

Can Compromise Ensur: Russia & Ukraine

A world situation I believe might be resolved with a compromise is the ongoing war or conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The conflict began on 2/24/2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine and occupied parts of it. The conflict was an escalation of the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian War going on since 2014. Since February 2022, the invasion has resulted in tens of thousands of deaths on both sides and has started Europe's biggest refugee crisis since WWII. On 2/24/2022, the Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a "special military operation" to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine. Ground invasion and air-strikes in Ukraine by Russians followed the announcement. Putin challenged Ukraine's right to statehood by falsely claiming that Ukraine was governed by neo-Nazis who were persecuting the ethnic Russian minority. Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy in response enacted martial law and ordered a general mobilization. The Invasion of Ukraine by Russia has been met with widespread international condemnation. The United Nations General Assembly has demanded a full withdrawal of Russian forces. Many countries have imposed sanctions on Russia and have provided humanitarian and military assistance to Ukraine.

Both opposing sides have been fighting to date since 2/24/2022 with no end in sight as both sides refuse to reach a compromise by talking and backing off as both see themselves as right.

Most of the world sees Russia at fault, as Russia began the offensive, but Russia does not see itself as the problem as it has its own reasons and justifications for invading and attacking Ukraine. According to Russia, the main reason is Ukraine's willingness/eagerness to join NATO.

After the dissolution of the USSR or Soviet Union in 1991, both Russia and Ukraine at first maintained ties. Ukraine in 1994 agreed to dismantle the nuclear weapons left there by the USSR. Russia's president, Vladimir Putin has claimed that NATO members promised in 1990 to not let any Eastern European countries including Ukraine join NATO. In 2008, Ukraine sought to join NATO. Many related events later on triggered an outbreak of war between Russia and Ukraine in April 2014 which resulted in breaking off pro-Russian parts of Ukraine and a dispute thus resulting between the two countries. Ukraine did try to compromise in early 2021 at first as President Zelenskyy tried to hold talks, but Russian President Putin refused. After that Russia began major military build up near the Russo-Ukrainian border and ultimately attacked Ukraine on 2/24/2022. Russia was hoping that it would get what it desired in a short amount of time and would be out from Ukraine after winning but it grossly miscalculated. The war is still going strongly to this date with no end in sight. Russia also felt that the shared history of the two countries was another reason that the war was justified. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy no longer wants to hold any talks with Russia and is in no compromising mood as most of the international community supports Ukraine and as it didn't start the conflict to begin with. Despite worldwide condemnation, Russian President Vladimir Putin does not want to back off and be called a loser. It is quite clear or evident by now that till both sides agree to hold talks and reach a compromise the conflict or war will keep on dragging on till who knows when. Some of the potential compromises both countries can make are: The international community can try to convince Ukraine and make it agree to be the first to compromise for the sake of its suffering people. Ukraine can convey to Russia that for now, it is giving up its desire to join NATO and that it chose peace for its people over joining NATO. As most of the international community already supports Ukraine, it would likely not have much impact whether it joins or

not joins NATO. The international community can try to convince a few countries still supporting Russia to talk to Russia and try to convince Russia to agree to a cease-fire and try to persuade Russia to agree to hold talks. Other compromises could include that both sides could try to renew the Russian-Ukrainian Friendship Treaty in the best interest of both of their countries. They could agree to give each other benefits of becoming out of a war state and to work to see where the other side is coming from.