:** Develop robust strategies to counter disinformation and information warfare. Invest in media literacy programs, fact-checking initiatives, and cybersecurity measures to safeguard information integrity. Foster international cooperation to address the challenges posed by information manipulation and cyberattacks.
- v. **Humanitarian Assistance:** Prioritize humanitarian assistance to address the suffering of civilians affected by the conflict. International organizations, governments, and non-governmental organizations should work together to provide aid, shelter, and medical care to displaced populations and conflict-affected communities.
- vi. **Conflict Prevention:** Invest in conflict prevention initiatives to address the root causes of the Russia-Ukraine War. This includes addressing grievances, promoting economic development, and fostering reconciliation efforts at the local and national levels.
- vii. **Multilateral Diplomacy:** Strengthen multilateral diplomacy and cooperation. Encourage regional and international organizations to play a more active role in conflict resolution and peace building. Leverage the collective capabilities and resources of these organizations to address the conflict's complexities.
- viii. **Arms Control:** Reevaluate and strengthen arms control agreements and non-proliferation efforts. The Russia-Ukraine War has raised concerns about the potential for conflicts in regions beyond Europe. Initiatives to reduce the availability of advanced weaponry and promote arms control should be prioritized.
- ix. **Human Rights and Accountability:** Promote human rights and accountability in conflict-affected areas. Support initiatives that investigate and document human rights abuses, including those committed by all parties involved. Encourage transitional justice mechanisms to hold individuals accountable for violations.

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