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Ukraine in Turmoil

1. I have attended two Model UN conferences in the past- Academy Model United Nations at Bergen County Academies, and the Washington Area Model United Nations Conference at George Washington University.
2. The Ukrainian crisis interests me deeply because I want to know how the politics of this crisis are playing out. How Russia acts towards Ukraine and how Ukraine and its allies respond are very intriguing to me, because the situation right now is so tense.
3. Some of the major factors that influence Ukraine’s relationship with both the West and with Russia are its economic stability and relationship with the European Union. Ukraine relies heavily upon Russia for its economy’s health, and recently rejected a proposal from the EU to establish a political and economic association between the two. The US is allied with the EU, and this also affects their relationship with Ukraine.
4. The annexation of Crimea is clearly a crime. International law does not allow the taking of the territory of another state by force, which is exactly what Russia did when they stormed the Supreme Council of Crimea and appointed a pro-Russian prime minister. The UN General Assembly took a vote upon the matter of Crimea staying with Ukraine, and it was 100-11 in favor. However, Russia still refuses to listen to the rest of the world, and continues to break international law with this annexation.