



Project Shafafiyat



# Russian aggression war against Ukraine



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# Contents

1. The reason for the Russian aggression war in Ukraine
2. Russia and the territorial integrity of Ukraine
3. Russia's security at risk?
4. Russia as a colonial empire
5. Ukrainians and independence
6. From hybrid war to invasion
7. Russian lies
8. Russian war crimes
9. Russian attempts to attribute its own actions to others
10. Conquest and Russification
11. Poles and Ukrainians
12. Peace
13. The war in Ukraine and Russian manipulation techniques
14. Western aid to Ukraine
15. Putin's "merits" for Russia
16. Russian vision of the world: "pride steps before the fall"



# The reason for the Russian aggression war in Ukraine



Putin: *The collapse of the USSR was a national catastrophe that tore and ripped alive our national unity ...*



The British might as well have written this about the breakup of their Empire!



# The cause of the Russian aggression war in Ukraine



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1. imperial-colonial character of Russia
2. attempt to rebuild the Empire within the borders of the 19th century.
3. lack of respect for the sovereignty of other states
4. false narrative





# Rosja a integralność terytorialna Ukrainy

Gdy ZSRR rozpadł się w 1991 r. Rosja nie zgłosiła żadnych pretensji terytorialnych wobec Ukrainy



W 1994 r. Rosja udzieliła gwarancji integralności terytorialnej Ukrainie w zamian za dobrowolne oddanie jej potencjału nuklearnego, który był w posiadaniu Ukrainy.



# Russia and the territorial integrity of Ukraine

Until 2014, there was no separatism in Ukraine's eastern regions, and Crimea was granted the status of an autonomous republic as part of a compromise accepted in 1991.



Separatism in Ukraine was artificially induced as part of Russian imperial policy.



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# Where did the separatism come from?

Ukrainians wanted democracy and freedom and integration into the European Union. There was no prospect of Ukrainian membership in NATO.



Russia has decided to punish Ukraine!



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# „Heavenly Sotnia”

Between December 2013 and February 2014, Ukrainian dictator Viktor Yanukovich's forces slaughtered 110 protesters in downtown Kiev. Ukrainians chased away Yanukovich, who fled to Russia.



Russia decided to take revenge and seized Crimea and organized a separatist rebellion in eastern Ukraine!





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# Russia's security threatened?

- Neither Ukraine nor any other country has given Russia any reason to fear for its security.
- Since the end of World War II in 1945. Russia has not been invaded by anyone, although it has done so repeatedly.
- The Russian-dominated USSR occupied, among others, Poland from 1945 to 1993, invaded Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, not to mention the invasion of Afghanistan and many other imperial-colonial aggressions.







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# Russia as a colonial empire

- Russia has conquered and oppressed other nations throughout its history
- Central Europe, including Poland and Ukraine, was occupied by Russia for a long time
- Despite the many wrongs suffered, the countries that liberated themselves from Russia's yoke wanted to have good, partnership relations with Russia but Russia was not interested in doing so
- Russia's non-Russian territories such as Buryatia, Chechnya, Tatarstan, Kalmykia are Russian colonies





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# Russia as a colonial empire ( battles with Muslims)

- Conquest of the Crimea in the 18th century.
- The conquest of the Caucasus in the 19th century.
- The war in Chechnya in the 20th century.
- The invasion of Georgia in the 21st century.
- Persecution of Muslims in Russia - there are barely 4 legal mosques in Moscow out of 2.5 million Muslims







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# Russia as a colonial empire

- Russia has a long tradition of supporting bloody dictators.
- It supported Saddam Hussein to the end, and today uses Iranian drones against Ukrainians.
- Putin compared its invasion of Ukraine to the U.S. invasion of Iraq, thus admitting that it is illegal.





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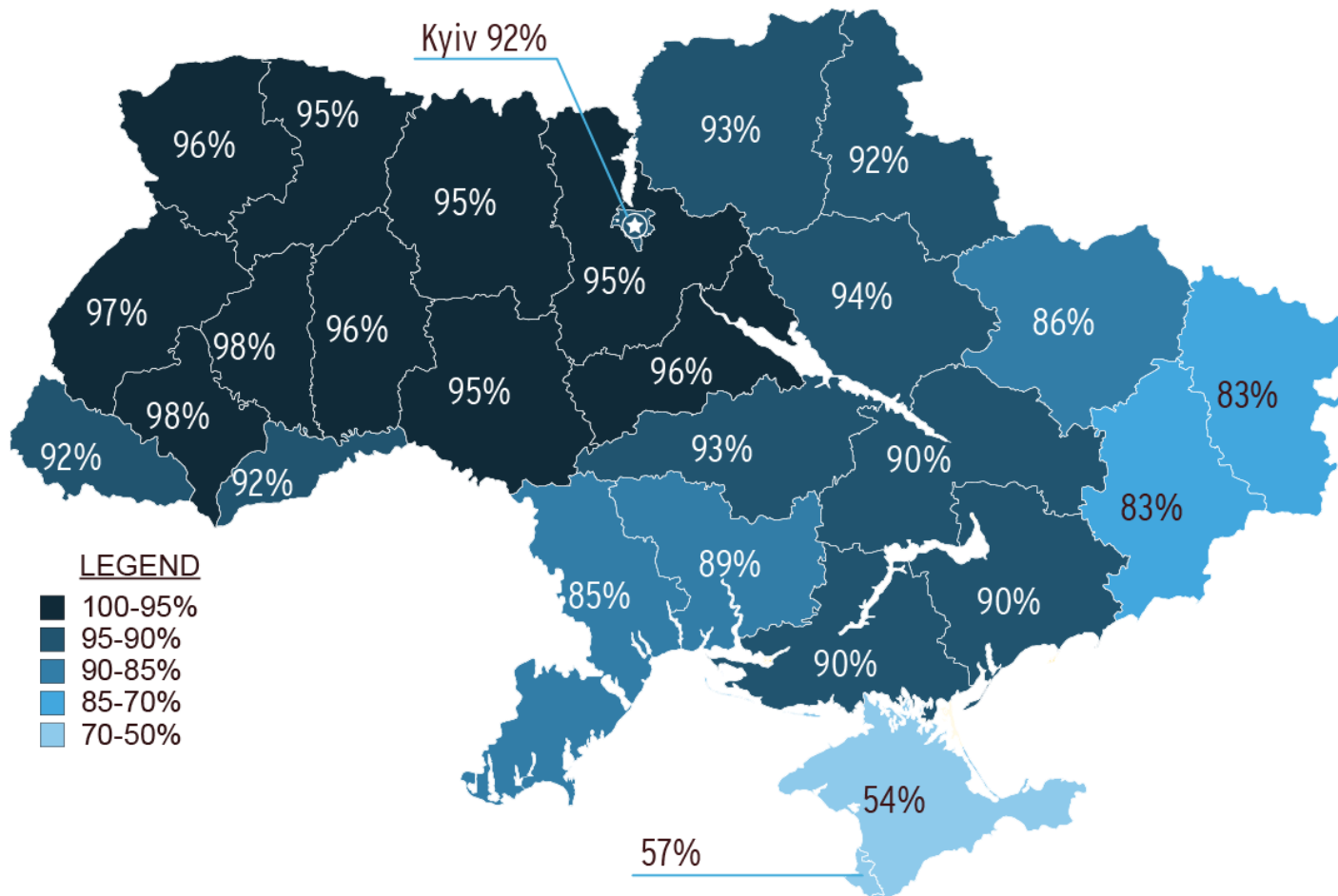
# Ukrainians and independence

In the referendum held at the time, 90% of voters voted for independence, with a turnout of 84%. In Ukraine's now Russian-occupied regions, 84% in Luhansk region, 77% in Donetsk region, 90% in Kherson region and 54% in Crimea voted for independence.





1991 Ukrainian Independence Referendum by Region  
31,891,742 VOTES — 92.3% APPROVED





# From hybrid warfare to invasion -. - basic facts

- Russia invaded Ukraine back in 2014 and has been at war ever since.
- February 24, 2022. Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine.
- Ukraine has no territorial claims to Russian territory and does not want to change Russia's power and interfere in its internal affairs.
- Meanwhile, Russia has usurped such a right over Ukraine.

By what right?





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# Russian lies

The invasion has been accompanied by Russian propaganda lies from the beginning:

- Russia claims it is defending itself but it has not been invaded by anyone.
- Russia claims it is fighting not Ukrainians but a "regime" but this "regime" was elected by Ukrainians in democratic elections and enjoys its support.
- Russia claims that Ukraine never existed but this Ukraine existed before there was even a Russia.







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# Russian lies

- Russia cynically exploits the negative historical experience of the Middle East and seeks to prey on resentments directed against former European colonial powers and the US.
- Being a partitioned empire, it tries to present itself as an anti-imperial force.
- Russia says Ukrainians are "brothers," and it once said the same about Poles. But no superpower can command another nation to love it and consider it a friend or brother, threatening otherwise with murder.





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# Russian war crimes

- March 2022. Russia carried out massacres of civilians in Irpen, Hostomel and Bucha.
- 400 people were killed based on previously prepared proscription lists.

**It was a genocide! However, there were more crimes!**



Sinjar  
2014

لا إله إلا الله

الله  
رسول  
محمد



Bucz  
2022





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# Russian war crimes - - Wagner's group: the Russian Daesh

- The most atrocious crimes are carried out by Russian mercenaries, the so-called "Wagnerians," whose cruelty is not far behind that of Daesh. Among other things, they have carried out public executions by crushing heads with hammers.
- Daesh wanted to blow up the dam in Mosul, and the Russians partially blew up the dam in Novaya Kakhov

**There are more similarities!**







# Russian war crimes - - kidnapping of children

- Like Daesh in Iraq, the Russians abducted children from Ukraine to change their identities.
- This fate has befallen as many as 700,000 Ukrainian children.
- For this crime, Russian dictator Vladimir Putin and his aide Maria Lvova-Belova are being prosecuted by the International Criminal Court.





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# Russian war crimes - revenge for defeats

Such assaults on civilians intensified when Russia realized it would not take Kiev, and Ukrainian forces pushed the aggressor out of Kherson.



So Russia did what it does best - murder defenseless civilians!





# Russian attempts to attribute its own actions to others

- Falsely accusing Poland of wanting to seize western Ukraine
- Cynical suggestion that Russia is fighting "bandits" in Ukraine (Bandera fought Poles)
- Poland (unlike Russia) bases its relations with its neighbors on peaceful methods, not on brutal violence
- Russian attempts to divide Poles and Ukrainians continue but are ineffective





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# Conquest and Russification

- Ukraine found itself within Russia's borders as a result of imperial conquest in the 17th and 18th centuries, as did Poland somewhat later.
- Intense Russification and the 19th century policy of denationalization had an effect, albeit limited.
- Today, Russian-speaking Ukrainians suffer just as much from Russian aggression as those who speak Ukrainian.





# Poles and Ukrainians

Since the beginning of the war, more than 15 million Ukrainians have crossed the Polish border, mostly women and children. True, most have returned to Ukraine but there are still several million refugees from Ukraine in various European countries.



Most, about 2 million, await the end of the war in Poland.



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# "Peace" according to Russia

- Russian aggression has already killed some. 200-250,000 people, and hundreds of thousands are injured.
- The blockade of Ukrainian ports has caused food problems in many countries.
- For Russia, the word peace means unconditional surrender of Ukraine, which would submit to Russia's imperial and colonial voracity.





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# Peace conditions

- Russia's withdrawal to the 2014 borders.
- Its commitment to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbors.

**These are not exorbitant demands!**

After all, no one is calling for the dismantling of the Russian colonial empire although that would be just as fair as dismantling the British or French colonial empires.





# The war in Ukraine and Russian manipulation techniques

- Attempting to replace the facts about the Russian assault on Ukraine with the false impression of waging a proxy war in Ukraine, defensive against the "provocative policy" of the West and NATO.
- Promoting the image of Ukraine as a servile state towards the West), taking actions "on behalf of" the EU or NATO against Russia.







# The war in Ukraine and Russian manipulation techniques

- Given the history of the Middle East, Russia's main propaganda effort in the region is a message designed to obfuscate the Ukrainian struggle against Russian imperialism.
- Attributing Russophobia to critics of Russian Federation policy to undermine the credibility of perfectly documented allegations.





# Western assistance to Ukraine

- The Ukrainians have Western support but it has been very patchy and sometimes, especially in the beginning, even symbolic.
- The same was true of foreign aid when the war against Daesh was going on in Iraq.
- But that did not make that war a conflict between Islam, supposedly represented by Daesh, and Western "infidels" or Iranian "apostates."

Daesh had nothing to do with defending Islam, just as Russia has nothing to do with freedom and anti-imperialism.



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# Putin's "credits" to Russia

- He united Ukrainian society and the West
- He expanded NATO to include Finland and pacifist Sweden.
- He disposed of Russia's ground and missile forces.
- He sent 600,000-700,000 Russians on eternal vacation (they escaped forced conscription).
- He made China, Iran and North Korea dependent on him.

And many other successes!



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# Russian vision of the world

- Russia has always sought a concert of powers, that is, the division of the world into spheres of influence among a few of the strongest players as if the rest of the world did not exist.
- Ukraine now faces the same challenge and imperial cruelty that Poland and Iraq had to deal with not so long ago.



# "Pride walks before a fall".

Russia, led by chauvinism and hubris, has bared its teeth, broken its arms and is barely able to stay on its feet in a clash with a country it thought was fallen.

History once again shows us that, first of all, hubris goes before a fall.





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- ✓ **Szaffaf/szaffafiat** (transparency) – **An educational project** that aims to build resilience against foreign propaganda operations in the Iraq and Kurdistan region.

## OUR MISSION

الشفافية | شفافية

- ✓ One of the tasks of the Shaffaf project is to bring the audience closer to the real intentions and active actions of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus taken in the area of the Global South, with a particular focus on Iraq, including the Kurdistan region.
- ✓ **WWW:** <https://shafafiyat.com/>
- ✓ **TELEGRAM:** [https://t.me/shafafiyat\\_int](https://t.me/shafafiyat_int)
- ✓ **FB:** <https://www.facebook.com/shafafiyat/>
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