

Claim

Claim: "Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy started the 2022 war in Ukraine with Russia."

Actions

```
web_search("Volodymyr Zelenskyy Russia war 2022")
web_search("causes of 2022 Russia Ukraine war")
```

Evidence

Evidence from web_search

The search results include articles discussing the 2022 war in Ukraine and Volodymyr Zelenskyy's role. One article from Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volodymyr_Zelenskyy) details Zelenskyy's career and mentions that Russia initiated a "special military operation" on February 24, 2022, [image:i](#), [image:j](#), [image:k](#). Another article from Sky News (<https://news.sky.com/story/ukraine-war-latest-russia-rape-putin-zelenskyy-12541713>) discusses the ongoing war and mentions Zelenskyy's involvement.

An Al Jazeera article (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/2/20/fact-check-did-ukraine-start-its-war-with-russia-as-trump-claims>) addresses claims that Ukraine started the war, referencing Trump's statements and noting that Russia launched an invasion on February 24, 2022,



Hull Daily MAIL

18+ only. Terms and conditions apply

FREE £3 SHOP BET WITH *William HILL* VALID ON ALL RACING INCLUDING CHELTENHAM

BACK A WINNER! PAGE 22

PLUS DON'T MISS YOUR **CHELTENHAM 4-PAGE PULLOUT**

INSIDE TODAY

70,000 UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS IN THE KURSK REGION DIED IN VAIN

THE UK POURED HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS INTO ZELENSKY'S CRUSHING FAILURE **PAGE 7**

Evidence from web_search

The Britannica article (<https://www.britannica.com/event/2022-Russian-invasion-of-Ukraine>) states that the full-scale invasion began on February 24, 2022, expanding a war that started in February 2014. It mentions a Russian military buildup along the border with Ukraine between October and November 2021, and Putin recognizing the independence of Donetsk and Luhansk on February 21, 2022. The article includes images of the war



The article "The Causes and Consequences of the Ukraine War" (<https://www.cirsd.org/en/horizons/horizons-summer-2022-issue-no.21/the-causes-and-consequences-of-the-ukraine-war>) discusses the causes of the 2022 war in Ukraine, mentioning that Putin invaded Ukraine on February 24th, 2022, and the American-led effort to make Ukraine a Western bulwark on

Russia's borders as a cause of the crisis. The Wikipedia article (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_invasion_of_Ukraine) states that the Russian invasion of Ukraine began on February 24, 2022, escalating a conflict that started in 2014. The invasion followed Russia's build-up of troops near Ukraine's borders and demands to the West. The article also mentions the annexation of Crimea in 2014 [image:i](#).

Elaboration

The evidence indicates that Russia initiated the full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Multiple sources, including Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volodymyr_Zelenskyy), Sky News (<https://news.sky.com/story/ukraine-war-latest-russia-rape-putin-zelenskyy-12541713>), and Britannica (<https://www.britannica.com/event/2022-Russian-invasion-of-Ukraine>), confirm this.

The evidence also suggests that the conflict has deeper roots, with the war escalating from 2014. The Al Jazeera article (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/2/20/fact-check-did-ukraine-start-its-war-with-russia-as-trump-claims>) addresses claims that Ukraine started the war, implying that the claim is not accurate. The evidence does not support the claim that Zelenskyy started the 2022 war.

Final Judgement

The evidence from multiple sources, including Wikipedia, Sky News, and Britannica, indicates that Russia initiated the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. The claim that Zelenskyy started the war is not supported by the provided evidence.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The evidence from multiple sources, including Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volodymyr_Zelenskyy) and Britannica (<https://www.britannica.com/event/2022-Russian-invasion-of-Ukraine>), indicates that Russia initiated the full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The claim that Zelenskyy started the war is not supported by the provided evidence.