

Research Briefing

By Nigel Walker

22 August 2023

Conflict in Ukraine: A timeline (2014 - eve of 2022 invasion)



Summary

- 1 November 2013 – April 2014: Annexation of Crimea
- 2 May 2015 – October 2021
- 3 Ukraine crisis: November 2021 – 23 February 2022

Image Credits

Attribution: [OSCE SMM monitoring of heavy weaponry, Ukraine 16705750566](#) by [OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine – Wikimedia Commons page](#). Licensed by Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic ([CC BY 2.0](#)) / image cropped.

Disclaimer

The Commons Library does not intend the information in our research publications and briefings to address the specific circumstances of any particular individual. We have published it to support the work of MPs. You should not rely upon it as legal or professional advice, or as a substitute for it. We do not accept any liability whatsoever for any errors, omissions or misstatements contained herein. You should consult a suitably qualified professional if you require specific advice or information. Read our briefing [‘Legal help: where to go and how to pay’](#) for further information about sources of legal advice and help. This information is provided subject to the conditions of the Open Parliament Licence.

Feedback

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in these publicly available briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated to reflect subsequent changes.

If you have any comments on our briefings please email papers@parliament.uk. Please note that authors are not always able to engage in discussions with members of the public who express opinions about the content of our research, although we will carefully consider and correct any factual errors.

You can read our feedback and complaints policy and our editorial policy at commonslibrary.parliament.uk. If you have general questions about the work of the House of Commons email hcenquiries@parliament.uk.

Contents

Summary	4
1 November 2013 – April 2014: Annexation of Crimea	6
2 May 2015 – October 2021	15
3 Ukraine crisis: November 2021 – 23 February 2022	27

Summary

The current conflict in Ukraine began on 24 February 2022 when Russian military forces entered the country from Belarus, Russia and Crimea.

Prior to the invasion, there had already been eight years of conflict in eastern Ukraine between Ukrainian Government forces and Russia-backed separatists.

This paper provides a timeline of the major events that happened in the conflict in Ukraine from the 2014 annexation of Crimea to the eve of the 2022 Russian invasion.

A timeline covering the events since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 is available in Commons Library research briefing CBP-9847, [Conflict in Ukraine: A timeline \(current conflict, 2022-present\)](#).

The 2014 Euromaidan protests

[In November 2013, the Ukrainian Government of pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovych decided not to sign a planned Association Agreement with the European Union and demonstrations ensued in the capital Kyiv.](#) These 'Euromaidan' demonstrations turned violent in early 2014 and, in February that year, some [European foreign ministers mediated a compromise, involving a unity government and early elections.](#)

After the collapse of a power-sharing agreement on 22 February 2014, [President Yanukovych disappeared from Ukraine](#) and a new government was installed by the Ukrainian parliament.

Russia's annexation of Crimea, 2014

Toward the end of February 2014, unidentified military figures, later confirmed to be Russian personnel, surrounded the airports in Crimea, a majority-Russian peninsula in Ukraine. The Crimean autonomous assembly was then seized by pro-Russian forces.

In March 2014 the assembly issued a declaration of independence and a subsequent referendum on union with Russia was held. [According to Russian election officials, 95.5% of voters supported union with Russia.](#) The [results of that referendum are not internationally recognised.](#)

Since then, Russia has maintained its control over Crimea and supported pro-Russian separatist forces who also took control of parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of eastern Ukraine (the Donbas) in 2014.

Fighting between Russian-supported separatists and Ukrainian government forces has continued in the Donbas despite the [negotiation of the Minsk Agreements in 2014/2015](#) which called for a ceasefire, the withdrawal of all foreign armed groups and constitutional reform recognising the special status of Donetsk and Luhansk.

1 November 2013 – April 2014: Annexation of Crimea

Key events

21 November 2013: Ukraine's President Yanukovych suspends trade and association talks with the EU, opting to revive economic ties with Russia.

Protests begin in Kyiv's Independence Square (Maidan).

6 December 2013: President Yanukovych meets Russian President Putin for talks, to lay the ground for a new "strategic partnership" between the two countries.

December 2013 – February 2014: Anti-government protests continue, with some turning violent.

21 February 2014: President Yanukovych and opposition leaders sign an EU-mediated peace pact that includes plans for presidential elections before the end of the year.

22 February 2014: Ukraine's parliament votes to impeach President Yanukovych and he flees the country.

27 February 2014: Dozens of pro-Russia gunmen seize government buildings in the Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea and raise the Russian flag. The move comes a day after President Putin put Russia's military on high alert.

1 March 2014: Russia's parliament approves President Putin's request for Russian forces to be used in Ukraine.

21 March 2014: President Putin signs a law formalising Russia's takeover of Crimea from Ukraine.

21 November 2013	Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych orders the suspension of trade and association talks with the European Union, opting to revive economic ties with Russia.
------------------	---

Several hundred Ukrainians gather in Kyiv's Independence Square (Maidan) to protest.

22 November 2013	Jailed Ukrainian opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko urges Ukrainians to protest against the government's decision not to sign a trade deal with the EU.
24 November 2013	An estimated 100,000 people rally in Kyiv against the government. Meanwhile, a pro-government rally attracts 10,000 people.
25 November 2013	Ukrainian police fire tear gas at demonstrators, saying they had been pelted with objects. Yulia Tymoshenko, in prison, begins a hunger strike in solidarity with the protestors.
29 November 2013	At an EU summit in the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, President Yanukovych refuses to sign the association agreement.
30 November 2013	Thousands of Ukrainians stage fresh protests in Kyiv's Independence Square. 2,000 riot police are deployed around the square, but only small scuffles are reported.
1 December 2013	An estimated 300,000 people protest in Kyiv and besiege the president's office. Dozens are injured as police respond with tear gas, batons and flash grenades.
6 December 2013	President Yanukovych meets Russian President Vladimir Putin for talks in Sochi, to lay the ground for a new "strategic partnership" between the two countries.
8 December 2013	Hundreds of thousands of people rally in Kyiv, in the largest protest yet. A statue of Lenin is toppled in the city centre.
13 December 2013	President Yanukovych holds roundtable discussions with opposition leaders, but no breakthrough in the crisis is reached.

15 December 2013	The EU freezes attempts to revive a political and trade pact with Ukraine. 200,000 people rally in Kyiv.
17 December 2013	Presidents Putin and Yanukovich hold talks in Moscow. The Russian president agrees to buy \$15 billion of Ukrainian debt to allow the former Soviet republic to return to economic growth.
24 December 2013	Ukraine receives the first \$3 billion tranche of Russia's bailout.
12 January 2014	Thousands of Ukrainians gather in Kyiv's main square to demand closer relations with the EU, reviving the movement after a Christmas and New Year lull.
17 January 2014	President Yanukovich signs into force a set of tough new laws that ban virtually all forms of anti-government protests, despite criticism from Western governments.
19 January 2014	<p>Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians gather in central Kyiv, defying the ban on protests.</p> <p>The protest later turns violent, with hundreds of activists storming a police cordon, attacking riot police with sticks and chains in an attempt to push their way towards the Ukrainian parliament. The police respond with stun grenades, leaving a dozen protesters injured.</p>
22 January 2014	<p>Two protesters are killed in clashes with police; the first fatalities since anti-government protests began in November 2013.</p> <p>A three-hour meeting between President Yanukovich and the three main political opposition leaders ends without a deal.</p>
26 January 2014	President Yanukovich offers key government posts to opposition leaders and suggests making a number of legislative and

constitutional amendments during a special emergency session of parliament.

The opposition reacts cautiously, rejecting these initial proposals but indicating they are open to further negotiations, including early elections.

27 January 2014	Ukraine's justice minister threatens to declare a state of emergency after four government buildings, including the city hall in central Kyiv, are taken by protesters.
28 January 2014	Ukraine's Prime Minister Mykola Azarov resigns . The Ukrainian parliament votes to annul the anti-protest legislation.
30 January 2014	President Yanukovich announces that he will take sick leave due to an acute respiratory illness and high fever. In a written statement , the UK's Minister for Europe urges the government and opposition in Ukraine to find a compromise acceptable to all sides.
31 January 2014	Still on sick leave, President Yanukovich signs into law a conditional amnesty for those detained in the unrest.
2 February 2014	President Yanukovich returns to work after four days' sick leave. An estimated 30,000 protesters gather in Kyiv , renewing calls for the president to step down.
7 February 2014	The United States suggests Russia is responsible for leaking a recording of US diplomats discussing how to shape a new government in Kyiv. Russia accuses the United States of trying to foment a coup in Ukraine.
14 February 2014	Russia accuses the European Union of seeking to create a "sphere of influence" on its borders by pressing Ukraine to choose closer

ties with the bloc at the expense of relations with Moscow.

All 234 protesters arrested since December 2021 are [released](#), although tensions remain.

18 February 2014	At least 22 people are killed and more than 200 seriously injured as protesters clash with riot police in the worst violence since demonstrations began.
19 February 2014	<p>The West threatens sanctions after the death toll rises to 26.</p> <p>President Yanukovich denounces the bloodshed as an attempted coup.</p>
20 February 2014	<p>Dozens are killed in fresh clashes in Kyiv, the city's worst day of violence for 70 years.</p> <p>The foreign ministers of Germany, France and Poland meet with President Yanukovich, hoping to agree a roadmap with the Ukrainian government and opposition.</p>
21 February 2014	President Yanukovich and opposition leaders sign an EU-mediated peace pact that includes plans for presidential elections before the end of the year.
22 February 2014	<p>Ukraine's parliament votes to impeach President Yanukovich, who flees his Kyiv office, denouncing what he says is a coup.</p> <p>Yulia Tymoshenko is released from custody and urges the opposition to continue their protests.</p>
23 February 2014	<p>Russia recalls its ambassador to Ukraine over what it describes as the deteriorating situation in the country.</p> <p>Ukraine's newly appointed interim president, Olexander Turchynov, says the country will focus on closer integration with the EU.</p>

24 February 2014	<p>Ukraine issues an arrest warrant for President Yanukovich, on charges of “mass murder” of protesters.</p> <p>Russia declares the situation in Ukraine a “real threat” to its interests. Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev accuses Ukraine’s interim leaders of taking power through “armed mutiny”.</p>
26 February 2014	<p>Ukraine’s acting president announces his cabinet, which includes a number of key figures in the protest movement.</p> <p>Presidential elections are set for 25 May.</p> <p>Russia puts it military on high alert and President Putin orders major military exercises, as concerns grow about unrest in Ukraine’s Crimean peninsula.</p>
27 February 2014	<p>Dozens of pro-Russia gunmen seize government buildings in Crimea and raise the Russian flag.</p> <p>Ukraine’s interim government summons Russia’s envoy and warns its neighbour against “military aggression”. Acting president Oleksandr Turchynov warns Russian forces not to venture out from their naval base in Crimea.</p>
28 February 2014	<p>Armed men take control of two airports in Crimea as Russia is accused of orchestrating a “military invasion and occupation”.</p> <p>Ousted President Viktor Yanukovich resurfaces in the southern Russian city of Rostov-on-Don, denouncing the “bandit coup” in Kyiv, and reiterates that he remains the legitimate president of Ukraine. He calls on Russia to act decisively, saying he is “surprised” by President Putin’s restraint.</p>
1 March 2014	<p>Russia’s parliament approves President Putin’s request for Russian forces to be used in Ukraine. The Kremlin says the request was submitted “in connection with the</p>

extraordinary situation in Ukraine and the threat to the lives of Russian citizens”.

UK Foreign Secretary William Hague [speaks](#) to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to urge steps to calm the situation and summons the Russian Ambassador to register the UK Government’s deep concerns.

3 March 2014	Western leaders issue a joint statement condemning Russia’s “clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine” and committing to supporting Ukraine in its efforts to restore unity, stability and political and economic health.
4 March 2014	<p>President Putin announces an end to military exercises in western Russia and orders the troops back to base.</p> <p>He rules out a Russian war with Ukraine, but reserves the right to use force “as a last resort”.</p>
5 March 2014	Russia rebuffs calls to withdraw troops from Crimea, saying “self-defence” forces are not under its command.
6 March 2014	<p>EU leaders hold an emergency summit to address the Ukraine crisis.</p> <p>Crimea’s pro-Russia regional government votes to join Russia and announces it will hold a referendum on 16 March to determine whether the region should officially join Russia.</p>
8 March 2014	<p>Warning shots are fired as a team of international military observers is turned away from entering Crimea.</p> <p>The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) reports no injuries.</p>
9 March 2014	The UK Prime Minister David Cameron calls President Putin to discuss the situation in

	Ukraine and urges him to de-escalate the situation.
12 March 2014	<p>US President Barack Obama welcomes Ukraine's interim prime minister to the White House and pledges to “stand with Ukraine” in its dispute with Russia.</p> <p>G7 leaders issue a statement calling on Russia to cease all efforts to change the status of Crimea.</p>
16 March 2014	Crimea's secession referendum on joining Russia is backed by over 95% of voters , officials say.
17 March 2014	<p>The EU and US impose travel bans and asset freezes on several officials from Russia and Ukraine over the Crimea referendum.</p> <p>The UK Government refuses to recognise the Crimea referendum or its outcome as being legal or legitimate, and “condemns in the strongest terms Russia's flagrant disregard of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity”.</p>
18 March 2014	President Vladimir Putin and the leaders of Crimea sign a bill to absorb the peninsula into Russia.
21 March 2014	President Putin signs the law formalising Russia's takeover of Crimea from Ukraine, despite fresh sanctions from the EU and the US.
24 March 2014	Russia is expelled from the Group of Eight (G8).
27 March 2014	<p>The UN General Assembly votes 100–11 against recognising the Crimea referendum result, with 58 countries abstaining.</p> <p>Following the vote, UK Foreign Secretary William Hague says: “The result reinforces the fundamental principles upon which the UN was founded: principles of territorial integrity and of the non-use of force. President Putin</p>

should take notice of this clear and resounding message and work together with all parties to de-escalate the situation.”

28 March 2014	<p>US President Barack Obama urges Russia to “move back its troops” on Ukraine’s border and lower tensions.</p> <p>Russia is believed to have amassed a force of several thousand troops close to Ukraine’s eastern border.</p>
7 April 2014	<p>Pro-Russian protesters seize regional government buildings in the Ukrainian cities of Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv, calling for a referendum on independence by 11 May.</p>
15 April 2014	<p>Ukraine’s acting president, Olexander Turchynov, announces the start of an “anti-terrorist operation” against pro-Russian separatists. It quickly stalls.</p>
17 April 2014	<p>At talks in Geneva, Russia, Ukraine, the US and the EU say they have agreed steps to “de-escalate” the crisis in eastern Ukraine.</p> <p>Three people are killed when Ukrainian security forces fend off a raid on a base in Mariupol, the first violent deaths in the east.</p>
18 April 2014	<p>UK Foreign Secretary William Hague welcomes yesterday’s agreement on the next steps in Ukraine and urges quick progress be made.</p> <p>He also announces a further £1 million to support the OSCE monitoring mission.</p>
22 April 2014	<p>Ukraine’s acting president calls for the resumption of military operations against pro-Russian separatists in the east of the country, claiming two of his party’s supporters had been “tortured to death”, in a further blow to an unravelling international peace plan.</p>

2

May 2015 – October 2021

Key events

12 May 2014: Pro-Russia separatists in Ukraine's easternmost areas, Donetsk and Luhansk, announce landslide victories in referendums on "self-rule". Ukraine and Western countries condemn the vote.

25 May 2014: Petro Poroshenko is elected president of Ukraine.

14 June 2014: Pro-Russia separatists shoot down a military transport plane in eastern Ukraine, killing all 49 Ukrainian service personnel on board.

27 June 2014: The EU signs a landmark partnership agreement with Ukraine.

17 July 2014: Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 is shot down over eastern Ukraine with the loss of 298 lives. A 15-month investigation by the Dutch Safety Board (DSB) later finds the plane was hit by a Russian-made Buk missile.

5 September 2014: Ukraine's government and pro-Russia rebels sign a truce in Minsk (referred to as the first Minsk Agreement) to end almost five months of fighting. The ceasefire collapses within days.

24 January 2015: A series of rocket attacks leave 30 people dead and many more injured in the city of Mariupol in eastern Ukraine.

12 February 2015: The second Minsk Agreement is signed.

9 July 2016: NATO and Ukraine sign a Comprehensive Assistance Package.

8 June 2017: The Ukrainian Parliament votes to restore NATO membership as the country's strategic foreign policy objective.

1 September 2017: Ukraine's association agreement with the European Union enters into force.

15 May 2018: President Putin opens a 12-mile bridge between the Russian mainland and Crimea, tightening Russia's hold over the annexed peninsula.

20 November 2018: The UK Government joins calls for Russia to stop delaying or preventing access for ships to the Sea of Azov. Restrictions on freedom of passage have been accompanied by an increase in Russia's military presence in the sea.

21 February 2019: An amendment to Ukraine's constitution, setting NATO membership as a strategic foreign and security policy, enters into force.

21 April 2019: Volodymyr Zelenskyy is elected president of Ukraine in a landslide victory.

7 September 2019: Russia and Ukraine exchange dozens of prisoners captured in the wake of Moscow's annexation of Crimea and intervention in the Donbas. It is the first prisoner exchange since 2014.

12 June 2020: Ukraine is granted NATO Enhanced Opportunity Partner status.

14 September 2020: President Zelenskyy approves Ukraine's new National Security Strategy, with the aim of joining NATO.

6 April 2021: Russia announces the start of mass military drills, raising tensions with Ukraine amid Western concern over the risk of renewed fighting.

14 April 2021: Ukraine's defence minister says 110,000 Russian troops are massing on the border in 56 battalion-sized tactical groups.

2 May 2014 More than [30 people are killed](#) in violent clashes in the Black Sea city of Odessa, as pro-Ukrainian activists storm a building occupied by protesters in favour of closer ties with Russia.

3 May 2014 In response to the violence in Odessa, UK Foreign Secretary [William Hague calls](#) on all parties to work to restore calm and law and order across Ukraine.

11 May 2014	<p>“Self-rule” independence referendums are held in Ukraine’s easternmost areas, Donetsk and Luhansk. Ukraine calls the vote a “criminal farce” and Western countries also condemn the vote.</p>
12 May 2014	<p>Pro-Russia separatists in Donetsk and Luhansk announce landslide victories in the independence referendums.</p> <p>The head of the de facto electoral commission says 89% of voters in Donetsk and 96% in Luhansk voted for self-rule.</p>
25 May 2014	<p>Pro-European businessman Petro Poroshenko is elected president of Ukraine.</p>
14 June 2014	<p>Pro-Russia separatists shoot down a military transport plane in eastern Ukraine, killing all 49 Ukrainian service personnel on board.</p> <p>In a statement, Ukraine's defence ministry says “terrorists” have “cynically and treacherously” fired on the aircraft.</p>
24 June 2014	<p>President Putin asks the upper house of the Russian parliament to revoke its March ruling that permits Russia to use troops on Ukrainian territory.</p>
25 June 2014	<p>The Russian parliament’s upper house agrees President Putin’s request, voting 153-1 in favour of revoking authorisation for military intervention in Ukraine.</p>
27 June 2014	<p>The EU signs a landmark partnership agreement with Ukraine.</p> <p>President Poroshenko hails the signing as Ukraine's most historic day since independence in 1991, describing it as a “symbol of faith and unbreakable will”.</p> <p>He also says he sees the signing as the start of preparations for Ukraine joining the EU.</p>
5 July 2014	<p>Separatist rebels abandon the cities of Sloviansk and Kramatorsk and some smaller</p>

towns, in the north of Donetsk region, to concentrate on the battle for Donetsk city.

17 July 2014	<p>Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, en route from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, is shot down over eastern Ukraine with the loss of 298 lives.</p> <p>A 15-month investigation by the Dutch Safety Board (DSB) later finds the plane was hit by a Russian-made Buk missile.</p>
21 July 2014	<p>In a statement to the House of Commons, UK Prime Minister David Cameron says President Putin must use his influence to end the conflict in Ukraine by halting supplies and training for the separatists.</p> <p>The Prime Minister also calls for “proper long-term relationships between Ukraine and Russia; between Ukraine and the European Union; and, above all, between Russia and the European Union, NATO and the wider West.”</p>
30 July 2014	<p>The G7 leaders issue a joint statement on the ongoing situation in Ukraine, condemning Russia’s illegal annexation of Crimea.</p>
22 August 2014	<p>A Russian convoy of 260 lorries delivers humanitarian aid to eastern Ukraine, raising suspicion from some in the international community. French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius warns the convoy “could be a cover for the Russians to install themselves near Luhansk and Donetsk and present us with a fait accompli”.</p>
26 August 2014	<p>Ukraine releases videos of captured Russian troops. Russia claims the troops crossed the border “by accident”, but Ukrainian military spokesman Andriy Lysenko says: “This wasn’t a mistake, but a special mission they were carrying out.”</p>
1 September 2014	<p>Ukraine says 700 of its men have been taken prisoner as pro-Russia rebels advance in the east.</p>

5 September 2014	<p>Ukraine's government and pro-Russia rebels in the east sign a truce in Minsk (referred to as the first Minsk Agreement) to end almost five months of fighting.</p> <p>The ceasefire deal collapses within days of signing.</p>
24 September 2014	<p>NATO reports a "significant" withdrawal of Russian troops from eastern Ukraine, although some forces still remain.</p>
12 October 2014	<p>President Vladimir Putin orders thousands of Russian troops stationed near the Ukrainian border to return to their bases. Russian media reports 17,600 soldiers on training exercises in the Rostov region would be pulled back.</p>
17 October 2014	<p>The UK Government announces a package of non-lethal equipment to be gifted to Ukraine, in response to a direct request from the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.</p>
21 October 2014	<p>New York-based Human Rights Watch suggests both government forces and pro-Russia separatists have used cluster munitions in eastern Ukraine.</p> <p>Most countries banned cluster munitions under a convention that became international law in 2010, but Ukraine did not sign up to it.</p>
26 October 2014	<p>Pro-Western parties win parliamentary elections in Ukraine.</p>
31 October 2014	<p>In a deal brokered by the EU, Russia agrees to resume gas supplies to Ukraine over the winter. Russia had cut off Ukraine's gas in June as the conflict in eastern Ukraine escalated.</p>
2 November 2014	<p>Pro-Russia separatists hold elections in the two self-proclaimed people's republics in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions in eastern Ukraine. The elections are denounced as "illegitimate" by the West.</p>

3 November 2014	Following the vote, President Poroshenko holds a meeting with his security chiefs and accuses the rebels of jeopardising “the entire peace process”.
11 November 2014	Dutch efforts to salvage wreckage from the Malaysia Airlines MH17 crash site stall as no deal is reached with local rebel groups.
12 November 2014	NATO commander Gen. Philip Breedlove warns Russian military equipment and Russian combat troops have been seen entering Ukraine over several days, saying: "Russian tanks, Russian artillery, Russian air defence systems and Russian combat troops" had been sighted.
24 January 2015	<p>A series of rocket attacks leave 30 people dead and many more injured in the city of Mariupol in eastern Ukraine.</p> <p>Ukraine blames pro-Russia rebels, but the separatists say Ukrainian forces are behind the attacks.</p>
26 January 2015	In an extraordinary meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission, NATO strongly condemns the escalation of violence in eastern Ukraine and urges all parties to continue efforts to achieve a peaceful solution, in full conformity with the Minsk Agreement.
10 February 2015	UK Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond makes a statement in the House of Commons on the situation in Ukraine. He welcomes efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution of the situation in the east of the country, outlines the package of economic sanctions which the EU and the US is imposing on Russia, and provides further detail on other measures being taken by the West.
12 February 2015	Following lengthy peace negotiations (referred to as the Normandy Format) between Russian President Vladimir Putin, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, French President Francois Hollande and German

Chancellor Angela Merkel, a [new ceasefire deal for eastern Ukraine is signed](#) in the Belarusian capital Minsk: the second Minsk Agreement.

15 February 2015	<p>UK Secretary of Defence Michael Fallon responds to an urgent question on the deployment of UK personnel to train Ukrainian forces.</p> <p>As part of wider UK Government efforts to support Ukraine and ensure a robust international response, the Defence Secretary announces: “UK personnel will now provide to the Ukrainian armed forces medical, logistics, infantry, and intelligence capacity-building training from mid-March.” (Operation Orbital)</p>
23 February 2015	<p>Prime Minister David Cameron announces the UK will provide £15 million in emergency assistance to provide food, blankets, emergency shelter and basic medical supplies to vulnerable and displaced Ukrainians.</p>
3 March 2015	<p>The Prime Minister holds a video conference call with other world leaders to discuss how Europe and the US should work together to enforce the Minsk agreements.</p>
22 March 2015	<p>Marking a year after President Putin signed the decree confirming the illegal annexation of Crimea, the Foreign Secretary again condemns the flagrant breach of Ukrainian and international law and says Russia must return Crimea to Ukraine.</p>
12 October 2015	<p>The Defence secretary issues a written statement updating the House of Commons on the UK’s support to training Ukrainian personnel through Operation Orbital.</p>
21 March 2016	<p>On the second anniversary of Russia’s annexation of Crimea, the Foreign Secretary again calls for Russia to return Crimea to Ukraine and condemns Russia’s continued breach of international law.</p>

8 July 2016	The Prime Minister meets with Ukrainian President Poroshenko at the NATO Summit in Warsaw and reaffirms the UK's commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty.
9 July 2016	At the NATO Summit in Warsaw, the heads of state and government of the NATO-Ukraine Commission endorse the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) for Ukraine, enhancing NATO's assistance for Ukraine.
8 June 2017	<p>The Ukrainian Parliament votes to restore NATO membership as the country's strategic foreign policy objective.</p> <p>In a statement, the parliament announced it had passed the bill "to amend the Ukrainian laws on national security and internal and foreign policies. The new laws hereby enact Ukraine's commitment to achieve NATO membership strategically by having made it legally binding,"</p>
11 June 2017	Ukraine's association agreement with the EU is ratified by all signatories, promoting deeper political ties, stronger economic links, and respect for common values between the two.
5 July 2017	The Defence Secretary announces the UK has directly trained over 5,000 members of Ukraine's Armed Forces; 1,000 more than initially targeted.
1 September 2017	Ukraine's association agreement with the European Union enters into force .
December 2017	The US, under President Trump's administration, approves the largest commercial sale of lethal arms to Ukraine since 2014, moving beyond the non-lethal military assistance that the Obama administration allowed.
15 May 2018	President Putin opens a 12-mile bridge between the Russian mainland and Crimea,

tightening Russia's hold over the annexed peninsula.

31 August 2018	Alexander Zakharchenko, the leader of a Kremlin-backed separatist republic in eastern Ukraine is killed in a blast close to his official residence in Donetsk. He had been appointed prime minister of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) in November 2014.
20 November 2018	The UK Government joins calls for Russia to stop delaying or preventing access for ships to the Sea of Azov , following a discussion at the EU Foreign Affairs Council. Restrictions on freedom of passage have been accompanied by an increase in Russia's military presence in the sea.
27 November 2018	Foreign Office Minister Alistair Burt responds to an urgent question on Russian action in the sea of Azov and the subsequent declaration of martial law in parts of Ukraine. He says: "Our position is clear: Russia's actions are not in conformity with the United Nations convention on the law of the sea or the 2003 Russia-Ukraine bilateral agreement, which provides free passage in the sea of Azov, including for military ships."
30 November 2018	The foreign ministers of the G7 countries issue a statement expressing their concern over Russia's actions against Ukraine in the Kerch Strait.
5 January 2019	The Ukrainian Orthodox Church gains formal independence from the Russian Orthodox Church. The Ukrainian church had been under the jurisdiction of the Moscow patriarchate since 1686 and the move is predicted to heighten geopolitical tensions in the region.
21 February 2019	An amendment to Ukraine's constitution , setting NATO membership as a strategic foreign and security policy, enters into force.
18 March 2019	On the fifth anniversary of Russia's annexation of Crimea, UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt

[condemns Russia](#) and says: “The UK will never recognise Russia’s illegal annexation of Crimea and we call on Russia to end their illegitimate control of the peninsula and their attempts to redraw the boundaries of Europe.”

21 April 2019	Former actor and comedian Volodymyr Zelenskyy defeats Petro Poroshenko in the presidential election , promising to tackle corruption and end the conflict in eastern Ukraine. It is a landslide victory, with Zelenskyy taking over 70% of the votes.
21 July 2019	President Zelenskyy’s Servant of the People party wins a majority of seats in the parliamentary election .
22 August 2019	Prime Minister Boris Johnson calls President Zelenskyy and reiterates the UK’s support in ending the conflict in the Donbas.
7 September 2019	<p>Russia and Ukraine exchange dozens of prisoners captured in the wake of Moscow’s annexation of Crimea and intervention in the Donbas.</p> <p>Both countries free 35 prisoners as part of the exchange, the first since 2014.</p> <p>There is controversy, however, over Ukraine’s decision to hand Vladimir Tsemakh over to Moscow, a separatist commander thought to be involved in the downing of Malaysia Airlines MH17 in July 2014.</p>
4 November 2019	The Defence secretary issues a written statement updating the House of Commons on Operation Orbital. UK Armed Forces personnel deployed on Operation Orbital have trained over 17,500 members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine since 2015.
20 March 2020	Ukraine enters its first lockdown to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic.

9 June 2020	The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approves a \$5bn lifeline to support Ukraine during a pandemic-induced recession.
12 June 2020	Ukraine is granted NATO Enhanced Opportunity Partner (EOP) status . This status is part of NATO's Partnership Interoperability Initiative, which aims to maintain and deepen cooperation between Allies and partners that have made significant contributions to NATO-led operations and missions.
14 September 2020	President Zelenskyy approves Ukraine's new National Security Strategy , which provides for the development of a distinctive partnership with NATO, with the aim of NATO membership.
8 October 2020	On a two-day visit to the UK, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Prime Minister Boris Johnson sign a landmark Strategic Partnership Agreement , paving the way for stronger cooperation between the UK and Ukraine.
31 December 2020	The UK-Ukraine Political, Free Trade and Strategic Partnership Agreement enters into force .
20 February 2021	President Zelenskyy's government imposes sanctions on several Ukrainian politicians with close ties to Russian President Putin, including political heavyweight Viktor Medvedchuk, the Kremlin's most prominent ally in Ukraine.
20 February 2021	The UK reaffirms its support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, seven years after Russia annexed Crimea. To mark the seventh anniversary of the annexation, the UK Government announces funding for a new project to improve access to vital services for Ukrainians living in Crimea.
5 April 2021	Prime Minister Boris Johnson speaks to President Zelenskyy and expresses the UK's significant concerns about the recent Russian

military activity on Ukraine's border and in Crimea.

6 April 2021	Russia announces the start of mass military drills , raising tensions with Ukraine amid Western concern about the risk of renewed fighting.
14 April 2021	<p>Russia and Ukraine hold simultaneous military drills as NATO foreign and defence ministers began emergency discussions on the massing of Russian troops near the Ukrainian border.</p> <p>Ukraine's defence minister, Andrii Taran, says 110,000 Russian troops are massing on the border in 56 battalion-sized tactical groups, citing Kyiv's latest intelligence.</p>
22 April 2021	After weeks of tension over the build-up of Russian troops close to Ukraine's border, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu announces Russia will re-deploy its forces back to their home bases by 1 May , temporarily averting the crisis.
2 September 2021	During a visit to the White House, President Zelenskyy presses US President Biden for a firm commitment to NATO membership , but gets little encouragement.
26 October 2021	Ukraine uses a Turkish Bayraktar TB2 drone in combat for the first time in eastern Ukraine, angering Russia.

3

Ukraine crisis: November 2021 – 23 February 2022

Key events

13 November 2021: President Zelenskyy says nearly 100,000 Russian troops have massed on the border with Ukraine.

17 December 2021: Russia presents a list of security demands in order to defuse the crisis over Ukraine, including a legally binding guarantee that Ukraine will never be accepted as a NATO Member State and that NATO will give up any military activity in eastern Europe and Ukraine.

22 January 2022: In a rare reference to intelligence-gathering, the Foreign Office exposes evidence of a plot to install a pro-Russian government in Ukraine.

24 January 2022: The US places 8,500 troops on heightened alert to deploy to Europe as NATO reinforces its eastern borders with warships and fighter jets.

10 February 2022: Russia launches what is being called its largest military exercise since the Cold War, holding joint manoeuvres with Belarus, close to the Belarus/Ukrainian border.

21 February 2022: President Putin recognises the independence of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic. He then orders Russian troops into the territories for what he describes as "peacekeeping duties".

13 November 2021	After weeks of increasing numbers of Russian troops massing near the border with Ukraine, President Zelenskyy says nearly 100,000 Russian soldiers are massed by mid-November.
------------------	--

7 December 2021	US President Joe Biden warns Russia of sweeping Western economic sanctions if it
-----------------	--

invades Ukraine. In a two-hour virtual meeting with President Putin, Biden voices the “deep concerns of the United States and our European allies about Russia’s escalation of forces surrounding Ukraine”.

8 December 2021	<p>UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss hold talks with her counterpart in Ukraine, Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, in the face of Russian aggression.</p> <p>This is the first UK-Ukraine Strategic Dialogue, part of an agreement signed by the Prime Minister and Ukrainian President Zelenskyy during his visit to London a year earlier.</p>
12 December 2021	<p>G7 Foreign Ministers and the High Representative of the European Union issue a statement on Russia’s military build-up and aggressive rhetoric towards Ukraine.</p> <p>The statement calls on Russia to “de-escalate, pursue diplomatic channels, and abide by its international commitments on transparency of military activities”.</p>
13 December 2021	<p>The Prime Minister speaks to President Putin and expresses the UK Government’s deep concern over the build-up of Russian forces on Ukraine’s border, and reiterates “the importance of working through diplomatic channels to de-escalate tensions and identify durable solutions”.</p>
17 December 2021	<p>Russia presents a highly contentious list of security demands in order to lower tensions in Europe and defuse the crisis over Ukraine, including a legally binding guarantee that Ukraine will never gain NATO membership and NATO will give up any military activity in eastern Europe and Ukraine.</p>
23 December 2021	<p>The Foreign Secretary condemns Russia’s “aggressive and inflammatory rhetoric against Ukraine and NATO”, adding: “NATO is a defensive alliance and Ukraine continues to show commendable restraint in the face of Russian provocation and aggression.”</p>

10 January 2022	US and Russian diplomats hold a day of negotiations in Geneva over the fate of Ukraine. The talks are later described as “useful” and “very professional”, but no progress is made towards resolving fundamental disagreements.
12 January 2022	The NATO-Russia Council meets .
13 January 2022	The OSCE Permanent Council meets, in a pre-planned session and irrespective of the situation in Ukraine. Western allies, including the Head of the UK delegation welcome the proposal to use the OSCE as a forum for revitalised European security talks.
14 January 2022	<p>A massive cyberattack leaves Ukrainian government websites temporarily unavailable.</p> <p>The websites are hacked with a message in Ukrainian, Russian and Polish, saying Ukrainians’ personal data had been leaked into the public domain.</p> <p>The message reads, in part: “Be afraid and expect the worst. This is for your past, present and future.”</p>
15 January 2022	UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace meets Nordic partners amid a backdrop of aggressive Russian behaviour on the border of Ukraine.
22 January 2022	<p>In a rare reference to intelligence-gathering, the Foreign Office exposes evidence of a plot to install a pro-Russian government in Ukraine.</p> <p>Former Ukrainian MP Yevhen Murayev is identified as being the potential candidate under consideration to lead this pro-Russian government.</p>
24 January 2022	The US places 8,500 troops on heightened alert to deploy to Europe as NATO reinforces its eastern borders with warships and fighter jets, amid growing fears of a possible

“lightning” attack by Russia to seize the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv.

25 January 2022	In a statement to the House of Commons, on the UK’s response to the situation in Ukraine, the Prime Minister outlines several measures being considered. These include imposing heavy economic sanctions on Russia.
26 January 2022	The US and NATO deliver separate written responses to Russia’s security demands. The US rules out Russia’s demand to halt NATO’s eastward expansion, but says it is open to talks on arms control.
28 January 2022	<p>As President Biden announces additional US troop deployments to eastern Europe, President Putin says the US and NATO have not addressed Moscow’s main security demands.</p> <p>The Kremlin lists Russia’s principal concerns as avoiding NATO expansion, not deploying offensive weapons near Russia’s borders and returning NATO military capabilities and infrastructure to how they were before former Warsaw Pact states in Eastern Europe joined the alliance. Russia also seeks guarantees that Ukraine will be permanently barred from joining NATO.</p>
31 January 2022	<p>In a statement to the House of Commons, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss updates Members on what the UK Government is doing to tackle Russia’s aggression against Ukraine.</p> <p>The Foreign Secretary announces the UK is supplying Ukraine with defensive, anti-tank missiles, and deploying a training team of British personnel. 21,000 members of the Ukrainian army have already been trained through Operation Orbital.</p> <p>The UK will also increase investment in Ukraine’s future, ramping up support for trade up to £3.5 billion, including £1.7 billion to boost Ukraine’s naval capability.</p>

1 February 2022	<p>Prime Minister Boris Johnson and President Zelenskyy hold a joint press conference in Kyiv.</p> <p>The Prime Minister emphasises the UK's "unwavering commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders".</p>
2 February 2022	<p>The US announces it will send an additional 2,000 soldiers to Europe and reposition a further 1,000 from Germany to Romania, to ensure the "robust defence" of European NATO members amid the ongoing impasse between Russia and Ukraine.</p> <p>Pentagon spokesperson John Kirby says: "These movements are unmistakable signals to the world that we stand ready to reassure our NATO allies and deter and defend against any aggression."</p> <p>The UK Prime Minister speaks to Russian President Putin and expresses his deep concern about Russia's current hostile activity on the Ukrainian border, and stresses any further Russian incursion into Ukrainian territory would be a "tragic miscalculation".</p>
4 February 2022	<p>Meeting at the start of the Winter Olympics in Beijing, Presidents Xi Jinping of China and Vladimir Putin of Russia sign a joint statement calling on the West to "abandon the ideologised approaches of the cold war".</p> <p>In a joint statement released by the Kremlin, Putin and Xi call on NATO to rule out expansion in eastern Europe, denounce the formation of security blocs in the Asia Pacific region, and criticise the Aukus trilateral security pact between the US, UK and Australia.</p>
7 February 2022	<p>French President Emmanuel Macron meets President Putin for lengthy talks at the Kremlin, aimed at preventing a Russian attack on Ukraine. Macron warns the two</p>

sides need to work quickly to avoid the risk of an escalation.

8 February 2022	<p>Following a meeting with President Zelenskyy in Kyiv, President Macron says the standoff between Russia and Ukraine could take months to resolve.</p> <p>Meanwhile, six Russian warships and a submarine pass through the Dardanelles strait, heading towards the Black Sea from the Mediterranean. Russia's Defence Ministry describes the deployment as a pre-planned movement of military resources.</p>
9 February 2022	<p>President Biden tells Americans still in Ukraine to leave as soon as possible, amid fears of a Russian invasion. He warns: "Things could go crazy quickly."</p>
10 February 2022	<p>Russia launches what is being called its largest military exercise since the Cold War, holding joint manoeuvres with Belarus, close to the Belarus/Ukrainian border.</p> <p>Russia's Defence Ministry says the exercise will continue until 20 February and includes 30,000 personnel, warplanes, missile launchers and live-fire exercises, with a focus on "suppressing and repelling external aggression during a defensive operation."</p> <p>The White House denounces the operation as yet another escalation of tensions along the Ukraine border.</p> <p>The UK Prime Minister travels to Brussels and Warsaw, calling on international partners to demonstrate their solidarity with those NATO allies who will bear the brunt of Russian aggression.</p> <p>During a visit to Moscow, the UK Foreign Secretary meets her Russian counterpart, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, and condemns Russia's build-up of forces on the border with Ukraine.</p>

11 February 2022	<p>UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace holds talks with his Russian counterpart, the Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation, General of the Army Sergei Shoigu. This is the first time the two nations' defence ministers have met since General Shoigu visited London in 2013, and the first time a British Defence Secretary has visited Moscow since 2001.</p> <p>The Prime Minister holds a virtual meeting with the leaders of the US, Canada, Italy, Poland, Romania, France, Germany, the European Council, the European Commission and NATO. The leaders pledge to redouble diplomatic efforts in the coming days to de-escalate the Russia-Ukraine crisis.</p> <p>The UK Government updates its travel advice to Ukraine, advising British nationals against all travel to Ukraine. British nationals currently in Ukraine are urged to leave immediately while commercial means are still available.</p> <p>In an interview with NBC News, US President Biden again tells American citizens to leave Ukraine, saying there are no plans for a military operation to rescue them.</p> <p>It is reported that Russia has now amassed some 140,000 troops close to the border with Ukraine and in annexed Crimea.</p>
14 February 2022	<p>Russia's ambassador to the EU says Moscow would be within its rights to launch a "counterattack" if it felt it needed to protect Russian citizens living in eastern Ukraine.</p> <p>G7 Finance Ministers meet to discuss the situation in Ukraine and issue a statement "supporting the ongoing efforts to urgently identify a diplomatic path towards de-escalation".</p>
15 February 2022	<p>President Putin confirms a "partial" drawdown of Russian forces near the Ukrainian border, in a step that could begin a de-escalation of tensions. However, NATO</p>

Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg says there is no immediate sign of a withdrawal.

The Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, votes to ask President Putin to [recognise the Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk](#) People's Republic as independent.

16 February 2022

In a "Unity Day" holiday created earlier in the week by President Zelenskyy, Ukrainians [raise national flags and play the country's anthem](#) to show unity against fears of a Russian invasion that Western powers say could be imminent.

17 February 2022

Addressing a UN Security Council meeting, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken says [Russia is preparing an invasion of Ukraine](#) "in the coming days" and that there is no evidence it is withdrawing any troops.

Russia [expels](#) the US deputy chief of mission (DCM) to Russia, Bart Gorman, the US's second most senior diplomat in Moscow. The US State Department [describes](#) the move as "an escalatory step".

UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss [criticises](#) the Duma's request for President Putin to recognise the Ukrainian regions of Donetsk and Luhansk as independent, saying it shows a "[flagrant disregard](#)" for Russia's peace process commitments.

The Defence Secretary, Ben Wallace, [announces](#) a substantial UK contribution to NATO's uplift in Eastern Europe, doubling the number of personnel in Estonia and sending additional equipment, including tanks and armoured fighting vehicles.

18 February 2022

US ambassador to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Michael Carpenter, [says](#) Russia has "massed between 169,000 and 190,000 personnel in and near Ukraine".

President Biden [says](#) he is "convinced" Russia's president has decided to invade

Ukraine, but says there is still time for diplomacy to avert war.

19 February 2022

Prime Minister Boris Johnson [meets](#) Ukrainian President Zelenskyy at the Munich security conference and underscores the UK's unequivocal support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Foreign Minister Liz Truss [tells](#) the conference that Ukraine could face the "worst-case scenario" of a Russian invasion as soon as next week, and Europe faces one of its most perilous security situations since the early 20th century.

A [joint statement](#) from G7 foreign ministers urges further diplomacy but warns it will "judge Russia by its deeds".

Russia's [strategic nuclear forces hold exercises](#) overseen by Putin. The Kremlin says Russia successfully test-launched hypersonic and cruise missiles at sea and land-based targets during the exercises.

20 February 2022

President Macron of France [invites](#) Russian President Putin and US President Biden to attend a summit aimed at de-escalating the Ukraine crisis. The leaders agree in principle.

The US administration [signals](#) its willingness to work towards a diplomatic solution, but reiterates its view that Russian forces have been ordered to proceed with an invasion of Ukraine.

Satellite images appear to show [new deployments of Russian troops and armoured equipment](#), with some just 15 kilometres from the border with Ukraine.

21 February 2022

President Putin [recognises the independence](#) of the two breakaway territories in eastern Ukraine – the Luhansk People's Republic and Donetsk People's Republic. Treaties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance were signed by Russia and the leaders of the LPR and DPR. Several Western

leaders condemn the move, calling it a violation of the Minsk peace deal.

Putin orders Russian troops into the territories for what he describes as “[peacekeeping duties](#)”.

In a [statement](#) to the House of Commons, Defence Secretary Ben Wallace updates Members on Russia's actions towards Ukraine. He notes an increased number of Russian troops massing around the border with Ukraine, saying: “As of 09.00 hours today, there are now more than 110 battalion tactical groups massed around Ukraine’s borders with Russia and Belarus. In addition, in the Black Sea Fleet, there are two amphibious groups, nine cruise missile-equipped Russian ships and a further four cruise missile-capable vessels in the Caspian sea.”

In the evening, Prime Minister Boris Johnson speaks to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to discuss the deteriorating situation in and around Ukraine, and [warns](#) an invasion is a real possibility in the coming hours and days.

The UN Security Council meets in the evening for an [emergency session](#), at the request of Ukraine’s Foreign Minister, Dmytro Kuleba.

22 February 2022

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg [tells reporters](#) there is “every indication is that Russia is continuing to plan for a full-scale attack of Ukraine”.

In a [statement](#) to the House of Commons, the Prime Minister updates Members on the situation in Ukraine and condemns President Putin’s violation of the Minsk peace agreements in recognising the so-called people’s republics of Donetsk and Luhansk as independent.

The Prime Minister outlines a package of sanctions to be imposed on “Russian

individuals and entities of strategic importance to the Kremlin”.

He also provides an update on the measures the UK has taken to prepare Ukraine for another onslaught: “Training 22,000 soldiers, supplying 2,000 anti-tank missiles, and providing £100 million for economic reform and energy independence.” A new guarantee of up to \$500 million of Development Bank financing is also announced.

Following Russia’s recognition of two so-called “people’s republics” and the movement of military forces into Ukraine, the Foreign Office [summons](#) the Russian Ambassador to register the UK’s formal protest over Russia’s “continued undermining of Ukraine’s territorial integrity and sovereignty and flagrant disregard for the international obligations and commitments it has freely signed up to”.

The US and EU also impose sanctions on Russia, and Germany [announces](#) it will halt certification of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

23 February 2022

Ukraine prepares its population for the prospect of a devastating war, with the parliament voting to approve a [state of emergency](#) decree, allowing authorities to “impose curfews and restrictions on movement, block rallies and ban political parties and organisations”. The decree will begin on 24 February and last for 30 days.

Airports in the eastern Ukrainian cities of Kharkiv, Dnipro, and Zaporizhzhia close their air space, and the nearly 3 million Ukrainians still in Russia are told to leave the country as soon as possible.

President Putin says Russia is ready to look for “diplomatic solutions” over Ukraine, but stresses his country’s interests are non-negotiable. In an address marking the Defender of the Fatherland Day, [Putin is cited as saying](#): “Our country is always open for direct and honest dialogue, for the search for diplomatic solutions to the most complex

problems. The interests of Russia, the security of our citizens, are non-negotiable for us.”

Denis Pushilin and Leonid Pasechnik, the respective heads of the so-called People’s Republics of Donetsk and Luhansk, [request help](#) “in repelling the aggression of the Ukrainian armed forces”, according to the Interfax news agency, quoting Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov. Several [analysts suggest](#) these requests could be the pretext Russia uses to launch an attack on Ukraine.

The UN General Assembly [meets](#) to discuss the Ukraine crisis, with several member states calling for Russia to deescalate and spelling out the consequences of an invasion.

The House of Commons Library is a research and information service based in the UK Parliament. Our impartial analysis, statistical research and resources help MPs and their staff scrutinise legislation, develop policy, and support constituents.

Our published material is available to everyone on commonslibrary.parliament.uk.

Get our latest research delivered straight to your inbox. Subscribe at commonslibrary.parliament.uk/subscribe or scan the code below:



 commonslibrary.parliament.uk

 [@commonslibrary](https://twitter.com/commonslibrary)