



National Institute of  
Advanced Studies

# The War in Ukraine: Regional and Global Fallouts

*Report of a one-day national workshop organized by NIAS Europe Studies in collaboration with Kristu Jayanti College & KAS-India Office*

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NIAS Area Studies I Europe

Science, Technology and International Relations  
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### About NIAS Europe Studies



The Europe Studies at the National Institute of Advanced Studies is an academic initiative within the Programme on Science, Technology and International Relations. This is a part of the Institute's endeavour to build area studies within NIAS. The scope of NIAS Europe Studies includes reviewing contemporary geopolitics, security, human rights, climate change, as well as science and technology issues across Europe. Internal politics, democratic dividends and protests movements, trans-Atlantic alliances, regional integration, and the role of external actors such as China are a few niche areas of critical focus.

### About Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College



The Department of  
History at Kristu  
Jayanti College

was established in the 1999 with the objective of cultivating historical learning, critical thinking and research ability of the students. The department activities enable students to learn from the past and apply it to the present for the future growth and prosperity of the individual, society and nation. All activities aim at a synergy of Knowledge, Skills and Attitudinal development. The department of History through the updated curriculum, field visits, projects and experiential learning activities grooms students and enables holistic development.



### About KAS-India Office

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is a German political foundation. With 16 regional offices in Germany and over 120 offices abroad, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation is committed to the cause of peace, freedom and justice. In India, KAS has organised its program priorities into five working areas namely a vibrant Indo-German/European Political Dialogue, Foreign and Security Policy, Economic and Energy Policy, Rule of Law and Media. KAS takes great pride in executing jointly curated projects and programs with Indian partner organisations such as Think Tanks, Political Parties, Academia, Government and Non-Governmental Institutions.



# The War in Ukraine: Regional and Global Fallouts

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## Ukraine and beyond: What next for US and Europe?

**Dr Shreya Upadhyay**

Assistant Professor, Christ University, Bangalore

The key emphasis of the UK and Europe relations took place during the transition period from Donald Trump to Joe Biden. After looking into the developments, it is important to look into the issues relating to cooperation between the US and Europe during the war and analyse the future impact on the transatlantic ties. Biden's reversal policies have improved the US-EU equation in terms of trade, NATO, security, technology, and climate change. Along with this, the Ukraine war has helped progress the security cooperation between the two. Especially with the US efforts during the war in releasing the oil has helped Europe to reduce its energy dependency with Russia for a temporary period. Additionally, the Indo-Pacific di-

### About the Workshop

*On 23 May, NIAS Europe Studies, in collaboration with Kristu Jayanti College and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, India, organized a one-day national workshop on the theme "The war in Ukraine: Regional and global fallouts," at Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore.*

*The workshop was divided into three sessions, and participants across India presented on diverse topics such as the strategies of the US, Russia, Europe, China, and the UN on the war in Ukraine. Presenters also focused on key issues, such as energy and the impact of sanctions. Followed by the presentation, each session was debated by discussants from the NIAS Europe Studies team and Kristu Jayanti College.*





lemma, the need toward increasing maritime presence has gained renewed attention for cooperation between the US and Europe. Keeping Europe's security complacency, dependency issue with Russia, and the impact on Europe's economy due to sanctions imposed on Russia on one side, on the other US's fear for growing closeness between Russia and China, and the pressure to meet the demand for oil, the joint challenges faced by the US and the EU is best to be addressed together.

In the discussion round, the discussants provided their inputs on the presentation and the submitted paper. The discussants also suggested how the presenter could have looked at the individual equation between the US and Russia, and Europe and Russia in context of the war rather than looking at the transatlantic ties. They critiqued how the presentation could highlight the issues faced by the US and Europe due to war rather than restricting the focus on relations. Questions on the US, Europe and China triangle, future of US-Russia relations, impact of NATO's expansion and state of the refugees in Europe were posed to Dr Upadhyay. Apart from the discussants, other research scholars also posed queries on humanitarian aid and the US spendings, oil recession, future of supply chains, and the impact on climate change due to increased investments in security.

On bringing out the individual strategies, Dr Upadhyay responded that it would be tedious to look into individual perspectives and on the impact of sanctions. She added that economic isolation of Russia would be impossible to implement.

In terms of the equation between the US and Russia she suggested that although the on-ground situation might not be favourable, both will maintain good relations when it comes to space and diplomacy. On the question of refugees, she highlighted that the acceptance rate of Ukrainian refugees into the US and Europe was high due to their relatable appearance and adaptability to work conditions.

### **Ukraine and beyond: Russia's strategies towards the US**

**Dr Mohammed Sirajuddeen, Dr Kaveri Swami, and Sheezan Ahmed**

Assistant Professors, Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous), Bangalore

To understand Russia's strategies toward the US, a broad focus on the history of US-Russia needs to be analysed. Apart from the history, Russia's expansion, and Russia's strategies in the War in Ukraine towards Ukraine and Europe were strategic enough to shape the world order. NATO's expansion in the eastern Europe has now become a critical subject to discuss as it will have a future influence over relations between Russia and the US. The other potential areas of conflict between Russia and the US could be the Arctic Rivalry, which the Ukraine war will further complicate with NATO's expansion in the northern Europe. Lastly a probable strategy for Russia could be to re-enact the cold war and to bring back the sphere of influence in the region.



In the discussion session, both discussants and scholars critiqued the absence of the Russia-US equation in the presentation and posed questions on how would the US react to China growing close to Russia. The scholars also asked on what will be the state of democracy and how the authoritarian regime will be viewed by the democratic states such as Iran and China. Dr Sirajuddeen responded to the question of history, stating the history was focused in the paper to analyse the present war situation.

## Ukraine and beyond: What next for Russia and Europe?

**Dr Himani Pant,**  
Research Fellow, ICWA, New Delhi

Starting with the background implication on Russia and Europe, the situation in eastern Ukraine is becoming the most contested area in the war in Ukraine, and it will be the decider in the coming days of war. The focus points here are the increased military spending of European member States, Europe's plan of sanctions, Europe's energy dependency, food crisis, and how the blame game between the West and Russia would continue. On the effectiveness of ceasefire agreements, such deals would continue to fail similar to Minsk Accords and Normandy format dialogues. With the given situation where Russia nor NATO and the US are ready to withdraw, the war will continue to become a prolonged conflict. In possibility of a limited victory for Russia the east-west divide in Ukraine is likely to widen.

In the discussion round, the discussants suggested the areas where the paper can expand its focus from

looking only at the prospect of eastern Ukraine to covering the entire region, how the equation between NATO, the EU and Russia will change. Furthermore, suggestions on the developing divide amongst the EU states over economic dependency, oil embargo, impact of sanctions on Europe's economy and Russia's response to NATO's future expansion were discussed. The scholars present for the workshop posed various questions on the Baltics, EU's integration model, how technology could be a threat to the US, Europe and China and on currency clashes.

Responding to the question on the Baltics, Dr Pant stated how Russia did not have space to negotiate. She also highlighted factors responsible for the divide in Europe and with regard to the protests in Russia against the invasion, she suggested the continuation of protests as the only possibility till the war ends. Overall, Dr Pant provided a very comprehensive paper with a focus on the war situation and future escalations in eastern Ukraine.

## Europe: Between energy needs and sanctions on Russia

**Dr Karamala Areesh Kumar,**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science,  
St Joseph's College, Bangalore

Russia is the world's largest producer and exporter of natural gas and oil. Thus, it is important to examine the energy and oil pipeline networks that Russia uses, along with the history of disruptions to this vital supply chain. Russia has used its energy ex-





ports for two primary reasons. First, as a foreign policy instrument and second, as a revenue generator. Russia's relation with the EU has been predicated on its cheap oil, but now with the impending sanctions the future of energy export hangs in the balance. The rising security concerns in the region, especially NATO and its expansion in Europe, the impending sanctions by the EU on Russia, and the resultant energy crisis were also discussed.

The discussants brought out crucial points and queries about the paper's structure and the type of sources used. The discussants questioned the implications of the energy crisis due to the War in Ukraine. There were further suggestions that the pre-war energy crisis in Europe should also be examined. Questions on the impending sanctions on Moscow, the EU's preparation to mitigate the crisis, and Russia's tactics to deal with the surplus were raised in this session.

A scholar raised a question on the implications and effectiveness of sanctions by the West on Russia's energy industry. Concerning Europe's green energy transition bid, it was asked if the war might have influenced the increase in Russia's fossil fuel-based energy production. Additionally, a point of clarification was raised on the abandonment of climate change goals by the US and Europe due to the war. As this has led to backtracking of their policies to non-renewable energy sources. A scholar also asked if the war in Ukraine

was exacerbating the slowdown of the COVID-19 pandemic-affected export basket of Europe.

In response it was mentioned that energy alternatives, both pre and post-Ukraine war depended on the countries' capacity to afford it. Concerning the global order, it was suggested that the crisis might prompt the world to move towards a more regional world order. Another significant point that was reiterated was how NATO's expansion might influence Russia's foreign policy and that will affect the future of the war and Ukraine

## China: Between Ukraine, Europe, and Russia

**Ms Angelin Archana,**

*Assistant Professor, Women's Christian College, Chennai*

The presentation began with a comprehensive understanding of the conflict in Ukraine and China's position. The Power Transition theory was used to examine China's role, response and to explain the clash between a dominant actor and a rising power. China has had a gradual rise as Europe's largest trading partner while constructing a counter bloc to the US-led world order, by collaborating with Russia. The outcome of the collaboration as a concern was raised, given the conflict in Ukraine. China's aspirations to 'de-dollarise' the global market, and their hegemonic aspirations were also

touched upon.

The discussants brought out certain relevant points regarding the presentation. They suggested that the China-Lithuania issue can be investigated, along with what lies ahead for China given the Ukraine conflict. Additionally, it was suggested that if the crisis in Ukraine has caused any slow-down in China's economy was to be analyzed and stated in the paper.

A question was raised on the losses China would have to endure if they pledged their full-fledged support to Russia. Another query was on the possibility of China helping Russia circumvent the sanctions were raised. Other questions that came up were about how likely EU is to align with the Belt and Road Initiative, given Europe's anti-China sentiment, and how Xi Jinping might balance both Russia and the West. In response, it was stated that a slow and steady move away from the dollar is a legitimate possibility, under the current circumstances.

The audience also raised questions on how the war affected the situation in Taiwan, and if a similar situation can take place in the South China Sea, given the US's growing closeness. A question on the possibility of digital currency becoming the next mode of transaction was also raised. In response, reference was given to the steady rise of the digital currency stocks, and most nations are looking to develop this decentralised mode of transaction.

## Lessons from the Ukraine War: Effectiveness of Sanctions

**Dr Debangana Chatterjee,**

*Assistant Professor, Jain (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore*

The Russia and Ukraine war is hand in gloves with the international sanctions against Moscow. Russia anticipated sanctions and was prepared for them. Thus, three significant themes are highlighted: first, an overview of the sanctions and the contours of international politics in a historical context. Arguing that the patterns of the sanction caveats were also visible in the contemporary reflections of sanctions during the Russia and Ukraine war. Second, is the effectiveness of specific sanctions in the Russia and Ukraine war. Third, using sanctions as a political tool in the 2020s and its challenges. Racial tilting of the international sanctions regime was also an important aspect that further limited the effectiveness of sanctions.

The first discussant suggested the segregation of sanctions against Russia and the sanctions imposed by Moscow. The implications of the sanctions imposed and their repercussions on India, China, and Sri Lanka and their economies due to inflation was mentioned. The second discussant pointed out the classification of blocs that were imposing the sanctions to be added to further enhance the paper. Additionally, suggestions were given for a Russian response and a point of clarification on racial tilting.



Arguing how the blocs, such as the EU itself, was divided from within regarding sanctions against Russia. The instances of Moscow's responses to curb the sanctions sector-wise were mentioned concerning the Russian response to sanctions. About the racial tilting, the history of otherisation in the Cold War and how sanctions were not being imposed on countries like Saudi Arabia, hinted at a bias for Ukraine against Russia.

The audience raised queries on Russia circumventing sanctions, China as an essential factor in circumventing sanctions, and Moscow's use of overseas ports of Singapore, and the Maldives to circumvent sanctions. On this, the historical analysis of sanctions was agreed upon as there were many ways of it being used as loopholes in the imposition of embargoes. Moreover, sanctions imposition was restricted to only certain countries across the globe, which would also help Russia smoothly trade with then and circumvent the sanctions imposed.

## Lessons from the Ukraine War: Role of the UN

**Dr K Ravi Shankar,**

*Assistant Professor, Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous, Bangalore*

The UN's role in the Ukraine war was explained in detail, and that the UN had to play a crucial role in providing assured peaceful coexistence.

Furthermore, international organizations, policy-makers, world leaders, analysts, and researchers must work towards efforts and policies to assure and protect the right to live and promote peace, not expansionism. The UN charter could be used



as a structure to react to international disputes, deterring the escalation of the conflict.

The UN general assembly did take action to address the humanitarian crisis and also worked towards countering the aggression of the war. However, the UN did fail to guarantee peace in the war in Ukraine, but this was not the first time, as there were many similar incidents earlier. The objective failures of the UN are due to its structural and functional flaws, mainly due to the absolute veto power of Article 27.

Questions on the structural and functional flaws of the UN and the growing importance of regional organizations due to the war in Ukraine were raised, along with the UN's inability to act. Another question was raised on the UN's bias when it did not react to the Israeli actions in 1967 when it stated it would not leave the Sinai Peninsula. Furthermore, regional organizations will play a more important role in the future.

