

CURRICULUM RESOURCE
GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

2022 EU POLICY FORUM

*Europe, the European
Union, and Russia:
Navigating an
Uncertain Future*

August 17, 2022
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UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
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*Compiled By:
Ryan Hauck and
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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Outlining Standards | pp. 5-6 |
| Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards..... | p. 5 |
| College, Career, & Civic Life C3 Frameworks for Social Studies State Standards..... | p. 6 |
| Educating for Global Competence | p. 7 |
| Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) | p. 8 |
| Module 1: How Does the EU Actually Work & How Is It Changing in the Face of Russian Aggression in Ukraine | pp. 9-26 |
| Introduction to Session Speaker..... | p. 10 |
| Key Terms..... | p. 11 |
| Learning Objectives..... | p. 12 |
| The European Union (EU)..... | pp. 13-14 |
| Geography European Union | pp. 15-17 |
| Incorporating the EU into Your Curriculum..... | p. 18 |
| Historical Background Russia..... | p. 19 |
| Geography Russia..... | p. 20 |
| Historical Background Ukraine | p. 21 |
| The Russian Invasion of Ukraine..... | pp. 22-26 |
| Module 2: EU Economic & Energy Responses to Russia's Invasion of Ukraine | pp. 27-42 |
| Introduction to Session Speaker..... | p. 28 |
| Key Terms..... | p. 29 |
| Learning Objectives..... | p. 30 |
| EU Environmental Policy..... | pp. 31-32 |
| Europe's Sustainable Energy..... | pp. 33-35 |
| Economics & EU Sustainability..... | pp. 36-37 |
| How the Russian-Ukrainian War is Shifting the EU's Sustainability Goals..... | pp. 38-42 |
| Module 3: Russia's War Against Ukraine: Teaching Opportunities and Challenges | pp. 43-49 |
| Introduction to Session Speaker..... | pp. 44 |

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Key Terms..... | p. 45 |
| Learning Objectives..... | p. 46 |
| Shifting Perspectives of Russia Due to the War with Ukraine..... | p. 47 |
| The Russia-EU Relationship from the Russian Perspective..... | pp. 48-49 |
| Module 4: What To Do About Russia: Russia, the EU, & the International System..... | pp. 50-58 |
| Introduction to Session Speaker..... | p. 51 |
| Key Terms..... | p. 52 |
| Learning Objectives..... | p. 53 |
| Impacts of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine..... | p. 54 |
| The Role of International Organizations in Armed Conflict..... | p. 55 |
| Multilateral Perspectives on the Russian-Ukrainian War..... | pp. 56-57 |
| What To Do About Russia..... | p. 58 |
| BONUS LECTURE: Russia vs. 'Gayropa'? Russian Cultural Politics since the Conservative Turn..... | pp. 59-61 |
| Photo Bibliography..... | pp. 62-66 |
| Thank You to Our Sponsors..... | p. 66 |



Outlining Standards

A Note on Learning Standards Presented in this Guide

Three sets of standards have been linked to each of the learning objectives in this packet. The **Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards** and the accompanying Grade Level Requirements are the social studies standards for WA State.

The **College, Career, & Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards** are the standards published by the National Council for the Social Studies. Guiding the packet as a whole is the Framework for Global Learning created by the Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers titled *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (2011).

Cross-objective standards are listed at the beginning of the packet, and content-specific standards can be found after each learning objective.

The standards provided have been selected for relevance, but are not exclusive: many other standards, such as Common Core, may be applicable to the resources and learning objectives identified in this packet. The intention for this packet's organization is to provide educators with an idea of resources available and possible uses for resources. Users should feel free to create their own learning objectives and to select resources according to the specific needs of their classrooms.

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

WASHINGTON STATE K-12 SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING STANDARDS

There are five EALRs in Social Studies, one for each of the discipline areas: civics, economics, geography, and history, and a fifth for social studies skills.

(1) Social Studies EALR 1: CIVICS

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

(2) Social Studies EALR 2: ECONOMICS

The student applies understanding of economic concepts and systems to analyze decision-making and the interactions between individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies.

(3) Social Studies EALR 3: GEOGRAPHY

The student uses a spatial perspective to make reasoned decisions by applying the concepts of location, region, and movement and demonstrating knowledge of how geographic features and human cultures impact environments.

(4) Social Studies EALR 4: HISTORY

The student understands and applies knowledge of historical thinking, chronology, eras, turning points, major ideas, individuals, and themes on local, Washington State, tribal, United States, and world history in order to evaluate how history shapes the present and future.

(5) Social Studies EALR 5: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

Outlining Standards

COLLEGE, CAREER, & CIVIC LIFE C₃ FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL STUDIES STATE STANDARDS

The C₃ Framework is organized into the four Dimensions, which support a robust social studies program rooted in inquiry.

The four Dimensions are as follows:

- (1) Developing questions and planning inquiries;
- (2) Applying disciplinary concepts and tools;
- (3) Evaluating sources and using evidence;
- (4) Communicating conclusions and taking informed action

| DIMENSION 1: DEVELOPING QUESTIONS AND PLANNING INQUIRES | DIMENSION 2: APPLYING DISCIPLINARY TOOLS AND CONCEPTS | DIMENSION 3: EVALUATING SOURCES AND USING EVIDENCE | DIMENSION 4: COMMUNICATING CONCLU- SIONS AND TAKING INFORMED ACTION |
|---|--|---|---|
| Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civics• Economics• Geography• History | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gathering and Evaluating Sources• Developing Claims and Using Evidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions• Taking Informed Action |

Dimension 2 has four disciplinary subsections: **(1) Civics; (2) Economics; (3) Geography; (4) History**. Each disciplinary subsection has three to four additional categories, which provide an organizing mechanism for the foundational content and skills within each discipline.

C₃ Framework Organization

| CIVICS | ECONOMICS | GEOGRPAHY | HISTORY |
|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Civic and Political Institutions | Economic Decision Making | Geographic Representations: Special Views of the World | Change, Continuity, and Context |
| Participation and Deliberation: Applying Civic Virtues and Democratic Principles | Exchange and Markets | Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Religions, and Culture | Perspective |
| Processes, Rules, and Laws | The National Economy | Human Populations: Spatial Patterns and Movements | Historical Sources and Evidence |
| | The Global Economy | Global Interconnections: Changing Spatial Patterns | Causation and Argumentation |

Educating for Global Competence

Frameworks taken from *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers 2011).

“Global competence is the capacity and disposition to understand and act on issues of global significance” (Chapter 2).

Globally competent students are able to perform the following four competences:

1. **Investigate the world** beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.
2. **Recognize perspectives** others’ and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.
3. **Communicate ideas** effectively with diverse audiences, bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers.
4. **Take action** to improve conditions, viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively.



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The SDGs in Action

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

SDGs Working Group

These working groups engage young people in the work of GCE, providing the opportunity to have an active role in EU decision making and be heard on climate and environmental issues. Each working group is managed by two coordinators. The currently working groups are: Biodiversity, Circular Economy, Climate Justice, Clean Mobility, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The SDGs Explained For Business

No matter how large or small, and regardless of their industry, all companies can contribute to the SDGs. While the scale and scope of the global goals is unprecedented, the fundamental ways that business can contribute remain unchanged. The UN Global Compact asks companies to first do business responsibly and then pursue opportunities to solve societal challenges through business innovation and collaboration.



MODULE 1

HOW DOES THE EU ACTUALLY WORK AND HOW IS IT CHANGING IN THE FACE OF RUSSIAN AGGRESSION IN UKRAINE?

SESSION SPEAKER

Dr. Dean LaRue

Dr. Dean LaRue is a member of the founding team for the West Coast Model European Union, the primary instructor for the UW's European Union Policy and Simulation course since 2005.

Introduction to Session Speaker



Dr. Dean LaRue

Dean LaRue is a Senior Lecturer for the Center for West European Studies and European Union Center in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. Mr. LaRue holds a Master of Arts in Policy Studies and a Graduate Certificate in Global Trade, Transportation and Logistics from the University of Washington. He is a member of the founding team for the West Coast Model European Union, the primary instructor for the UW's European Union Policy and Simulation course since 2005, and a former Outreach Coordinator for CWES/EUC. Mr. LaRue is a former US Foreign Service Officer for the United States Information Agency and International Product Manager for Amazon.com.



Key Terms

European Union: international organization comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies. Originally confined to western Europe, the EU undertook a robust expansion into central and eastern Europe in the early 21st century. The treaty was designed to enhance European political and economic integration by creating a single currency (the euro), a unified foreign and security policy, and common citizenship rights and by advancing cooperation in the areas of immigration, asylum, and judicial affairs.

European Commission: an institution of the European Union (EU) and its constituent entities that makes up the organization's executive arm. The EC has legislative functions, such as proposing new laws for the European Parliament, and judicial functions, such as finding legal solutions to business and trade issues between countries within the EU.

Council of Europe: organization of European countries that seeks to protect democracy and human rights and to promote European unity by fostering cooperation on legal, cultural, and social issues. The Council of Europe addresses issues of common concern to its members, including human rights, crime prevention, drug abuse, environmental protection, bioethical issues, and migration. To manage these affairs, the council has devised more than 160 international agreements, treaties, and conventions that have replaced literally tens of thousands of bilateral treaties between various European states.

Sovereignty: the idea that states claim the right to be judges in their own controversies, to enforce by war their own conception of their rights, to treat their own citizens in any way that suits them, and to regulate their economic life with complete disregard for possible repercussions in other states. International bodies (like the United Nations) have limited the reach of state sovereignty by requiring states to act with the consent of its citizens and to settle international disputes without the threat of force.

Sanctions: actions that are taken or an order that is given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, not allowing economic aid for that country, imposing travel or visa restrictions, restricting loans or credit for certain people, and more. These actions can be taken by individual states or intergovernmental organizations like the EU.

Euro Area: the group of Member States that have replaced their national currencies with the single currency – the euro. The European Central Bank defines the monetary policy for the whole euro area, giving it a single monetary authority and a single monetary policy with the primary objective to maintain price stability to achieve overall stability, growth and employment.

Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to explain the origin of the European Union and describe how its institutions have developed since 1957. In addition, students will be able to explain why the EU has chosen to add new members over the past several decades.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and/or explain the primary goals, aims, and values of the European Union.
- 3). Students will be able to identify and analyze specific political, economic, and social challenges faced by the European Union over the past 20 years. In addition, students will be able to describe how EU policymakers have attempted to address some of those challenges.
- 4). Students will be able to identify and assess how the European Union has responded to the recent conflict between Russia and Ukraine. In addition, students will be able to evaluate how the war in Ukraine has influenced the EU, politically, economically, and socially.
- 5). Students will be able to identify and evaluate how domestic and foreign policy decisions are made within the European Union. In addition, students will be able to describe the EU's international role in addressing global issues.
- 6). Students will be able to analyze and discuss political cartoons that characterize the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Guiding Questions for Educators

1. How does this topic fit into the context of your curriculum? Strategies for bringing this into the classroom?
2. What enduring understandings do you want your students to learn from this topic/issue? Key concepts, skills, and ideas?
3. Application to 4 pillars of global competence? How would you connect the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the response by the European Union to Asia Society's 4 pillars of global competence?

[illegible]

An animated short (6 minutes) film explaining how democracy works in the EU and the European Parliament. This introductory video will help students learn of the basic structures and processes of the EU.

The European Union (EU)

[EU Symbols](#)

Symbols of the European Union include its blue flag with a circle of yellow stars, but it also has an anthem and motto.



[History—Consilium](#)

The European Council, one of the main governing institutions of the European Union, has selected pivotal

events that have shaped the EU following its creation after World War II. This webpage features an interactive timeline with images, key treaties, policies, and enlargements, as well as several videos and a documentary tracing the history of the European Council.

[#EUArchives—50 Years of the EU in the World](#)

With images and videos from the archives of the European Union, this video from the European Commission showcases how the EU has changed the face of Europe with increased stability and prosperity across the region.

[EU Learning—Introduction](#)

Intended for enriching Canadian secondary school students about the European Union, this launchpad from Carleton University provides all secondary school educators resources about the history, politics, economics, and culture of the EU as well as lesson plans, programs, and games.

[Resources For Teachers](#)

Straight from the European Union itself, this page offers lesson plans divided by age group, for students 9-15+. Ranging from videos and presentation slides to teaching kits, brochures, and more, these EU-approved learning materials are an asset to learning about the history of the union.

[Learning Corner: A Short Guide to the EU \(2021\)](#)

This document provides a short guide to the EU. From introduction - "Ever wondered which EU countries use the euro or what it means to be part of the Schengen area? What the European Green Deal is and how it will make your life better? What exactly does the EU do for you and where the money comes from to pay for it all? Read on to find out everything you need to know about the EU."

Geography | European Union



[Europe in a Global Context: Geographical Perspectives](#)

Columbia University's journal, EuropeNow, gives a thorough history and description of the geography's uses and significance in understanding Europe's politics, especially in the last century. It provides a background for subjects that would become paramount to the European Union's policymaking, including the European Green Deal, geography in economics, and Europe's success in achieving the UN SDGs. The source also explores the relationship between the European Union and the European Association of Geographers (EUROGEO).

[European Union Maps](#)

Maps depicting the various enlargements of the European Union, the total number EU member states (prior to Brexit), and some candidate countries provide a great visual for students to understand the breadth of EU territory and its role across the 20 and 21st centuries.

Geography | European Union



[Geography: The Language of Europe](#)

The Royal Geographical Society has put together a cross-cultural lesson plan outline for introducing the geography of the European Union. It focuses on understanding which countries are in the EU, what the EU's primary goals are and why, and how the EU prioritizes unity in light of its diversity.



[The Geography of EU Discontent](#)

In response to the growing opposition to the European Union, the EU conducted a study to determine which constituents and geographical areas were more likely to have discontent with the EU. They looked at demographics pertaining to region, age, education levels, and more. This source also has an interesting interactive map.



[Learn Europe—Educational Open E-Tools](#)

This website gives a teaching guide (lesson planning resource) for educators who wish to teach about the foundations of the European Union through geography, history, and the economy. It also provides topics (e.g. energy policy, fisheries policy, sustainable development) for classroom debates, mirroring the conversations being held among the EU.

Did You Know?

There are 24 official languages in the European Union. The most commonly used are English, French, and German!



Geography Activity



[Learning Corner: Play-Teach-Discover the European Union](#)

This site by the EU provides students with opportunities (many interactive) to learn more about the European Union. Students can play games, examine an EU development timeline, and the site provides materials for primary and secondary students.



CAN YOUR STUDENTS NAME THE NATIONS OF THE EU AND EUROPE?

HAVE YOUR STUDENTS IDENTIFY THE NATIONS ON THE MAP IN SMALL GROUPS OR AS A CLASS.

HOW DO THEY THINK EUROPE'S GEOGRAPHY MIGHT IMPACT ITS CLIMATE POLICY?

Incorporating the EU into Your Curriculum



[EU Online Training Videos: EU Governance and Policy Challenges - Jean Monnet EU Center and the Center for West European Studies at the University of Washington](#)

Whether you are someone looking for more information about the European Union or a student brushing up on your knowledge in preparation of Model EU, you've come to the right place! In this training, you will find an engaging and thorough overview of the European Union and current challenges it faces. Professor Dean LaRue starts at the beginning with big-picture questions such as "How can we define 'Europe?'" before diving into the unique, complex, and ever-evolving European experiment known as the EU.



[Teaching the EU Toolkits \(Center for European Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill\)](#)

The Center for European Studies at UNC-CH has updated Teaching the EU Toolkits. CES has a 20-year history of providing outreach materials and professional development in contemporary Europe. This Teacher Toolkit is designed to help you create lessons about Europe's geography, people, and politics and the European Union. At the end of each chapter, they have linked to several potential lesson plans – for various grade levels – that you can use to teach about different issues. These have been created by CES staff, UNC faculty, and North Carolina teachers. They compiled a list of additional resources and external links.



Historical Background | Russia



[Russia –Britannica](#)

Russia, country that stretches over a vast expanse of eastern Europe and northern Asia. Once the preeminent republic of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.; commonly known as the Soviet Union), Russia became an independent country after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in December 1991.



[How to Kill a Superpower: Lessons from the USSR \(Harvard University, Nov. 2021\)](#)

A scientist, an Irish poet, and a man who slips between the raindrops walk into a hunting lodge in the Belavezha Forest in Soviet Belarus. They don't know it yet, but they are about to kill a superpower. This five-part podcast tells the story of the mysterious weekend in December 1991 that ended with the dissolution of the Soviet Union.



[15 Minute History—Episode 68: The Russian Empire on the Eve of World War \(May 2015\)](#)

World War I is often described as “the war to end all wars,” a global conflagration unprecedented in human society whose outbreak reshaped the face of Europe, and led to the collapse of the Russian Empire and the rise of the Soviet Union. But did the war really come out of nowhere? What else was going on in Europe—and around the world—that led to the outbreak of this “global” conflict?



[The Origins of Russia - Summary on a Map \(GeoHistory, Youtube, Jun. 2021\)](#)

Retrace on maps the first origins of Russia, from the creation of Novgorod during the IXth century, until the end of the Time of Troubles and the beginning of the Romanov dynasty.

Geography | Russia



[Map of Russia](#)



The map shows the Russian Federation, which came into existence on 25 December 1991, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The country, commonly known as Russia, is located partly in eastern Europe and partly in northern Asia, bordering the Arctic Ocean in the north. Russian Federation is the new name of the country of what is left of the Soviet Union, after the breakaway of some of its republics.

Historical Background | Ukraine



[State of Ukraine from NPR](#)

With reporters on the ground, conversations with politicians and officials, and breakdowns of what's going on, we'll bring you everything you need to know about the Russian invasion of Ukraine, multiple times a day. We'll discuss the conflict's past, its possible futures, and what each new development means for the rest of the world.

[A Historical Timeline of Post-Independence Ukraine—PBS \(Feb. 2022\)](#)

Ukraine has been dogged by corruption scandals, economic mismanagement, and Russian interference since it achieved independence in 1991. Russian threats have intensified as Ukraine's ties with the United States and Europe have improved in recent years.



[A Brief History Of Ukraine \(And Why Russia Wants To Control It\) \(Youtube, March, 2022\)](#)

In this animated video, historian Matt Lewis tells the story of Ukraine's turbulent and often surprising history. Beginning over a thousand years ago with the formation of the Kyivan Rus state, Matt tracks the development of Ukraine during the Mongol invasions, its incorporation into the Polish and Lithuanian Commonwealth, and eventually its allegiance with the tsars of a newly formed Russia.



[The History of the Conflict Between Russia & Ukraine \(Fluentize, Feb. 2022\)](#)

In this ESL lesson plan for adults and teens, students watch a news report video and do a listening exercise about the history of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. It includes discussion questions and conversation activities about war and the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Students also learn some important vocabulary terms from the video. The post-viewing section includes activities on a quote from the video, vocabulary context usage, and rewriting sentences. The grammar activity features the usage of the past perfect and the present perfect. There are additional speaking and listening tasks included, as well as a quiz and review section.



The Russian Invasion of Ukraine



Political Map of Ukraine, Europe



Classroom Resources to Teach about War in Ukraine

As events unfold in Ukraine, teachers will be asked questions to help students understand current events in real-time. For some students, these events may seem disconnected from their everyday lives; for others, these events may be very close to home. Teachers will not have all of the answers to student questions, but we can be present, listen, respond with accurate information, and provide support to students to process these events. Here are some resources that can help.

The Russian Invasion of Ukraine



[Six Maps Explaining the Ukraine-Russia Conflict \(CNN, February, 25, 2022\)](#)

The brief article utilizes six maps to help explain and provide context for the Russian invasion of Ukraine. They are useful in helping students better understand the geography of the region and provides context for the conflict.

[EU Response to Russian Aggression in Ukraine \(July 25, 2022\)](#)

This link from the European Council provides an overview of the following: How did the war in Ukraine start? What does the EU say about Russia's invasion of Ukraine? What measures has the EU taken against Russia (The EU has adopted **six packages of sanctions** in response to the recognition of the non-government controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and Russia's unprecedented and unprovoked military attack on Ukraine)? How is the EU supporting Ukraine and the Ukrainian People? How is the EU responding to the war's market impact?

[Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Changes Everything \(Carnegie Europe, February 25, 2022\).](#)

This article from Carnegie Europe provides different perspectives on the impact of Russia's invasion in Ukraine on European security.

TEACHER TALK: TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Learning about diplomatic tools helps students recognize the wide array of options available to nations and international organizations as they attempt to accomplish their goals. In the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, students could identify, evaluate and discuss how sanctions (diplomatic tool) have been implemented by individual countries and international organizations, such as the EU, to pressure Russia to withdraw from Ukraine. As part of this activity, students could analyze where and how sanctions have been used in the past, whether or not they have been effective, and if they will succeed in changing Russia's decisions or policies. Students could also consider other diplomatic tools being used, evaluate their pros and cons, and suggest alternatives. Teachers could also present other scenarios in which students take on the role of policymakers in deciding how to address a global issue.

The Russian Invasion of Ukraine



[Russia's Aggression: European Perspectives and Responses \(Wilson Center, March 3, 2022\).](#)

This video highlights European perspectives and responses from three different individuals (two political scientists and one Lithuanian politician). It was a discussion sponsored by the Wilson Center and gives insights into the conflict. For example, "as fighting between Russia and Ukraine intensifies, at-

tention has been focused on the global community and its responses to the war. A sense of European weakness in the face of Russia's aggression and concern for the future of other former members of the Soviet empire—most notably the Baltics—has grown. In this event, we considered European perspectives and responses to the war and how EU's most vulnerable Eastern European members can protect themselves."

[Preventing a Wider European Conflict \(Council on Foreign Relations, March 8, 2022\)](#)

This article discusses how to prevent Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine from escalating into a wider European conflict. Thomas Graham recommends that the U.S. bolster its deterrence efforts with NATO partners, while leaving the door open for Russia to de-escalate.

[How the Russian invasion of Ukraine has transformed Europe and the EU \(NPR, March 16, 2022\).](#)

This NPR interview focuses on how the Russian invasion of Ukraine has changed Europe and the European Union. It emphasizes that Europe is a fractious continent, where decision-making can be slow and bureaucratic. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has spurred Europe and its leading institution, the EU, to unprecedented action. This interview goes into some basic details as to how the EU has responded and how it has prompted change within the EU community.



The Russian Invasion of Ukraine

[Policy Brief: Peace versus Justice: The coming European split over the war in Ukraine \(European Council on Foreign Relations, June 15, 2022\).](#)

In the first 100 days of Russia's war on Ukraine, European public opinion helped to solidify Europe's political response. But a new poll reveals that diverging public preferences could weaken this unity. ECFR's research shows that, while Europeans feel great solidarity with Ukraine and support sanctions against Russia, they are split about the long-term goals. They divide between a "Peace" camp (35 percent of people) that wants the war to end as soon as possible, and a "Justice" camp that believes the more pressing goal is to punish Russia (22 per cent of people). In all countries, apart from Poland, the "Peace" camp is larger than the "Justice" camp. European citizens worry about the cost of economic sanctions and the threat of nuclear escalation. Unless something dramatically changes, they will oppose a long and protracted war. Only in Poland, Germany, Sweden, and Finland is there substantial public support for boosting military spending. Governments will need to find a new language to bridge the gap between these emerging camps, in order to strengthen European unity and avoid polarization between and within countries. The key will be to present arms deliveries and sanctions as part of a defensive war.

[What Does Europe Look Like 3-7 Years After Russia's War in Ukraine? \(Center for European Policy Analysis, May 24, 2022\).](#)

The Russian invasion of Ukraine is an existential crisis and direct challenge to the international security order. As long as President Vladimir Putin reigns in the Kremlin, Russia will pose the primary security threat to Western interests and global order. This means that Europe and the United States will not be able to choose the long-term challenge of China over the threat of Russia: the alliance will have to address both at the same time. The US will be more involved in the European theater, despite the need to balance force posture requirements in the Indo-Pacific. The US will likely prioritize land capabilities in Europe, given the naval and marine assets needed in the Indo-Pacific – although air assets will need to be split between both.



The Russian Invasion of Ukraine



[Lesson Plan: The Ukraine Crisis \(Choices Program, Brown University, February, 2022\)](#)

This lesson plan from the Choices Program at Brown University provides teachers and students with an opportunity to:

- Explore the current situation in Ukraine and its historical origins;
- Analyze political cartoons that depict the Ukrainian crisis;
- Identify the techniques used by cartoonists to express political opinion;
- Monitor the Ukrainian crisis and consider international responses.

This lesson also includes the analysis of political cartoons. [Here is a slide collection of political cartoons selected by Choices for student activities of the Ukraine Crisis.](#)

For more background and ideas for teaching with political cartoons, explore these two websites:

<https://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/analyzing-purpose-meaning-political>

(ReadWriteThink/NCTE)

<https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/resources-for-educators/classroom-resources/lessons-and-activities/lessons/9-12/drawing-political-cartoons/> (The Kennedy Center)

TEACHER TALK: TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Using political cartoons in the classroom is a great way to cultivate critical thinking, recognize diverse perspectives, and detect bias. You can use political cartoons as a warm-up activity that fosters whole class discussion or have students work in small groups to analyze a series of cartoons as the main part of your lesson. After students have evaluated and discussed the political cartoons during small and large group instruction, students could create their own political cartoons on the topic or another local, national, or global issue important to them. **Note:** The links on this page are a good place to start as you incorporate political cartoons into your classroom instruction.

MODULE 2


EU Economic and Energy Responses to Russia's Invasion of Ukraine



WAR

SESSION SPEAKER

Scott L. Montgomery, *author, geoscientist, and affiliate faculty member in the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington.*



Introduction to Session Speaker



Scott Montgomery

Scott L. Montgomery is an author, geoscientist, and affiliate faculty member in the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington. He writes and lectures on a wide variety of topics related to energy (geopolitics, technology, resources, climate change), American politics, intellectual history, language and communication, and the history of science. He is a frequent contributor to online journals such as *The Conversation*, *Forbes*, and *Fortune*, and his articles and op-eds are regularly featured in many outlets, including *Newsweek*, *Marketwatch*, *The Huffington Post*, and *UPI*. He also gives public talks and serves on panels related to issues in global energy and their relation to political and economic trends and ideas of sustainability. For more than two decades, Montgomery worked as a geoscientist in the energy industry, writing over 100 scientific papers and 70 monographs on topics related to oil and gas, energy technology, and industry trends. Montgomery is the author of 12 books and is currently pursuing several areas of research, including the role of Enlightenment ideas in present-day American politics, as well as the future of petroleum and its role in geopolitics and climate change.

Key Terms

Green/Environmental Taxation: tax measures that either impose a tax cost on some product or activity that is environmentally damaging, or that give a tax benefit to some product or activity that is environmentally beneficial

Carbon Neutrality: net zero CO₂ emissions; a state of balance between the CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere and the CO₂ removed from the atmosphere; in business practices, carbon neutrality is often used to include all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions when referring to emissions reduction targets

Green Architecture: philosophy of architecture that advocates sustainable energy sources, the conservation of energy, the reuse and safety of building materials, and the siting of a building with consideration of its impact on the environment. In the early 21st century the building of shelter (in all its forms) consumed more than half of the world's resources.

Emissions Trading: an environmental policy that seeks to reduce air pollution efficiently by putting a limit on emissions, giving polluters a certain number of allowances consistent with those limits, and then permitting the polluters to buy and sell the allowances. The trading of a finite number of allowances results in a market price being put on emissions, which enables polluters to work out the most cost-effective means of reaching the required reduction.

Nord Stream Pipeline: an offshore natural gas pipeline that runs under the Baltic Sea from Russia to Germany. It includes Nord Stream 1, which runs from Vyborg in northwestern Russia (near Finland), and Nord Stream 2 that runs from Ust-Luga (near Estonia) to Lubmin in northeastern Germany. It has been recently denied certification due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

REPowerEU: this is the name of the new European Plan to save energy, produce clean energy, and diversify energy supplies. It was created by the European Commission in response to the hardships and global energy market disruptions caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The REPower EU plan is intended to reduce European dependence on Russian fossil fuels.

European Green New Deal: the EU Green Deal aims to make Europe climate neutral by 2050, boost the economy through green technology, create sustainable industry and transport, and cut pollution. The goal is to turn climate and environmental challenges in opportunities that will make the transition just and inclusive all.

Climate Neutrality: this is the concept that refers to the idea of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by balancing those emissions so they are equal or less than the emissions that get removed. Climate neutrality is often cited as a goal of individuals and nations to reach environmental sustainability.

Energy Security: the connection between national security and the availability of natural resources for energy consumption in society. It focuses on short and long-term solutions related to energy affordability and uninterrupted access to supplies in varied forms.

Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to describe and assess the European Union's reliance on Russian energy (oil and natural gas). In addition, students will analyze potential policies (and their consequences) to reduce EU member states' dependence on Russian energy resources.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and analyze the EU's economic and energy responses to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In addition, students will be able to assess the political and economic consequences of those policy responses on Russia and individual member states.
- 3). Students will be able to evaluate how current EU climate goals/policies will be affected by decisions made to reduce European reliance on Russian energy resources.
- 4). Students will be able to define the European Commission's REPowerEU Plan and analyze how this plan will accelerate clean energy transition, save energy, and diversify energy resources.
- 5). Students will be able to interpret maps and graphs to evaluate the impact of Russian energy exports to the European Union.



EU Environmental Policy



Environment for Europeans

EU citizens benefit from some of the highest environmental standards in the world. The EU and national governments have set clear objectives to guide European environment policy until 2020 and a vision beyond that, of where to be by 2050, with the support of dedicated research programmes, legislation and funding.



Climate Change: What the EU is Doing

The EU has adopted ambitious legislation across multiple policy areas to implement its international commitments on climate change. EU countries have set binding emission targets for key sectors of the economy to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Putting a Price on Pollution

The New York Time's Daily Podcasts discusses the new environmental policies from the EU. The European Commission, the E.U.'s executive arm, recently introduced ambitious legislation aimed at sharply cutting emissions to slow down climate change within the next decade, specifically by weaning one of the world's biggest and most polluting economies off fossil fuels. But can it generate the political will to see it through?



Green Taxation—In Support of a More Sustainable Future

As part of the European Green Deal, the EU has set out ambitious targets to tackle climate change and foster a cleaner environment, aiming for a 55% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and to become a climate-neutral continent by 2050. As we work towards these objectives, green taxation can play an active and positive role in support of other EU climate and energy policies such as the EU Emission Trading System.



The EU Climate Law Explained

The European Commission tabled its much-awaited Climate Law in March this year, in a bid to carve into stone Europe's objective of becoming the first climate-neutral continent in the world by 2050. EURACTIV explains what the Climate Law does, how it works and what its criticisms are.



EU Environmental Policy



[EU Climate Change Policy](#)

This lesson plan has four parts and teacher instructions: Part 1: EU Climate Change Overview; Part 2: EU Domestic Policy; Part 3: EU International Climate Change Policy; Part 4: Strategy of EU Member States and Canada



[Eurostat—Environmental Statistics](#)

Eurostat provides a range of statistics and accounts about the state of the environment and the drivers, pressures and impacts of our societies on the environment. In this section, you find information about: Air emissions; Biodiversity; Energy accounts; Environmental protection; Environmental sector; Hazardous substances; Material flows and resource productivity; Taxes; Water. Eurostat statistics support policies about climate change, the circular economy, sustainable development, biodiversity and natural capital, among others.



[A European “Model” Defined by Public Policies - European Environmental Policy](#)

Despite its primarily economic origins and its belated concern for the environmental issues, the EU became, after 1972, one of the major international actors in the protection of the environment. Recognized in treaties from 1986 onwards, environmental policy was organized around the notion of sustainable development and gave rise to a strong legislative agenda and the establishment of structures of information, financing and control on a European level. In so doing, the EU found a new form of legitimation.



Europe's Sustainable Energy

The Green Revolution: "The EU Must Not Fail" - Juan Espadas

Finding a balance between all the different needs of European territories will be challenging, but this is a very important reason why, maybe more than ever, local and regional authorities need to be involved in the decisions to make sure the responses decided at European level match with the reality on the ground. The way forward is to find complementarity and synergies between protecting human lives, economic recovery and moving towards climate neutrality, getting EU citizens on board by providing them with quick results in terms of sustainable jobs. The EU needs to turn this crisis into a new beginning by organizing our recovery within the Green Deal framework.

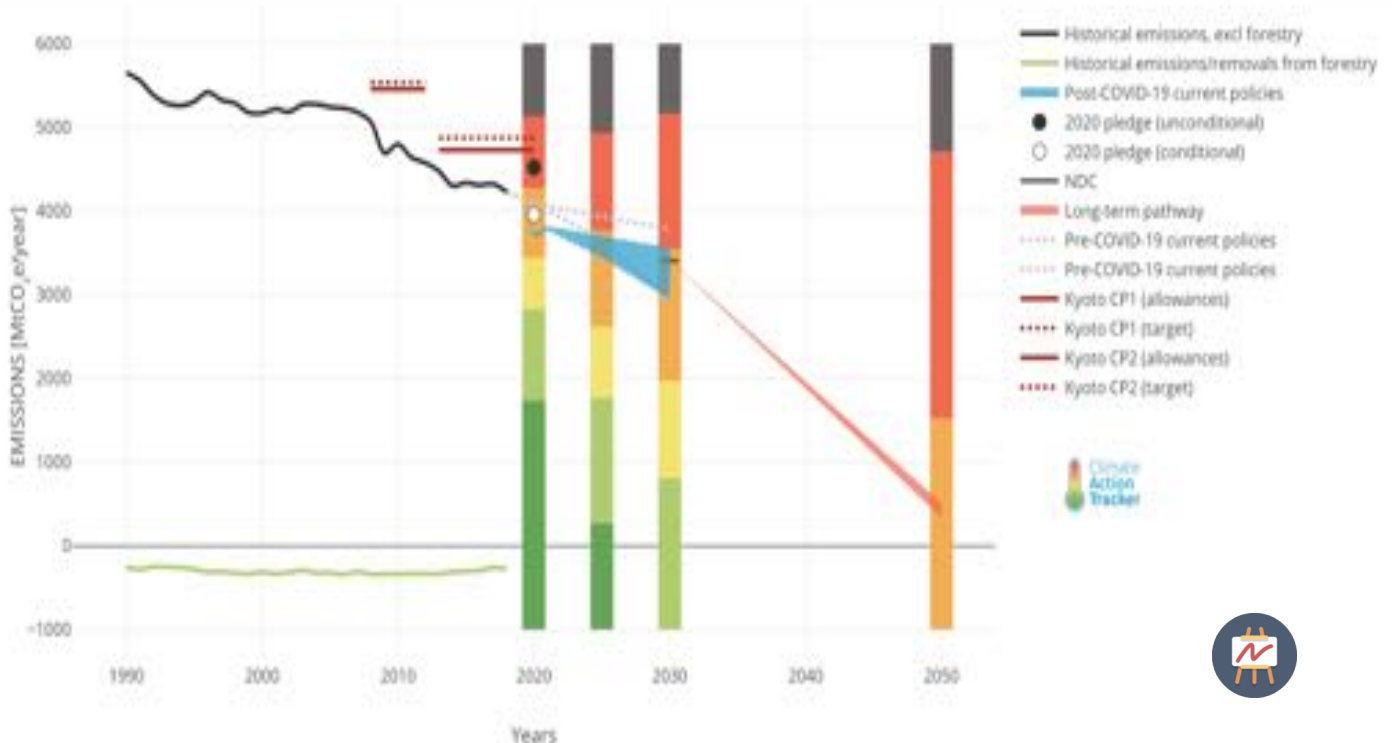
Europe's Plan to Become the First Carbon-Neutral Continent

President of the European Commission, Ursula Von Der Leyen states her goal for a carbon-neutral Europe. "In the European Union, we have a good record of turning ambitions into successes. We are a political and economic union with 27 countries and the total population of 450 million people. On the ashes of two world wars, we have secured lasting peace among us. From a divided continent, we have created a union without borders. And I strongly believe we can also achieve our next challenge: becoming the first carbon-neutral continent."



Optimal and Sustainable: Renewable Energy Revamp Lesson Plan

In this lesson, students will be challenged with an optimization problem. The fictitious town of Solutionville has decided to replace coal, their current source for electricity, with more sustainable energy sources. In designing Solutionville's sustainable energy future, students must consider not only the geographic constraints of various renewable energy options—wind energy, hydroelectric power, geothermal energy, and solar energy—but they must also meet specific energy production requirements and budgetary constraints.

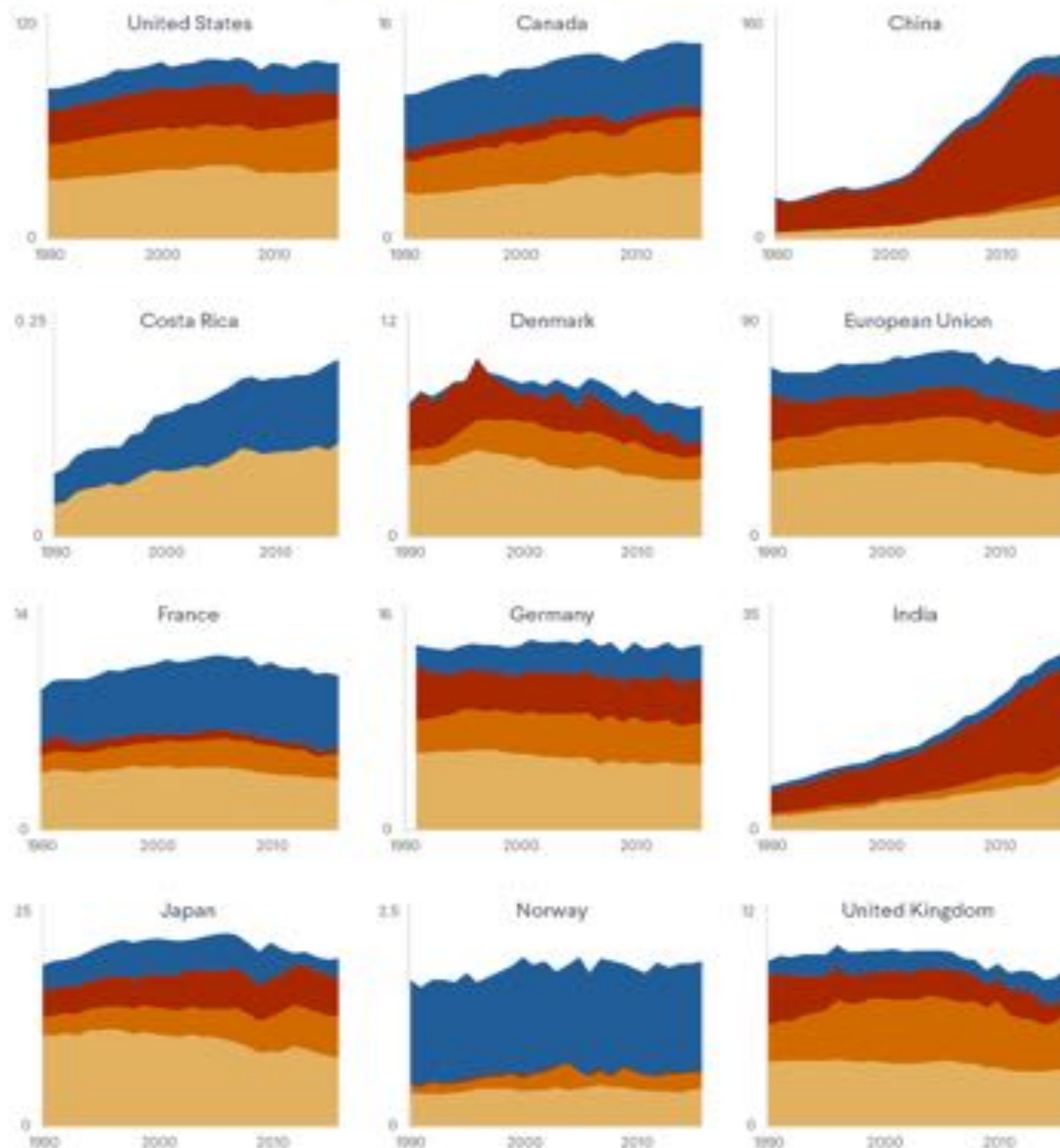


Different Approaches to Energy

Energy sources of selected countries (quadrillion British thermal units)



● Nuclear, renewables, and other ● Coal ● Natural gas ● Petroleum and other liquids



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration.

COUNCIL
FOREIGN
RELATIONS

Europe's Sustainable Energy



Towards a Greener and More Sustainable Europe

EU citizens benefit from some of the highest environmental standards in the world. The EU and national governments have set clear objectives to guide European environment policy until 2020 and a vision beyond that, of where to be by 2050, with the support of dedicated research programmes, legislation and funding.



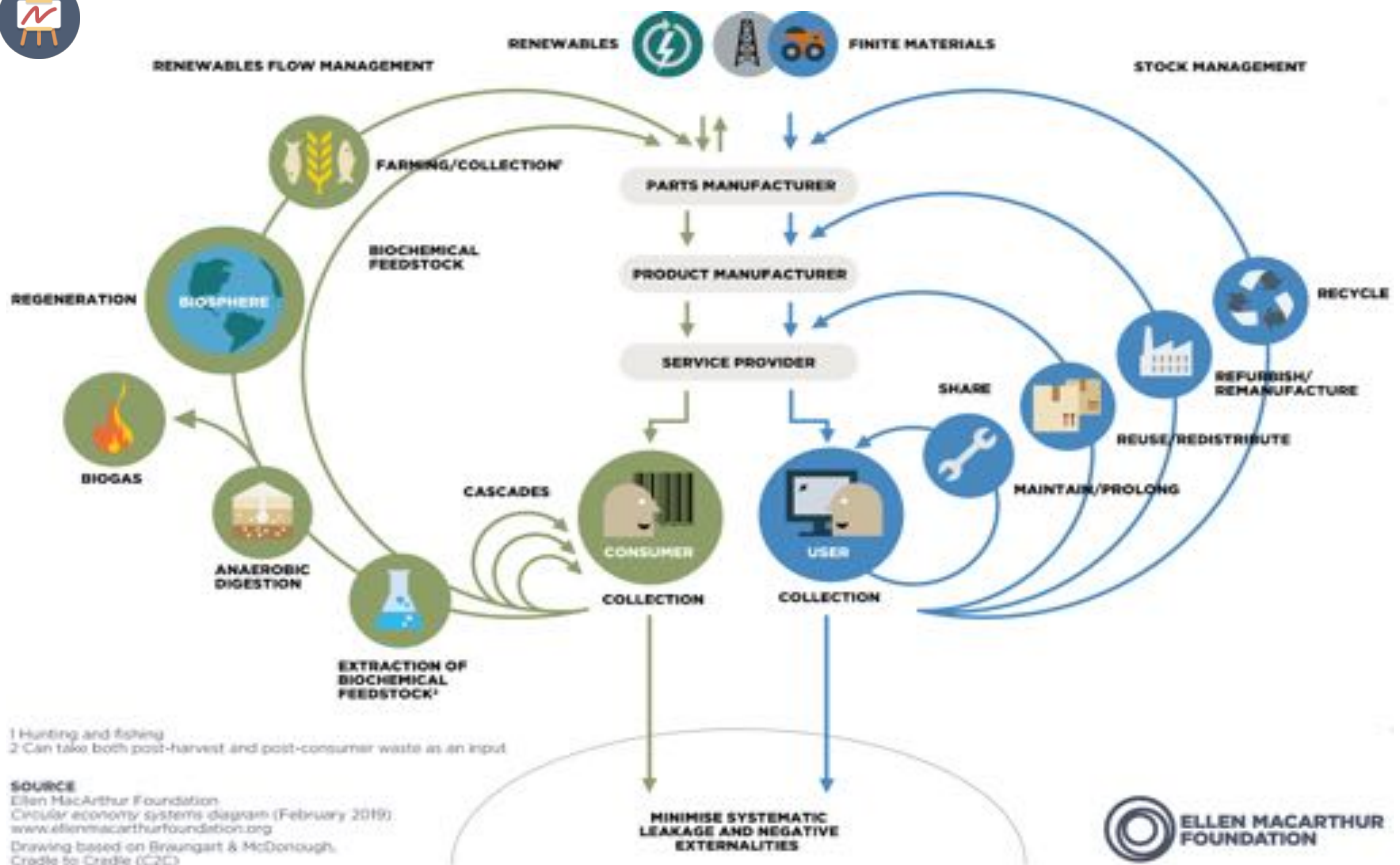
What is the Environmental Implementation Review?

EU citizens consider environmental protection to be of crucial importance. The European Union has some of the most ambitious environmental protection rules and policies in the world. However, their proper implementation remains a major cause of concerns to society. In April 2019, the European Commission published a set of reports on the state of implementation of environmental laws in Europe: the Environmental Implementation Review.



Circular Economy Explained

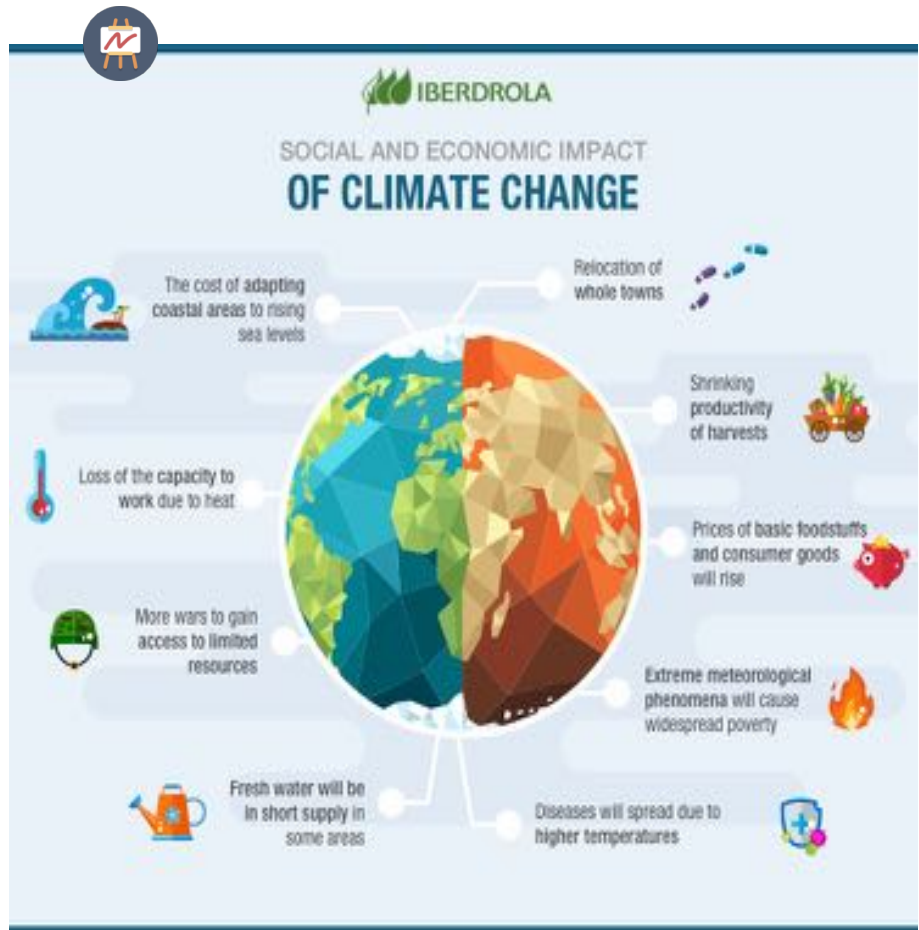
The circular economy is all about identifying and closing loops so as to create self-sustaining systems where producers and consumers are closely coupled to enable constant feedback. For example, food production, consumption, and disposal might be organized to be part of the same closed cycle. In a circular system resource input and waste, emissions, and energy leakage are minimized by slowing, closing, and narrowing energy and material loops; this can be achieved through long-lasting design, maintenance, repair, reuse, remanufacturing, refurbishing, or recycling. This is a regenerative approach where things are being constantly repurposed to serve new functions.



Economics & EU Sustainability

[Europe's External Energy Policy: Between Geopolitics and the Market](#)
(Center for European Policy Studies, November 2007)

While energy security has gradually been incorporated into the EU's foreign policy calculus, the declared approach of extending a nexus of 'market-governance' energy norms has been realised only to a limited extent. The EU has eschewed a comprehensively political approach to energy security, with its energy security policy currently hovering ineffectively between market and geopolitical approaches. The EU needs to address more effectively the way in which governance structures in



[World Economy Set to Lose Up to 18% GDP from Climate Change](#) (Swiss Re Group, April 22, 2021)

Climate change poses the biggest long-term threat to the global economy. If no mitigating action is taken, global temperatures could rise by more than 3°C and the world economy could shrink by 18% in the next 30 years. But the impact can be lessened if decisive action is taken to meet the targets set in the Paris Agreement, Swiss Re Institute's new Climate Economics Index shows. This will require more than what is pledged today; public and private sectors will play a crucial role in accelerating the transition to net zero.

[How Europe's Ambitious New Climate Agenda will Effect Businesses](#) (NY Times, October 29, 2021)

The European Union's plan to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by more than half by the end of the decade will touch almost every industry in the trade bloc, with profound consequences for jobs and the bloc's economy. European leaders said the climate package presented on Wednesday could put Europe at the forefront of new technologies like electric car batteries, offshore wind generation or aircraft engines that run on hydrogen. The far-reaching plan to reduce the trade bloc's carbon footprint includes tougher mandates for automakers, steel makers, airlines, energy producers and other industries.

Economics & EU Sustainability



93%
of Europeans

see **climate change** as a serious problem.



93%
of Europeans

have taken at least one **action**
to tackle climate change.



92%
of Europeans

agree that greenhouse gas emissions should
be reduced to a minimum in order to make the
EU economy climate neutral by 2050.



How to Balance the Trade-off between Economic Development and Climate Change?

Climate change is not only an environmental issue but also a development problem. Maintaining rapid economic development while simultaneously mitigating climate change is a pivotal and challenging task. Previous studies mainly focused on testing the validity of the environmental Kuznets hypothesis but ignored the internal influencing mechanism. This paper extends the past work in three aspects. First, we theoretically discuss the interaction of the scale, structure and technology effects of economic development and their impact on carbon emissions based on a classic model and the general equilibrium theory. Second, the relationship between carbon emissions and these three effects are examined by considering the quadratic term, and the interactive mechanism among them is evaluated by applying multiple mediating analysis. Due to the important role of the technology effect, we further divide it into different sources to reveal its impact on carbon emissions and discuss the rebound effect. Finally, the policy effect is considered, and the results demonstrate that the implementation of effective environmental regulations can mitigate the adverse impact of economic development on carbon emissions. Our research is an initial attempt to thoroughly explore the pathways to balance the trade-off between development and environment from the perspective of internal influencing mechanisms. The empirical results can serve as an important reference for making policies about energy conservation and emission reduction.

How the Russian-Ukrainian War is Shifting the EU's Sustainability Goals

"A wider European conflict would pose the stiffest challenge to the global standing of the United States since the end of the Cold War and to the international system it has built and underwritten for decades longer." (Council on Foreign Relations, March 8, 2022).

<https://www.cfr.org/report/preventing-wider-european-conflict>

Climate Action Meets Energy Security: The Russian Invasion Adds New a New Dimension to Energy Transition (Foreign Policy Research Institute, June 2022)

This article by FPRI Senior Fellow Anna Mikulska is a product of a workshop on "The Global Order after Russia's Invasion of Ukraine," hosted by the University of Pennsylvania's Perry World House on April 14, 2022. She states "The European Union has been one of the primary drivers of climate action, advocating for a reduction in the use of fossil fuels in its member states. EU policies and private donors are developing new ways to achieve this goal, including resources committed to post-COVID recovery. However, sky-high energy prices, especially natural gas, resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine have slowed these goals. The war has made Russian energy resources, on which Europe depends, not only unreliable but also unwelcome. According to the authors, "the war in Ukraine should spark a significant shift in thinking about energy transition in the developed world, with climate action now having to account for energy security."

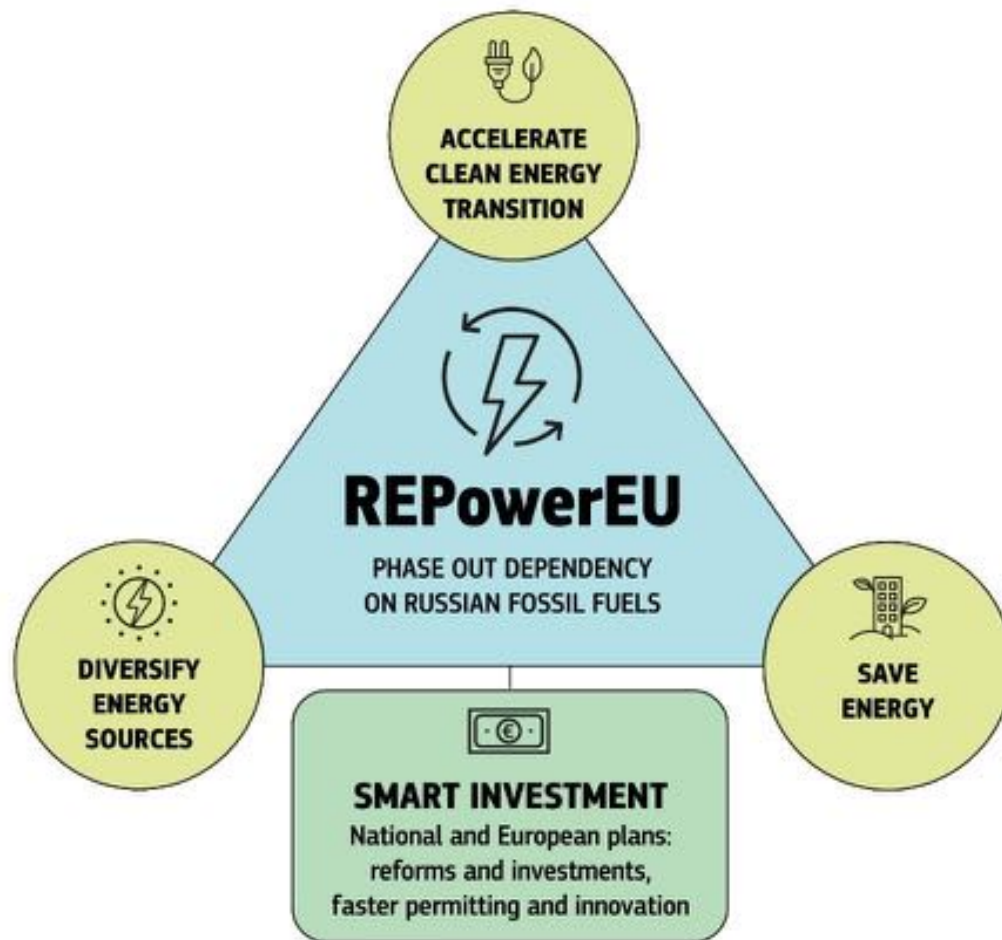
European Energy Security Post-Russia (Center for European Policy Analysis, June 15, 2022)

Dr. Benjamin L. Schmitt testified before Senate and House members of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe on European energy security post-Russia on 07 June 2022, in Washington, D.C. He advocates in this article that there are three key lessons that should guide future European energy security policymaking: "First, energy and critical infrastructure proposals advanced by authoritarian nations like Russia are "not just commercial deals." Second, energy diversification infrastructure has been effective at countering Russian energy weaponization. Third, sanctions have been an effective tool to slow and stop Kremlin malign energy influence."

Putin's War and European Energy Security: A German Perspective on Decoupling from Russia's Fossil Fuels (Brookings Institute, June 15, 2022)

Constanze Stelzenmüller testified before the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe on European energy security post-Russia. A video of the testimony can be found at the link above and the full testimony below is provided in the article. The testimony includes 3 parts: Background: Germany, Russia, and Ukraine, Status of Germany's Attempts to Uncouple From Russian Energy, and What Next?

How the Russian-Ukrainian War is Shifting the EU's Sustainability Goals



[REPowerEU: A Plan to Rapidly Reduce Dependence on Russian Fossil Fuels and Fast Forward the Green Transition \(European Commission, May 18, 2022\).](#)

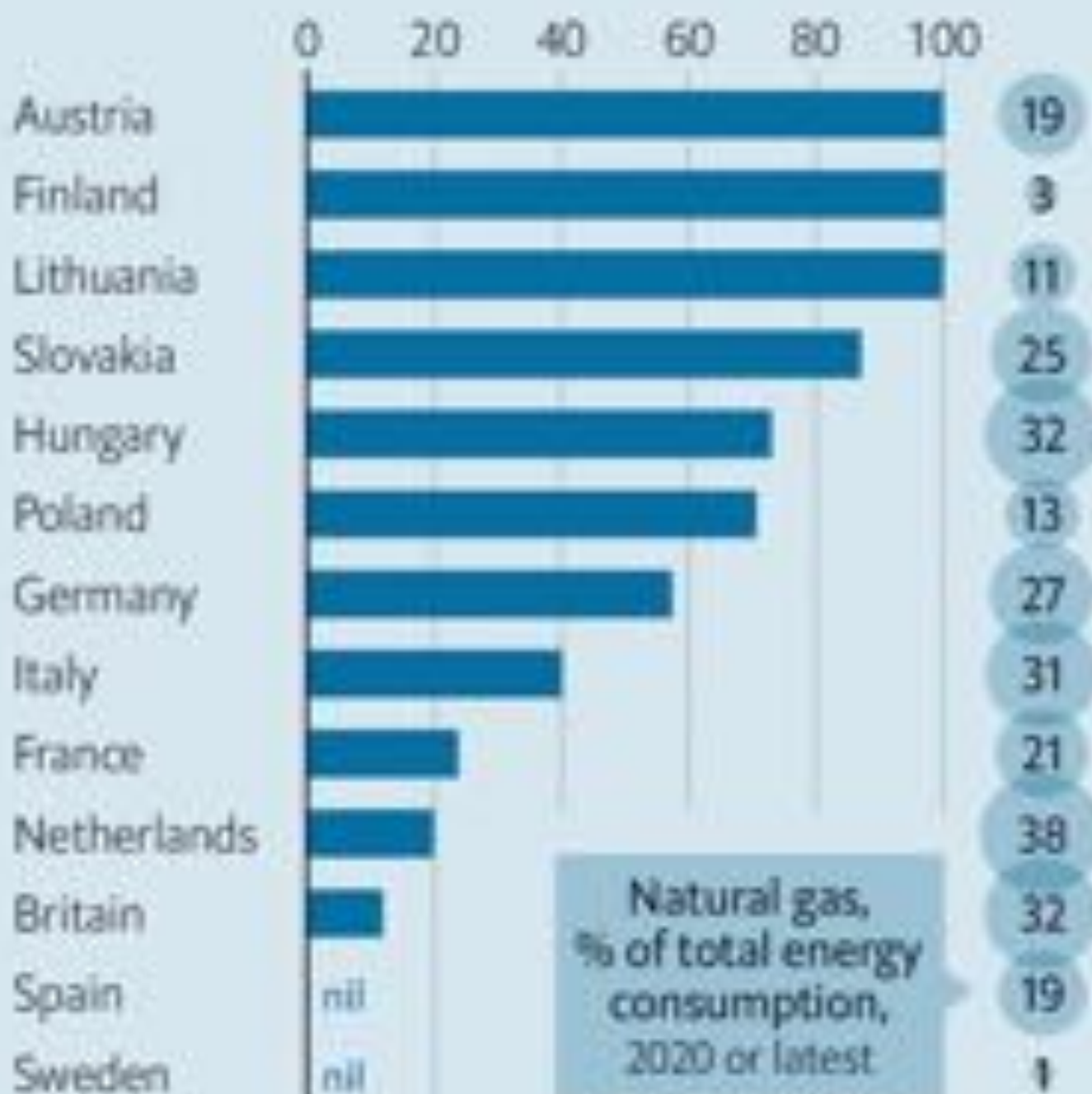
“The European Commission has today presented the REPowerEU Plan, its response to the hardships and global energy market disruption caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There is a double urgency to transform Europe's energy system: ending the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels, which are used as an economic and political weapon and cost European taxpayers nearly €100 billion per year, and tackling the climate crisis. By acting as a Union, Europe can phase out its dependency on Russian fossil fuels faster. 85% of Europeans believe that the EU should reduce its dependency on Russian gas and oil as soon as possible to support Ukraine. The measures in the REPowerEU Plan can respond to this ambition, through energy savings, diversification of energy supplies, and accelerated roll-out of renewable energy to replace fossil fuels in homes, industry and power generation.”



1

Spot the problem

Gas imports from Russia, % of total
2021, selected European countries



Sources: Eurostat; Rystad

How the Russian-Ukrainian War is Shifting the EU's Sustainability Goals

[Communication from the Commission to European Parliament, The European Council, The Council, The European Economic and Social Committee, and the Committee of the Regions REPowerEU Plan](#)

"In March 2022, EU leaders agreed in the European Council 1 to phase out Europe's dependency on Russian energy imports as soon as possible. Drawing on the Commission's communication 2 , they invited the Commission to swiftly put forward a detailed REPowerEU plan. Coal and oil imports are now to be covered by



the sanctions regime. The recent gas supply interruptions to Bulgaria and Poland demonstrate the urgency to address the lack of reliability of Russian energy supplies. REPowerEU is about rapidly reducing our dependence on Russian fossil fuels by fast forwarding the clean transition and joining forces to achieve a more resilient energy system and a true Energy Union."

[At Last, a Road Map for Europe's Energy Crisis \(Washington Post, July 19, 2022\)](#)

This is a brief opinion article by Bloomberg's Maria Tadeo on how French President Macron is sending the right message with efforts at "mobilization, appealing to government agencies, companies and households to reduce energy consumption. The goal: sobriété énergétique, or collective energy savings"

[How to Wean Europe Off Russian Gas as Swiftly as Possible \(NY Times, March 12, 2022\)](#)

This editorial discusses the possibilities (and need) of reducing European dependence on Russian natural gas. It argues "The crisis has shown just how dependent Europe has allowed itself to become on Russian natural gas, oil, coal and even nuclear fuel, which makes the continent particularly vulnerable to any move by Russia to weaponize its energy dominance. Now, at long last, Europe has set about making a profound course correction."



Europe's gas-pipeline network

Theoretical capacity of selected pipelines





Russia's War Against Ukraine: Teaching Opportunities and Challenges

SESSION SPEAKER

Dr. Glennys Young, Historian, Author, and Professor of
History at the Department of History, University of
Washington

Introduction to Session Speaker

Dr. Glennys Young

I am a historian of Russia and the Soviet Union. Over the course of my career, I have become increasingly interested in the USSR's involvement in transnational movements and processes, whether political, social, cultural, or economic. I have also pursued research interests in the history of Communism and world history. In addition to the books mentioned below, I've published articles on a number of topics in Soviet social and political history.

My first book, *Power and the Sacred in Revolutionary Russia: Religious Activists in the Village* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 1997), examined the Bolshevik project of cultural transformation through a case study of peasants' responses to the Soviet anti-religious campaign. In 1999, the book was awarded Honorable Mention for the Hans Rosenhaupt Memorial Book Prize from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

In 2011, I published *The Communist Experience in the Twentieth Century: A Global History through Sources* (Oxford University Press). Through a collection of carefully selected documents, some presented for the first time in English translation, the book seeks to provide an inside look at how people around the world subjectively experienced, and contributed to, global communism.

My current book project is entitled *The Return: From the Soviet Union to Franco's Spain in the Cold War*, under contract with Oxford University Press, England.

The Return reveals the unrecognized political, social, and cultural shockwaves of the Cold War repatriation of Spanish nationals who had been catapulted to the USSR as refugees and exiles in the Spanish Civil War, or as soldiers who fought for the Nazi Wehrmacht in World War II. What makes the Spanish case distinct with respect to numerous others involving post-World War II repatriations from the USSR is that it involved civilians and military personnel, including prisoners of war. As well, the repatriation of Spanish nationals constituted the largest repatriation of civilians from the USSR to a country in Western Europe during the Cold War. Although the repatriation of Spaniards—both Red Army POWs and civilians—began during World War II, albeit in small numbers, the return of the Spaniards became an international issue beginning in the late 1940s, just as the Cold War was heating up. The book focuses on the seven expeditions of repatriates from the USSR to Franco's Spain in the second half of the 1950s.



Key Terms

Nationalism: an ideology based on the premise that the individual's loyalty and devotion to the nation-state surpass other individual or group interests.

Imperialism: state policy, practice, or advocacy of extending power and dominion, especially by direct territorial acquisition or by gaining political and economic control of other areas. Because it always involves the use of power, whether military or economic or some subtler form, imperialism has often been considered morally reprehensible.



Propaganda: the dissemination of information—facts, arguments, rumours, half-truths, or lies—to influence public opinion. Deliberateness and a relatively heavy emphasis on manipulation distinguish propaganda from casual conversation or the free and easy exchange of ideas.

Westpolitik: a series of policies and actions which allow the Kremlin to influence the political sovereignty of its neighbors by force, coercion, or the collaboration and co-optation of their political elites. The concept refers to Eastern Europe and conveys the Kremlin's perception that there is a new dividing line in Europe along Russia's western border.

Westernization: the adoption of the practices and culture of western Europe by societies and countries in other parts of the world, whether through compulsion or influence. Westernization reached much of the world as part of the process of colonialism and continues to be a significant cultural phenomenon as a result of globalization.

Schengen Area: a free movement area in Europe without border controls that includes 26 countries (22 of which are EU members). This means that whether you travel on foot or by car, train, boat or plane, there is no border control for individuals (whether they are citizens of the Schengen Area or not) travelling between two member countries of the Schengen Area, stimulating tourism and trade.

Euroscepticism: European political doctrine that advocates disengagement from the European Union. Political parties that espouse a Euroskeptical viewpoint tend to be broadly populist and generally support tighter immigration controls in addition to the dismantling or streamlining of the EU bureaucratic structure.

Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to evaluate historical and contemporary perspectives on Russian connections to Europe. Within this context, students will be able to identify and analyze contemporary political, economic, social/cultural, and historical relationships that exist between Russians and Europeans.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and assess the similarities and differences in how Russian identity/identities are linked to Europe.
- 3). Students will be able to analyze data from public opinion surveys to draw conclusions about contemporary perspectives of European-Russian relations. Students will also be able to use data to create arguments that explain changes in how other nations view Russia in the world today.
- 4). Students will be able to define propaganda, evaluate why/how it is used during conflict between nations, and evaluate its use in the war between Russia and Ukraine. In addition, students will compare the use of propaganda in the Russian-Ukraine conflict to other contexts in the 20th and/or 21st century.



Shifting Perceptions of Russia Due to the War with Ukraine

[Ratings for Russia Drop to Record Lows \(Pew Research, June 22, 2022\)](#)

Pew Research provides a series of surveys from a variety of countries in the world with regard to current views or perspectives on Russia, including Putin. The surveys show there has been a steep decline in Russian favorability since the question was last asked in 2020, with record low shares in all 18 countries expressing positive opinions of Russia. In nearly every country where there is trend data available, favorability for Russia has dropped by double digits. In Italy, Greece and Poland, positive views of Russia have declined by more than 30 percentage points since the question was last asked (2020 for Italy and 2019 for Greece and Poland). There are a number of interesting graphs you could analyze with students.

[International Attitudes Toward the U.S., NATO and Russia in a Time of Crisis \(Pew Research, June 20, 2022\)](#)

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has brought war to Europe at a scale unseen since the 1940s. In response, the United States and its NATO allies have supplied Ukrainian defense forces with [weapons and training](#), while [millions of refugees](#) have fled into [neighboring countries](#). The war has been the center of international attention for months, and as a new 18-nation Pew Research Center survey shows, it has had an impact on public opinion.

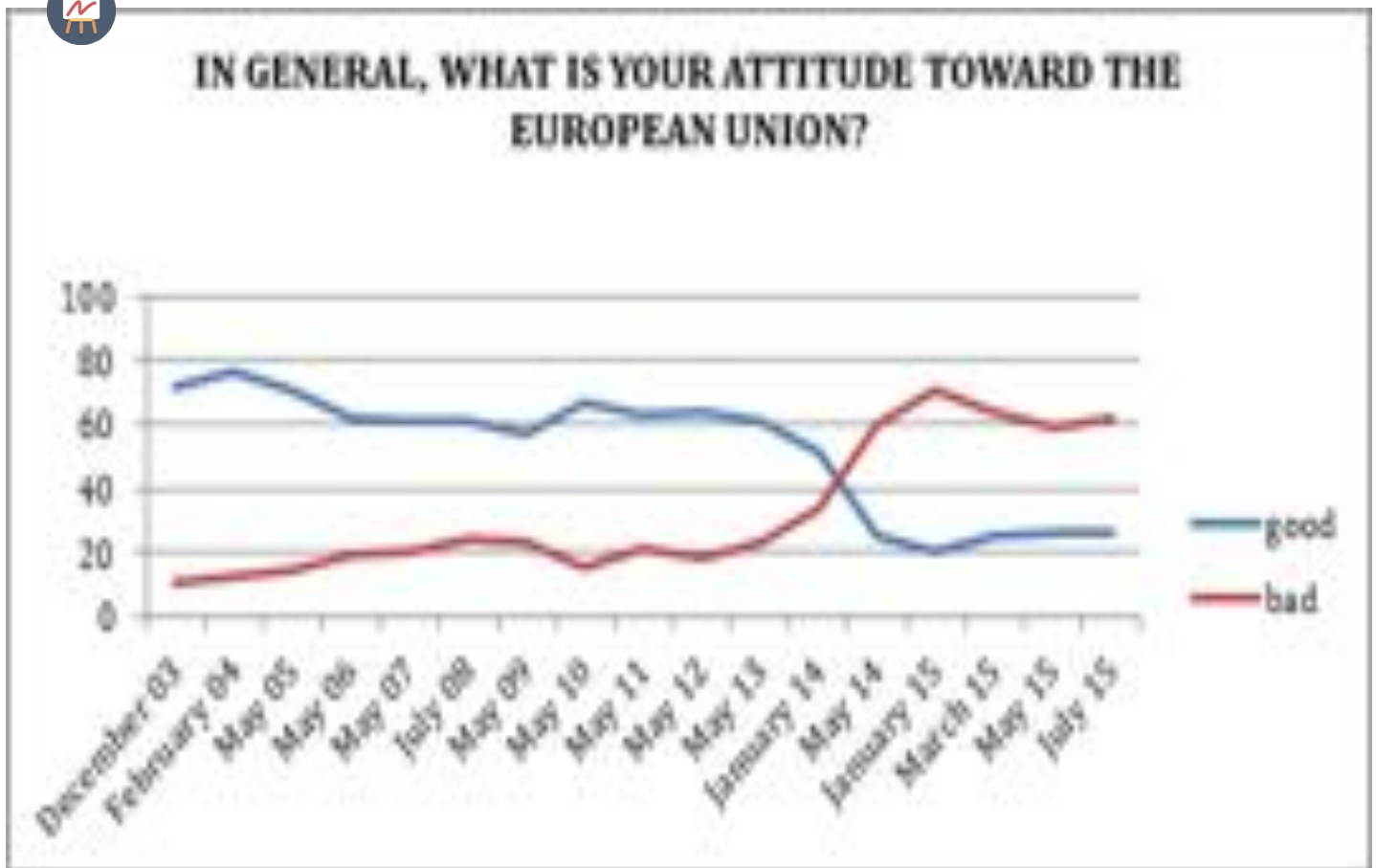
[Spotlight on Poland: Negative Views of Russia Surge, but Ratings for U.S., NATO, EU Improve \(Pew Research, June 20, 2022\)](#)

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has led to a dramatic shift in attitudes in Poland, a key European partner and one which [only three decades ago](#) was part of the former Soviet Union's Eastern Bloc. Negative attitudes among Poles towards Russia are at all-time highs since Pew Research Center began tracking opinion on this question in 2007, with virtually unanimous negative opinions of the Russian state. Currently, 94% see Russia as a major threat, up from 65% who said this in 2018, and 94% have no confidence at all in Russian President Vladimir Putin – also an all-time high. More than nine-in-ten Poles see Russia as a major threat and have no confidence at all in Putin.

“The European Union has always struggled to craft a cohesive policy toward Russia. While EU countries share democratic and liberal values, they do not necessarily share geopolitical and economic interests, or wish to sacrifice them.”

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/russias-westpolitik-and-european-union>

The Russia-EU Relationship from the Russian Perspective



[What Russia thinks of Europe \(European Council on Foreign Relations, February 2, 2016\)](#)

This article explores how Russia thinks of Europe, including its political, economic, social, and historical connections. The author provides a perspective of how many Russians may see Europe and its future, including efforts by the Russian government to shape views through propaganda. From the article: "Early in his tenure Putin has repeatedly referred to Russia as a European country. Putin told the BBC in March 2002 that *"Russia is part of the European culture. And I cannot imagine my own country in isolation from Europe and what we often call the civilized world."* In 2005, he told Dutch journalists that Russians are Europeans *"in their culture and mentality."* And on a visit to Britain in 2003 he said *"Russia both geographically and mentally considers herself a part of Greater Europe... We believe that at the base of European identity is, first and foremost, culture and Russia without a shadow of a doubt belongs to this part of European culture. Yet at the same time there has always been a sense that, while being European – in terms of its history and culture, its Slavic language and its Christianity, Russia did not quite belong in the European world."*

The Russia-EU Relationship from the Russian Perspective

[Russians Breach This City, Not With Troops, but Propaganda \(NY Times, June 17, 2022\)](#)

This article explores the use of Russian propaganda in Ukraine to influence the citizens' perspective of Russia's invasion of the country. Focusing on how the Russian government is using messaging/propaganda in an attempt to undermine Ukrainian support for their military and government, the article discusses how Lysychansk is isolated from most of the world, with no cell service, no pension payments and Russian shelling has resulted in some residents turning into receptive audiences of Russian propaganda — or they have taken to spreading it themselves.

[The War in Ukraine, as Seen on Russian TV \(NY Times, May 6, 2022\)](#)

This article discusses how “much of Russian news media is tightly controlled by the Kremlin, with state-run television working as a mouthpiece for the government. Critical reporting about the war has been [criminalized](#). Russian television's convoluted and sometimes contradictory narratives about the war are not solely intended to convince viewers that their version of events is true, disinformation experts say. Just as often, the goal is to confuse viewers and sow distrust so audiences are not sure what to believe. The New York Times reviewed more than 50 hours of television footage to show how the war was being presented to Russians through the country's news media”

[Russia's Westpolitik and the European Union \(Center for Strategic and International Studies, July 8, 2021\)](#)

This article describes how Russia's relationship with the Western world—and vice versa—has developed throughout modern history. It begins with analyzing “the objectives, motives, and strategies of Russia's policy of re-imperialization in the so called “in between states” of Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as the successes, limits, and failures of this policy” and then addresses how this policy impacts diplomacy and the interworkings of the states themselves. There is also sufficient background information on the internal affairs of Russia and the former Soviet Union to understand the context of its decisions.

TEACHER TALK: TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Many countries have used propaganda as a tool to influence people's opinions and perspectives on a specific issue. As part of a lesson activity that teaches about propaganda, students could identify and analyze how the Russian government is currently using propaganda to influence the perspective of citizens over the invasion of Ukraine. By evaluating different examples of propaganda used by the Russian government, students could reflect on how propaganda is used and whether or not it is effective. This activity could be part of a larger lesson or unit on media literacy that investigates other historical or contemporary examples. Teachers could also give students an opportunity to create their own propaganda pieces on a particular issue/topic and share with the class.

The background of the slide is a puzzle map of the world. A large portion of the map is covered by puzzle pieces in blue with yellow stars, representing the European Union flag. To the right, there are puzzle pieces in white, blue, and red, representing the Russian flag. The text is overlaid on this background.

MODULE 4

WHAT TO DO ABOUT RUSSIA

Russia, the EU, and
the International
System

SESSION SPEAKER

Dr. Christopher Jones, *Associate Professor of International Studies at the
Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington*

Introduction to Session Speaker



Dr. Christopher Jones

Chris Jones is Associate Professor of International Studies at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies. His teaching focuses on NATO/Warsaw pact relations, post-Cold War security issues, and political economy of the post-Cold War era.



Key Terms

Foreign Policy: general objectives that guide the activities and relationships of one state in its interactions with other states. The development of foreign policy is influenced by domestic considerations, the policies or behaviour of other states, or plans to advance specific geopolitical designs. Diplomacy is the tool of foreign policy, and war, alliances, and international trade may all be manifestations of it.

International Governmental Organizations (IGOs): organizations which have been established by intergovernmental agreements and whose members are states. They serve many diverse functions, including collecting information and monitoring trends, delivering services and aid (e.g., the World Health Organization), and providing forums for bargaining (e.g., the European Union) and settling disputes (e.g., the World Trade Organization). By providing political institutions through which states can work together to achieve common objectives, international organizations can help to foster cooperative behaviour.

United Nations (UN): a multipurpose international organization with a primary goal of maintaining peace and security, as well as other important objectives like developing friendly relations among countries based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; achieving worldwide cooperation to solve international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems; respecting and promoting human rights; and serving as a centre where countries can coordinate their actions and activities toward these various ends.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO): an organization of countries that have agreed to provide military support to each other. It was created in 1949 by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union. It remains the largest peacetime military alliance in the world, with one of its first military doctrines being "massive retaliation," or the idea that if any member was attacked, the United States would respond with a large-scale nuclear attack, in an attempt to deter Soviet aggression in Europe.

Authoritarianism: principle of blind submission to authority, as opposed to individual freedom of thought and action. In government, authoritarianism denotes any political system that concentrates power in the hands of a leader or a small elite that is not constitutionally responsible to the body of the people. It contrasts with democracy since the freedom to create opposition political parties with which to compete for power with the ruling group is either limited or nonexistent.

Sustainable Development: development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To be achieved, it requires combined efforts to foster economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection.

Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to identify and evaluate how international organizations, such as the European Union or North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), influence domestic and foreign policy in the 21st century.
- 2). Students will be able to analyze the decisions made by the European Union, United Nations, and/or other international organizations in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In addition, students will evaluate the possible consequences of those decisions and their impact on Russia, Ukraine, and EU member states.
- 3). Students will be able to identify and assess how EU policies have influenced the decisions of individual member states with regard to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.
- 4). Students will be able to identify and evaluate how the Russian government has restricted political expression and/or access to information during the conflict in Ukraine.
- 5). Students will be able to explain how Russia has transitioned from an illiberal democracy to an authoritarian state under the Putin regime.
- 6). Students will be able to define NATO and explain how the organization has influenced Russian policymaking in the 21st century.
- 7). Students will be able to explain the purpose of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations and analyze/explain how one or more of the goals have been impacted by the Russia-Ukraine conflict.



Impacts of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

UTILIZING THE UN SDGs TO UNDERSTAND THE GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN WAR

[What the Invasion of Ukraine Means for Sustainable Development \(International Institute for Sustainable Development, March 2022\)](#)

This article describes three urgent areas of concern that have escalated as a result of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia: Emerging: global food security and the hunger crisis; risks to progress on the clean energy transition; and the state of multilateralism.

[From Conflict to Crisis: Ukraine and Russia \(World Savvy, 2022\)](#)

This case study of the Russia-Ukraine conflict from World Savvy is connected to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The brief overview provides links to articles, videos, websites, personal stories, and art/images. This is a great opportunity to connect this issue to the Sustainable Development Goals with your students.

[One Hundred Days of War Has Put Ukraine's Health System Under Severe Pressure \(World Health Organization, June 3, 2022\)](#)

This report states "After 100 days of war, Ukraine's health system is under severe pressure and the World Health Organization (WHO) has increased its presence, both in Ukraine and in those countries hosting displaced Ukrainians, to help meet the escalating health needs." Along with exploring other international organizations, students could analyze the work of the World Health Organization and how they are addressing the crisis in Ukraine. Students might also investigate how refugees or displaced people from the war in Ukraine are receiving basic health care.

[EU and UNDP Support Launch of Psychological Assistance Hotline for Ukrainians Affected by War \(United Nations in Western Europe, July 7, 2022\)](#)

"With EU funding, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Ukraine has supported the launch of a hotline to provide psychological assistance to Ukrainians affected by the war. The initiative to establish this hotline for the provision of first-hand psychological care came from the National Psychological Association of Ukraine, which is implementing it. The line employs professional psychologists with many years of experience who have previously undergone special training to work with complex crisis situations."

The Role of International Organizations in Armed Conflict



The Role of International Organizations in Armed Conflict (American Society of International Law)

This is an hour long Zoom session recording discussing the role of international organizations during armed conflict. The speakers were: Speakers: Cordula Droegge, International Committee of the Red Cross; Christie Edwards, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (Moderator); Maria Marouda, Council of Europe, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance; Mona Rishmawi, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In this panel discussion, senior representatives from the ICRC, the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE will share insights into the unique roles played by their respective institutions."

More from the ASIL: “International organizations such as the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and the ICRC play a variety of important roles, such as improving communication between opposing forces, facilitating humanitarian cooperation, building civilian-military dialogue, providing essential services to civilian populations, and encouraging all actors to uphold and implement the principles of international humanitarian law. With their regional or global perspectives, international organizations can also identify issues and trends that may signal escalating tensions or conflict before the outbreak of hostilities, serving as an early warning mechanism or offering conflict resolution/quiet diplomacy services. In this panel discussion, senior representatives from the ICRC, the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE will share insights into the unique roles played by their respective institutions.”

Multilateral Perspectives on the Russian-Ukrainian War

[The UN and the War in Ukraine: Key Information \(United Nations in Western Europe, July 9, 2022\)](#)

This United Nations site provides background information about the war in Ukraine. It includes a timeline and information in these categories: Emergency Humanitarian Appeal, Protection of Civilians, Food Security, and Nuclear Facilities.

[Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a violation of the UN Charter, UN Chief tells Security Council \(United Nations, May 5, 2022\)](#)

Brief remarks by the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, to the Security Council, regarding the Russian Invasion of Ukraine.

[NATO's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine \(NATO, July 7, 2022\)](#)

This link provides a brief statement from NATO regarding NATO's invasion of Ukraine and a useful set of questions and answers - For example, what are NATO and its allies doing to impose costs on Russia and what is NATO and its allies doing to support Ukraine.



NOTE: This response is only reflective of the country of Denmark. Additional Country Reports from across the EU are available.



Flash Eurobarometer 506

EU's response to the war in Ukraine



Denmark

Interviews: EU27 – 26 066 | DK – 1 017 (fieldwork: 13.4 – 20.4.2022) Methodology

Interest in the war in Ukraine

q1.3 How often do you follow news related to the war in Ukraine? (%)

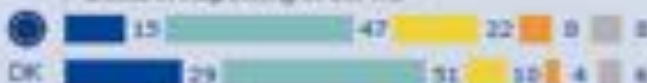


| | EU27 | Denmark |
|----------------------|------|---------|
| Several times a day | 41 | 41 |
| Several times a week | 29 | 26 |
| Once a day | 19 | 22 |
| Less often | 10 | 9 |
| Never | 2 | 2 |

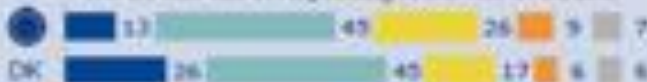
Opinions on EU response

q3 How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (%)

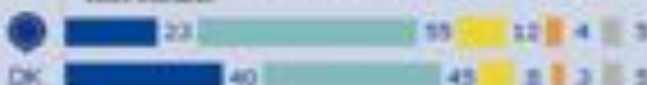
Since the war in Ukraine started, the EU has been united in responding to the war



The EU was fast in responding to the war in Ukraine

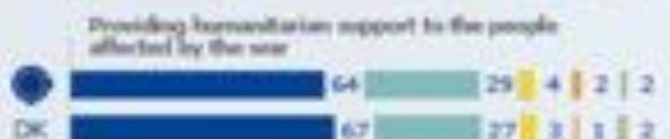
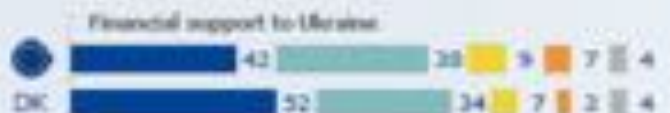


Since the war started, the EU has shown solidarity with Ukraine



Fully agree
Tend to agree
Tend to disagree
Fully disagree
Don't know

q4 For each of the following measures that have been announced by the EU to respond to the war in Ukraine, please tell me if you approve them or not. (%)



Fully approve
Tend to approve
Tend to disapprove
Fully disapprove
Don't know

What To Do About Russia

Democratic societies everywhere must support the Ukrainian people in their struggle for peace and freedom.

(<https://freedomhouse.org/ukraine>)

Freedom House: Ukraine (2022)

This is an overview of Freedom House's perspective on the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Freedom House is a useful classroom tool for teachers and students to analyze. Case studies, including this link to Ukraine, explore the state of freedom and democracy around the world. Their website states: "Freedom House is founded on the core conviction that freedom flourishes in democratic nations where governments are accountable to their people; the rule of law prevails; and freedoms of expression, association, and belief, as well as respect for the rights of women, minority communities, and historically marginalized groups, are guaranteed. We speak out against the main threats to democracy and empower citizens to exercise their fundamental rights through a unique combination of analysis, advocacy, and direct support to frontline defenders of freedom, especially those working in closed authoritarian societies."

Freedom House: Russia's Repression of Dissent at Home (2022)

In this report, Freedom House discusses how "Russia's authoritarian reach is being felt most acutely right now in Ukraine, its government is also curtailing the freedoms of its own citizens. According to OVD-Info, an independent human rights project reporting on political persecution in Russia, there have been 15,425* Russians detained by their government for engaging in anti-war protests and actions. (*Data as of 4/12/2022). The most recent edition of *Freedom In The World* outlines how the Kremlin maintains control over opposing politicians and activists."

How the World Is Seeking to Put Pressure on Russia (New York Times, July 22, 2022)

This article highlights how several countries and the European Union have imposed a variety of sanctions in response to Vladimir Putin's decision to invade Ukraine. The article provides a timeline and description of the different measures countries and international organizations have employed to put pressure on the Russian government after the invasion of Ukraine.

BONUS LECTURE: Russia vs. 'Gayropa'?

Russian Cultural Politics since the Conservative Turn



In pictures: The new faces of 'Gayropa'

Presents the issues that LGBTQ+ people around the world face when attempting to seek asylum on the grounds of their sexual identity, especially as it relates to Russia. Provides stories of specific LGBTQ+ individuals and their experiences with seeking asylum, accompanied by photos from their lives.

Gayropa: Russia, Europe and Queer Life

This article examines queer culture that exists in Russia and the fear and oppression that enshrouds it. It holds that much of the LGBTQ+ community in Russia looks desires to leave Russia for Europe to live freely due to anti-gay sentiment in Russia that has increased in recent years since Russia no longer wants to align itself with Western ideals. It further examines the place that LGBTQ+ rights have in various political agendas to promote certain ideologies or fearmonger.

BONUS LECTURE: Russia vs. 'Gayropa'?

Russian Cultural Politics since the Conservative Turn

[Russian Federation 2021](#)

Amnesty International gives an overview of life in Russia as it relates to human rights such as protection of (or lack thereof) freedoms of expression, prevalence of violence and repression, and impunity. Shows that life in Russia at this time is fraught with human rights violations.

[Europe, Putin, and the 'Gayropa' Bait](#)

This article describes how LGBTQ+ rights have been manipulated into propaganda by Putin and the Kremlin in order to strengthen the idea that there is an ideological divide between Russia and the West where Russia has a culture of purity in comparison. Argues that this idea of contrasting ideologies is a piece of propaganda that Putin uses to fuel the Ukraine conflict specifically.

NOTE: There is some explicit language in this article.

[The Facts on LGBT Rights in Russia](#)

This source compiles information on the state of LGBT rights in Russia including national and regional laws, instances of hate violence, and social movements.



BONUS LECTURE: Russia vs. 'Gayropa'?

Russian Cultural Politics since the Conservative Turn

[Putin's Anti-Gay War on Ukraine](#) (*Boston Review*, March 14, 2022)

This article describes the history of Putin's ideology which is characterized by "traditional values" and purity, and how those ideals will extend into the Ukrainian conflict given that Putin's speech following the invasion directly addressed Russia's desire to uphold traditional values. It also describes the interconnectedness of war and gender because it decides how different people are impacted by a conflict. In the conclusion, the article discusses instances of othering groups based on sexuality, gender identity, and gender expression that have occurred globally as a tool for advancing conflict and how dangerous it can be. **NOTE:** There is some explicit language in this article.



[What Does Putin's Conservatism Seek to Conserve?](#) (*Harvard Review*, January 17, 2022)

This paper looks to explain why Putin has built his political platform on conservatism. It concludes that "Putinesque conservatism synergizes, some though not all of the time, with Putin's strategy for maintaining power and stability, with nationalism and his geopolitical aspirations and anxieties, and with controversies over historical memory and his reading of the revolutionary excesses of the Russian past." Though his ideology is not clean and straightforward, it doesn't need to be to win the political support he seeks.

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