

Suggested activities:

1. Review the “European Accession” factsheet. Discuss what steps Ukraine needs to complete in order to move from candidate country to full member of the EU. Research what steps they are already taking and what the biggest obstacles might be.
2. Research Croatia’s path toward EU membership. As the most recent member, what can Ukraine learn from their accession process?
3. Review the factsheet “The European Union and Ukraine.” What has the EU done to aid Ukraine after the Russian invasion?
4. Research speeches given by EU leaders and/or current event news articles that provide updates on evolving EU policies/aid packages toward the EU.
5. Write out a timeline with key events between 1991 and today that advanced Ukraine’s path toward EU candidate status. Research a little bit about the pivotal events chosen (ie The Orange Revolution, The Revolution of Dignity, Russia’s invasion of Crimea/Donbass, Election President Zelenskyy).

Brussels-Lux Study Tour 2022

Post-Secondary Faculty Course Module Planning Template

Name:	Course Title/Module Title:
	Discipline:
Course/Module Narrative:	Ukraine's journey toward the EU
Course Objectives:	
→ Familiarize students with political and social events in Ukraine, including the Russian invasion of the country, that have led to their acceptance as an EU candidate country.	
Module Objectives/Learning Objectives:	
→ Familiarize students with political and social events in Ukraine, including the Russian invasion of the country, that have led to their acceptance as an EU candidate country.	
Assigned Readings	
→	
Content & Delivery	
Course Content → How Ukraine became an EU candidate country	Instruction & Delivery (lecture, discussion, group work, etc.) → Lecture, discussion, small group activity
Assessment	
→ Have students present a timeline of Ukraine's path toward EU candidate status	
→ Have students answer essay questions about Ukraine's path toward EU candidate status (individually or as a group)	
Resources and Materials	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → European Commission Fact Sheet: "EU accession process," July 2022 → European Commission Fact Sheet: "European Commission Opinions on the EU Membership Applications," June 2022 → European Commission Fact Sheet: "The European Union and Ukraine," July 2022 → Video: Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's speech to the EU Parliament, March 2, 2022 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IycwCjg4f8Y&feature=emb_logo). NOTE: video also embedded in Powerpoint → Transcript of President Zelenskyy's speech, plus analysis: "Volodymyr Zelensky speech: full transcript of Ukraine president's statement to European Parliament," Heather Carrick, <i>National World</i>, March 2, 2022, https://www.nationalworld.com/news/world/volodymyr-zelensky-speech-today-full-transcript-of-ukraine-presidents-statement-to-european-parliament-3592244. → Short article about the path for Ukraine from EU candidate country to full member of the EU: "Ukraine and Moldova gain EU candidate status but face a long road to full membership," Stephen Hall, <i>The Conversation</i>, June 27, 2022, https://theconversation.com/ukraine-and-moldova-gain-eu-candidate-status-but-face-a-long-road-to-full-membership-185440. → Powerpoint presentation: Overview of Ukraine political transformations since 1991 with focus on Russia invasion and path toward EU candidate status. → Guided discussion questions for President Zelenskyy's speech (individual or small group) → Suggested activities 	



Ukraine

Language Matters

- Using “THE” in front of Ukraine is a legacy of the Soviet period when the country was “The Soviet Republic of Ukraine.” Since full independence in 1991, the country should be referred to as simply “Ukraine.”
- Transliterating city names from the Ukrainian language instead of the Russian language is an important shift to honor Ukrainian sovereignty and culture.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/a-historical-timeline-of-post-independence-ukraine>

remember this

Ukraine *not* the Ukraine

Kyiv *not* Kiev

Lviv *not* Lvov

Mykolaiv *not* Nikolaev

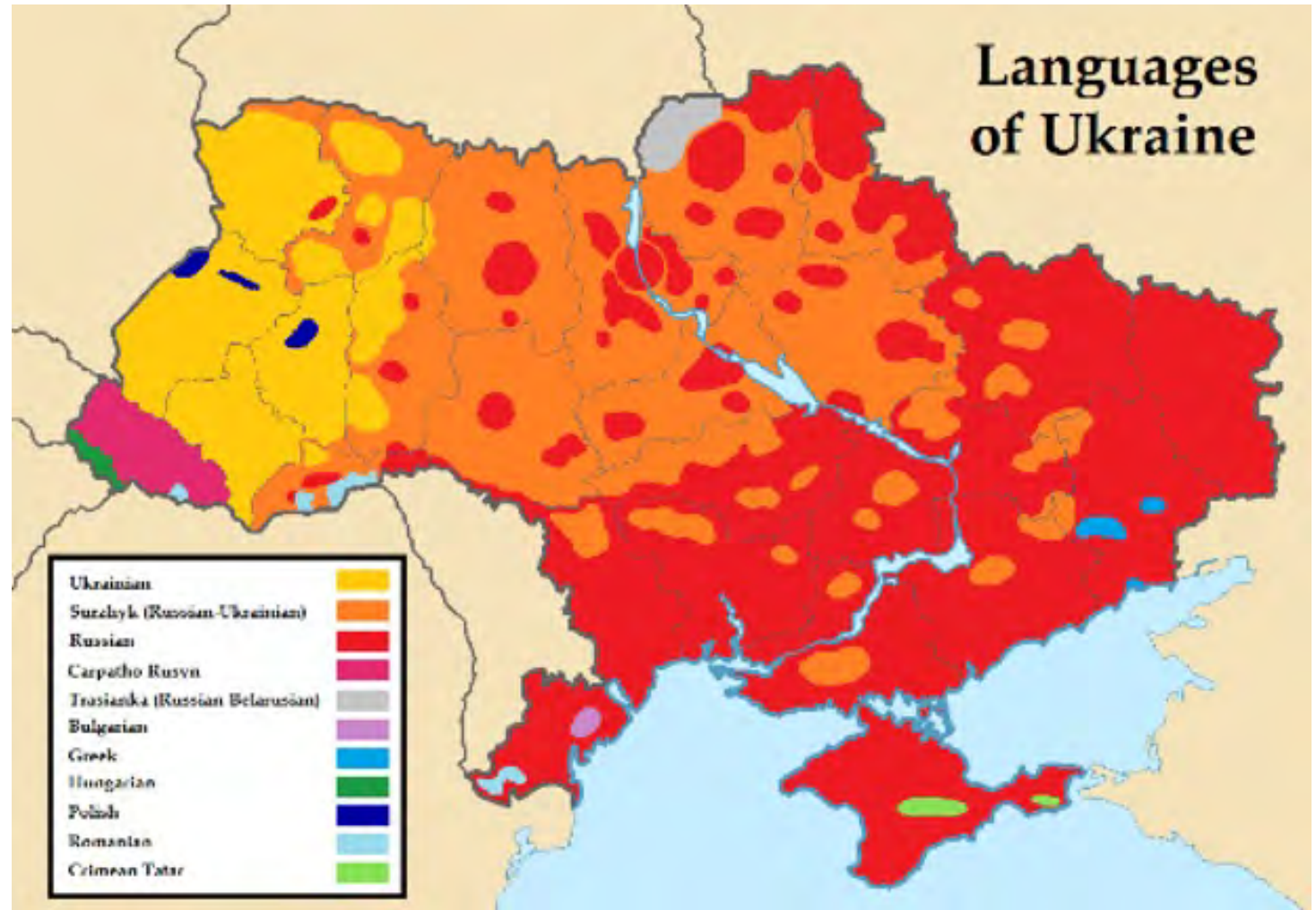
Odesa *not* Odessa

Kharkiv *not* Kharkov

#CorrectUA

Language Matters

- Putin has justified his invasion by claiming Russia is conducting a humanitarian mission to protect Russian language speakers. He falsely claims that the Ukrainian government is committing genocide against this population.
- While Ukrainian is the official language of Ukraine, areas with high density of non-Ukrainian speakers can also utilize dominant language as official language (i.e. Russian or Crimean Tatar)
- Assumption that all Russian speakers in Ukraine support Russia's invasion is without basis, especially given historical suppression of the Ukrainian language by Soviet and Russian leaders.
- Nearly all Ukrainians are multilingual. President Zelenskyy is himself a Russian speaker.



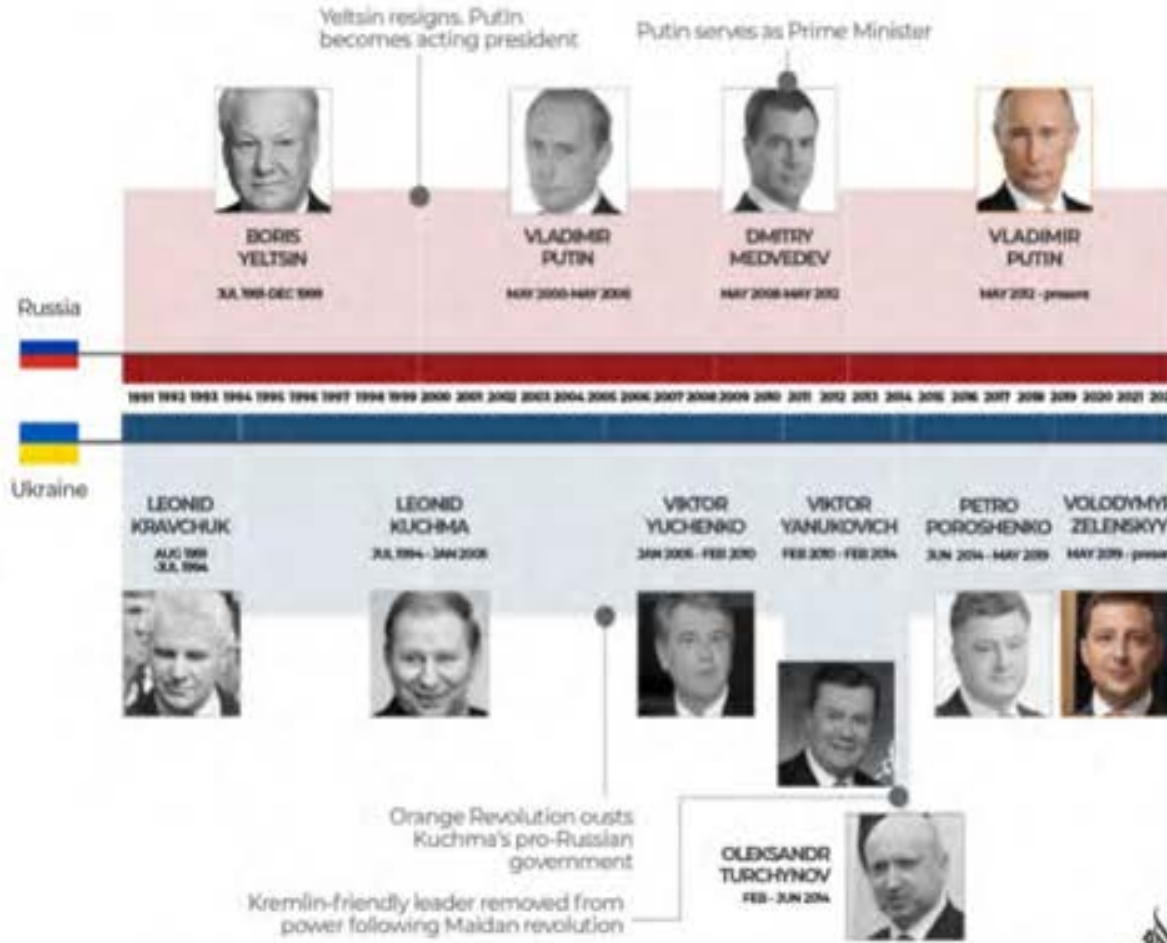
“Speakers of Russian enjoy far greater freedoms in Ukraine than they do in Russia.”

-Timothy Snyder (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/02/24/opinion/putins-hitler-like-tricks-tactics-ukraine/>)

UKRAINE-RUSSIA CRISIS

Political leadership

Following the **collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991**, Ukraine has moved to shed its Russian imperial legacy and **forge increasingly close ties with the West**.



Ukraine's path toward democracy and closer ties with the West has often been uneven, but they have steadily moved in that direction.

Ukraine has consistently held free and fair elections and transferred power from one administration to another.

This chart shows the contrast with Russia which has lacked free and fair elections and has essentially only had one president since 2000. While Dmitry Medvedev served as president from 2008-2012, V. Putin acted as his Prime Minister and the two rewrote the constitution to permit Putin to run for office again in 2012. He recently changed the rules again to allow him to be in office indefinitely.

WEALTHIEST POST-SOVIET COUNTRIES

Credit Suisse estimated the amount of wealth per adult citizen.



Other countries

United States	\$344,692
United Kingdom	\$288,808
Germany	\$185,175
Greece	\$103,569
Poland	\$24,584
China	\$22,864

Ukraine is one of poorest countries in Europe

Note: Figures are estimates published by Credit Suisse.

Source: Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report 2016

There have been several major turning points in Ukraine's quest for democracy and closer alignment with Europe and the United States

- The 2004 Orange Revolution
- The 2014 Revolution of Dignity
- The 2014 Russian invasion of Crimea and Eastern Ukraine
- The 2022 full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine



2004-2005: Orange Revolution

- Series of protests on the main square in Kyiv (“Independence Square”)
- Ousts: Pro-Russia Viktor Yanukovich after he (falsely) claimed victory in election
- Elects: Pro-democracy/Pro-West candidate Viktor Yushchenko (President) and Yulia Tymoshenko (Prime Minister)
 - Yushchenko survived an attempt to poison him during the election which left him disfigured. Russia is thought to be behind the attack
- Following revolution there was global optimism about reforms in Ukraine
- The new government was hampered by infighting and corruption
- Orange government loses power in 2010 (election considered free and fair)



2014: Ukraine's “Revolution of Dignity”

- 2010: Victor Yanukovich elected president
- 2013: Yanukovich rejects EU Association Agreement
- Signs \$15 Billion agreement with Russia.
- Protests erupt in Kyiv's main square – over 100 people killed
- Yanukovich voted incompetent by parliament
- Flees to Russia on Feb. 27, 2014
- These events trigger Putin's invasion of Crimea/Eastern Ukraine under the guise of “protecting” ethnic Russians
- Petro Poroshenko becomes democratically elected president.



**A plea from a protestor on Maidan square for international help:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hvds2AliWLA>**



Contrasts between the two revolutions on Independence Square (Maidan) in Kyiv

← Orange Revolution
c. 2004-2005

Maidan →
Revolution/
Revolution of
Dignity
c. 2014-2015
100+ killed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hvds2AiiWLA>



Crimea

- An autonomous republic within Ukraine
- Strong historical ties to Ukraine and Russia
- Transferred from Russian Sov. Republic to Ukrainian Sov. Republic in 1954
- Retained by Ukraine after collapse of USSR
- Population:

Ethnic Russians - 58.5%

Ethnic Ukrainians - 24.4%

Crimean Tatars - 12.1%

Source: Ukraine census 2001





2014: Russia Occupies Crimean peninsula

- “Unmarked” Russian troops take over airport and other key areas. They were dubbed “Little Green Men.”
- Putin claims to be “protecting” Russian pop. from Ukrainian “fascists.” Ukraine was not threatening Crimea.
- In Russia, broad support for annexation in Russia (Putin’s approval rating jumps 10 points)
- March 16, 2014: Crimea votes to be an independent republic of Russia
- Western Governments do not recognize legitimacy of Crimean Vote
- US/EU Impose economic sanctions on Russia for their actions
- Russia is accused of persecuting the Crimean Tatar Population (<https://theconversation.com/why-crimean-tatars-are-fearful-as-russia-invades-ukraine-178396>)



2014-present: Russian aggression moves to Eastern Ukraine's Donbass Region

- “Little Green Men” appear in region.
- Russian-backed rebels concentrated in **Donetsk** and **Luhansk** areas fight to declare independence from Ukraine and align with Russia
- Russian gov't & military directly involved in conflict- hybrid warfare
- Thousands of people killed in the conflict
- Malaysian Air 17 shot down over Ukraine (July, 2017), killing 298 people
- (Russian involvement confirmed by international investigation)



Volodymyr Zelenskyy

Elected president in 2019

Actor, comedian, screen writer

Starred as fictional president in television show
“Servant of the People”

Promised to continue to forge ties with West

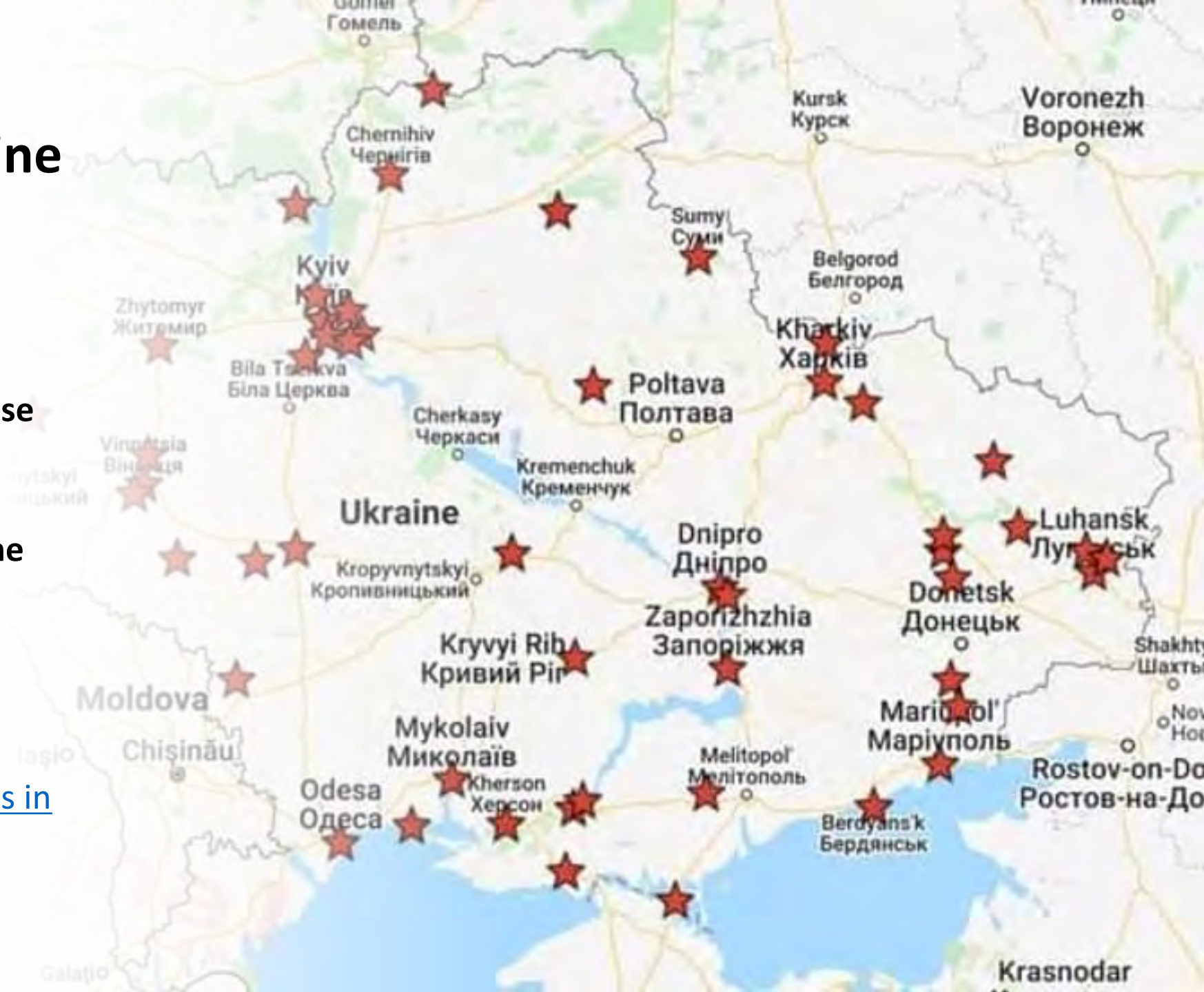
“[I went into politics to restore trust in politicians], to bring professional, decent people to power” and “would really like to change the mood and timbre of the political establishment, as much as possible”



Putin invades Ukraine on Feb. 23, 2022

- Putin declares invasion, justifying his actions with a false claim that Ukraine is a fascist state, calling them Nazis
- He also falsely claims Ukraine has no right to exist as an autonomous nation
- His speech has many false claims about history:

[Putin orders military operations in Ukraine - YouTube](#)



Putin's attempt to label the Ukrainian government as Fascists & Nazis is factually wrong & deeply offensive

- **An estimated 7-8 million Ukrainians were killed during WWII (soldiers, civilians, Holocaust victims)**
- **President Zelenskyy is himself Jewish, lost family members in the Holocaust and is the grandson of a WWII veteran**

Timothy Snyder: "Putin's claim about 'denazification' is not only baseless and wrong, but also cruel and grotesque. It is hard to think of something darker than invading a democracy with a Jewish leader in the name of fighting Nazis."

- Boston Globe <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/02/24/opinion/putins-hitler-like-tricks-tactics-ukraine/>



Impact of War



- Over 5 million refugees have left Ukraine
- Russia continues to regularly bomb civilian targets and numerous war crimes have been alleged by the Ukrainian government and international observers
- War has united Ukraine's population/political groups and support for Zelenskyy's leadership is nearly universal.
- International community largely siding with Ukraine and has imposed hefty sanctions on Russia.
- Many prominent companies have ceased doing business in Russia
- **Ukraine granted Candidate Status by the EU on June 24, 2022.**

Find an interactive map of where refugees from Ukraine are settling here:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/ukraine-refugees-eu/>

Ukraine and the EU

- Ukraine has long-aspired to join the European Union
- Since 2014, they have worked more determinedly toward that goal even amid Russian attacks
- President Zelenskyy submitted the proposal to be granted EU candidate status on February 28, 2022
- The EU formally granted Ukraine (& Moldova) candidate status on June 23, 2022
- This is just the first of many steps required to join the EU



Until 2022, the relationship between the EU and Ukraine was uneven

- The EU has long provided economic assistance to Ukraine and supported democratic institutions and practices
- Cooperation greatly increased after President Poroshenko signed the [EU-Ukraine Association Agreement](#) in 2014, allowing for more economic partnership and permitting Ukrainians visa-free travel in the EU since 2017
- The EU joined the international community in sanctioning Russia after 2014 invasion of Crimea
- Despite sanctions, the EU and numerous member states continued economic partnerships with Russia, especially in the oil and gas industry
- Candidate status seemed unlikely for Ukraine as recently as 2021 given the magnitude of reforms required

“Ukraine filed its application for membership in the European Union only days after the Russian invasion... We in the European institutions worked day and night to support you. But it is your effort that got the work done... And because of this effort, you have gained the endorsement and the respect of all EU Member States. This is a significant sign of trust. Ukraine now has a clear European perspective, and it is candidate to join the European Union, something that seemed almost unimaginable just five months ago. So today is first and foremost a moment to celebrate this historic milestone. A victory of determination and resolve. And a victory for the whole movement that started eight years ago on the Maidan.”

[President Ursula van der Leyen in speech to the Ukrainian Parliament on July 1, 2022](#)

After the 2022 invasion, President Zelenskyy
appealed directly to the EU for their support,
delivering a powerful speech to the EU
Parliament
March 1, 2022



Relations between the EU and Ukraine have rapidly improved after full-scale Russian invasion

- The EU responded with united and robust support for Ukraine
- There is widespread public support in the EU for Ukraine
- Member states have approved unprecedented economic aid to Ukraine
- The EU has imposed wide-ranging sanctions against Russia, going far beyond what they did in 2014 and are working to end their reliance on Russian oil & gas.
- The EU has streamlined the process of [temporary settlement](#) in the EU for people fleeing Ukraine

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND UKRAINE

#StrongerTogether
July 2022

Ukraine is a priority partner for the European Union.

The Association Agreement (AA), including its Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), signed in 2014, is the legal framework bringing Ukraine and the EU closer together, promoting deeper political ties, stronger economic links and respect for common values.

The EU stands united in its unwavering support to Ukraine in the face of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified aggression. The EU strongly condemns the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol by the Russian Federation and continues to condemn this violation of international law. The EU remains steadfast in its commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The EU has stepped up its political, humanitarian and financial support to Ukraine and is imposing massive sanctions against the Kremlin to cripple its war machine.

On 28 February 2022, Ukraine presented its application for EU membership.

On 17 June, the Commission delivered its Opinion.

On 23 June, the European Council endorsed the European Commission Opinion and granted the candidate status to Ukraine.

The DCFTA has supported the continuous increase of bilateral trade between the EU and Ukraine. The EU has reinforced its position as Ukraine's number one trading partner, accounting for close to 40% of Ukraine's total international trade.

Visa-free travel for Ukrainian citizens with biometric passports entered into force in June 2017.

Ukraine's candidate status

June 23, 2022

- A country receiving candidate status is the first step toward becoming an EU member state
- The two basic criteria for submitting a candidate application include:
 1. it must be a European state
 2. it must respect the common values of the Member States and undertake to promote them. These are human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities (Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union)

(https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/enlargement-policy/glossary/accession-eu_en)

- The process of moving from candidate status to member can take many years. The most recent EU member, Croatia, took 10 years to complete the process
- Despite the long road ahead, this is an important victory for Ukraine and a clear message to Russia about the future of Europe



mural in Brussels, June 2022

“I believe in Ukraine's European future. And the reason is simple. The reason is the tenacity of the Ukrainian people. Your resolve. Your passion for Europe. Your desire to live the European dream in your beautiful country.”

- [President Ursula van der Leyen in speech to the Ukrainian Parliament on July 1, 2022](#)

How does a country move from candidate to member state?

The European Commission outlines the following 3-stage process:

- When a country is ready, it becomes an official candidate for membership, but this does not necessarily mean that formal negotiations have been opened.
- The candidate moves on to formal membership negotiations, a process that involves the adoption of established EU law, preparations to properly apply and enforce it and implementation of judicial, administrative, economic and other reforms necessary for the country to meet the conditions for joining, known as accession criteria.
- When the negotiations and accompanying reforms have been completed to the satisfaction of both sides, the country can join the EU.

https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/enlargement-policy/steps-towards-joining_en#:~:text=The%20candidate%20moves%20on%20to,meet%20the%20conditions%20for%20joining%2C



What lies ahead?

- Ukraine will continue to appeal to Europeans to live up to their professed values and continue supporting Ukraine's war efforts
- Pressure on EU leaders will continue to increase sanctions on Russia and follow through with promises to wean themselves from Russian oil & gas
- The European community will need to find a means of accountability for war crimes in Ukraine
- Ukraine will continue to pressure the EU to support its right to self-determination and ending the war on its own terms
- Ukraine will need to implement significant political, economic and social reforms in order to advance their application toward EU membership



[News](#) > [World](#)

Volodymyr Zelensky speech: full transcript of Ukraine president's statement to European Parliament

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky addressed the European Parliament as the Russian invasion continues



By [Heather Carrick](#)

Wednesday, 2nd March 2022, 8:34 am

[President Volodymyr Zelensky](#) has made a heartfelt plea to the European Parliament during a virtual address.

The Ukrainian leader spoke frankly about the devastation which the Russian invasion of [Ukraine](#) has inflicted on citizens since troops moved in on 24 February.

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Addressing leaders such as European Commission President [Ursula von der Leyen](#) and the [European Union](#) (EU) President Roberta Metsola, he said that Ukrainian citizens were “paying the ultimate price” for the freedom of their country.

The poignant speech on Tuesday (1 March) came after President Zelensky signed an official application for Ukraine to join the EU.



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy appeared via video link as he addressed the European Parliament on day six of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. (Credit: Getty)

What did Volodymyr Zelensky say in his speech to the European Parliament?

In his highly anticipated speech to EU leaders and the European Parliament during an emergency , President Zelensky said:

“You know, over the last couple of days, I don’t know how to welcome and greet everybody because I cannot say good morning or can say good afternoon or good evening. And I cannot, and that’s true because every day for some people, this day is not good for some people this day is the last one.

“I speak today now about my citizens, citizens of Ukraine who are defending each other by paying the ultimate price they are defending freedom. I’m very happy that what I’ve seen here now and heard here now, I’m very glad to sense this mood, the uniting, unifying mood. I’m happy that we have unified today, all of you, all the countries of the European Union.

“But I did not know that this is the price they will have to pay. And this is a tragedy for us. for me, for every Ukrainian tragedy for our state. I mean, this this high price. Very high price. Thousands of people who were killed. Two revolutions, one war and five days of full scale invasion of the Russian Federation. You know, I don’t read off the paper off this sheet because the paper phase in the life of my country is ended.





Members watch President Zelenskyy's live address. (Credit: Getty)

“Now, we are dealing with reality. We’re dealing with killed people, real life. You know, And, you know, I believe that we today we’re giving lives for the rights, for freedom, for the desire to be equal as much as you are. We are giving away our best people, the strongest ones, the most value based ones.

“Ukrainians are incredible. And very often we love to say that we win over everyone, and I’m very happy that you are not only talking about it, but you can see that. And we indeed, we will overcome everyone. And I’m sure I’m convinced there is an expression, European choice of Ukraine that we are striving for and that’s what we’re going to and we went to.

“So I would like to hear that from you to us. We could hear that Ukrainian choice for Europe from you. I have some time off here because we have breaks between the missile strikes and bombardments. And this morning was a very tragic one for us. Two cruise missiles hit Kharkiv, the city which is located to the borders of the Russian Federation.

“There were always many Russians there, and they’re always friendly. There were warm relations there More than 20 universities are there. It’s the city that has the largest

number of universities in our country. The youth is bright, smart there. The people who gathered there all the time and was gathering there all the time for celebration, all the celebrations in the largest square in our country, the Freedom Square.

“And and this is the largest square in Europe. And that’s true. This is called the Freedom Square. Can you imagine this morning two cruise missiles hit this freedom square. Dozens of dead ones. This is the price of freedom We’re fighting just for our land and for our freedom.



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen applauds Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. (Credit: Getty)

“Despite the fact that all large cities of our country are now blocked, nobody is going to enter and intervene with our freedom and country. And believe you me, in every square of today, no matter what it’s called. It’s going to be called as today, Freedom Square in every city of our country. Nobody is going to break us. We are strong.

“We are Ukrainians We have a desire to see our children alive. I think it’s a fair one. Yesterday, 16 children were killed. And again, and again, President Putin is going to say that is some kind of operation and we are hitting a military infrastructure ,where

children, what kind of military factories do they work at? What tanks are they going with or launching cruise missiles?

“He killed 16 people just yesterday. Our people are very much motivated. Very much so. We are fighting for our rights. For our freedoms. For life. For our life. And now, we’re fighting for survival. And this is the highest of our motivation. But we are fighting also to be equal members of Europe I believe that today we are showing everybody that’s exactly what we are.

“The European Union is going to be stronger with us. That’s for sure. Without you, Ukraine is going to be lonely, lonesome. We have proven our strength. We have proven that at a minimum, we are exactly the same as you are. So do prove that you are with us. Do prove that you will not let us go. Do prove that you indeed are Europeans.

“And then life will win over death and light will win over darkness. Glory be to Ukraine.”



European Parliament members give standing ovation to Volodymyr Zelesnkyy after he addressed the chamber. (Credit: Getty)

How was Volodymyr Zelensky’s speech received?

After he finished speaking over video link, President Zelensky received a lengthy standing ovation.

While he was making his address the interpreter was moved to tears by his words. He could be heard struggling to keep his composure, with his voice cracking with emotion.

The European Parliament Interpreters Twitter page said it was “so proud” of those who had been working at the session on Tuesday.



The chamber was decorated in Ukrainian flags in support for the country.

EU member states are set to vote on a draft text which will label **Russia** as a “rogue state” and targets the strengthening of sanctions on the country.

The draft text also describes President Zelensky as “heroic” in his fight against Russian President **Vladimir Putin**, who the text describes as “recalling the most dreadful sentiments of 20th century dictators”.

Shortly after President Zelensky's speech, EU President Roberta Metsola said: "The message from Europe is clear. We will stand up, we will not look away when those fighting in the street for our values stand down Putin's war machine."

Read More



[Russian convoy in Ukraine: why is there a 40 mile long military fleet heading to Kyiv and where are tanks now?](#)



[Is there a no-fly zone over Ukraine? What did activist Daria Kaleniuk ask Boris Johnson amid Russia bombing](#)



[Russia-Ukraine latest: Russia warns it will strike Kyiv targets, President Zelensky delivers rousing speech](#)



[Liz Truss: Ukraine comments explained, what did she say - why Russia and Putin blamed nuclear threat on Foreign Secretary](#)

Will Ukraine join the European Union?

On 28 February, [President Zelensky](#) told of his desire for Ukraine to join the EU, adding that he wanted his country to join the group immediately.

He said: "Our goal is to be together with all Europeans and, most importantly, to be on an equal footing. I'm sure it's fair. I'm sure it's possible"

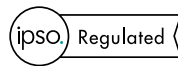
Later that same day President Zelensky signed the official application for Ukraine to join the EU.



Their hopes will have been bolstered after European Commissioner President Ursula von der Leyen said: “They are one of us and we want them in.”

A message from the editor:

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THE EUROPEAN UNION AND **UKRAINE**

#StrongerTogether

July 2022



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EU SUPPORT TO UKRAINE IN RESPONSE TO THE RUSSIAN INVASION

Since the Russian aggression, the EU and European financial institutions have mobilised over **€4 billion in financial, humanitarian, emergency and budget support** to Ukraine. This includes **€1.2 billion** in EU macro-financial assistance and **€120 million** in budget support already disbursed this year. As part of the pledges from the Stand up for Ukraine and the high level international donors conference in May, an additional **€500 million** budget support package has just been adopted to help Ukraine address urgent needs on the ground.

A **€330 million emergency package** focused on the immediate needs of internally displaced persons, as well as support to independent media and civil society has been adopted, while previous on-going projects worth **€200 million** have been adjusted to meet urgent needs on the ground.

An additional **€2 billion** has been made available under the **European Peace Facility** to deliver military equipment to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

To address Ukraine's significant **short-term financial needs** the Commission has proposed granting an additional exceptional macro-financial assistance in the form of loans of up to **€9 billion** in 2022.

SUPPORT FOR RECONSTRUCTION

A major global financial effort will be required to rebuild Ukraine after the widespread destruction caused by Russia's invasion. An international coordination platform, the **'Ukraine reconstruction platform'**, co-led by the Commission and by the Ukrainian government, has been announced. The platform would be responsible for endorsing a reconstruction plan, drawn up by Ukraine, with administrative capacity support and technical assistance by the EU. The Commission has proposed to set up the 'RebuildUkraine' Facility as the main legal instrument for the EU's support, using a mix of grants and loans.

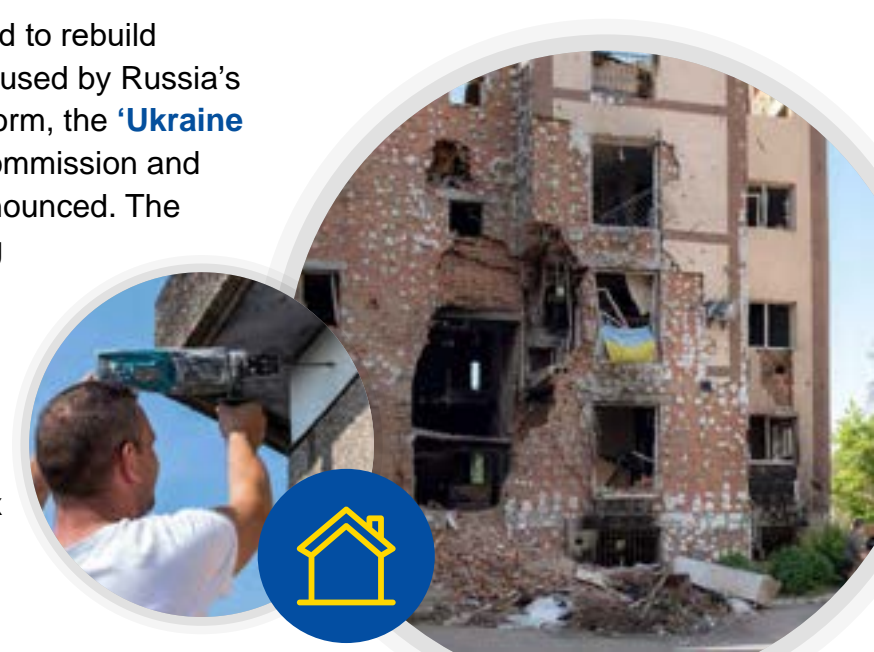

over **€4 billion**

People fleeing the war in Ukraine can receive **temporary protection in any EU country**, including residence permits, access to the labour market and housing and medical assistance.

The Commission has allocated **€335 million for humanitarian aid** programmes in Ukraine to be implemented by the humanitarian partners on the ground. In addition, almost 45.000 tonnes of in kind assistance worth **€400 million** has been delivered to Ukraine from EU Member States and third partners via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

Since the beginning of the war, the EU has stepped up its immediate support to strengthen Ukraine's **cyber resilience** with **€10 million** for equipment, software and other related support. A further **€15 million** has been provided to support resilient digital transformation.

The EU is also providing support via IFIs, such as the EIB and EBRD, by providing EU guarantees that enable them to lend to the Ukrainian government and companies providing vital services.





INSTITUTIONS

The U-LEAD with Europe programme aims at increasing the capacity of local self-government to ensure **good local governance and regional development**, and to offer quality services to citizens, with an overall envelope of **€158 million for the period 2016-2023**. This programme has become a key emergency responder at the local level during the war.

ECONOMY

As part of the EU solidarity response with Ukraine, the EU has proposed to suspend import duties on all Ukrainian exports to the EU and all EU anti-dumping and safeguard measures in place on Ukrainian steel exports for one year and set out an action plan to establish **'Solidarity Lanes'** to ensure Ukraine can export grain, but also import the goods it needs, from humanitarian aid to animal feed and fertilizers.

GREEN

The EU supports security of energy supply by increasing gas reverse flows, electricity grid synchronisation since March 2022, and by substantial investments of the **Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund**. Ukraine will be able to benefit from EU common purchase of gas, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and hydrogen. In 2021, the EU and Ukraine launched a dedicated dialogue on the European Green Deal and Ukraine's Green Transition.

RECOVERY RESILIENCE REFORM

SOCIETY

On 3 March, the EU unanimously agreed to trigger the Temporary Protection Directive giving rights to a **residence permit for at least one year**, access to the labour market and housing, medical assistance, and access to education for children to the people fleeing the Russian aggression. As of 15 June, more than **7 million people** arrived to the EU from Ukraine and Moldova & around **7 million** are internally displaced in the country.

DIGITAL

The EU has also allocated **€25 million** to support e-governance, cybersecurity and implementation of Ukraine's telecommunications obligations in the DCFTA in order to mutually benefit from internal market treatment.



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Ukraine and Moldova gain EU candidate status but face a long road to full membership

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For four months, Ukraine has been fighting for its very existence. Having successfully forced Russia to shift focus from a four-fronted offensive to concentrating on the Donbas region in the east of the country, Ukraine is now fighting a bitter war of attrition – losing, depending on whose figures you trust, between 200 and 1,000 soldiers a day, including wounded.



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Meanwhile, the recent withdrawal of Ukrainian forces from the town of Severodonetsk on June 24 left virtually the whole of the Luhansk region under Russian control. Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelensky, has addressed the G7 summit via videolink from Kyiv, calling for more – and more advanced – weapons systems as well as harsher sanctions against Russia.

But there has been some good news. It was announced on June 23, that Ukraine had been given EU candidate status, alongside its neighbour Moldova.

It has been a long and torturous road for the two countries to reach this point. For a start, Ukrainian political elites have been divided on EU membership, an issue which was highlighted by the Euromaidan protests of 2013-14, which brought down the government of pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich after he chose not to sign an agreement that would have integrated the country more closely with the EU. Ukraine governments since have strived to improve that relationship.

Similarly, Moldova has had a long history of divided politics in Europe. A nominally pro-European coalition was more concerned with controlling state institutions and media. But since 2020, the Moldovan president, Maia Sandu, has steadied the ship by trying to tackle corruption and reducing oligarchic control of state structures. However, corruption remains a significant issue and the oligarchs retain some control. Therefore, Moldova's new pro-European course remains fragile.

Train ride to Kyiv

The arrival of three European leaders in Kyiv on June 16 was an important moment. There had been a belief that the French president, Emmanuel Macron, and his counterparts, German president Olaf Scholz and Italian president Mario Draghi were visiting in order to put pressure on Zelensky to negotiate a ceasefire with Russia as a matter of urgency, even if it were to mean making territorial concessions. Instead, the three leaders made it clear they intend to stand firmly behind Ukraine. After the Kyiv meeting, Scholz issued a press statement which was unequivocal that he and the others would accept Ukraine and Moldova as candidate members of the EU.

EU candidate status involves following mandated steps on political and economic criteria, such as improving democracy in state institutions and reducing state control over the economy. EU candidate status can last for years or even decades, as Turkey has found, having been accepted as a candidate country in 1999. Albania, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia in the Balkans have also been candidate members for some years.

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Ukraine and Moldova have been both made an official candidate to become an European Union Member State.

The 7 countries marked in yellow are 'candidate countries', which means they are now in the process

of integrating EU legislation into national law.

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Ukraine Made An Official EU Membership Candidate

5:00 AM · Jun 27, 2022



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But since 2013 there has been integration fatigue in Brussels. Some member states, including France, appear unwilling to consider membership for the Balkan region particularly. With a lack of political movement from Brussels towards integration, Balkan governments are less and less willing to make difficult choices on tackling corruption, knowing that EU membership is a pipe dream. In the region, there is little incentive for EU integration. Both sides no longer believe integration is likely and there is little incentive to undertake major reforms to secure membership.

Macron has said that Ukraine would not have been able to apply for its EU candidate status under normal circumstances. Now, he said: “We are doing that because military activities are underway and we think that it is right.” On June 17 the European Commission made a recommendation that Ukraine and Moldova should be given candidate status, but indicated that the two countries would have to fulfil certain criteria before membership would be even considered.



Friends in high places: Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky, addresses world leaders via video link during the G7 summit in Germany. EPA-EFE/Clemens Bilan/pool

These conditions are extensive. For Ukraine they include, judicial reform, tackling corruption, reducing oligarchic power, improving minority legislation, and tackling vested media interests. Moldova will be required to follow a similar trajectory with obligations on improving judicial reform and fighting corruption.

A long road

This will be a long process. Judicial reform is urgent in both countries and both countries will need considerable political and social reforms to decrease the influence and control of the oligarchy, rid themselves of corruption and entrench the rule of law.

Both Ukraine and Moldova have undertaken significant reforms and candidate status will provide them with to EU funding and open them to external investment as businesses take candidate status as a signal that they are on the path to membership.

But candidate status is the first stage in a long journey and can be reversed if the mandated reforms are not effectively introduced. But the signal sent by Brussels is a huge morale boost for both. There is still a long way to go, but – for Zelensky in particular – the prospect of ever-closer integration with this powerful trading bloc will give him a stronger voice as he calls for solidarity and support against the Russian invaders.

EU accession process

step by step

July 2022
#EUenlargement

A credible enlargement policy is a geostrategic investment in **peace, stability, security** and **prosperity** in Europe. It is based on fair and rigorous conditionality and the principle of own merits. It requires candidate countries to implement complex reforms in many areas such as the rule of law, the economy, the fight against corruption and organised crime. At the same time, candidate countries are expected to develop their administrative structures. Reconciliation, good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation are of utmost importance.

Main steps to EU accession



1 Country submits an application to the Council (EU Member States).



2 Commission submits an Opinion on the application.



3 EU Member States decide unanimously to grant the country candidate status.



4 After conditions are met, the accession negotiations are opened with the agreement of all Member States.



5 Commission proposes a draft negotiating framework as a basis for the talks. Accession negotiations formally start once Member States agree on the negotiating framework.



6 During negotiations, which are structured according to clusters and chapters, the country prepares to implement EU laws and standards. All EU Member States must agree that all requirements are met in each case.



7 Once negotiations on all areas are finalised, Commission gives its Opinion on the readiness of the country to become a Member State.



8 Based on this Opinion, EU Member States decide unanimously to close the negotiation process. The European Parliament must also give its consent.



9 All EU Member States and the candidate country sign and ratify an Accession Treaty which enables the country to become an EU Member State.

Clusters of negotiating chapters

Following the introduction of the **revised methodology for the accession negotiations** in February 2020, negotiating chapters are now divided in **six thematic clusters**:

- 1** Fundamentals
- 2** Internal market
- 3** Competitiveness & inclusive growth
- 4** Green agenda & sustainable connectivity
- 5** Resources, agriculture & cohesion
- 6** External relations



Negotiations on each cluster **open as a whole** – after the country fulfils the opening benchmarks. Each chapter will be dealt with individually with respect to its provisional closure. Negotiations on the **fundamentals open first and close last**; progress under the fundamentals' cluster will determine the overall pace of negotiations. If there is sufficient progress on reform priorities, this should lead to closer integration with the European Union, through accelerated integration and increased investments and funding.



European Commission Opinions on the EU Membership applications

June 2022
#StrongerTogether



On **17 June 2022**, the **European Commission** presented its **Opinions on the applications for membership to the European Union (EU)** submitted to the Council by **Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova & Georgia**. The Opinions are based on **three key assessments**:



Political criteria

Stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities



Economic criteria

A functioning market economy and the capacity to cope with competition and market forces



Ability to assume the obligations of membership

Capacity to enforce the EU *acquis*

The Opinions also take into account Ukraine, Moldova & Georgia's efforts in implementing their obligations under the **Association Agreements (AAs)** including **Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (DCFTAs)**. These agreements, signed in 2014, are the legal framework for bringing Ukraine, Moldova & Georgia and the EU closer together, promoting deeper political ties, stronger economic links and respect for common values.

Recommendations

The Commission recommends to the Council that **Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia** should be given **the perspective to become a member** of the European Union.

The Commission recommends that **Ukraine and Moldova** be granted **candidate status**, on the understanding that a **certain number of steps** are taken and, for **Georgia** once a **certain number of priorities** will have been addressed.

The accession process remains based on **established criteria and conditions**. This allows any country in the process to progress based on own merits but also means that steps towards the EU can be reversed if the underlying conditions are not met anymore.

The Commission will monitor the progress in fulfilling these **steps** for **Ukraine and Moldova** and **priorities** for **Georgia**. The Commission will report on them by the end of 2022.

2022 Key dates

28 February

Ukraine presents its application for EU membership

3 March

Moldova & Georgia present their applications for EU membership

7 March

The Council of the European Union requests the Commission to submit its Opinions on **Ukraine, Moldova & Georgia's** applications

8 April

Ukraine receives questionnaire on the political & economic criteria

11 April

Moldova & Georgia receive questionnaire on the political & economic criteria

13 April

Ukraine receives questionnaire on the EU *acquis*

17 April

Ukraine sends answers to political & economic criteria

19 April

Moldova & Georgia receive questionnaire on the EU *acquis*

22 April

Moldova sends answers to political & economic criteria

2 May

Georgia sends answers to political & economic criteria

9 May

Ukraine sends answers to the EU *acquis*

10 May

Georgia sends answers to the EU *acquis*

12 May

Moldova sends answers to the EU *acquis*

17 June

European Commission adopts its Opinions on the EU membership applications



What's next?

Based on the Commission Opinions on the three applications, the Member States will decide unanimously on the next steps.

Questions to consider when viewing President Zelenskyy's speech to the EU Parliament

Complete these individually or in small groups after watching the speech

1. What type of language does President Zelenskyy use to appeal to the EU parliament? Make a list of the words that you find most effective. Why do these stand out to you? How do they support President Zelenskyy's objectives?
2. What do you think President Zelenskyy means when he says, "I did not know that this is the price they [Ukrainian citizens] will have to pay." What are Ukrainians paying a high price for?
3. How does President Zelenskyy frame the present war in the context of recent Ukrainian history?
4. President Zelenskyy highlights the attack on the city of Kharkiv as especially devastating. How does the attack on this city in particular city undermine Russia's alleged justification for invading Ukraine?
5. What does President Zelenskyy mean with the appeal "Do prove that you indeed are European." What does Europe stand for? What values do they claim as "European"? How does President Zelenskyy align Ukrainian values with European values? Do you think the EU is living up to these values?

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