



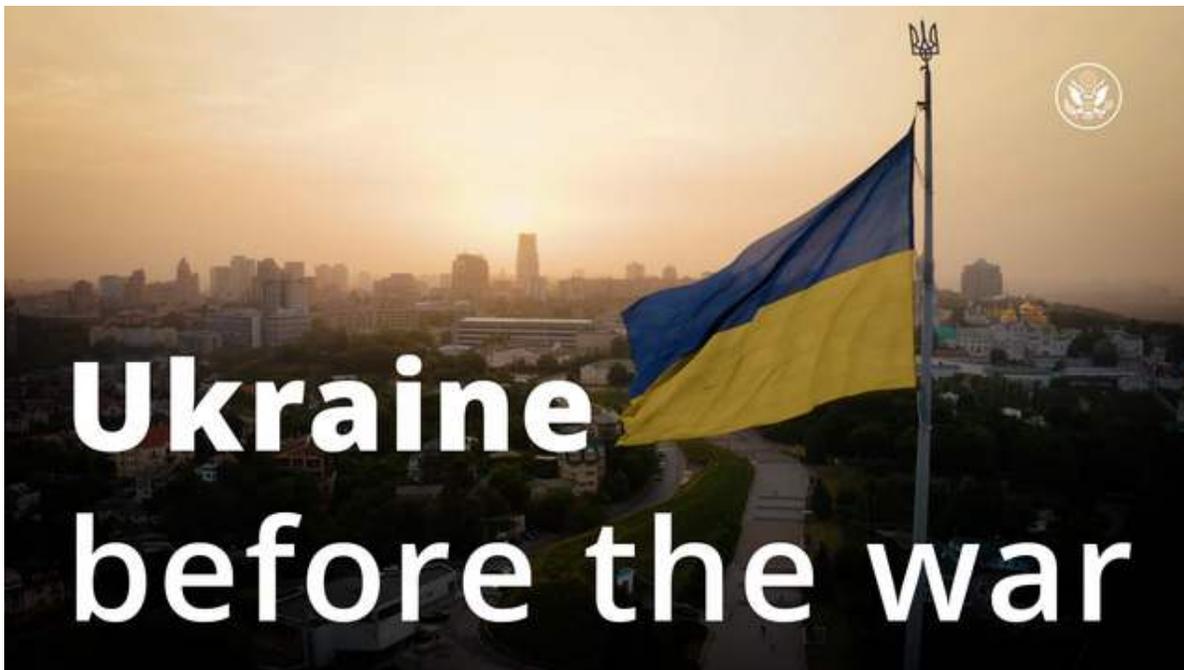
United with Ukraine



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United with Ukraine

How the United States provides assistance, advocates diplomacy, and enforces economic measures to counter Russia's actions against Ukraine.



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AP Image

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Overview

“The American people understand and admire the miracle Ukraine has already achieved in defending itself against this vicious Russian aggression. And they also understand what happens if you cannot continue not only to survive but to thrive.”

VICTORIA NULAND

**ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY OF
STATE**



International Principles Challenged by Russia

Moscow's actions in Ukraine threaten to set new precedents on European soil, undermining these basic international **principles vital to peace and security**:

The **borders** and territorial integrity of a state **cannot be changed by force**.

Citizens in a democracy have an inherent right to **determine their country's future**.

All members of the international community are bound by **common rules** and must face consequences if they break their solemn commitments.

These principles extend beyond Ukraine.

These principles extend beyond Europe.

These **principles** are the underpinnings of the **international order** that together the United States and our Allies and partners have built and sustained.

In challenging these principles, **Russia** challenges the international system itself and unravels our transatlantic alliance, erodes our unity, and **pressures democracies into failure**.

Diplomacy is the only responsible way to resolve this crisis.

"The American people can be and should be incredibly proud of the part they played in supporting Ukraine's success."

JOSEPH R. BIDEN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



U.S. Support for Ukraine

Since 2014, the United States has committed **billions** in assistance to Ukraine, including **security** and **non-security assistance**.

Our support includes military, humanitarian, and economic assistance to **help Ukraine defend itself** from Russia's unprovoked further invasion, and to ensure the Government of Ukraine **can function effectively** during the conflict and **support the people** of Ukraine as they endure attacks from Russia's forces.

The United States is the largest single-country donor of humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. Individuals seeking to leave Ukraine can **[find information from UNHCR](#)** on where to go for help. The **[State Department has partnered with GoFundMe.org](#)** to address the humanitarian needs of the people affected by Russia's attack against Ukraine.

"The United States is committed to strengthening our relationship with Ukraine as we work to build a prosperous future for all Ukrainians."

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



Sanctions and Economic Measures

In March 2022, the United States **banned** the import of **Russian energy products**. This was another step to deprive President Putin of the economic resources he uses to continue his needless war of choice. The United States continues to coordinate with major oil consumers and producers towards a collective investment to secure stability and global energy supplies, including for Ukraine.

The Department of the Treasury also **expanded** its **Russia-sanctions** authorities. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with Secretary Blinken, identified the aerospace,

marine, and electronics sectors of the Russian Federation economy pursuant to Executive Order 14024. This allows sanctions to be imposed on any individual or entity determined to operate or have operated in any of those sectors and provides an expanded ability to swiftly impose **additional economic costs on Russia** for its war of choice in Ukraine.

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Sanctions create accountability for Russia and Belarus.

In response to Russia's aggression, the United States, along with our allies and partners, **imposed severe and immediate economic costs on Russia**. These measures include sweeping **financial sanctions** that had an immediate impact on Russia's economy and **export controls** that will cut off Russia's access to vital technological inputs, atrophy its industrial base, and undercut Russia's strategic ambitions to exert influence on the world stage.

Russia will feel this pain. Putin and his cronies will feel this pain. It will accumulate over time. We've **targeted Russia's largest banks**—cut them off from the U.S. financial system and frozen their assets. They are **blacklisted** globally and the Russian financial system—its principal connection to international trade and investment—has been tarred. Our export controls choked off Russia's vital **technological imports**.

This is not what we wanted to do. This is not the best outcome for the people of Ukraine or Russia. But Putin's war of choice has required that he suffer the consequences of his actions.

“In this time of uncertainty, we have a clear way forward: Help Ukraine defend itself. Support the Ukrainian people. Hold Russia accountable.”

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



More Resources

From the State Department

Press briefings on Ukraine and Russia

Actions holding Russia and Belarus accountable

Military assistance and cooperation

Atrocity Crimes Advisory Group

Exposing false narratives spread by Russia

US Mission to NATO

US Mission to OSCE

US Embassy Kyiv

From Our Partners

Foreign Assistance

USAID Mission

Ukraine Conflict Observatory

United States Institute of Peace – Ukraine

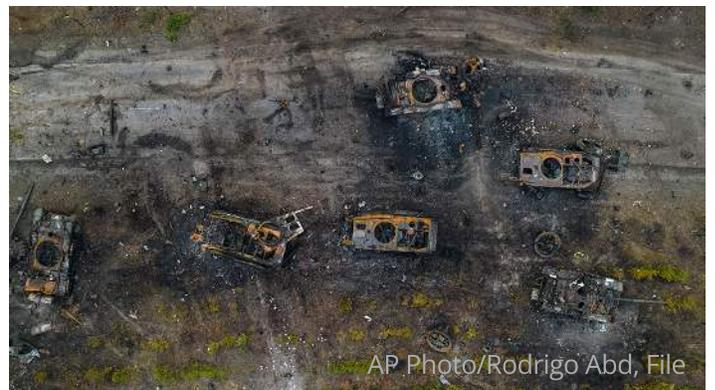
Have questions? **Contact us.**

AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti

Russian Aggression

“Russia continues to suffer a strategic failure in Ukraine.”

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd, File

Exposing Russia's Destabilizing Actions

Over the past three decades, Russia has:

invaded three **neighboring countries**—Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova;

interfered in **elections**;

used chemical weapons to attempt assassinations both on foreign soil and domestically (Skripal, Navalny); and

violated international arms control **agreements**.

We cannot forget Russia's **illegal seizure** and ongoing occupation of **Crimea**, or the conflict in eastern Ukraine, which Russia-led and supported forces instigated and continue to sustain. The United States is committed to a diplomatic resolution to the Donbas conflict and advocates implementation of the Minsk agreements, to which Russia is a signatory.

For more information on the history of Russia's ongoing aggression towards Ukraine, see this [**timeline on how Ukrainians suffered from Russia's actions from 2014-2021**](#) .

In response to Russia's aggression, the United States, along with our allies and partners, has imposed severe economic penalties on Russia. These measures include sweeping **financial sanctions** that impact Russia's economy, and **export controls** that limit Russia's access to vital technological inputs, atrophy its industrial base, and undercut its ambitions to exert influence on the world stage.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Sanctions levied against Russia.

What Is a "Special Military Operation"?

Russian media used the phrase days after the invasion.

“America stands for freedom today, tomorrow, and always. America stands against tyranny and against oppression, and America stands with the people of Ukraine.”

JOSEPH R. BIDEN

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



Civilians Continue to Suffer as Russia’s Aggression Against Ukraine Intensifies

In 2014, after millions of Ukrainians protested for a democratic and European future, **Russia manufactured a crisis, invaded and occupied** Ukraine’s territory in **Crimea**, and **orchestrated a war** in eastern Ukraine with proxies it leads, trains, supplies, and finances.

By the end of 2021, **2.9 million Ukrainians** remained in desperate need of assistance and protection in a **humanitarian catastrophe** that demands more attention from the international community.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Exposing false narratives spread by Russia.

Russian propaganda efforts include:

malign **social media** operations,

overt and covert online Russia-supported **media outlets**,

the infection of **TV** and **radio** programming with disinformation,

conferences designed to influence attendees into falsely believing that Ukraine—not Russia—is at fault for heightened tensions in the region, leveraging of **cyber operations** to deface media outlets and conduct “hack and release” operations—that is, hacking, and then releasing private data and communications.

AP Image

Energy & Cyber Security

“American leadership is crucial. It’s keeping this unity together—a unity that serves the entire free world.”

VOLODOMYR ZELENSKY
PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE



Energy Security

The President has said that every tool is on the table to **protect** American **businesses** and **consumers** from **rising prices**. We continue to coordinate with major oil-producing consumers and producers towards a collective investment to **secure stability** and **global energy supplies**.

We’ve intentionally calibrated our sanctions measures to maximize pain on the Russian economy and minimize economic effects to the U.S. and our allies and partners. U.S. sanctions are not designed to disrupt the flow of energy from Russia.

Energy Prices

The linkages between Russia and the U.S. economy are small. U.S. **sanctions** are designed specifically to **not disrupt** the **supply of global energy**, while maximizing the pain for President Putin and the Russian state.

We were pleased to see other public comments aligned with President Biden’s message reflecting our common focus and willingness to address significant market volatility or supply shortages that may result from President Putin’s war of choice.

President Biden is doing everything he can to **reduce** the **impact** on **energy costs** for the American people. That means engaging closely with partners around the world, and

considering a range of options that are all on the table to reduce the impact on the market.

Nord Stream 2

Russia's flagrant violation of international law in repeatedly invading Ukraine's sovereign territory demands a firm response from the international community. Germany's decision to **halt certification** of the **Nord Stream 2 pipeline**—which the U.S. Administration has long opposed as a Russian geopolitical project—remains an important element of that response. In this context, the Secretary **terminated** the **waiver of sanctions** on Nord Stream 2 AG, its CEO Matthias Warnig, and its corporate officers. NS2AG and Warnig are now sanctioned, and the company's corporate officers are subject to **visa restrictions**. Other individuals and entities that knowingly engage in sanctionable conduct related to Nord Stream 2 face similar sanctions risk; we urge them to cease their activities.

"This is about freedom. Freedom for Ukraine, freedom everywhere. It's about the kind of world we want to live in and the world we want to leave our children."

JOSEPH R. BIDEN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



Cyber Security

Ahead of its invasion of Ukraine, the Russian government launched wide-scale **malicious cyber activity** against the Ukrainian government and banking systems.

The United States had already been working with the government of Ukraine and other partners to help them **respond** to and **recover** from cyber incidents and to strengthen the cyber resilience of critical infrastructure.

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Department's work on cyberspace and digital policy.

We also cooperate with Allies and partners to disrupt and respond to malicious cyber activity. That includes work to **share intelligence** regarding malicious cyber techniques and ensure the global community is prepared to rapidly call out malicious cyber activity where appropriate. U.S. officials have met with colleagues across the region to discuss **cyber resilience** and **deterrence of cyber-attacks** and to ensure we are prepared to address any cyber-related contingency.

The global community must be prepared to shine a light on malicious cyber activity and be prepared to hold actors accountable. As President Biden has said repeatedly, **if Russia attacks** the United States or our Allies through asymmetric means, such as disruptive cyber activity targeting our companies or critical infrastructure, **we are prepared to respond.**

Human Rights & Assistance

“We’re not truly secure unless we come together to respect both the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries and the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people.”

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



Humanitarian Assistance

The United States closely coordinates with international partners to monitor the situation in Ukraine and works with those partners to address **humanitarian needs** in Ukraine and the region. We base our response on an **assessment of needs**, in coordination with the Government of Ukraine, the United Nations and other humanitarian partners and donors. Our humanitarian partners seek to effectively **deliver needs-based assistance** with impartiality, humanity, neutrality, and independence.

U.S. humanitarian assistance includes:

food,

safe drinking **water,**

shelter,

winterization services,

emergency **health care**, and

protection to communities affected by ongoing fighting.

We work closely with European allies and partners on the front lines of our response—as well as international organizations and NGOs—to lessen the human suffering caused by Russia’s further invasion of Ukraine.

The State Department engages diplomatically to support neighboring countries to keep their **borders open** to those seeking international **protection**, including those who may experience communication barriers with border agents because of disability or other factors.

As in any refugee situation, we call on members of the international community to respond to the needs of those seeking protection at their borders in a way that is consistent with the **principle of non-refoulement** and their respective obligations under international law.

What is the principle of non-refoulement?

Under international human rights law, the **principle of non-refoulement** guarantees that **no one** should be returned to a country where they would face torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and other **irreparable harm**. This principle **applies to all** migrants at **all times**, irrespective of migration status.

United Nations explains non-refoulement .

“We would far prefer a diplomatic path and diplomatic solution to the situation.”

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



Human Rights and Vulnerable Populations

The U.S. government supports organizations that work with **vulnerable populations** in Ukraine, including:

Russian and Belarusian **dissidents**,
journalists and anti-corruption **activists**,
members of the **LGBTQI+ community**,
women's groups,
persons with **disabilities**, and
religious and ethnic **minorities**.

During Russia's further invasion, we have encouraged all local US citizens to act on **contingency plans** to keep themselves and the people they work with **safe**.

We are in close contact with the government of Ukraine and international humanitarian organizations that serve displaced populations, including **refugees** and **internally displaced persons**. We continue to engage with these international organizations as well as support work to accommodate the needs of people in need of protection, including those who are particularly vulnerable to human rights abuses.

The U.S. government is:

monitoring the situation closely,
coordinating with other donors,
assessing the evolving humanitarian needs of the people of Ukraine, and
liaising with partners to ensure that they are able to rapidly scale up or adjust assistance should needs require.

We **support protection efforts** for members of groups vulnerable to human rights abuses, efforts to maintain **access to information**, and efforts to **document human rights violations and abuses** to hold perpetrators accountable. In some cases, we refer individuals to various **emergency assistance programs** that offer relocation, medical expenses, or other unexpected costs.

In addition to supporting vulnerable populations, we support **accountability** for **human rights offenders**. The world has witnessed the horrors of Bucha, Irpin, and Borodyanka. More abuses within temporarily occupied territories continue. Together with partners from academia, civil society, and allied governments, we **preserve evidence** of crimes to inform fact-finding missions and deter future violence.

[See independent research, supported by the U.S. government](#) .

Democracy & Culture

“We are resolute that a democratic, prosperous, and secure Ukraine is in the interest not only of the people of Ukraine, but also of the United States and the international community.”

ANTONY J. BLINKEN
SECRETARY OF STATE



Supporting Ukraine’s Independence and Future

The United States reaffirms its unwavering support for Ukraine’s **sovereignty** and **territorial integrity** within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters.

The U.S.-Ukraine relationship serves as a cornerstone for **security, democracy,** and **human rights** in Ukraine and the broader region.

We will continue to support Ukraine in its efforts to advance its **Euro-Atlantic aspirations** and to restore and secure Ukraine’s internationally recognized borders.

Lasting **peace** and **prosperity** require respect for the **sovereignty** of countries and for **human rights**. These principles are enshrined in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights—foundational documents that secure territorial integrity and individual dignity.

NATO has been the cornerstone of an unprecedented period of peace and prosperity for more than 70 years, while the **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)** remains the only fully inclusive trans-Atlantic/European/Eurasian political organization. Participating states are committed to upholding democracy, rule of law, human rights, tolerance, pluralism, and media freedoms.

Ukraine, Georgia, and all other states in Europe have the **right to choose** the best futures for their people—including through their work and aspiration to join the Euro-Atlantic community and NATO.

[LEARN MORE](#)

U.S. security cooperation with Ukraine.

Over thirty years ago, the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine’s legislature, made a bold choice, to chart a **new course for Ukraine** as an independent, democratic, and sovereign state **centered on European values**.

Ukraine won freedom from the Soviet Union’s totalitarian dictatorship because of the **Ukrainians’ love of liberty**. This love of liberty runs deep in Ukrainian history, since the days of Volodymyr the Great.

The United States and Ukraine share a desire for a bright and **prosperous future** for all Ukrainians. The United States remains determined to support Ukraine’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, and Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

“The United States has [supported] cultural preservation projects in Ukraine since 2001. This shows our respect for Ukrainian cultural heritage and Ukraine’s contributions to world culture.”



BILL TAYLOR

FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO
UKRAINE

For over 20 years, the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) has supported more than **1,000 projects** in **130+ countries**—including Ukraine.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Cultural preservation projects in Ukraine .
Protecting Ukraine's invaluable heritage.

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